

# MOUNTAINS TO *Sound*

Volume 9, Number 1

January, 2002

**SUMMER 2002 GREENWAY TREK INFO INSIDE!**



*Photo Andreas Brockhaus*

**2001 YEAR IN REVIEW:** The annual Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust dinner and celebration in early December showcased many accomplishments in the Greenway corridor in 2001, ending with Citation of Merit awards for individuals. Sally Jewell, President of the Greenway Trust, congratulates winners, from left: Jeanne Ehrlichman Bluechel, John Karlson, Mary Norton, Peggy Leonard, Bonnie Bunning, Margaret Macleod and Seattle Mayor Paul Schell. Award-winners not pictured are Tara Houck Nessian and Jerry Henry.

*See story page 5.*

# GREENWAY VISION MAKES

## 2001: Year end review finds

One guest at the annual Greenway Achievements dinner on December 5th called the story of a year's progress along I-90 'the reverse domino theory.' "Instead of seeing things fall and change," said Issaquah City Administrator **Leon Kos**, "we're looking at dozens of big and small parcels of land that won't change – they'll stay forests and natural open spaces. I-90 is going to be a greenway to travel forever."

New state Lands Commissioner **Doug Sutherland** was the lead-off master of ceremonies at the celebration in Seattle, guiding over 200 guests through a parade of achievements that included over 43,000 acres of land added to public ownership along I-90. Boeing executive **Ross Bogue** and Greenway Trust President **Sally Jewell** also took turns handing out praise for achievements.

Sutherland confessed some newcomer's amazement at the expansive green landscape on a 20-foot map of the Greenway and told people it would grow even greener in the coming hour.

### Huge Exchange Protects the South Side

Within minutes, people were applauding the permanent addition of 32,000 acres to Forest Service ownership on the south side of I-90 from just east of North Bend to the Snoqualmie Summit. The same acres had been celebrated in 1998 when the Weyerhaeuser Company and Forest Service concluded the massive Huckleberry Land Exchange, with the endorsement of **Charlie Raines** representing

the environmental community. But lawsuits tied up the exchange until late in 2001. Raines was joined by Weyerhaeuser Vice President **Rich Hanson** and **John Phipps**, Regional Supervisor for the Forest Service to share credit for sticking together on the long road to conservation success.

Another land exchange protected 260 acres much closer to growing urban areas. Plum Creek Timber Company and the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) traded lands of equal value, adding to an existing block of DNR forest on Mitchell Hill, just north of Preston. **Mike Yeager** of Plum Creek and **Doug McClelland** and **Kit Metlin** from DNR were applauded for the transaction that expands the working forest to 700 acres.

### Conservation in Eastern Greenway

Yeager was joined by **Stephanie Taylor** of the Trust for Public Land and **Steve Johnson** of the Wenatchee National Forest in unveiling an

even bigger chunk of permanent forestland thanks to public purchase of 3,790 acres around Keechelus Lake just east of the Snoqualmie Summit. Taylor carried out negotiations

between Plum Creek and the US Forest Service. Federal Land and Water Conservation funds were used to purchase eight very visible sections of forest land, north and south of I-90. "These are more than scenic properties," said the Master of Ceremonies, "they're important pieces of a connected north-south wildlife corridor and contribute to the health of valuable salmon habitat along the Yakima River."

Greenway President Sally Jewell took over the M.C. duties midway through the evening. She added that other groups, especially the Cascades

Conservation Partnership, are working to protect lands in the central Cascades and had succeeded in raising purchase funds for 2500 acres of other Plum Creek lands near I-90 in the past year.

continued, next page...



Keechelus Lake

Photo Todd Parker



Photo Andreas Brackhaus

2001: Adding to Scenic Snoqualmie Point

In 1993, the Greenway Trust celebrated the first acquisition to protect forest land with the public purchase of 1800 acres along the top of Rattlesnake Mountain, just south of North Bend. Since then, nearly 1400 acres have been purchased on the north slope of Rattlesnake to sustain forestry, recreation and wildlife uses. WADNR's **Brad Pruitt**, left, has played a large role in many Rattlesnake acquisitions as manager of federal Forest Legacy funds for the State Department of Natural Resources. He was joined by negotiator **Rinee Merrit** of the Trust for Public Land to unveil the acquisition of the 80-acre Kimball Creek property just east of the scenic viewpoint at Snoqualmie Point. It will be added to the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Conservation Area, jointly managed by King County and the state.

