



# Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 4

Issue Number 1

5/05/09

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Fellow Cabin Owners

Once again we are shaking off the snows of a long winter in anticipation of another summer and fall of cabin life. Our enthusiasm is somewhat dampened by the impact of the new fee structure that has been imposed on us and the frustrating level of confusion brought on by the entire permit renewal process.

Much of what we were told leading up to issuance of the new permits came to pass, including tripling of our permit fees and, in some cases, even greater increases. Many of our members were surprised by the changes in the wording of the permit, including the fact that we now have a "license" rather than a permit. Adding further to the confusion was receipt of the new permits by some that included the new license fee, only to be told the fee was inaccurate and that a new fee statement would be forthcoming. There were other shocking revelations for those whose cabins are held in trust. They were granted a one year provisional permit because language regarding trusts was being reviewed.

As many of you are aware, the National Forest Homeowners Association, with support from our organization and others, fought hard to stop the new permit process and thought we had won a significant victory when the Forest Service halted implementation of the new fees at the request of several U.S. Senators and Representatives. Just when we were breathing easier after all our hard work the Forest Service said it had no authority to suspend the permit process and continued with its original plan. Our victory was short-lived.

We aren't quite back to square one but we're close to it, and the NFHA, CPCOA and others are again hard at work to try to bring fairness to a broken system. These are the issues that make it so important for cabin owners to get involved through membership in CPCOA. Most of the dues that you pay to CPCOA go directly to the NFHA. A dollar is also sent to the state organization to support their efforts. The rest stays with CPCOA to allow us to continue with the programs that serve you. If you are already a member of CPCOA, be sure to renew your membership, either by accessing the web site and downloading the membership form, or by bringing a completed form and your dues to the picnic. If you are not a member please consider joining. Your involvement is more important now than ever.

While the news on the permit front is not all to our liking, there is still light at the end of the tunnel. Increases are inevitable and, in most instances, proper. The issue is the level of increase and that is still being discussed.



# Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 4

Issue Number 1

5/05/09

The fee issue aside, there is a lot to feel good about. We've come through a winter with plenty of moisture so there should be no water shortages this year. The Washington State Department of Ecology is still working to obtain permanent water rights for us. And we have some exciting field trips in the works which we know you will enjoy.

Our annual picnic is set for 11:30 AM Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at the Ski Bowl above Bumping River Road. We hope to see you there.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Berriochoa".

Mike Berriochoa, President  
Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association

## SUMMER PICNIC & MEETING

Our picnic begins at 11:30 a.m. on June 13<sup>th</sup> at the Ski Bowl above Bumping River Road and we will wrap up no later than 2:00 p.m.

As always, this is a potluck luncheon so bring a hot dish and a salad or dessert. The association will provide drinks and table service.

We have several interesting topics to discuss, including the status of the new permitting fee system established by the Forest Service. We'll also hear from Yakima County Deputy Sheriff Steve Sutliff who has recently been assigned to our area. And Mike Rowan, Special Uses Coordinator for the Naches Ranger District will give us an update on his activities for the year.

To get to the ski bowl turn onto Bumping River Road from Highway 410 as if you were heading for Bumping Lake. Just after you cross the river, look for a dirt road on your right. . We will have a sign out to mark the turn. Follow the road up the hill to the lodge. If you wish to help set up, please arrive about 30 minutes before we begin. We hope to see you there.



# Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 4

Issue Number 1

5/05/09

## Web Site Improvements

The CPCOA web site is taking on a new look thanks to webmaster Dave Leinweber. New features are being added to make the site more informative and useful. Besides more pictures and more color, we have added a "Resource" page where you can find books and other materials about our beloved area. We're even adding a webcam of the American River that is updated hourly during daylight hours so you can get some sense of conditions before you venture out.

We will continue to update the news page with important information on such topics as permit fees, water rights, etc. An "Activities" page will keep you updated on field trips and other events of interest to our members, and we will post our meeting schedule well in advance to help you with your planning for the annual picnic as well as for our fall meeting.

We also are providing a button for members to provide input to the web page and make suggestions to benefit the association.

The changes won't all come at once but most will be up and running in the very near future. Keep checking at [www.CPCOA.com](http://www.CPCOA.com) and be sure to let us know what you think.

## CABIN PROPERTY TAX CHECK

### *You May be Paying Too Much Property Tax on Your Cabin*

Yakima County assessors inspected our cabins last year, something they are required by law to do every six years. With their data now available on the county's web site, each cabin owner is advised to check to see if the information is correct. One of our members found three errors regarding his cabin and this is important because the information is used by other agencies which could impact the amount of money you pay in taxes and other fees.

The easiest way to check the information is to go to [www.yakimap.com](http://www.yakimap.com) which is the county's Land Information Portal sponsored by the Yakima County Assessor and the Yakima County Geographic Information Services (GIS). This site has some general information and is a great place if you are a map person. Once you get to the site go to Parcel Mapping and enter your parcel number. You can add contours, utilities, and critical areas on top of your cabin area. You can also expand the area to anywhere in Yakima County, and you can look at aerial photographs of your cabin area or any part of the county. You can click on the Real Estate tab



# Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 4

Issue Number 1

5/05/09

and find recent sales in your area or expand the area and look at the highway 410 area. These will be red dots on the map. Click on a red dot for information about that sale.

