



Issaquah Alps TRAILS CLUB

— EST. 1979 —

Dedicated to engaging the public to preserve, protect, and promote the land, wildlife, and trails of the Issaquah Alps, for future and present generations.

Newsletter of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club

THE ALPINER

August 2021

Join us on [September 7th at 5:30pm](#) at the original [Trail House on the Rainier Trail](#), across from the Harvey Manning statue, to celebrate the completion of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club Mosaic! This commemorative piece of community art will be displayed in perpetuity in this location.

If you want to get involved with the IATC please fill out our [volunteer form](#) and let us know what you are interested in.

Upcoming Hikes and Events

- [Friday, August 27th at 4pm](#)- Forest Health Hike
- [Tuesday, September 7th at 5:30pm](#)- Issaquah Alps Mosaic Unveiling
- [Sunday, September 12th at 9:00am](#)- Forest Carbon Hike at Harvey Manning Park
- [Saturday, September 25th at 9:00am](#) - Green Issaquah at Berntsen Park
- [Sunday, September 26th at 10:00am](#)- Teddy Bear Hike at Swamp Trail
- [Friday, October 1st at 3pm](#)- Forest Health Hike

Tiger Mountain Harvest Update- Weyerhaeuser to Open West Tiger Mountain Ownership For Permanent Public Access

Hannah Wheeler - August 24, 2021



This press release was published by Weyerhaeuser on August 16th in collaboration with the Issaquah Alps Trails Club and the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. We have been advocating for the land to be accessible to the public post harvest and for comprehensive trail and forest plans for the site throughout this process. We are looking forward to continue advocating for positive outcomes like these that balance the needs of all types of uses of the Issaquah Alps.

SEATTLE, Aug. 16, 2021 / [PRNewswire](#) / -- [Weyerhaeuser Company](#) (NYSE: WY) today announced an agreement to open roughly 90 acres of sustainably managed private forest near the peaks of West Tiger Mountain in Issaquah, Wash., to permanent public access following a planned harvest this month. Working in partnership with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, [Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust](#) and [Issaquah Alps Trails Club](#), Weyerhaeuser will then support rebuilding trails and opening the property for public recreational access as soon as possible after the completion of harvest activities this fall.

Weyerhaeuser has gradually transitioned most of its acreage on and around Tiger Mountain to public ownership starting in the 1970s, helping establish the trails system that has become a popular resource along the I-90 corridor for outdoors enthusiasts in Seattle and surrounding areas. The company

retained these 90 acres in part to maintain access and clearance for communications towers located on the mountain. While still preserving access to the towers for ongoing maintenance, Weyerhaeuser has committed to a long-term conservation strategy on its remaining acres on West Tiger Mountain to ensure largely contiguous public access throughout Tiger Mountain State Forest.

"Our vision for forest preservation within the Issaquah Alps and across the entire Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area has always included a balance of both forest conservation and retention of working forest lands," said Jon Hoekstra, executive director for the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. "Tiger Mountain is a unique place where many uses come together: conservation in some areas, sustainable timber harvest in others, recreational activities, and environmental protection of headwater streams for salmon. We value our decades-long history of collaboration with public land management agencies and private landowners like Weyerhaeuser to achieve a positive mix of public and environmental benefits on the landscape."

"Tiger Mountain is a unique and beloved place to us," said Lindsay Frickle, executive director of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club. "It's at the center of much of our advocacy work and has always included working forests alongside conservation and recreation. Our work over the last 40 years in collaboration with land management agencies as well as Weyerhaeuser has focused on achieving the best possible outcomes for all land use needs. We realize no one likes to see logging in their own backyard, but we believe there can be a balance between working forests, conservation, wildlife and recreation. The positive outcomes we've advocated for, including a conservation strategy for land where possible, replanting of healthy and resilient forests, and the restoration of trail systems for recreation on Tiger, prove that's true. Throughout this harvest and afterwards, we will encourage conversations from all perspectives, including conservation groups, recreationists and the Indigenous peoples who have stewarded this land since time immemorial. We will also voice the ongoing concerns of our community and promote solutions that balance the needs of all who love the Issaquah Alps."

