

The Issaquah Alpiner

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Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Established 1979

"THE APPARATUS"

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The Presidents' 36th Report

June 10, 1988

Let me call your attention to membership renewal. Because we've gotten sort of relaxed about recruitment and retention you may be supposing your body, your voice, your vote and your money aren't needed any more, that the war is over and won, the veterans may put away the musket and return to the plough.

In the words of Yogi Berra, "It ain't over until it's over!" We have less than half the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park we seek. King County has been nodding off and/or turning to other projects. Developers are moving in to halt growth of the park.

Squak Mountain, on the backburner these many years, is there yet -- and again, development threatens completion of the state park -- and State Parks is doing what it does best -- nothing.

Only on Tiger Mountain, under the state Department of Natural Resources, is an alert, dedicated group of public servants moving swiftly and smartly forward. --Yet that group faces enormous difficulties and depends on public support. --WE ARE THE PUBLIC.

So please, not yet back to the plough. THE ISSAQUAH ALPS NEED YOU. Your membership. Your recruitment of new members. Your letters to public officials and the press. Your dues.

OK, So I Talk too Much

With this issue a remedy has been taken. A Vice-President's report, by Dave Kappler, brings us up to date on the east slope of Cougar Mountain, where he has been our valiant leader, indefatigably attending Issaquah meetings, making sure the government bases its decisions on solid fact rather than professional bluster.

Our leader on affairs of the north slope of Cougar Mountain, director Ralph Owen, similarly provides state-of-the-development reports.

Squak is moving off the backburner, thanks very largely to a new recruit, Jack Hornung, who came storming in from Philadelphia, where he has lengthy experience in exactly our sort of urban-area trail system, and addressed himself to turning up the heat.

With all that, though, a couple other things are on my mind.

Open space -- YES

The King County Open Space bond issue that will be on the September ballot is not all good things to all good causes, but it is many good things to many good causes, including the Issaquah Alps.

You, of course, will go to the polls and will vote YES. You must do more than that. You must sell your friends and neighbors, call to remind them on election day, provide them taxi service, resort to every tactic except lasting physical damage to get their YES.

Return to Newcastle VI (and VII)

This year King County Parks, formerly a co-sponsor, assumed top leadership. No more auguring post holes! Erecting the Big Top! Renting privies! No more of lots of little frets and big worries -- Parks now have them. This still leaves the Trails Club and the Newcastle and Renton Historical Societies plenty to do, but now we are free to do them better. Our historical displays by our own Ralph and Peggy and by the historical societies (Issaquah, too) and the Black Heritage Society, were better than ever this year. The food at the Newcastle Cafe was delicious. How many people did we lead on hikes? Susan, alone, took out some six groups of 50 people each. The total of all our guided hikes ran over 1,000 -- 2,000? More folks than that took themselves hiking, using our self-guiding booklets. Councilperson Cynthia Sullivan and Parks Director Russ Cahill reported on progress toward completing the Cougar Mountain Park and obtaining passage of the Open Space bond issue.

What do we remember most? The Tide Water String Band, on stage in the morning. And in the afternoon, the Cornucopia Concert Band, a 21-member oldtime community band which wound up with a stirring "Stars and Stripes Forever," complete with little children waving flags.

It was the best Return ever. Return VII will be better. See you next year, the first weekend in June.

Tradition Plateau: Its hour has Come

Issaquah has engaged a consultant firm to develop a master plan for the city-owned lands around Tradition Lake. For this the Parks Board and Parks Department and City Council are to be congratulated and thanked.

Let me warn that preliminary reports will alarm you -- needlessly. Sorry to say, Issaquah felt it should survey a full range of options, from "build-out" to "do-nothing." To my mind, this is like engaging a consultant to plan your after-life, and having him include Hell as an option. The Issaquah master planners will present Hell -- and also a double-Hell. The pity is, the option of a golf course on the Tradition Plateau will make golfers leap up and down with glee and come ramping off the fairways to testify.

Be reassured. There will be no golf course, there will be no RV park, no "renovation" of Tradition Lake and no more logging. The worst will be that the consultants will spend 60 percent of Issaquah's money to no purpose, spelling out Hell, double-Hell, as well as 'do-nothing'; none of these three options is worth more than a cursory glance. However, because the options are there, you as individuals are going to have to speak up to Issaquah Parks and Issaquah City Council. The master plan alternatives will be made public later this year. We'll say much more then.

