

NEWSLETTER

THE MOUNTAINEERS EVERETT BRANCH

NUMBER 2, AUGUST, 1985



MEETING OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

All Branch officers and committee chairs are asked to attend a planning meeting on Wednesday, August 28. We'll meet at the Denny's restaurant across from the Everett Pacific Hotel. We plan to discuss the calendar for 1985-1986, as well as generate ideas for activities for the coming year. Please have some idea of the financial needs your committee or area might have during the coming year. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

— Jim Eychaner

EXPLORER POST 16

Explorer Post Alpine Travel Course standards have been formulated and submitted to the chairpersons of the climbing and alpine travel committees for review and — if satisfactory — approval.

An organization meeting to discuss the proposed 1985-1986 program, to answer questions and to register new members will be held at the Everett National Guard Armory, 2730 Oakes Ave., on Monday, September 16, 1985, at 7:30 p.m.

We welcome all persons who might be interested.

— Tom Hutchinson

BACKPACKING UPDATE

Aug 17-18, Yellow Aster Butte. Leader, Neil Johnson, 653-3061.

Signup for this trip will be taken before August 12 or ON August 16. You may sign up the day before as the leader will be unavailable the week before.

With the weather cooperating, this has been an excellent summer for backpack trips, but with the abundance of sun we seem to have an abundance of bugs! Take along protection from the bugs.

Be sure to carry a stove as almost all areas have fire restrictions.

— Dorothy Beeman

SNOW FLAKES

Tired of the dog days of midsummer? Well, think of skiing! The season is — yes! — almost upon us. Look at the upcoming *Mountaineer Bulletin* for the announcement on this year's new improved Telemark Skiing class. In addition, we will be sending out requests for volunteers to help instruct and lead tours this season. Check your mailbox in the middle of September for our "we need your help" letter.

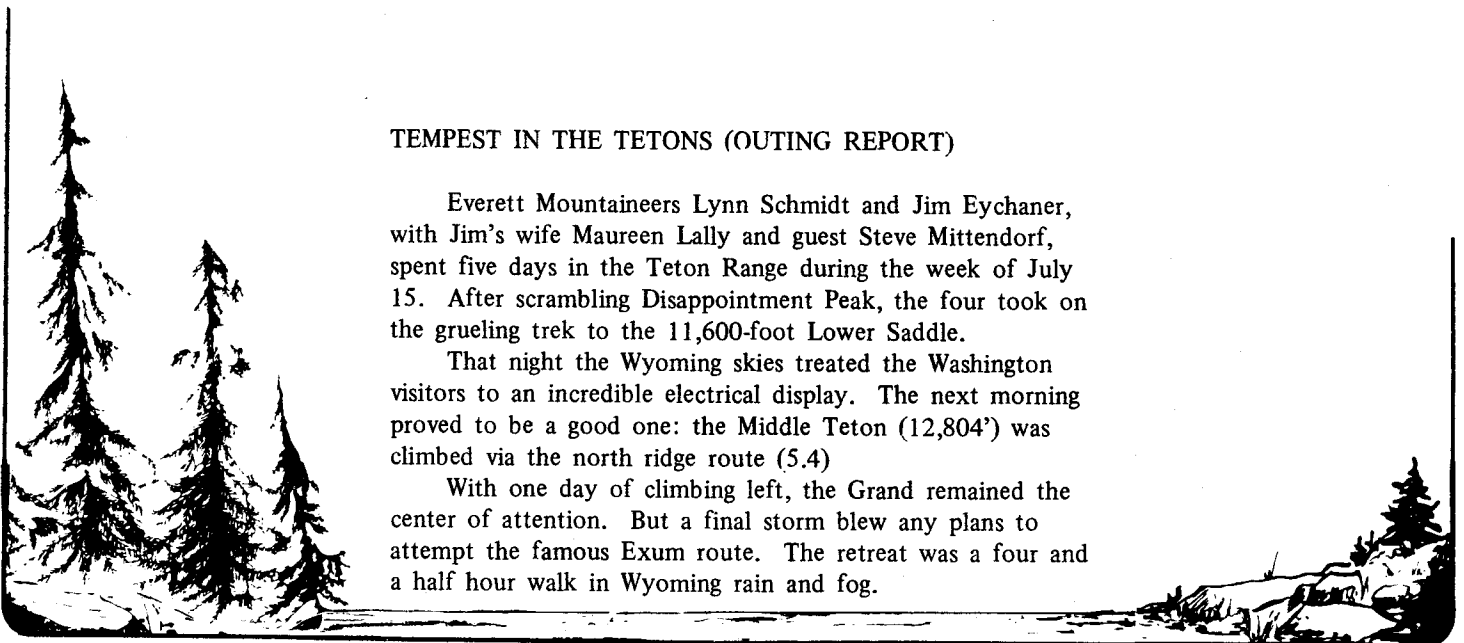
— The Snowmen

TEMPEST IN THE TETONS (OUTING REPORT)

Everett Mountaineers Lynn Schmidt and Jim Eychaner, with Jim's wife Maureen Lally and guest Steve Mittendorf, spent five days in the Teton Range during the week of July 15. After scrambling Disappointment Peak, the four took on the grueling trek to the 11,600-foot Lower Saddle.

