



Cabin Tracks

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association

Vol. No. 6 Issue Number 3

5/1/11

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Cabin Owners

From the amount of snow still around our cabins you wouldn't know that Spring is at hand but if you're like me you are looking forward to getting to your cabins as soon as you can. And I hope you are also looking forward to our annual summer pot luck meeting.

In preparation for the meeting your board of directors met recently and took a number of actions that I want to let you know about. First we set the date for our next pot-luck membership meeting for Saturday, June 25 at the Nile Valley Community Church on Highway 410 just above the slide detour. We hope this works for all of you. We had considered an earlier date but the late snows are preventing so many of us from getting to our cabins that we felt a later date was best. We have a number of important topics to discuss with you so please attend if you can. Foremost in everyone's mind is the impact of the most recent lot appraisals. We will also be discussing the latest actions in Congress dealing with appraisal issues.

We have also prepared a bylaws change that we would like you to consider to expand the size of the board by adding two at-large positions. When we redid our bylaws last year we did away with the cabin group representation because that approach wasn't working. But the change left the board made up entirely of the officers, with the immediate past president as ex-officio. We felt we needed broader representation of our membership and the proposed change will bring to seven the number of directors and officers. We can even make the board larger if you feel it is appropriate, but seven seemed a good number to start the discussion.

Hand-in-hand with a vote on the bylaws change will be a discussion of the annual election of officers. While the election won't be held until our fall meeting, we want you to begin thinking about it now so that any of you interested in being on the board or becoming an officer has time to consider it. Up for election will be the President, Second Vice President, Treasurer and the two new at-large positions. I will not be seeking another term as your president, as I think there is benefit in change. First Vice-President Dave Leinweber has expressed an interest in the position and I know he would do a fine job. If so-elected, his Vice-President position will also become vacant. Since he has one more year to go in his term the board could appoint someone to fill the vacancy but we would like your input before proceeding. The position of Second Vice President held by Carl Buchholz is also up for election. Carl has done an outstanding job and is willing to continue to serve. Treasurer Jim Lundeen has also indicated he is willing to serve another term.

When the snows of summer disappear we will be launching several exciting field trips. We are also coordinating with the Naches Ranger District to take on a volunteer project should any of you be interested in helping. We'll talk more about this at our meeting. We are also looking for an experienced webmaster that will be willing to volunteer his or her time to keep our web site updated. Someone with eCommerce experience would be appreciated. Dave Leinweber has been doing this for us but feels it's time for someone with more expertise to take it over.

It's going to be a busy meeting and we hope you can all be there. It's a great opportunity to hear updates on important issues and just as important, to renew old friendships and make new ones.

Don't forget that annual dues will be collected at the meeting. A membership/Renewal form is included at the end of this newsletter which you may download and mail now if you wish.

As always, if you have any questions or if you have topics that you want covered at the meeting, don't hesitate to contact me at 509-376-4710 or email me at berriochoa@aol.com

See you all in June



Mike Berriochoa, President

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association



**Remember Summer Potluck & Meeting
Saturday, June 25, 2011—11:30 a.m.-2: 00 p.m.
Bring a hot dish or salad and a dessert
Nile Valley Community Church
Beverages & place settings provided**

Naches Ranger District Information--Spring 2011

By Douglas S. Jenkins Information, Public Affairs, Education Naches Ranger Station

BOULDER CAVE AND TRAIL 962 CLOSURES

Typically Boulder Cave and trail 962, a National Scenic Trail, leading to the cave would have opened on April 1st and closed on November 1st. Due to growing concerns over the death of millions of bats in the east and mid-west from the fast spreading White Nose Syndrome (WNS) it was decided to extend the closure to April 30th and close the cave October 1st.

Boulder Cave, an extremely popular destination for hikers and cave enthusiasts, is located above the Naches River off State Route 410, Chinook Pass. The cave attracts in excess of 35 thousand visitors a year who hike the ¾ mile trail to the cave from the day use site.

“This closure means no one can be on the trail to Boulder Cave or in Boulder Cave at any time during the closure period,” said wildlife biologist Joan St. Hilaire. “Every attempt to protect the declining bat population, which hibernates in the cave, will be made to assure any possibility of the fungus reaching them is diminished.”