In brief, as the "High Point Phenomenon" has abundantly made clear, and the explosively growing traffic on trails of the plateau and West Tiger, there is no room for any uses that are not there now. This has become the most-used hiking area in the state -- strollers and hikers out every day of the year. The main reason 'do-nothing' is infeasible is that a major trailhead facility is essential, and this entails purchasing the property in the vicinity of the current gate on the High Point frontage road. Additionally, some of the trails need to be smoothed for the person -- very young or very old or physically handicapped -- unable to cope with rough paths. We further urge a wheelchair nature trail.

But essentially, what is wanted on the Tradition Plateau is exactly what is there now -- only more so.

An excellent new machine has come into prominence recently. Many of us instantly recognize it as an improved version of the "country bicycle" of our country childhoods, suited to the roads impossible for a pavement ("ten speed") bike. Many of us now are enjoying the new bike on unpaved country lanes, as well as on the thousands of miles of logging roads in the tree farms and in the national forests.

Sadly, the off-pavement bicycle is being fraudulently merchandised as the "mountain bike." Folks who have no trails experience are deluded into thinking here is a way for them to get up mountains without pain, as if a \$500 machine were able to repeal the law of gravity. If you are in the market for a bike, wait until late this summer -- \$500 bikes "used only once" will be going for \$100. Had Evolution thought wheels were superior, that's what we'd have instead of legs. See the "mountain biker" toiling up a hill, face flushed, tongue lolling, eyes bulging, nostrils snorting steam. Call that fun? Then let me show you the latest in whips and chains.

Yet a certain number persist, even when they must get off and walk their bikes -- or carry them. Because after the uphill comes the downhill -- the bombing run.

Already we can state an absolute certainty: There is no room for the off-pavement bicycle on the trails of Tiger Mountain State Forest. The bombers who come down the trails doing 10-20 mph do not have enough control, rounding a blind corner, to avoid a hiker, or a horse, or another biker. It may be objected, "I'm no bomber, I'm a nice guy, make no noise, never go really fast." The "no noise" is a very mixed blessing. A dirtbike can be heard coming, unlike the "silent menace." Further, the "nice guy" is traveling at least two-three times faster than a hiker, a speed differential that cannot be tolerated on a trail less elaborate than, say, the Burke-Gilman. Finally, the "nice guy" leaves tracks identical to those of a bomber. The hiker who sees wheel tracks inevitably tenses up, perhaps picks up a self-defense cudgel, and no longer can listen happily to the birds, watching, listening, waiting as he is for a rude encounter.

The worst invasion so far as been on Cougar Mountain.

The worst invasion so far has been on Cougar Mountain. Here the case is even more clearcut -- by law. In creating a Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, King County was stating as fundamental that the experience here is to be nature-centered not "activity-centered", is to exclude the sounds and sights of civilization, not to intrude the wheel. It may be complained, "But the Clay Pit Road" surely can be open to bikes if it's open to clay-hauling trucks." The trucks roll only a few days a year, and will not roll forever. The beauty of the wildland is that even the roads are trails -- for feet and horses.

No bicycles in Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park! Tell King County Parks to get with it -- enforce the manifest intent of the County Council.

Harvey *Manning*

Report

TIBBETTS - EAST COUGAR AREA PLAN

The City of Issaquah is now considering an area plan for north-west Squak Mountain, Tibbetts Valley (due south of Issaquah Park and Ride), and east and north Cougar Mountain. Much of these areas are not in the city, but it is being determined now as to what zoning a parcel would have if annexed. The city likes the control it gets from annexing an area, and landowners like the services a city can provide.

The Trails Club has been more involved in this process than usual, because the potential impact on trails, natural systems and features, and parks would be extensive, either negative or positive..

Some of the issues that are of great concern to the club include:

- 1) Proposal for a 200-300 hotel/conference center complex on the east side of Radar Peak in an area long planned for expansion of the Cougar Mt. Wildland Park.
- 2) A road crossing West Tibbetts Creek where the creek crosses the Precipice. This is one of the most beautiful and fragile environments on Cougar an totally inappropriate for road construction.
- 3) The historic Bush (Stagecoach, Military) Road and Big Tree Ridge could be preserved or destroyed.
- 4) Protection, access and expansion of the Squak Mt. State Park could be enhanced or inhibited.
- 5) Great creeks, wetlands and other features could be protected or destroyed.
- 6) Trail corridors could be lost, protected or enhanced.
- 7) Cougar Mt. Wildland Park expansion plans could be wrecked or enhanced.