Go back to the Land Information Portal and click on the Yakima County Assessor in the center at the top of the screen or go to [yes.co.yakima.wa.us/assessor](http://yes.co.yakima.wa.us/assessor). Click on Parcel Search and enter your cabins parcel number. The search should bring up your cabin information including pictures they took last year. This is where you want to make sure the information is correct. In one case they showed the size of the upper floor of a cabin to be larger than it really is. Consequently, the cabin owner has been paying higher taxes than necessary. In addition, the lot size was recorded to be almost three times the actual size. This error does not affect your taxes, because the county only taxes the improvements, not the land. However, it is an error that should be corrected. You can click on some of the other tabs to find out information on your out building, taxes, and a history of your cabin value.

## **MEMBER HANDBOOK 2008**

A member handbook was printed and distributed to members in the fall, 2008. If you are a new cabin owner, or did not receive a copy of the handbook, please contact Secretary Maureen Bell. These handbooks will be available at the Summer Picnic/ Meeting, June 13, 2009.

## **Vegetation Management at Recreation Residences**

*by Mike Rowan, Resource Supervisor, Naches Ranger District Office*

Several cabin owners have inquired about how the new permit changes the way in which we deal with management of vegetation. This includes hazard trees, brush, dead and down material, etc. The language in the actual permit has changed very little. Trees, shrubs and grasses cannot be treated or removed without authorization. Authorization for vegetation treatment can be granted by the District Ranger. The Naches Ranger District has developed local policy to deal with certain types of vegetation. For example, dead material falls under our hazard tree guidelines – dead or hanging limbs and dead trees or shrubs less than 20 feet tall can be removed without specific approval.

Since the last 20 year permit was issued many environmental laws as well as our Forest Land Management Plan have changed. What has changed in your permit package is the



# Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 4

Issue Number 1

5/05/09

addition of Conservation Measures that have been included as Appendix A in your operating plans. "Conservation Measures" are actions identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries in the consultation process with the Forest Service to reduce the effect of proposed projects on plants, animals and fish protected under the Endangered Species Act. Within the Conservation Measure documents, vegetation removal is specifically prohibited "except as required under the fire prevention requirements for the recreation residence". At this point, requests to remove any type of vegetation will go through a process similar to hazard tree requests. Since each cabin location is unique, these requests will be handled on a case by case basis. Over time we hope to be able to develop guidelines that will help streamline this process.

This is a change for us as well as for you cabin owners. If you have questions or concerns about a particular activity it is always best to call us before you take action.

## **TICK SEASON OFF & BITING**

*Excerpted from Tri-City Herald, Kennewick Wa.*

A stroll near a river or walk in the woods this spring or summer could leave an unwanted pest or two clinging to you or a pet.

Tick season, an unwelcome time for anyone who spends time in the outdoors, has arrived again with warmer temperatures and plants trading winter's brown for the green of spring. Ticks are definitely pests, but they can pose potential peril for people and pets, according to the health officials and veterinarians.

Ticks can spread diseases such as Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Lyme disease or tick paralysis which can be fatal to dogs. Find a woody, bushy area or long grasses, particularly near water, and it's likely prime tick habitat. They're around now but you won't see them much during the hotter weather.

Ticks may be an unavoidable part of the natural landscape, but experts say some precautions taken before venturing outdoors can prevent a tick from sinking its mouth into your skin. It is recommended that you should wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts in light colors and keep shirts tucked in and buttoned, if possible, to keep ticks off your skin and make them more visible if they do crawl onto you.

Repellents, particularly those containing DEET or permethrin, are highly effective, although care should be used when applying them to children.



# Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 4

Issue Number 1

5/05/09

Not only humans, but dogs too can be attacked by ticks. Dr. Kathy Batdorf a local Tri-Cities veterinarian recommends applying tick repellent once a month if you plan to walk your dogs in tall grasses or in the woods. Pet owners should check their dogs thoroughly, especially long-haired dogs after such an outing.

Many people try to remove ticks on their own but the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises avoiding the use of petroleum jelly or sticking the head of a hot match on a tick, as it may stimulate a tick to release additional saliva or regurgitate contents of its guts.

JoDee Peyton, an environmental health specialist with the Benton-Franklin Heath District says ticks can start to spread any disease they may be carrying after being attached to a host for 24 hours, so it is imperative to check yourself or pet after an outdoor excursion.

Not all ticks transmit diseases. Health officials, however, say that if bitten, the symptoms – which can include headaches, muscle pain, fatigue and an unexplained rash, generally begin within two days to two weeks after a bite. If you develop those symptoms or were in a tick-prone area, see a doctor.

## SCHEDULED FIELD TRIP

CPCOA Field Trips are a wonderful way to meet your fellow cabin owners while learning more about the Chinook Pass area. Listed below are all of the 2009 field trips that have been scheduled. Others may come up later, so be sure to check our website to learn about all the field trips this year!