White Nose Syndrome is a condition caused by the fungus, *Geomyces destructans*, known to disrupt normal hibernation, metabolic functions causing excessive dehydration and depletion of critical fat reserves. All these factors can lead to mid-winter death of bats.

Measures to protect hibernating bats from this deadly fungus are being implemented including WNS awareness and education. St. Hilaire added, “it may become necessary at some point to make sure anyone entering the cave wears protective clothing and when exiting the cave removes and decontaminates the clothing. Although right now it’s only a possibility the probability of it happening is certainly something being considered as the fungus spreads to the Pacific Northwest.”

No caves have been closed in the Pacific Northwest; however seasonal closures have been extended to some caves which include the Lava River Caves on the Deshutes National Forest and Boulder Cave.

“Once the cave is open visitors can help protect against the spread of diseases to the bats by staying on the trail, especially when walking through the cave, and avoid rubbing up against the boulders,” said Doug Jenkins, Visitor Services Specialist for the district.

For more information on White Nose Syndrome you can go online to FWS.gov/whitenosesyndrome.

TEMPORARY TRAIL CLOSURES

A temporary trail closure for all motorized trails on the Naches and Cle Elum Ranger Districts has been proposed for April 15, 2011 through June 15, 2011. Any motorized vehicle will be prohibited from being on any designated system trail on either district and some roads on the Cle Elum District. A Closure Order will list all of the trails affected by the closure along with a map identifying their location.

The reason for a closure comes from input from the public, law enforcement personnel from varying agencies who patrol the forest and forest service professionals who manage trails and lands. The closed period was determined from snow pack data, historical weather patterns and periods of heavy use, in particular the Memorial Day weekend. The closure comes during a time when typically snow is melting, run-off is occurring, high precipitation is the norm according to data, trails are saturated, and heavy use compromises trail integrity. Management and enforcement concerns are also considered in the equation.

CABIN APPRAISALS

By this time all cabin owners should have received their new appraisals and notification that if you would like a copy of the appraisal you need to request it. In your initial letter you should have had a paper with information for requesting a copy of the appraisal. You need to fill it out and either send it to the Naches Ranger Station or bring it in. If you bring it in you should call ahead to arrange for the document to be ready when you arrive.

You will be required to sign a receipt for the appraisal when you pick it up. If you have questions regarding the appraisal or follow up procedures you'll need to call Karen Lindhorst and arrange for an appointment. You can reach Karen by calling her at 509-653-1435 or calling the front desk and leaving a message for her at 509-653-1401.

Snow Plowing Permit Information From Karen Lindhorst

Our Forest Supervisor issued a letter during the summer of 2010 emphasizing some regulated actions that needed the Forest Service's attention. One of the emphasis items was requirements for Road Use Permits especially related snow plowing activities.

In order to plow snow on National Forest roads (including within the summer home groups) the person plowing needs to possess a Road Use Permit. The cabin permit does not give you permission to do snow plowing or road repair. The Road Use Permit is a separate and different permit from your cabin Special Use Permit; it is issued by our roads and engineering department.

Road Use Permit application is available at the Naches Ranger District office (Karen Lindhorst can help you get a copy.) The permit will require an operation plan which should include a map of which parts of the road will be plowed, parking locations and snow storage location if snow is being pushed. The Ranger will not approve plowing to each individual cabin, but will approve one or more parking locations within each summer home tract. The permit will also name one or two persons allowed to plow and the equipment they are approved to use. No tracked vehicles will be approved.

The permit itself does not have a fee, but it requires the permittee (person plowing) to have liability insurance that also cover the Forest Service as insured. If you are hiring a plowing service, that person and their equipment need to be named as the person plowing on the permit and the person needs to be covered by the liability insurance. We will only issue one permit for each summer home tract, so the tract association should be involved in requesting the permit.