The above is not a complete list, but should give some indication how important this planning process can be.

It is important that more of us become familiar with east Cougar and northwest Squak. On Cougar, the Protector Ridge area, and West Tibbetts from Cougar Pass to the Renton-Issaquah Rd. are areas well worth spending some time in. Our Cougar guidebook describes these trails.

The city council will be having meetings and hearings this summer and fall. Your attendance would be helpful. For more information contact David Kappler at 392-3571 or at 255 SE Andrews St., Issaquah, WA 98027.



TURNING UP THE HEAT ONSQUAK I

TURNING UP THE HEAT ON SQUAK I

After a number of years of benign neglect of Squak Mountain, threatening private development and promising public acquisition have caused us to lay the lash on our backs to "turn up the heat" on our lovely, lesser-known central Alp. But we need help to accomplish our assigned job.

First, we want a better public and member acquaintance with Squak, whose lack of panoramic views is more than offset by its varied and luxurious forest growth, its dramatically steep slopes, its logging and mining history, and its just plain woody charm. Secondly, we want a number of you to become knowledgeable about the mountain so that you can become part of a club cadre of Squak experts, workers and leaders.

Accordingly, this and subsequent hike schedules feature monthly Squak hikes and work parties. The hikes combine a morning "2C Get Acquainted" portion, and an all day "BST" (Blood, Sweat & Tears) exploration and layout. After lunch and the departure of the morning group, the self-chosen few will grapple with the mountain's wilds to scout out new routes and improve old ones, in the process becoming 20th century Daniel and Betsy Boones.

All day BST hikers should count on tough, cross country up and down bushwhacking, temporary disorientation (read "we're lost"), and late tired emergence from remote parts (read "schedule your fixed dinner engagements for another day"). Work Parties will clear out the routes we've established. For further info: Call Jack Hornung 545-9122.

HELP WANTED !!!!! PAINTER

Our Salmon Days booth is showing some wear and tear. It is due for a new coat of paint. Please call Dave Kappler, 392-3571 if you feel that artistic urge!

DO YOU HAVE A MACINTOSH?

The Alpiner may enter the computer age with the Fall issue if you can help. If you have a Macintosh Plus, Macintosh SE or other Mac capable of Desktop Publishing and are willing to have someone work on it for a few days a year, please call Rodi Ludlum any evening at 643-4095.

WHAT'S IN THE SLOUGH?
SATURDAY JULY 9 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

BELLEFIELDS NATURE PARK
1905-118th AVE SE

A HOME FOR FISH IN BELLEVUE!

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO "DO SOMETHING" TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT? IF SO, BELLEVUE NEEDS YOUR ENERGY & ENTHUSIASM!

The Bellevue Park Department is sponsoring a "Clean Up the Slough Day." Volunteers with kayaks and canoes are needed to pick up trash in Mercer Slough. Meanwhile, other "worker bees" are needed to reopen a channel in Bellefields Trail Creek for salmon to travel to spawning beds. Others are needed to revegetate the streambanks, and to pick up litter along the trails.

This is your Golden Opportunity to "beat your feet in the Mercer Slough Mud." To volunteer, call Barbara Johnson, at 451-7225.

Refreshments provided by Canoe magazine.

Co-sponsored by Bellevue Community College and the Urban Wildlife Coalition.

Funding by the Puget Sound Water Quality Authority.

WANT AD

Looking for fame? Want hundreds hanging on your every word? Guaranteed results!!! I need someone to help me from time to time with the Trails Club Hotline. The message is recorded once every week by remote control (from the privacy of your own home!!!) The message can be picked up at the same time, then passed on, if necessary. If you find this opportunity too grand to resist—call Ranger Barb Johnson at 451-7225. If I'm out munching granola with the bunnies, leave a message and I will get back to you.