Working in consultation with the Greenway Trust and IATC, DNR is leading the design work on rebuilding a sustainable trail system.

"We are working in good faith with all our partners and will do our best to help mitigate disruptions to the trail system on West Tiger Mountain," said Scott Sargent, DNR's South Puget Sound Region Manager.

Weyerhaeuser expects harvest activities to be completed before the end of the year, and trail work could begin on the ground as soon as spring 2022. In addition to reconnecting existing corridors that were closed or changed during the harvest period, planners are looking at opportunities to adjust and improve certain routes, including how to capitalize on new view opportunities near the summit. Also, in accordance with Weyerhaeuser's sustainable forestry standards and state regulations, 100 percent of the area will be replanted after the harvest with a mix of native Douglas-fir, noble fir and other species.

"We recognize the tremendous importance of this land to the recreational community, and we have always valued working proactively with local organizations, conservation groups, public land managers and other partners," said Travis Keatley, vice president of Western Timberlands for Weyerhaeuser. "We appreciate their understanding of the value of working forests in Washington, and we're excited to find a positive solution on West Tiger Mountain that will ensure long-term, and safe, public access to this special area."

Of the nearly 23 million acres of forestland in the state of Washington, nearly 11 million acres are working forests. These forests are described as "working forests" because they produce a sustainable supply of trees for the production of essential wood, paper and pulp-based products, all while providing clean air and water, wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, among many other benefits. Nearly 70 percent of the timber harvest in Washington comes from privately owned forestland, and working forests overall support more than 101,000 jobs in communities across the state.

ABOUT WEYERHAEUSER

[Weyerhaeuser Company](#), one of the world's largest private owners of [timberlands](#), began operations in 1900. We own or control approximately 11 million acres of timberlands in the U.S. and manage additional timberlands under long-term licenses in Canada. We manage these timberlands on a [sustainable](#) basis in compliance with internationally recognized forestry standards. We are also one of the largest manufacturers of [wood products](#) in America. Our company is a real estate investment trust. In 2020, we generated \$7.5 billion in net sales and employed approximately 9,400 people who serve customers worldwide. We are listed on the Dow Jones Sustainability North America Index. Our common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol WY. Learn more at www.weyerhaeuser.com.

ABOUT THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources manages nearly 1,300 miles of trails and 160-plus recreation sites in 3 million acres of working forest state trust lands and 92 natural areas. DNR trust lands keep forests development-free, provide clean water, and generate revenue for public services and school construction. DNR also conserves 164,000 acres of highest-quality ecological features in designated Natural Area Preserves and Natural Resources Conservation Areas that provide opportunities for research, environmental education and low-impact recreation. For the latest information on recreation on DNR-managed lands, visit dnr.wa.gov/open.

ABOUT MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY TRUST

The Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area is a unique geographic corridor made up of connected ecosystems and communities spanning 1.5-million-acres from Seattle to Ellensburg along the I-90 corridor. The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust is a coalition-based organization that leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance this special landscape, ensuring a long-term balance between people and nature. Founded in 1991, the Greenway Trust works to conserve and restore natural lands, open spaces, and historic sites; build and maintain recreational trails; engage with students through our environmental education program; advocate for public lands and recreational access; lead a robust volunteer program; and so much more. Learn more at mtsgreenway.org.

ABOUT THE ISSAQUAH ALPS TRAILS CLUB

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club is a 40-year old organization dedicated to engaging the public to preserve, protect, and promote the land, wildlife, and trails of the Issaquah Alps for present and future generations. We raise awareness around challenges facing our public lands through guided hikes and community education. We take action to make sure everyone can enjoy the trails, parks, and open spaces of the Issaquah Alps now and into the future. Learn more about the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, or join us for an event at issaquahalps.org.