Please plan ahead when requesting a permit. I recommend requesting the permit application before Labor Day and submitting the application and your plan map before the end of September for processing. Karen Lindhorst can be at 509-653-1435 or via e-mail, klindhorst@fs.fed.us

APPRAISAL PROCESS AND OTHER NFH NOTES by Ted Filer

Appraisals

- ✓ FS recreation residence lot appraisals for typical lots conducted by Appraiser Tim Newman have been completed and are now available
- ✓ You may request a copy by contacting Karen Lindhorst, NRD, 509-653-1435.
- ✓ You may also make a FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) request to obtain further information considered by the appraiser to determine typical lot appraisal values in your tract
- ✓ Cabin owners have a right to request a second appraisal—at cabin owner expense. This request must be made in writing within 60 days of the date on the appraisal notice you received from Ranger Davidson and gave the appraised value of your typical lot
- ✓ Cabin owners are not obligated to complete the second appraisal, but reserving the right to request a second appraisal is recommended

NFH/C2 updates

- ✓ NFH and C2 continue to lobby congressional leaders regarding the introduction and passage of CFA which would replace CUFFA
- ✓ Rep. Doc Hastings will be introducing the bill in the House and Senator Tester (MT) will introduce in the Senate
- ✓ Cabin owner support of CFA is needed. Contact your congressional representative and encourage support of CFA
- ✓ As the proposed legislation progresses, communications will be forwarded to your tract president.

Proposed By-Laws Amendment

It was suggested at our spring Board Meeting to have more member representation on the board. The board proposes the following By-Law amendment.

Article VIII

Officers: The elected officers of this Association shall consist of President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President of Member Activities, Secretary, Treasurer and two (2) "At Large Members".

Article IX

Election of Officers: Officers shall be elected by the membership at the 2nd regular membership meeting in each calendar year. Candidates will be nominated by the members for vacant offices.

President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and at-large members shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. To ensure continuity, terms of office among these positions will be staggered as follows:

Odd year—President, Treasurer, 2nd Vice President of Member Activities and one at-large member

Even year—Secretary, 1st Vice President and one at-large member

The Executive Board shall have the power to name any member of the Association to fill the unexpired term of any officer, subject to ratification by the membership at the next regular meeting.

Article XVI

Duties of At-Large Members: Attend Board meeting and represent the issues & concerns of association members. Participate in special projects and on committees as directed by the President.

This is the thirty (30) day notification required our By-Laws. After presenting this By-Law amendment to our amendment at our June 25th spring meeting, we will vote to accept or reject this amendment.



Officers and Executive Board

President—Mike Berriochoa (509)545-6853 Berriochoa@aol.com

1st Vice President—Dave Leinweber (425) 643-2937 davel@spro.net

2nd Vice President of Member Activities—Carl Buchholz (509)966-4861 buchcs@aol.com

Secretary & Cabin Tracks Editor – Maureen Bell (509)638-3867 bellwayne@charter.net

Treasurer – Jim Lundeen (509)575-8315 jimgin@q.com

Find updated information on our website--<http://www.cpcoa.co>



Scheduled Field Trips by Carl Buchholz

Geology Field Trip

Paul Hammond will lead another geology field trip this summer on July 9. This will be the sixth field trip that Paul has led. The following is what Paul has planned:

“This time I think we might go up Rattlesnake Creek along the 1500 road, making several stops along the way. We will then along the 1502 road to the confluence of main Rattlesnake with North Fork Rattlesnake Creek and back track to the 1504 road to the Mt. Aix viewpoint, then to where the 1504 is wiped out by the Three Forks Creek landslide several years past. We then have an option. Those who want or need to leave can head back along the 1500 road. Others willing to eat a late dinner can head back via the 1503-1501 roads, along Little Rattlesnake Creek, making fewer stops along the way. If you have a fireman’s map of the Naches Ranger District, you can see the route.”

Bring binoculars, hand lens, and a rock hammer, if you have one. If you don’t have any of these, the rest of us will share. You look more like a geologist if you have a hammer with you.

Check our web site CPCOA.com for any possible changes before attending this field trip.



Bull Trout Spawning Field Trip

DATE: Saturday, September 3 LOCATION: Union Creek Summer Home number 4 TIME: 1:00 p.m.

LEADER and CONTACT: Carl Buchholz buchcs@aol.com or 509-966-4861

The bull trout have always been spawning during Labor Day weekend in Union Creek. This is a unique opportunity to easily observe these large native fish spawning in a small clear stream. We should be able to watch several pairs in a short distance from our cabin.