NORTH VILLAGE UPDATE

King County is presently processing an application for the North Village Master Plan Development, which would result in the re-zoning and preliminary plat approval for an undeveloped 708-acre site on northern Cougar Mt. This application is one of the first major applications of the Newcastle Community Plan with the Cougar Mountain Regional Park being the first. This development would encompass most of the undeveloped land remaining between Newport Way and SE 60th (N & S boundaries) and Kline Road and 164th SE (E & W boundaries). This potential development contains in it routes of three of the most popular trails on Cougar Mt.—much of Peggy's Trail, most of the Lakemont Gorge Trail through the Lewis Creek canyon and its return loop from the Bear's Orchard to Peggy's Trail as well as the Precipice Trail. The EIS portion of this process, with KC, Bellevue and Issaquah as co-lead agencies has essentially been completed and the hearings before the King County Zoning and Subdivision Examiner will be started by the time this Alpiner is out. Hearings are scheduled on June 15, 20 and 22 during the day and June 21 during the evening at Bellevue Community College, with 7 other days in June and July available if needed.

The IATC has responded to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and will testify at the public hearings, in three areas of concern to the Club:

- 1) Protection of the Trail system - The application includes the above three trail corridors, in some form, as well as bicycle trails.
- 2) Provision of Public Open Space - The application proposes 310 acres to be designated as open space. 241 acres, including the Lewis Creek canyon, would be "permanent natural open space". The IATC has proposed that one of the overriding policies to be used in drafting the Master Plan is that of retaining the current wildland nature of this large open space block. The major problems in the way of achieving this policy that appear in the present plans are a) Storm water runoff from the proposed high density, uphill development can lead to erosion and slides in the steep walls of the Lewis Creek canyon as well as in the stream bed itself; b) the developers, as well as the Government planning agencies appear to be viewing these "permanent natural open spaces" as convenient service corridors with sewer lines, tight line overflow storm sewer lines and the proposed major service road for Bellevue's Cougar Mt. developments, Lakemont Boulevard, being potentially routed through the Lewis Creek ravine wildland corridor; c) the upper Lewis Creek, near the Bear's Orchard would be filled, with the village commercial center being built over it. At present the proposed Master Plan leaves these potential problems to be resolved later, rather than at the start of the project.
- 3) Concern for the present wildlife population - This area presently supports a fairly large wildlife population, including deer, bear and coyotes. The size of the wildland open space may not be large enough to maintain a population of these natives, especially if Lakemont is built, without an access to the Regional Park to the south. There is not presently any meaningful connecting wildlife corridors shown.

-Ralph Owen

Cougar Mt. work party...We will be repairing and relocating part of Peggy's Trail. Meet at Issaquah Park and Ride at 9:30 am July 10th.(sunday) Call Peggy and Ralph Owen for information -- 746-1070. Tools will be provided.