That night the Wyoming skies treated the Washington visitors to an incredible electrical display. The next morning proved to be a good one: the Middle Teton (12,804') was climbed via the north ridge route (5.4)

With one day of climbing left, the Grand remained the center of attention. But a final storm blew any plans to attempt the famous Exum route. The retreat was a four and a half hour walk in Wyoming rain and fog.



LETTERS

I congratulate the Everett Branch on your newsletter. The concept of a newsletter for the branch as well as maintaining the main club "Bulletin" is rather like the suburban sections of a major city's newspaper — at least in terms of the function it performs.

I also want to congratulate Jim Eychaner and the branch on what appears to me to be increased activity for the Everett branch.

As a misplaced Northwesterner whose "moss" is suffering severe dryout in southern California, I enjoyed receiving the Everett newsletter and reading about people I know. Best wishes for success.

Douglas E. Watkins
Westlake Village, California

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July 4th some friends of mine went to Rachel Lake near Snoqualmie Pass for the weekend. When they came back, 22 cars had been broken into. Radios, gear, cameras, etc. were taken although well-hidden.

Obviously after that everyone becomes jittery about leaving their cars. The following week I went to the Lake Stuart trailhead specifically thinking of where to park and where and what I could leave in the car and how to prevent a breakin.

On my return Sunday my locked car wasn't broken into — it was missing and has yet to be found.

The only answer we have come up with is to get an old car for the mountains, leave no valuables, do not lock and if it's missing, report it to the authorities, hitch hike home and forget it.

Any suggestions?

Don Page
Kirkland



I read Gordon Rogers' letter in the July newsletter. He's wrong.

We have mass starvation because of too many people on the land, and the land is overused in an effort to survive. Our skills can help rebuild the land, but with too many people it will be destroyed again.

Gordon speaks of technology solving the problem. The technology of wise land use and using equipment and chemicals sparingly is necessary.

The technology of western farming using massive chemicals and equipment won't work. We use more producing the food than we end up with. On a world scale this can't be afforded in resources or money. We are even destroying our own land by farming this way, and robbing the rest of the world's resources to do it.

The politics of Africa and Asia certainly make the problem worse, but the basic problem is we're using more than we have.

Bob Laird
Everett

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Isn't it rather redundant for both of us to receive a newsletter? When you consider how many multiple-member households we have, perhaps the savings could be significant.

One idea would be to run a notice that those households receiving two or more could notify the editor if they wish to cut down to one.

Carol and Mike Pinneo
Duvall

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I do want to see the newsletter go out on a one-per-household basis. If it would be more efficient to hold the addresses on your computer, please do so.

I noticed that my copy was mailed first class. Can future issues be mailed at lower rates?

Jim Eychaner

Thanks for your suggestions. You'll see improvements and increased efficiency as time goes on, but be patient. We will try first to create our own mailing list, utilizing help offered by some members already. This will be a one-per-household list unless we hear from people who need more than one copy.

The question of what postage rate to use will come next. Then we need a neat name for this newsletter, and maybe some simple but classy styling.

We've already decided to carry members' ads, but some where along the line we'll have to consider what the rules are and whether some paid ads should be accepted.

Perfection by Christmas? Maybe.

Editor

PROPOSED HYDROPOWER IN THE SNOHOMISH RIVER BASIN

— Scott Dorough

Numerous hydropower projects are currently proposed for the Snohomish River basin, with potential for adverse environmental impacts. I am concerned about these projects; indeed I question the need for or the appropriateness of them.

However, as of June 12, 1985, there were nine pending applications and 21 preliminary permits for license to develop new hydropower facilities in the basin. Based on this, it is apparent that "need" and "appropriateness" are not the issues upon which we conservation-minded individuals can afford time to focus our attention. Rather, the issue of potential adverse impacts from these projects is now of utmost importance.

First we must identify the agency responsible for the issuance of licensing permits for these hydropower projects. This is the Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC). This agency is also responsible for overseeing the study of related environmental impacts.

Second, we must become familiar with the methodology that FERC has arrived at as the means for determining these impacts. This methodology is known as the Cluster Impact Assessment Procedure (CIAP). As its name implies, its purpose is to assess *cumulative* adverse impacts on environmental resources posed by *multiple* hydropower developments. The CIAP methodology is presently being carried out in the Snohomish River, Owens River and Salmon River basins of Washington, California and Idaho respectively.