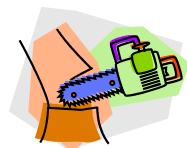
Everybody is welcome to join us. However, we do not want to distract or disturb the trout during their activities, so there will be no skipping of stones or throwing of any object into the water during this field trip. If your dogs like to go in the water, you probable should leave them home or tie them up.



Plant Field Trips

Washington Native Plant Society's Central Washington chapter has many field trips planned during the year. These field trips are open to the public. There are two that cabin owners should consider participating in this summer. The first is May 21 at the Rocky Prairie on Cleman Mountain, and the second is on June 18 along the Little Naches Road.

To find out about these go to their web-site at www.wnps.org. On the left side of their home page under Local Chapters click on field trips. Then click on Central Washington. Look through their list of field trips until you find the ones you would like to participate in. Contact the leader to let him or her know that you would like to attend. Also find out where you should meet them if you are already at your cabin, because they typically meet in Yakima.



Community Wildfire Protection Plan

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan that includes the Chinook Pass area received a grant to purchase a large wood chipper and support for a crew to operate it. This grant covers 2010 and 2011. The chipper is owned by The North Yakima Conservation District and they run the crew that operate it. Their services are available to private land owners and cabin owners.

Call Mike Stowell in Yakima at 509-406-4985 for the details and to make arrangements for their wood chipping crew to come to your tract, and chip up your branches. There is no charge for this service; you already paid for it when you paid your taxes.



Don't Get Bugged this Summer

The summer months are full of bugs both crawling and flying their way into our lives. Fending off these natural beasts usually leads consumers to the pesticide or chemical departments of the local hardware store, but with green-living on everyone's mind why not choose a more natural repellent to keep from being "bugged."

Ants—to eradicate these miniature pests, see where ants are entering your home, and try pouring lemon juice or sprinkling cayenne or black pepper over the entry space. You can also use these same items on any mounds you see around your home. Hot and sour are simply not food choice for ants and they will soon leave you alone.

Mice—try locating the hole where these rodents enter from around your house foundation and stuff cotton balls soaked in citronella into the space. If you can't find on particular hole, use a spray bottle similar to a glass cleaner bottle, spray citronella around the foundation of your home. The citronella will repel mice from wanting to enter your domain.

Mosquitoes—the number one pest during our summer months—instead of using harmful chemical which may not be the best choice, especially for children, try diluting one (1) ounce of citronella, cedar, lavender, pine or cinnamon oil mixture with (16) ounces of vegetable oil. Apply this on all exposed skin. Mosquitoes seem not to favor these oils and may not bother you as often as they would if you left your skin unprotected. These oils are harmless to your skin.

Moths—a natural cure for these hungry pests is to use lavender sachets or cedar chips. Either work well to prevent moths from eating your sweaters. They have the added benefit of leaving the air around them smelling fresh.

Ticks—these bloodsucking insect pests can cause harm to both humans and animals. When hiking in a wooded area it is best to wear long clothing and tuck your pants into your socks. For added repellent protection try mixing two (2) ounces of eucalyptus oil with sixteen (16) ounces of water in a spray bottle and apply the mixture to your skin and clothing often.

Summer time pests are terribly...well...pesky, but with natural alternatives you can rest assured you will not only prevent these crawling and flying menaces from forcing you to spend your summer waving your hand frantically in the air but save your sink and environment as well.

Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association & National Forest Homeowners

Membership / Membership Renewal Form—2011

Member Name _____

Street Address _____

City / State / Zip +4 _____

Phone: ____ - ____ - _____ Work ____ - ____ - _____ E-Mail _____

Tract name & National Forest _____ Lot # _____

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

Please Make Check payable to Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association and Mail to:

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

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)

If you have a question about CPCOA / NFH memberships or this form, please don't hesitate to contact the Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association Treasurer:

Jim Lundeen
5100 Manor Dr.
Yakima, WA 98901-1635
(509) 575-8315
jimgin@q.com

The National Forest Homeowners web site is <http://www.nationalforesthowners.org/>. The CPCOA Web site is <http://www.cpcoa.com/>. Put these web addresses on your favorites today.