SEPTEMBER 1988 HIKE SCHEDULE

September							1988	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30			

- Sat. Sept. 3: Cougar Mtn. Radar Park to Hwy 900 via Tibbetts Creek. Class 2A. Meet 9:30 a.m. Involves auto swap. Harvey Manning 746-1017
- Tues. Sept. 6: Tiger Mtn. West Tiger Circumambulation. Class 4C. Meet 8:30 a.m. Joe Toynbee 723-6716
- Leaders Choice. Parents & Toddlers Walk. Class 1A. Meet 9:30 a.m. Virginia Cuykendall 746-7280
- Thurs. Sept. 8: Tiger Mtn. Hobart RR and South TMT Loop. Class 2B. Meet 9 a.m. Gail Palm 783-6005 and Bob Knutsen 243-4546
- Fri. Sept. 9: Cougar Mtn. West Tibbetts Creek Loop. Class 2C. Meet 9:30 a.m. Mary Cadigan 641-4046
- Sat. Sept. 10: South Cascades. Snow Lake Trail. Class 3C. Meet 8:30 a.m. 1 hour drive to trail head. USFS limit 12 hikers. RSVP George Mischler 746-8144
- Squak Mtn. Squak Mtn. Exploration. Class 3C. Meet 9 a.m. Tom Mechler 255-0922
- Sun. Sept. 11: Tiger Mtn. Leaders Choice. Class 3C. Meet 8:30 a.m. Will Thompson 488-8592
- Cougar Mtn. Wilderness Park Loop. Class 2B. Meet 12:30 p.m. Steve Cavit 271-7780
- Tues. Sept. 13: South Cascades. Talapus & Ollalie Lakes. Class 3C. Meet 9:30 a.m. 45 minute drive to trail head. USFS limit 12 hikers. RSVP Maury Muzzy 392-8718
- Leaders Choice. Parents & Toddlers Walk. Class 1A. Meet 9:30 a.m. Virginia Cuykendall 746-7280 & Leigh Bortins 228-7323
- Thurs. Sept. 15: Cougar Mtn. Wilderness Park Exploration. Class 3C. Meet 9:30 a.m. Ann Leber 746-3291
- Fri. Sept. 16: Mt. Si. Little Si Summit. Class 2C. Meet 9:30 a.m. Connie Dow 392-2190
- Sat. Sept. 17: South Cascades. Pratt River Trail. Class 2A. Meet 8:30 a.m. 45 minute drive to trail head. Don DeWitt 771-1242
- Tiger Mtn. West Tiger Caves & Big Tree. Class 2C. Meet 9:30 a.m. Leonard & Ursula Eisenberg 392-4034
- Sun. Sept. 18: Cougar Mtn. Wilderness Park Exploration. Class 3B. Meet 8:30 a.m. Ralph Owen 746-1070
- Cougar Mtn. De Leo Wall. Class 2B. Meet 12:30 p.m. Steve Irby 255-3211
- Tues. Sept. 20: Leaders Choice. Parents & Toddlers Walk. Class 1A. Meet 9:30 a.m. Virginia Cuykendall 746-7280
- Wed. Sept. 21: Cougar Mtn. West Tibbetts Creek Loop. Class 2B. Meet 9:30 a.m. Ann Leber 746-3291
- Thurs. Sept. 22: Tiger Mtn. Lake Tradition Plateau Exploration. Class 2B. Meet 9:30. Pat Kaald 746-8741
- Sat. Sept. 24: Tiger Mtn. Tiger Mtn. Trail. Class 4C. Meet 8:30 a.m. Involves car switch. Harvey Manning 746-1017
- Tiger Mtn. West Tiger 3 Summit. Class 3C. Meet 12:30 p.m. Bob Gross 392-0539
- Sun. Sept. 25: South Cascades. Pratt River Trail. Class 4C. Meet 8:30 a.m. 45 minute drive to trail head. Don DeWitt 771-1242
- Taylor Mtn. Shaun Creek Falls & West Taylor Mtn. Trail. Class 3B. Meet 9:30 a.m. Doug Weltl 322-7714
- Tues. Sept. 27: Leaders Choice. Parents & Toddlers Walk. Class 1A. Meet 9:30 a.m. Virginia Cuykendall 746-7280
- Wed. Sept. 28: Cougar Mtn. Wilderness Park Loop. Class 2B. Meet 12:30 p.m. Mary Cadigan 641-4046
- Fri. Sept. 30: Cougar Mtn. Coak Creek Falls. Class 2B. Meet 9:30 a.m. Betty Culbert 432-7387

September



SUNDAY A.M.	SUNDAY P.M.	MONDAY A.M.	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY A.M.	SATURDAY P.M.	
	Please check hike times!							3 Harvey Manning 746-1017 Radar Creek to Hiway 900 via Tibbetts Creek Auto Swap	
4	4	5	6 J. Toynbee 723-6716 WestTiger Circle 4C 8:30a V Cuykendall 746-7280 Parents & Toddlers Walk 1A 9:30a	7	8 Gail Palm & Bob Knutsen 783-6005 / 243-4546 Hobart RR & South TMT Loop 2B 9am	9 Mary Cadigan 641-4046 West Tibbetts Cree Loop 2C 9:30a	10 Geo. Mischler 746-8144 Snow Lake Trail 1 hr. to trailhd. Limit 12 hikers RSVP 3C 8:30a	10 Tom Mechler 255-0922 Sqak Mtn. Exploration 9am 9am 3C 9am	
11 Will Thompson 488-8592 Tiger Mt. Leaders Choice 3C 8:30a	11 Steve Cavit 271-7780 Wilderness Park Loop 2B 12:30p	12	13 Maury Muzzy 392-8718 Talapus & Ollalie (must call, see back 3C 9:30a V Cuykendall Leigh Bortins 746-7280/228-7323 Parents & Toddlers Walk 1A 9:30a	14	15 Ann Leber 746-3291 Wilderness Park Exploration Board Meeting For Location Call E. Dow 3C 292-2190 9:30a	16 Connie Dow 392-2190 Little Si Summit Board meet ←?? 2C 9:30 a	17 Don DeWitt 771-1242 Pratt River Trail (see back) 2A 8:30a	17 392-4034 L/E Eisenberg West Tiger Cave & Big Tree 9:30am 9:30am 2C 9:30a	
18 Ralph Owen 746-1070 Wilderness Park Exploration 3E 8:30a	18 Steve Irby 255-3211 DeLeo Wall 2E 12:30p	19	20 V. Cuykendall 746-7280 Leaders Choice Parents & Toddlers Walk 1A 9:30 am	21 Ann Leber 746-3291 West Tibbetts Ck Loop 2B 9:30a	22 Pat Kaald 746-8741 Lake Tradition Plateau Exploration 2B 9:30a	23	24 Harvey Manning 746-1017 Tiger Mtn. Trail Involves Car Switch 4C 8:30a	24 Bob Gross 392-0539 West Tiger 3 Summit 3C 12:30p	
25 Don DeWitt 771-1242 Pratt River Trail (see back) 4E 8:30a	25 Doug Welte 322-7714 Shaun Ck Falls & W. Taylor Mtn/ 9:30 am 9:30am 3B 9:30a	26	27 V. Cuykendall 746-7280 Leaders Choice Parents & Toddlers Walk 1A 9:30a	28 Mary Cadigan 641-4046 Wilderness Park Loop 2B 12:30p	29	30 Betty Culbert 432-7387 Coal Creek Falls 2B 9:30am			