### **June 20, 2009: Forest Ecology & Management**

The Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association will be sponsoring its first field trip of the year on Saturday, June 20 beginning at 1:00 PM. Stephanie McKee, a forester, and Jason Emhoff, a fuel technician, both with the Naches Ranger District will lead this trip. They will explain why the Forest Service does vegetation management (fuel reduction) in certain areas and will show how they do this. Participants will learn about forest ecology and management from the Forest Service perspective. We will also learn about insects and diseases that affect the trees and what makes for a healthy forest. The location for this field trip has not yet been determined but complete information will be posted on our Web site at [www.CPCOA.com](http://www.CPCOA.com)





# Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 4

Issue Number 1

5/05/09

## **Jun 27, 2009: Geology Field Trip**

The second field trip on June 27 will be led by Dr. Paul Hammond a geology professor emeritus from Portland State University. Paul has been mapping the rock formations of the Cascade Mountains in our area for 20 some years. Not only is he a true expert on the geology of the area he is an excellent teacher. We will meet at the intersection of Highway 410 and the road to Bumping Lake at 1:00 PM. This trip will explore the rock formations and geology along the Bumping Lake Road. Suggested items to bring on this trip would be binoculars, hand lens, and a hammer. If you do not have these that is okay as everybody can share.

If you have any questions about these field trips, please contact Carl Buchholz at 509-966-4861 or e-mail at [buchcs@aol.com](mailto:buchcs@aol.com)

## **AN INTERESTING FACT!!!!**

AT 5 MINUTES AND 6 SECONDS AFTER 4 A.M.

ON THE 8TH OF JULY THIS YEAR

THE TIME AND DATE WILL BE:

04:05:06 07/08/09

THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN UNTIL THE YEAR 3009. . . . .

## **We Need Your E-MAIL ADDRESS**

If you have an e-mail address and have not recorded it with our CPCOA secretary, please contact Maureen Bell at 509.628.3867 or e-mail [bellwayne@charter.net](mailto:bellwayne@charter.net).

## **THANK YOU**

Thanks to Reva Bunnell for assisting with the writing and editing of this newsletter. Your help and advice was greatly appreciated. Also thanks to all others who contributed articles.



# Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 4

Issue Number 1

5/05/09

## Officers and Executive Board

President - Mike Berriochoa (509) 545-6853 [Berriochoa@aol.com](mailto:Berriochoa@aol.com)

Vice President, Communications - Jack Selby (509) 783-2070 [jmselby@gmail.com](mailto:jmselby@gmail.com)

Vice President, Special Projects - Carl Bucholz (509) 966-4861 [Buchcs@aol.com](mailto:Buchcs@aol.com)

Secretary & Editor, Newsletter – Maureen Bell (509) 628-3867 [bellwayne@charter.net](mailto:bellwayne@charter.net)

Treasurer – Jim Lundeen (509) 575-8315 [jimgin@q.com](mailto:jimgin@q.com)

Webmaster – Dave Leinweber (425) 64302937 [davel@spro.net](mailto:davel@spro.net)

## Group Representatives

### Group 1 – Leader: Vacant

American Forks

Bumping Lake

Edgewater

### Group 2 – Leader: Carl and Sue Bucholz

American River

Idlehour

Pleasant Valley

Sleepy Hollow

Union Creek

Timber Creek

### Group 3—Leader: Marvina McDonald

Willow Springs

Indian Flat

Little Naches

### Group 4 - Leader: Frank Golob

Cedar Springs

Cliffdell

Crag Group

Hawks Nest

Idlewild

Stillwater

### Group 5—Leader: Myra Beard

Gold Creek

Kloshe/Gold

Lost Creek

Edgar Rock

## Important Dates to Remember:

**June 13**—Summer Picnic/Meeting, Ski Bowl

**June 20**—Field Trip, Forest Ecology & Management. 1:00 Location, TBD

**June 27**—Field Trip, Geology. 1:00 Bumping Road & Highway 410

**October 3**—Fall Picnic/Meeting Nile Valley Church

## Helpful Websites

[www.leg.wa.gov/legislature](http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature)

[www.ecy.wa.gov](http://www.ecy.wa.gov)

[www.CPCOA.com](http://www.CPCOA.com)

[www.nationalforesthomeowners.org](http://www.nationalforesthomeowners.org)

[www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee/nachescabins](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee/nachescabins)





# Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 4

Issue Number 1

5/05/09

## Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association and National Forest Homeowners

### Membership / Membership Renewal Form

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip +4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E- Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Tract name \_\_\_\_\_ Lot # \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: Individual \_\_\_\_\_ (\$50) Associate \_\_\_\_\_ (\$30)

### Associate Membership Status

Associates are most often co-owners, family, or friends of CPCOA members. To gain or retain membership, a regular dues-paying member, either an individual or association member must sponsor associates. There is no restriction on the number of associate members a regular CPCOA member may sponsor.

Associate Member Sponsored By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

Please Make Check payable to Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association

Mail to : Jim Lundeen / Treasurer  
5100 Manor Dr.  
Yakima, WA 98901-1635

If you have a question about CPCOA / NFH memberships or this form, please don't hesitate to contact any Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association board member.