



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

September 2022

News – Events – Hikes



Come visit our booth at Salmon Days, October 1 & 2.

Teaming Up For Trails on Tiger Mtn.

Paul Winterstein - September 29, 2022

"Where can I sign up for some trail work?" is one of the most common requests that we hear at IATC. Now, "Tiger Mtn." is the answer.

Register for Oct. 21 on WTA.ORG

Register for Oct. 22 on WTA.ORG

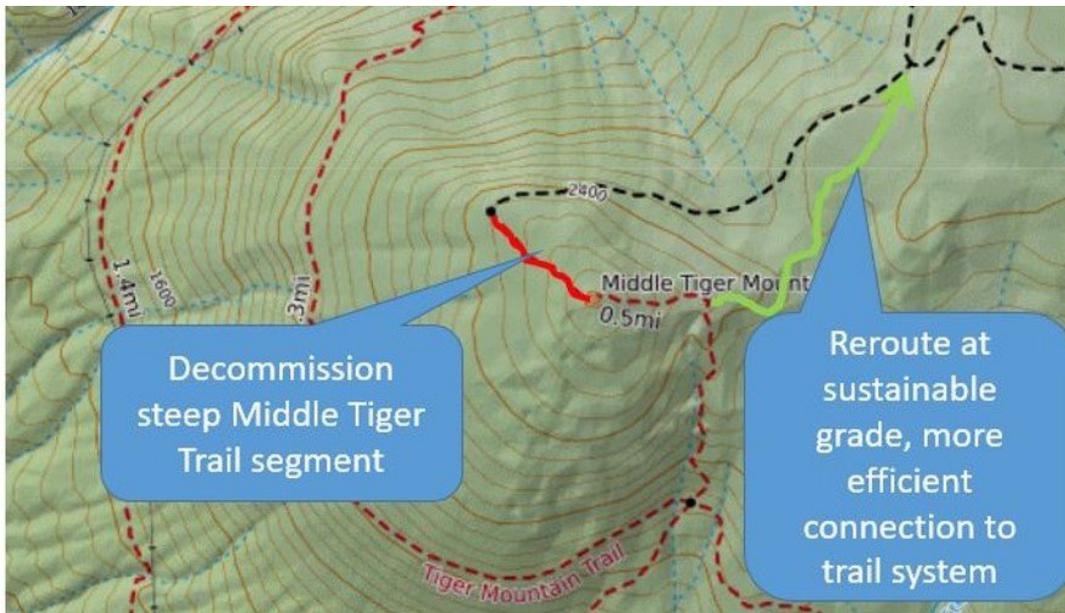
Last year's harvest of timber on private land on West Tiger Mtn. had a big impact on trails in the area. Since May of this year, the WA DNR has been leading efforts to restore, and in some cases reroute and rebuild the trails that were effected. In 2023, another harvest will take place on WA DNR land in the Middle Tiger summit area. Now IATC is teaming up with the Washington Trails Association (WTA) to rebuild the trails in these areas.

Gone are the days of IATC blazing new trails on its own accord in the Issaquah Alps. Today, public land owners carefully manage new trail construction and often work with public service organizations like the Mountains To Sound Greenway and Washington Conservation Corps to do the work. But the largest trail builder is the highly respected Washington Trails Association (WTA) and they have a healthy book of business doing trails in the Alps throughout the coming fall and winter seasons. Much of their work is in the 2021 harvest area on West Tiger.



IATC Board members tour one of the trail restoration projects on West Tiger Mtn.

Another reroute effort is also just getting underway over on the Middle Tiger summit. An all-new trail segment will replace the short, steep section on the northwest side of the Middle Tiger summit today. The segment being replaced will be mostly wiped out from a new timber harvest on WA DNR land slated for 2023. Before the details of this harvest were finalized, the WA DNR reached out to IATC, seeking our input on what to do about the trails in this area, and the Middle Tiger Trail reroute was one of our preferred alternatives. Now, even before the harvest has taken place-and working in a place that won't be disrupted by it-the WA DNR has engaged WTA for the trail work and we have secured some of this work for the IATC community.



Map of the trail work on Middle Tiger summit.

See our [Hikes & Events page](#) for all the WTA trail work party days on Tiger Mtn. in October. But two of those days-Friday Oct. 21 and Saturday Oct. 22 have special carve out's for IATC, and that's a good thing. WTA work parties are extremely popular. They draw upon volunteers from throughout Washington state and they often fill up and have waiting lists. By getting IATC-exclusive slots we are giving the IATC community access that can otherwise be hard to get. WTA has reserved 5 work party openings for the IATC community [on the 21st](#), with the remaining slots that day being open to the general public. But then [on the 22nd](#), the entire work party has been exclusively reserved for our community.

These will be standard WTA work parties and all signups and logistics will be managed by them.

It is our hope and expectation that many in the IATC community will signup and make their mark for trails in the Issaquah Alps. There is a lot of trail work coming in the near future, and that's not just limited to Tiger Mtn. By really supporting these projects, IATC community members will help us secure more of these days in the future.