HIKE INFORMATION

IATC Hike Leaders: The hike leaders are volunteers who have donated their time to lead those who want to hike and explore the trails in the Issaquah Alps and the other nearby foothills (Cascades) in King County. Hikes are scheduled and led on a year around basis regardless of weather or attendance numbers. We hike in the rain, snow, fog, ice, wind, and even when the sun is out on a clear day. We hike on good, bad, muddy, brushy, steep, flat, easy, hard, obscure, and animal trails. As volunteers, neither the hike leaders, the IATC, or the club directors are in any way responsible or liable for your comfort, transportation, property, safety, or general well being while traveling to and from the trail head or while hiking or working on any trail. Our sole purpose is to show you where the trails are and to lead the way. The public, other clubs, youth groups, church groups, etc. are welcome and wholeheartedly invited to join with the hike leader and others who want to hike these trails. Children under 13 should be accompanied by an adult.

Hike Classifications: Numbers indicate hiking time in hours (travel time to and from trailhead and meal times not included), i.e.:

Class 1 = + 2 hours

Class 3 = + 6 hours

Class 2 = + 4 hours

Class 4 = + 8 hours

These are approximate hiking times, based on an assumption of a 2 mph pace, with a half hour added for every 1000' elevation gain.

Trail conditions, weather, unexpected hazards can extend the hiking time. Travel time to the trailhead and back will add 20 - 70 minutes, depending on the hike. Lunch time will add another 20 - 70 minutes depending on the mood of the group.

LETTERS indicate degree of difficulty:

- A = level terrain, no difficulties for an average walker
- B = some climbing - up to 800', or some other element of difficulty
- C = more climbing - up to 2200', or some other difficulty
- D = much climbing - over 2200' elevation gain

This is estimated degree of difficulty. Most trails we hike are not up to the high standards you may be used to from hiking in National Parks. The trails we hike can be very steep in parts, muddy, and brushy. You may gain 1000' elevation in just one mile of a 5-mile 1500' elevation gain hike. You may have to clamber over fallen trees, or beat your way through nettles and berry bushes. Short doesn't automatically mean easy, and long doesn't automatically mean tough.

Meeting Place: In order to reduce confusion, all hikes will assemble at the Issaquah Metro Park and Ride Lot, Exit 15 off I-90. The lot is located west of Issaquah at Goode's Corner, the junction of Highway 900 and Newport Way. We gather at the south end of the Park and ride. Most hikes are coordinated with Metro 210 schedule. Hikes generally leave the Park and Ride right after 8:30 or 9:30 in the morning or 12:30 in the afternoon, in each case shortly after the scheduled arrival of a 210 bus from points west. Check your 210 bus schedule.

Clothing: Dress for comfort in the Pacific Northwest outdoors, i.e., expect rain, snow, sunshine, fog, etc. and bring the extra clothing, rain gear, food, liquid, matches, flashlight, and first aid supplies necessary for your safety and comfort. Wear comfortable hiking footwear (for most hikes this means hiking boots, or hiking shoes).