For more information contact:

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SOURCE Weyerhaeuser Company

Executive Director Transition

Lindsay Frickle - August 19, 2021

Dear IATC Volunteers and Supporters,

I'm writing to let you know that this will be my last month serving as Executive Director for the IATC. Starting in September I will begin serving another mission close to my heart as Advancement Director for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. It has been an honor and a pleasure advocating for the Issaquah Alps with so many of you over the past few years, and I'm proud of all that the IATC has accomplished. We are truly a volunteer-powered nonprofit, and I look forward to continuing to help further our mission as a volunteer and donor as well. I hope you will join me for a "Teddy Bear Hike" or by making a contribution to the IATC's annual fund campaign next month.

Thank you for the opportunity to collaborate with you on behalf of our beloved Issaquah Alps. We are all so fortunate to have a national treasure right in our own backyard. Let's continue to work together to preserve, protect, and promote the Issaquah Alps for present and future generations. I look forward to seeing you in the beautiful landscape so many of us are fortunate enough to call home.

Happy trails,

Lindsay Frickle, Executive Director



Lindsay Frickle, Executive Director (2019 - 2021) with her children Lillain (2) and Teddy (4)

Recreate Responsibly Coalition Updated Guidelines

Hannah Wheeler - August 19, 2021

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club is proud to be part of the Recreate Responsibly Coalition. The following statement was released today updating the guidelines set by the coalition in light of changing COVID-19 conditions. The statement calls for a shift in focus to the importance of preparation, inclusivity, and shared stewardship.



NEW OUTDOOR RECREATION GUIDELINES EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE OF PREPARATION, INCLUSIVITY, AND SHARED STEWARDSHIP

Part of a national movement, the Washington Recreate Responsibly Coalition encourages best practices that keep people and places safe and welcoming.

WASHINGTON -Today, the Recreate Responsibly Coalition released updated guidelines encouraging people to embrace best practices that focus on taking care of oneself, each other, and the outdoors.

An update to the original guidelines released in May 2020 amid evolving COVID-19 public health restrictions, the 2021 guidelines focus on the importance of preparation, inclusivity, and shared stewardship.

"COVID-19 changed the context of outdoor recreation in Washington state," said Kindra Ramos, communications director at Washington Trails Association. "With more people than ever enjoying the state's natural beauty and public lands, these guidelines offer simple and actionable ways each of us, whether lifelong or first-time adventurers, can do our part for Washington's outdoors."

Recreating responsibly means:

Know before you go. Check the status of the place you want to visit for closures, fire restrictions, and weather.

Plan and prepare. Reservations and permits may be required. Make sure you have the gear you need and a back-up plan.

Build an inclusive outdoors. Be an active part of making the outdoors safe and welcoming for all identities and abilities.

Respect others. There is space for everyone outdoors. Be kind to all who use the outdoors and nature differently.

Leave no trace. Respect the land, water, wildlife, and Native communities. Follow the seven Leave No Trace principles.

Make it better. We all have a responsibility to sustain the places we love. Volunteer, donate, and advocate for the outdoors.

While there are no longer statewide public health restrictions in Washington that apply to outdoor recreation, rates of infection from the Delta variant of COVID-19 are on the rise. When enjoying the outdoors, the Washington Recreate Responsibly Coalition encourages people to add face coverings and hand sanitizer to their [10 Essentials](#).

"Although Washington state has attained some of the highest vaccination rates in the country, COVID-19 is still present in our communities," said Andrea Martin, Recreation Policy Manager, of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. "We want people to plan and prepare before they venture out, because that improves safety for everyone."

These guidelines are being promoted nationwide through the Recreate Responsibly Coalition, an alliance made up of more than 1,300 non-profit organizations, public agencies, and outdoor recreation businesses, media, and influencers that are working together to help everyone experience the benefits of nature.

Brought together by a shared motivation to help people recreate safely amid the changing circumstances of the pandemic, the [Washington Recreate Responsibly Coalition](#) was one of the first in the nation and includes more than 100 non-profit organizations, public agencies, and local businesses.