For the Snohomish River basin, the CIAP can be expanded or focused to accommodate its unique characteristics. However, the study will follow a four-phase framework: (1) the Geographic Sort phase to be completed in 74 days and used to determine the geographic area by identifying the projects to be included in the study and target resources to be impacted; (2) the Resource Sort phase to be completed in 80 days and used to determine interactive relationships between projects and target resources; (3) the Multiple Project Assessment phase to be completed in 98 days and used to analyze cumulative impacts; (4) the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document phase to be completed in 179 to 224 days.

On June 12 FERC conducted two public meetings in Everett as part of its first phase of the Snohomish River basin CIAP. Attending were representatives of natural resource agencies such as the State Department of Game, organizations such as the Tulalip Tribe, and private individuals who voiced concerns over potential adverse impacts on anadromous fishery resources, water quality and other wildlife resources. Some took issue with what they viewed as FERC staff's rather limited identification of preliminary target resources.

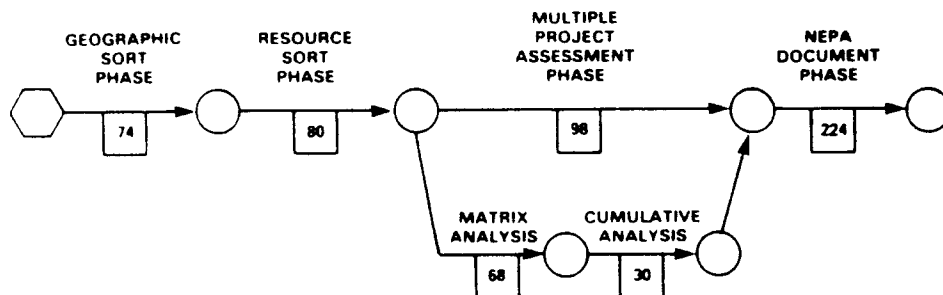
The staff's preliminary conclusions had indicated the inclusion of only three target resources: (1) Anadromous fish — including Coho salmon, Pink salmon, spring and summer-run Chinook salmon, Chum salmon, summer and winter-run steelhead trout, sea-run Cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden; (2) Bald eagles; (3) Black-tailed deer. A department of Game spokesman recommended additional wildlife species being included. He added that the CIAP was inadequate in addressing the issue of preservation of habitat. A white water kayaking organization suggested inclusion of impacts on recreational boating.

The areas in the study includestreams and adjacent lands above and below: (1) the North Fork Skykomish River and upper tributaries; (2) the lower reach of the South Fork Skykomish River and Barclay Creek; (3) the mainstream Skykomish River; (4) lower Olney Creek. A possible fifth area is Black Creek in the upper Snoqualmie River drainage.

At this point we have many questions and few answers. The best we can do right now is to have our organization aware of this issue, which could have a profound impact upon our local environment and related activities.

At the September meeting, I will bring more detailed information. In the meantime, should any of you wish to get on the mailing list, your inquiry concerning the Snohomish River basin CIAP (FERC Docket EL85-19-101) may be directed to Frank Karwoski, FERC Project Manager, Washington DC at (202) 376-1761.

CLUSTER IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE



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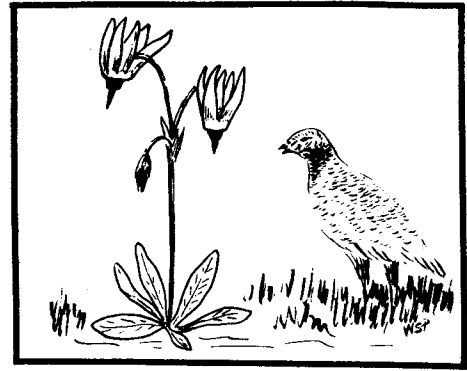
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353-2085

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Climbing: Dan Morse, 11403 West Ibberson Dr., Everett
98204 338-0205

Nordic Skiing: Jerry Crofoot, 12229 Alexander Rd., Everett
98204 347-4216

Explorer Post Committee: Tom Hutchinson, 922 51st ST SW,
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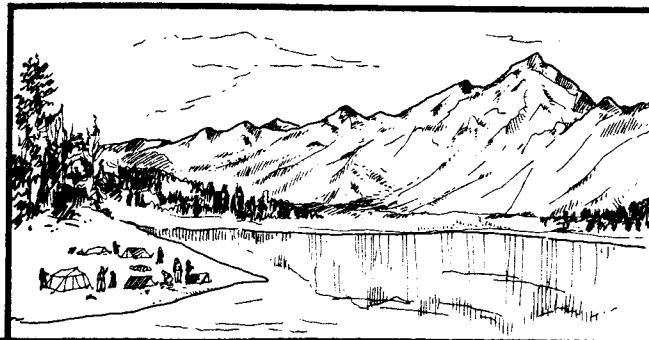


NEXT ISSUE: SEPTEMBER

**Deadline 9/9
Printed 9/10
Mailed 9/11**

Reports and other input should be submitted during the first week of September rather than waiting until the newsletter is all ready to go, and then having to tear it apart to make room for last minute items.

Your cooperation has been just great!



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