The Trust for Public Land also played a crucial role in protecting the other side of the Snoqualmie Point scenic view area. TPL's **Kent Whitehead** was honored for successfully purchasing the 40-acre Swenson property and selling it the Forest Service which used Land and Water Conservation funds designated for that specific property.

Pruitt also had a hand in another chunk of new green on the map. He worked with King County's **Faith Roland** to acquire the final 423 acres of Taylor Mountain Forest, just south of Rattlesnake, including the headwaters of Issaquah Creek.

# A DIFFERENCE activists everywhere

“Stay Watchful,” says Ellis

A side effect of Greenway work to protect the forests along I-90 from converting to urban uses has been the significant growth of both the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie and Wenatchee national forests. State ownership along I-90 has grown as well. “The public has made a huge investment in order to protect this landscape,” explains **Jim Ellis**, Immediate Past President of the Greenway Trust. “Of course, government policies can change and new challenges will arise, but each year when we celebrate all this work and public investment, we also ought to renew our commitment to the many benefits these open spaces provide. That commitment will be needed many times in the future.”

**Bonnie Bunning** of the State DNR joined **Everett White** of the Forest Service, in adding 1000 more acres to the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest along I-90. They celebrated the second phase of the Manke Timber Company purchase that began a year ago. In 2000, Bunning negotiated purchases and trades with the timber company and in 2001, she and White arranged sale of former Manke lands near Snoqualmie Point and along the John Wayne Pioneer Trail to the Forest Service.

The Middle Fork Valley of the Snoqualmie River was the locale for two more public purchases to prevent development in areas where wildlife habitat is a prime concern. **Peggy Bill** of the Cascade Land Conservancy worked with **Faith Roland**, King County Land Acquisition Supervisor, to purchase the 10-acre Gillis property where isolated development had been proposed. Bill also managed the negotiations for successful Forest Service acquisition of the 181-acre Sherman parcel, directly above the Granite Lakes basin on the edge of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. **Everett White** worked on the transaction for the Forest Service.

## Small Parcels Count

Among land transactions to preserve open spaces, there were two key purchases near Issaquah. Issaquah Mayor **Ava Frisinger** and Parks Director **Bob Hudson** unveiled the 12-acre Nystrom parcel which the city bought to protect Issaquah Creek. Jewell noted that it’s a difficult challenge for a small city to protect crucial lands and he congratulated them for vision and commitment.

On nearby Squak Mountain, King County’s **Faith Roland** again played a role, finding Salmon Recovery Board funds appropriate for purchase of the 50-acre Schroeder property which will keep the Squak slopes forested.



Photo John VAF Neal

## 2001: Tollgate Farm

The Tollgate Farm ‘save’ was the cliff-hanger among 2001 public land acquisitions in the Greenway.

Development of offices, industrial park and housing were proposed for the historic 410-acre site. In September, North Bend asked voters to support a bond issue to join with King County funds to buy the farm. The bond failed by a very small margin, but the unique site and public support attracted a private donor to save Tollgate. Boosted by having almost all the necessary funds, the North Bend City council authorized council bonds for the remainder. As a result, the central meadow and most of the farm will remain open space in perpetuity.

Sharing the credit are North Bend Mayor **Joan Simpson**, City Councilman **Mark Sollitto**, **Kent Whitehead**, project manager for the Trust for Public Land, King County Executive **Ron Sims** and County Councilman **Larry Phillips** and a citizens support group led by **Gardiner Vinnedge**, **Jack Webber**, **Ron Pedee**, **Mary Norton**, **Tonie Morgan** and **JoAnn Klacsan**.



