

Navigation Summit Mid-Year Check-In Call

May 8, 2019

6:30pm-8pm

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/104447817>

[2018 Summit Minutes](#)

[Clubwide Activity Standards](#)

Facilitator: Nick Block (Staff)

Attendees: Brian Starlin, Jim Heber, Troy Hubbs, Paul Thomsen, Alan Davey, Rick Finkle, Peter Hendrickson, Mike Kretzler

Welcome & Intros (6:30-6:45)

- Revise the agenda for the evening

Updates from each branch (6:45-7:30)

- How are your programs going so far this year?
- What issues are you running into/what do you anticipate running into?
- Update on your field trip locations - any issues or changes?
 - Foothills: Alan D has organized a new site (Raging River Exit 25 I-90) and Foothills did their first field trip and it went well! Paul was there and says it went very well! Positives: No serious blocks, parking went well. Issues: found some bugs in documentation, timing could be a bit better. Overall very good.
 - Olympia: Just finished their class. Things went well! Used Kennedy Creek spot. Concerns we had with the logging over the summer of 2018 were not as big of a problem as thought. Worked pretty well.
 - Kitsap: Just finished their trip. Had a few issues. Did compass bearing course at Kitsap PC. Lots of electrical interference messed up compasses. Will need to re-do the trip in a different spot on the property. The actual field trip was a sign saying the Green Mountain will become logging and we will be unable to use this area again. Another option is in Port Townsend but that is fairly far. Still looking for new places.
 - Seattle: Finished spring sessions. Things went well but February trip was cancelled due to snow. March was a struggle as well due to heavy snow. People needed snowshoes but many nav folks don't have them and there aren't enough rentals to accommodate everyone. New format with GPS worked well.
 - Tacoma: Program running smoothly. No challenges and content with everything. Incorporated digital nav on a small scale. Tacoma does not endorse Gaia, recognizes that there are multiple tools. Created a digital caltopo link for the field trip so students can use the map with whatever device/app they choose. Some students choose not to use digital nav tools. Later we will offer seminars for more digital skills.

Seattle GPS Navigation (7:30-8:15)

- Did anyone attend this to see how it might work for their branch?
 - A couple people did the Pilot (Jim, Travis)
- Updates from Seattle
 - Reviewed the pilot in the fall summit (see 11/18 summit minutes)
 - Students found the strengths of a compass and the benefit that traditional nav has. Also gave them another tool in GPS as an aid.
 - GPS modules adds about 4-5 hours of time to the nav course
 - Gps trip plan w/ map and gps exercise
 - Added a photo vs map exercise
 - Brian has a curriculum summary he will post on basecamp
 - Need to do more work on weatherproofing gps units (mostly phones)
 - Graduate almost 200 people already. Instructor training still a concern and need to work on this
 - Another concern: Will people start to go out on trips without a map and compass?
 - We are still emphasizing paper maps.
 - Help students understand that GPS is one of many tools in the toolkit, it is not a replacement
 - e-Learning management: 2 weeks to finish e-learning. 80% of people finished within that but the others rolled to a new session. It worked fairly well. Hoping word gets out about e-learning being required.
 - Brian will document some management guidelines for this
 - e-Learning seems to be more effective than asking people to just read a book. Jim found info about e-learning being more effective than classroom learning.
- Thoughts moving forward
 - Jim H: We should make a statement on the why behind using paper and compass and GPS together and why it is so important not to ditch the map.
 - Peter H: Led some of these trips. Smaller groups made it clear that some students knew Gaia better than instructors. Led to student to student instruction. The Altimeter and GPS in the e-learning and in the class helped reduce the amount of issues around using the tools, but need more work around when it is appropriate to use/not use GPS. Are our leaders explicit about the expectation that everyone shows up with all nav tools?

E-Learning and Leadership Badges

- E-learning process
 - Formal review process of what we put into modules
 - Try to stay clear and consistent
 - There is already a formal review process through the e-learning developer (Dilek Bulut)
 - e-Learning Basecamp group is doing this work

- A version was put out in Jan and Kitsap is using. Seattle is waiting for updates before using.
 - Jim's concern about e-learning is about other courses beyond navigation
 - Foothills needs a rep on e-learning (Maybe Travis P was on it)
- Leader Badges
 - Wilderness Nav Leader Badge
 - Instructor Badge
 - Don't have a way of capturing the commitment, skill, and leadership of nav leaders/instructors
 - Blocks: differences across branches - summits and freedom 9 have helped reduce this a lot.
 - What are the requirements for each leader/instructor?
 - Let's table this and talk more about it. We are not in agreement about what this/the value.

Clubwide Activity Standards (8:15-9)

- Have you reviewed the standards?
 - Yes: Peter, Troy, Mike, Jim,
 - No: Rick, Brian, Alan
- Are the standards satisfactory or do we need to add anything?
 - Altimeters - barely mentioned. Are all branches using? No.
 - Is this something we want to require in instruction?
 - Emergency Communicators
 - GPS
 - Does our standard meet the nav requirements in Freedom 9?
 - EEC- how do we reference this in the standards
- Generate a list of topics to research and discuss at the fall summit

Fall Navigation Summit Planning (9-9:20)

- What do we want to accomplish at the full summit in the fall?
 - Leadership Badge
 - Instructor Training/Quality Control (Status for instructors)
 - Train the trainer
 - e-Learning refreshers (current e-learning open to all instructors)
 - Emergency Communicators - Discuss how to offer this (maybe under a different committee/provide a different venue/e-learning) elsewhere to spend valuable time on navigation not on these devices.
 - Foothills: Breaking field trips into smaller groups - get ideas from the group - are smaller trips easier than large ones?
 -
- Start an agenda for that meeting

Action Items & Next Steps (9:20-9:30)

- **ACTION ITEM:** Raging River Field Trip Location
 - Seattle may want to start using this.
 - Seattle and Foothills to discuss logistics after the meeting
- Activity Standards
 - Review our discussion about the standards. Nick will create an agenda and add the topics we started to discuss into it.
 - Please review the standards. We will be discussing them so it will be helpful if everyone has a refresher on what is in them.
- Nick to create summit agenda with the items we discussed
 - If new items of note come up that you'd like to discuss, add them to the new agenda.
- The Fall 2019 Navigation Summit happens on November 16th