IATC Advocacy Committee - We're Recruiting!

Paul Winterstein - September 29, 2022

" Advocacy is super important. This new committee will really make a difference and I'm looking forward to working closely with everyone and sharing my 40+ years of experience with them. "

- David Kappler, IATC VP of Advocacy, Advocacy Committee Member

Advocacy is at the heart of what we do at IATC. We are driven by our passion for the land and trails, and work with our partners to ensure equal access for all and that the proper resources are available to grow and maintain what's already here. We are more than trail users. Our Advocacy Committee was recently established to lead our efforts in this area. The Committee is in startup mode and **we have a number of positions on the Committee to fill**. If you share our passion and have special knowledge or experience in an area such as land use, conservation, wildlife habitat, biology, outdoor recreation, non-profits, or the legal profession, then we would love to hear from you!

Scroll to the "IATC Advocacy Interest Form" at the end of this article to register your interest, or read on for more information before deciding. (Note: the PDF version of this form cannot be used to submit. Please access the form on the IATC Website.)



Photo credit: Mark Griffith

Advocacy at IATC

For IATC, "advocacy" is defined as an activity whose intended outcome is related to one or more of the following:

1. **Land** - The preservation, conservation, or protection of certain land from development or disruption deemed harmful.
2. **Trails** - The construction, maintenance, or restoration of a connected, comprehensive trail system, including trailheads.
3. **Access** - Improved access to the Issaquah Alps.
4. **Resources** - The allocation of resources for the proper management and care of the land and trails of the Issaquah Alps.

Examples of our [current advocacy initiatives](#) include land conservation opportunities on Cougar and Tiger Mtns. (with Save Coal Creek as the prime example), and trail restoration and development on Squak and Tiger Mtns. But advocacy is an ever-changing landscape with new objectives arising and existing ones evolving from low-level to higher levels of activity, and vice versa. Key to our long-term success with advocacy has been the people with their eyes and ears to the ground and a community of like-minded individuals willing to do what is needed to succeed. We interact tribal governments and with many public agencies at the state, county, and city levels, plus other conservation and recreation organizations, commercial businesses, private citizens, and landowners. With true grassroots origins, IATC has had tremendous success with our advocacy efforts. With the establishment of the Advocacy Committee, we have taken the step to ensure that our efforts and the best outcomes will continue into the future.

A New Committee

" The Issaquah Alps Trails Club has been a leader in public lands advocacy for 40+ years. As the chair of the newly formed advocacy committee, I hope to build on the work of Harvey Manning, David Kappler, and others who have been doing this work from the beginning, while bringing in the next generation of advocates who will carry this work forward. "

- Kelly Jiang, Advocacy Committee Chair

The Advocacy Committee was formally established by the IATC Board at our September meeting with the adoption of its charter and appointment of its first three members, all of whom are also Board members. A critical early step for the Committee is to recruit new members, and anyone from throughout the Issaquah Alps community is encouraged to get involved.

We Would Like to Hear From You

We have setup an online form for registering your interest in joining the Committee. We also want to hear from people who don't think that they can fulfill the obligations of Committee members, but who still want to volunteer to help as needed with various initiatives. Whichever level of involvement interests you, please take the 10 minutes or less needed to complete the form and we will follow-up with you. We will be agile in the process going forward, with the goal of adding up to six new Committee members by January 2023, with terms for one, two, or three years.

Current Advocacy Committee Members:

- Kelly Jiang, Chair
 - David Dunphy, Vice Chair
 - David Kappler
-

IATC Advocacy Interest Form

Thank you for your interest in getting involved with advocacy with the Issaquah Alps Trails Club! Please answer all of these questions to the best of your ability.

For the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, "advocacy" is defined as an activity whose intended outcome is related to one or more of the following:

1. The preservation, conservation, or protection of certain land from development or disruption deemed harmful
2. The construction, maintenance, or restoration of a connected, comprehensive trail system, including trailheads
3. Improved access to the Issaquah Alps
4. The allocation of resources for the proper management and care of the land and trails of the Issaquah Alps

IATC is actively recruiting members for our newly formed Advocacy Committee, as well as for volunteers who are interested in learning more about advocacy and getting involved. The Advocacy Committee is expected to be a commitment of at least 2 hrs/wk, but there are other volunteer opportunities available that will be less of a time commitment.

*** Required**

Email*

Your email

Full Name*

Your answer

Phone number

Your answer

What city / neighborhood do you live in? (e.g. Issaquah Highlands, Wallingford)*

Your answer

What do you do professionally? *

Your answer

Who is your employer?