Photo Andrea Brockhaus

## 2001: Snoqualmie Preservation Initiative

One of the year’s most innovative successes in protecting open spaces was the Snoqualmie Preservation Initiative which retains the forest backdrop of Snoqualmie Falls and over 3000 acres of forestland in eastern King County. **Gene Duvernoy** of the Cascade Land Conservancy worked with City of Snoqualmie Mayor **Fuzzy Fletcher**, King County Executive **Ron Sims** and his staff and **Tom Miller** and **Lynn Claudon**, representing Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Company. All were applauded for completing a complex project that required creative thinking and patient, cooperative negotiations. The results include the protection of the 145-acre forested backdrop of Snoqualmie Falls, permanent conservation of 2800 acres of working forestland south of I-90 and Highway 18 in the Raging River valley, and 600 acres along the Snoqualmie Valley Trail and the provision by Weyerhaeuser of \$1 million to assist in connecting the trail.

Accepting a noisy ovation for a trend-setting project were, (L-R) King County Councilman **Larry Phillips**, **Peggy Bill** representing Gene Duvernoy and the Cascade Land Conservancy, Snoqualmie Mayor **Fuzzy Fletcher**, **Lori Grant** from King County and **Lynn Claudon**, negotiator for Weyerhaeuser.

## 2001: King County and Weyerhaeuser Stay the Course for Recycling

In 1995, the Weyerhaeuser Company helped launch the award-winning Greenway Biosolids Forestry Program by signing a six-year contract with King County to recycle highly treated wastewater treatment by-products as fertilizer on their Snoqualmie Tree Farm. One component of this program provided funds for public purchase of forestlands along I-90 that might otherwise have been urbanized. A second component, funded by savings generated by the Weyerhaeuser contract, enabled the Greenway Trust to build a volunteer stewardship program that takes young people into the mountains each summer to remove abandoned logging roads.

In 2001, the original contract between Weyerhaeuser and King County expired. Throughout the year, parties for both entities worked to assess pros and cons and understand the impact of new and more stringent forestry rules on the recycling program. Just in time for the December Greenway celebration, they renewed the contract for the next five years. Enjoying credit for their successful negotiations are (l-r): **Don Theiler**, King County; **Kevin Godbout** of Weyerhaeuser,



Photo: Andreas Brackhaus

shaking hands with **Peggy Leonard** of King County as **Steve Ketz** and **Rich Hanson** of Weyerhaeuser join the applause.

Weyerhaeuser was also applauded for harvest procedures that have earned the company environmental certification from two separate standards programs that certify sustainable and high quality forest practices.



Photo: Ken Konigsmark

Part of the new, nine-mile Snoqualmie Ridge Trail system.

## 2001: Support Grows for Foot and Bike Highways

A major goal of the Greenway Concept Plan, published in 1993 is: "Create interconnected trails for walkers, bicyclists and equestrians." The year 2001 saw continued work in many communities and agencies to link and improve the substantial trail system that already exists in the I-90 corridor and surrounding communities.

At the annual Greenway progress celebration, Seattle City Councilwoman **Jan Drago** was recognized for making sure that crucial city matching funds for the Greenway trail link from I-90 to the waterfront were retained in a lean city budget. At the other end of the Greenway, **Gary Wivag** of the Coal Mines Trail Commission and Cle Elum historian **Morris Jenkins** were applauded for publishing a pocket guide to historic features along the 6-mile trail from Cle Elum to Ronald.

When Greenway board member **Ross Bogue** from the Boeing Company assumed the M.C. duties he called upon Greenway founder **Ted Thomson** representing the Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC) and trail designer **Mike Stenger**. The trails club joined with the Ira Spring Family Foundation in funding summer trail building and maintenance work in Coal Creek Park and on Squak, Tiger and Rattlesnake mountains. "Thanks to Mike's expertise and the work we could then do on these projects," Bogue explained, "we developed the know-how to secure a \$50,000 grant from the National Recreational Trails fund to do more of this work in the coming year."