SALMON DAYS!!!!!!

Help pass out information about the club and sell books and memberships. You don't have to be an expert, just positive.

Salmon Days will be Saturday, October 1 and Sunday, October 2, 1988. Booth shifts are 2 hour shifts from 11am to 5pm. Each shift needs two or three workers. Call Dave Kappler, 392-3571 or the HOTLINE to volunteer for a shift, or to find out more about our involvement in Salmon Days.

Trail Maintenance: As volunteers, we organize and schedule trail maintenance parties from time to time. Normally, we meet at the hike meeting place, distribute tools, drive to the trailhead, hike to that section of trail we are going to work on, and work from 2 to 4 hours. Trail maintenance work parties are a very social event and can be fun. Try one next time, you will like it. We also encourage individuals or groups to adopt a trail, or section of a trail, and accept the responsibility for maintaining it.

Search & Rescue Procedures: The King County Police is the agency responsible for coordinating search and rescue (SAR) activities within King County. This includes searching for lost or overdue hikers and dispatching emergency medical teams and equipment. In the event someone is lost, injured, or overdue on a scheduled hike, the hike leader will ask one or more volunteers to hike out and call the King County SAR Duty Officer (telephone 911). The caller must stay by the telephone to answer any questions the SAR Duty Officer may have. Another volunteer will be asked to hike out and stay at the trailhead to lead the SAR team to the injured party or to the location the lost or overdue hiker was last seen. The remainder of the hiking group should stay with the injured party or volunteer to search in pairs along the trail.

Hike Committee: Gail Palm 783-6005, Al Blalock, Mary Cadigan, Joe Toynbee, Ann Leber, Steve Cavit, Jenne Micai, Leonard Eisenberg, and George Jackman.

HIKE DESCRIPTION MODIFIERS

Exploration: An exploration hike is one where the leader will show you the trails and points of interest on or along the designated mountain, area, or trail system. The trails to be hiked or points visited will depend on the weather and the groups mutual interests and desires.

Leaders Choice: When a schedule hike has been designated "Leaders Choice", this means the leader will hike on designated mountain or area on trails of the leaders choice. In other words, the leader had not yet decided where to hike by the schedule publication date.

Variation: A variation hike modifier is one where the leader will start out, and probably return to, the designated trail and then detour, take short cuts, loops, explore, or otherwise deviate from the main trail on other trails to shorten, extend, or make the hike more interesting.

Trail Party: A trail party is a trail maintenance work party.

Exploratory Bushwhack: An exploratory bushwhack hike is where the leader is going cross country off of the regular trail system to explore along animal trails, canyons, old logging roads, or old railroad grades. Expect to go through brush, over logs, tiptoe through wild flowers, and/or mud, and have a good time hiking where others seldom tread.

Youth Hike: These hikes are especially planned to be of interest to youths ages 6 to 12. Parents or guardians must accompany.

Toddlers Walk: These hikes are intended for parents with very small children or infants.

ISSAQUAH ALPS HOT LINE: 328-0480
24 HOURS A DAY - RECORDED HIKE DESCRIPTIONS
AND CLUB MESSAGES

WHO TO CALL TO REPORT CREEK (AND OTHER) WETLAND CRIMES

Bellevue Storm and Surface Water Utility:	Emergency:
	455-7846
	Inspection:
	451-4476
Issaquah Public Works: Call Ruth Kees:	392-3410
Unincorporated King County:	
Drainage Problems	344-4034

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-21-

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Also available at REI, Marmot Mountain Works, Swallow's Nest, University Bookstore, Pioneer Maps, Wilderness Sports, and all Issaquah outlets: (Rainy Day Books, Gilman Village Books, Backpacking Equipment, Inc.)

- 22 -

TRAIL NEWS

The Pratt Valley is new territory for us. This summer we plan to do a number of exploratory hikes there, as well as begin to standardize routes to known points of interest. The Pratt River springs from headwaters on the "backside" of Mt. Defiance, Granite Mtn. and, ultimately, the Melakwa Lake basin between Chair Peak and Kaleetan. The middle stretch flows in a deep valley between Russian Butte and Preacher Mtn. The mouth empties into the Middle Fork Snoqualmie about ten miles east of Mt. Si. Water elevation at the mouth is 900 feet. Access to the lower Pratt Valley involves some ingenuity. Some of us have been visiting it throughout the winter using either rafts or canoes to cross the Middle Fork. By mid-July the Middle Fork should be wadeable. We hope to have a log across it by the end of the summer.