Your answer

Why are you interested in getting involved with advocacy with the IATC? (There are no wrong answers!)*

Your answer

Have you worked on advocacy projects (IATC or otherwise) in the past? If so, please describe below.*

Your answer

Please describe any additional skills, expertise, or background that may be relevant to advocacy work (e.g. communications, law, public policy, zoning / development / real estate, land management, geology, forestry). *

Your answer

How much time are you able and willing to commit to advocacy with IATC? This will help us figure out what role(s) might be the best fit for your availability!*

2-4 hrs/wk

2-4 hrs/month

1-2 hrs/month

Other:

Anything else you would like us to know?

Your answer

A copy of your responses will be emailed to the address you provided.

Submit

Trail News: Issaquah-Preston Trail Reopened

Tom Anderson - September 27, 2022

Good news, urban/regional trail fans! A segment of the Issaquah-Preston Trail west of Highlands Drive has been reopened after a closure of over a year. The trail was closed to facilitate the construction of the South SPAR Booster Pump Station, a project which is scheduled for completion next year. A buried pipeline portion of the project is complete, allowing the trail to be reopened. (Learn more about the project [here](#).)



A stretch of the reopened and paved Issaquah-Preston Trail near the Highlands Drive/I90 interchange. Cougar Mountain looms on the horizon. Photo by Tom Anderson.



A utility access cover hints at what was buried beneath the trail. Photo by Tom Anderson.

The Issaquah-Preston Trail serves as a connector between the popular East Lake Sammamish Trail and the Preston-Snoqualmie Trail, as well as providing access to the trails of Grand Ridge and the High Point Trailhead of Tiger Mountain. A valuable *connector* from the urban areas to the nearby ***Wilderness Within***.

We Are Hiring - Program & Volunteer Coordinator

Paul Winterstein - September 29, 2022

We are currently hiring a part-time **Program & Volunteer Coordinator**. The role is a contracted position focused on the scheduling, coordination, and administration of IATC programs including hikes, field trips, work parties and special programs.

The ideal candidate will have a passion for the outdoors; non-profit program and/or volunteer administration experience or equivalent; excellent, friendly interpersonal and professional communications skills; strong computer and social media skills; good time management organizational skills, and can pass a Washington State Patrol background check.

To apply, **all candidates must complete the form at the bottom of this page.**

Availability

Flexible weekday and some weekend hours depending on event schedules. Remote work will be performed at the location that best suits you. Due to the nature of this job, the **on-site work will be at various locations around the Issaquah Alps**, including trailheads, open spaces, parks, and public spaces. You must be able to meet the on-site requirements of this job. Work is for an average of 10 hours per week.



Happy program participants: hikers and volunteer hike leader from a geology hike on Cougar Mtn.

Program Coordinator Activities and Responsibilities

- Collaborate with the IATC Vice President, Executive Director, volunteer leaders, and 3rd party organizations to schedule and deliver IATC program events
- Coordinate with the communications coordinator to deliver timely and effective program promotions that drive participation
- Setup event registrations in the IATC CRM system and ensure all volunteer and participant logistics are accessible, clear, and accurate
- Assist event registrants, attendees, and volunteers to ensure their success, and capture interactions in the CRM system
- Collect post-event feedback and conduct analysis to improve the participant experience and program effectiveness

Volunteer Management Activities and Responsibilities

- Develop and deliver hike leader training program
- Recruit and cultivate volunteers
- Track and report volunteer hours
- Volunteer appreciation



Events

Salmon Days Oct. 1st and 2nd.

The region's iconic fall celebration of the return of salmon to the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery. Stop by our booth and say hi. Daily from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Restoration Work Party

Saturday., Oct. 15 from 9:00 AM – Noon

Join Issaquah Alps Trails Club and Green Issaquah in restoring Berntsen Park. We will be enjoying some time outdoors while removing blackberry bushes and ivy to protect existing native plants, trees and Salmon in the Issaquah Creek!



Trail Work Parties on Tiger Mtn.

- Friday, Oct. 21 from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

- Saturday, Oct. 22 from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Join others from the IATC community and WTA to work on trails in the Issaquah Alps





Poo Poo Pt. Hike via Rainer Trailhead

Sat., Oct 8 from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

There's more than one way to get to Poo Poo Pt. on Tiger Mtn. Our starting point and route avoids the crowds but still delivers the view.



Hike to DeLeo Wall

Sunday Oct 9 from 9:00 – 11:00 AM

A portion of this hike, including the location of DeLeo Wall is on private property that is not protected from development or logging.



Cougar Mtn. Loop Hike

Sunday, Oct. 23 from 10:00 AM – Noon

Complete a loop hike with moderate elevation gain that starts and ends in the Talus neighborhood with a visit to the "million-dollar view" at Harvey Manning trailhead in between.



Correction: Credit goes to Louise Korneich for the photo that accompanied the Fall Equinox hike in the August Alpiner

The Apparatus

Club Founder

Harvey Manning

Executive Director

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Vice President of Advocacy

David Kapler (advocacy@issaquahalps.org)

Board of Directors

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Mark Griffith

Hayley Hayes (Treasurer)

Kelly Jiang

Suzanne Kagen (Secretary)

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