### Trail builders a varied group

Squak Mountain was the locale for another trail accomplishment. **Mary Welborn**, State Parks Ranger and **Leon Kos**, Issaquah City Administrator representing the Kiwanis Club of Issaquah, marked the addition of a signed nature trail in the State Park on the south side of Squak. Thanks to grant-writing by Interagency Coordinator **Margaret Macleod**, the State Department of Natural Resources has just received a grant of \$85,000 to study trail maintenance needs on both sides of I-90, from Squak Mountain to the Snoqualmie Summit.

Looking at the larger picture of trails in the Greenway and across the state, Bogue asked **Elizabeth Lunney**, Executive Director of the Washington Trails Association (WTA) to accept congratulations for WTA's new record: 50,000 hours of volunteer work improving state trails. Half those hours were done in the Greenway corridor.

Finally, demonstrating that the private sector can be a magnificent contributor to the region's trail network, **George Cook**, Director of Residential Development at Weyerhaeuser's Snoqualmie Ridge development was applauded for designing and building nine miles of quality forest and transportation trails that stretch around this new community and tie to the regional trail network. Bogue told the audience that Cook's trail network far exceeded what had been asked by the Snoqualmie Parks Board.

## 2001: Nine People take home Merit Awards

Wrapping up the parade of achievements, Founding Greenway President Jim Ellis handed out awards of special merit to individuals who have made major contributions to the success of the Greenway plan.

**Jeanne Ehrlichman Bleuchel** was recognized for professional and volunteer involvement in design, arts and the environment and for 10year's active work in seeking support for the Greenway Trust.

**Bonnie Bunning**, recently named Executive Director of Policy and Planning for the State Department of Natural Resources, was singled out for personal dedication, professional skill and perseverance in assisting the 50-year Greenway Biosolids Forestry Program and successful negotiations to protect 1004 acres of forests along I-90.

**Jerry Henry** was lauded for leadership in land conservation through work with both the Greenway Trust and the Cascade Land Conservancy and for spearheading the support of his company, Puget Sound Energy, for varied Greenway projects and volunteer activities.

School teacher **Tara Houck Nesson** received an Award of Merit for her work using the Greenway Environmental Education program to create a multi-disciplinary teaching unit now adopted for all seventh grade classrooms throughout the Issaquah School District.

Kittitas County printer and consultant **John Karlson** was applauded for vision, creativity and perseverance in leading a small community to take on huge projects, including the restoration of Thorp Mill, development of Ice Pond Park and designation of the historic district of Thorp, and for leadership of the Greenway Board of Directors caucus in Kittitas County.

Another award recognized the personal and professional skills of King County Biosolids Program forester **Peggy Leonard** in leading the politically and technically challenging effort to gain public acceptance for the recycling of treated sewage wastes as a beneficial forest fertilizer.

In making the awards, Greenway Past President Jim Ellis stressed that the success of the Greenway vision was completely dependent of individuals and communities, taking up the idea and fitting it to local needs and goals. Many of those recognized, he said, went far beyond the demands of their jobs, taking risks and surmounting obstacles to advance some part of the Greenway idea.

Professional skill and "gentle but persistent leadership" were noted in an award to Interagency Trails Coordinator **Margaret Macleod**. She has played a leading role coordinating federal, state and local land agencies on eastern King County open space lands and securing crucial dollars for Greenway land acquisitions and trail projects.

Macleod was followed by Snoqualmie resident and Greenway Board member **Mary Norton**, applauded for decades of volunteer time and work in saving treasured open space landscapes in the upper Snoqualmie Valley, including Three Forks Park, Meadowbrook Farm, Tollgate Farm and the backdrop of Snoqualmie Falls.

Outgoing Seattle Mayor **Paul Schell** was the final recipient of an award for "visionary leadership" in protecting wildlife habitat and old growth forests in the Cedar River Watershed, supporting construction of the new Watershed Environmental Education Center and for adding to Seattle's acclaimed bike and pedestrian trail network. Schell was instrumental in assuring that a Greenway trail and landscaped plazas were included in the downtown State Route 519 project.