The lower mile-and-a-half of the valley is especially interesting for its profusion of ferns and mosses and its many big trees. This past winter we discovered some real giants, for example two red cedars 40' around (13' DBH) and a Douglas-fir 29' around (9' DBH). The big fir may well be the biggest Douglas-fir in King County. By way of comparison, the big fir on the Lake Tradition Plateau is 24' around and the big fir in O.O. Denny Park near Lake Washington is 26' around. The latter tree is identified by a brass plaque as the "largest Douglas-fir in King County". The Pratt fir beats it easily. The cedars, 40' around, may well be the biggest of their kind in the county. In any event they are wonderful to see. These trees are exceptional. The average fir in the lower valley is "only" about 4' DBH. One of the things we will be doing this summer is improving the route to the big trees. We will also be exploring some of the old railroad grades in the middle valley and looking for more log crossings across the Pratt (we already know of one good one in the vicinity of the giant trees).

Len Gardner and Don DeWitt

WANT AD

ISSAQUAH TOURISM COMMITTEE

The Tourism Committee promotes tourists and tourism for Issaquah. In 1987, this group raised \$500 for the Trails Club for an interpretive sign at the Visitors' Center which will graphically display the Issaquah Alps area. The tourism committee sponsored the Fun Bike Ride to raise the money. It is a sub-committee of the Salmon Days Board which is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Issaquah.

The Tourism Committee needs a new member from the Trails Club. It meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Issaquah Holiday Inn. Benefits include free coffee and Boehm's chocolates!!! If you can't resist this offer, call Barb Johnson at 451-7225.

Board of Directors

Notes on topics discussed at Board of Directors meetings.

March 22, 1988

Bellevue Park Bonds. Endorsed by Board - unanimous.

National Forest. Unanimous support for buying and mailing brochure on Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest.

Membership. Just over 1300.

Cougar Mountain. Bellevue seeking control and stringent standards for North Village. Issaquah Council and mayor toured East Village site - not pleased with Wally's plan, except for A.J.

Squak. Jack Hornung has connected East Side Road to Tie Mill. Planning exploratory hikes, - also work parties.

DNR. DNR will take over sign for Issaquah Visitor's Center. Tom Lucas is doing great job on DNR Recreation Advisory Committee.

Also discussed BOeing Computer Hikers flagging trail in Round Lake area, Return VI, Tool Storage, Treasurer's Report, Mailing List, Backyard Wildlife.

April 21, 1988.

Staffing. Gail may replace George on Hikes, Rodi Ludlum may do Alpiner and Connie Fair may switch to Publicity.

Return to Newcastle VI. County will put up tents, we do guard duty. Newcastle Cafe will be food. County to bring sound system, stage, bleachers, 3 bands. We do hikes.

Planning. Discussed King County open space plan and bond issue and strategy.

Grand Plan for IATC. HM presented draft master plan as follows:

Cougar Mountain

Acquisitions pending for Regional Park, Open Space Bond Issue Acquisitions, and others - China Creek, DeLeo Wall, Anna Stewart, Coal Creek Landfill. Park Boundaries - China Creek, Coal Creek, North side, South side, Trail Corridors, Wildlife Corridors, Non-Villages.

Squak Mountain
Tiger Mountain

Park enlargements, trail corridors, park circuit trail. State Forest - ORV enforcement, horses, mountain bikes. West Tiger Conservation Area, plans for Tradition Plateau, Trailhead City signs, Lake Tradition nature trail, TMT Lake Sammamish State Park, Mount Si Conservation Area, DNR Trails, Snoqualmie Falls, Pratt River, Taylor Mountain, Cedar River Watershed, May Valley.

AND

May 19, 1988

Open Space Plan. HM & Jack Hornung hiked with County people on East Cougar and Squak. Discussed goals.

Hotline. VOLUNTEER NEEDED. Barbara Johnson needs to be replaced.

New Jobs. Rodi Ludlum - Alpiner. Connie Fair - Publicity. Gail Palm - Hikes. George Jackman - Senior Counselor.

Alpiner. Discussed format changes, computer production.

Meetings. How can we get people to come???

Goals, Objectives, Strategies. Need day long retreat to discuss.