By teaming up across sectors and states and harnessing the power of a simple vision, the Recreate Responsibly Coalition has been immensely effective at sharing its messages, garnering billions of impressions on social media, offering the original guidelines in nine languages, and building an influential voice for the outdoors.

"Building an inclusive outdoors is good for people and our environment. Everyone should have the opportunity to safely enjoy the benefits of being in nature, and the Recreate Responsibly guidelines encourage you to be an active part of making the outdoors safe and welcoming for all identities and

abilities. " said David Dunphy, Executive Director, of the youth outdoor adventure group, Y.E.T.I.

As we look to the future beyond COVID-19, the Recreate Responsibly Coalition hopes that these updated guidelines will also serve as a statement of community: that together, we can #RecreateResponsibly to build a safe, sustainable, and inclusive outdoors for all.



Ways to #RecreateResponsibly outside:

- 1 KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**
Check the status of the place you want to visit for closures, fire restrictions, and weather.
- 2 PLAN AND PREPARE**
Reservations and permits may be required. Make sure you have the gear you need, and a back-up plan.
- 3 BUILD AN INCLUSIVE OUTDOORS**
Be an active part of making the outdoors safe and welcoming for all identities and abilities.
- 4 RESPECT OTHERS**
There is space for everyone and countless outdoor activities. Be kind to all who use the outdoors and nature differently.
- 5 LEAVE NO TRACE**
Respect the land, water, wildlife and Native communities. Follow the seven Leave No Trace principles.
- 6 MAKE IT BETTER**
We all have a responsibility to sustain the places we love. Volunteer, donate & advocate for the outdoors.

Join the movement
RecreateResponsibly.org

For more information, visit recreateresponsibly.org and follow @recreateresponsibly on Twitter and Instagram and #RecreateResponsibly across social media platforms.

Poo Poo Point Trail Improvements

Tom Anderson - August 22, 2021



Signage to the Poo Poo Point Trail Reroute

Are you wanting to hike to Poo Poo Point but avoid the craziness of the Chirico trailhead on the weekend? You might consider the alternative approach via the High School Trail, which has been improved and rerouted thanks to a recent project completed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The project was executed in partnership with the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, which also enlisted the Washington Trails Association, EarthCorps, Backwoods Contracting, and Washington Conservation Corps. You can learn more about the project in a recent blog post by the Mountains to Sound Greenway:

[Mountains to Sound Greenway - Poo Poo Point Trail Updates](#)

And more good news - the High School Trailhead is served by the Trailhead Direct shuttle bus, approximately every half hour on the weekends. Here is a link to the shuttle bus schedule and route map:

[Trailhead Direct Schedule - Issaquah Alps](#)

The reroute has shortened the distance to Poo Poo Point from the High School trailhead to approximately 3.1 miles. Hiker beware - the signage and maps have not yet caught up with this change. All in good time.

Happy Trails!



Trailhead Direct Shuttle at the High School Trailhead (on Second Avenue).

Leafline Trails and Washington Trails Association Coordinate to Start a "Puget Sound Access" Coalition

Hannah Wheeler - August 27, 2021



This past month, [Leafline Trails](#) and the [Washington Trails Association](#) brought together partners from around the region, including members of the [Issaquah Alps Trails Club](#), to discuss the possibility of forming a "Puget Sound Access Coalition."

Their goal is to "coordinate on emerging federal legislation to bridge the recreation and transportation policy divide in Puget Sound" and to "increase federal funding for regional trails, transit-to-trails, parks and greenspaces, and high quality backcountry trail experiences in Puget Sound."

Infrastructure for transit is intertwined with access to trails, paths, and open spaces. By forming a network of supporters, they hope to better be able to advocate for all kinds of paths, trails, and greenspaces throughout our region as well as equitable access to these places.

A few of the first steps the coalition will take include creating a shared vision among the partners as well as a map of current gaps in trails and access issues. Additionally, the coalition plans to start reaching out to legislators to get a better understanding of the political climate they're working with and where they can best put their efforts forward.

The Apparatus

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