## Summer Greenway Trek Planned for July

Hikers, bikers, and even wagon train riders will have a chance for an intensive experience of the Greenway this summer on an organized and supported 3-day hike, Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> through Sunday July 21<sup>st</sup>. Greenway Director of Special Projects Ken Konigsmark will organize the event in a similar style to the Greenway anniversary March of 2000 but seven days shorter. Over 100 people took part in the 2000 trek from Thorp to the Seattle waterfront.

"We've heard from lots of people," Konigsmark says, "who would like to do another march and others who want to participate but can't take ten days off to traverse the whole Greenway. We're hoping a weekend event will make it easy for lots of people to join in and still capture the 'magic' of the Greenway."

This year's hike will start at Hyak on Friday and end at Snoqualmie Point on Rattlesnake Mountain on Sunday. Friday's hike will cover 10 miles to Tinkham Campground. Saturday, people can hike or bike westward for 11 miles to Rattlesnake Lake (or begin on bikes at Hyak) or choose wagon rides from Hyak to Rattlesnake Lake, available at cost. Shuttles back to Hyak will be available Saturday and Sunday nights. Only hikers will be able to take the final leg of the 3-day event, covering 11 miles to Snoqualmie Point.

Entertainment and catered dinners are planned for the evening campsites, with breakfast and lunch provided to paid participants. Costs are still being determined. Questions and reservations can be directed to Ken Konigsmark at 425-957-5094 or [Kenneth.d.konigsmark@boeing.com](mailto:Kenneth.d.konigsmark@boeing.com). "I hope people will spread the word on this," he says. "We'll have lots of fun."



## 2001: State Funding for Public Lands

Former governor **Mike Lowry**, right, and State Senator **Dino Rossi** were cheered in December for their work to build and sustain the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program which funded several



Greenway public acquisitions this year. In 1989, Lowry and former governor **Dan Evans** founded the non-profit Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition that lobbies for state program funding every biennium. Rossi, Chair of the state Senate Appropriations Committee and a Greenway Board member, has been a strong supporter of funds for public conservation and recreation purchases all over the state. This year, WWRP funds purchased 20 acres adjacent to the High Point Trailhead on Tiger Mountain and a key parcel next to the popular hiking area around Little Si.

All along the Greenway stand important reminders of our region's deep indigenous history. Next to Highway 202

between Snoqualmie and North Bend, for example, stands Yidoad, the Swing, a physical remnant of Snoqualmie tribal creation stories. In the early twentieth century, a local Native man named Sia'txted or "Snuqualmi Charlie" shared Yidoad's history with Auburn resident Arthur Ballard. Originally a ladder between this world and the Sky World, Yidoad played a key role in the Transformer's work

of making the world as it is today. According to the story, the ladder was later used as a swing by the first people, until a jealous Rat gnawed through it and it fell, becoming a rock outcropping. For Sia'txted, born around 1850 near what is now Carnation, Yidoad served as a physical reminder of the proper order of things, and of his people's long inhabitation in the upper Snoqualmie Valley. Today, Yidoad is a quarry, with only a portion of the original outcropping remaining along the highway — a reminder of the new "order of things," and of the ongoing tensions between heritage, the environment, and progress.

- Coll Thrush



## HISTORY

As you wander through the deep, mystical old-growth forests of the greenway, you may notice curious signs of life dangling from branches or littering the forest floor. Some are lettuce-like in color and appearance, while others are thin, wispy, and hair like. These oddball organisms are collectively called epiphytes, and they're important residents of the Greenway's forests.

The term "epiphyte" refers to a group of plants, fungi, or microbes that live in the forest canopy and are sustained by nutrients and water derived there. Many epiphytes are lichens, fascinating couplings of a fungus and a photosynthetic partner, such as a green algae or bacteria. Others are moss-like and include liverworts, mosses, and hornworts. There may be up to 75 different types of epiphytes in just one acre of old forest.

Lichens serve important roles in forest ecosystems. Lettuce-shaped lichens commonly found on trees throughout the Greenway fix nitrogen from the air, making it usable to forest plant life. The lime-green, hair-like forage lichens found hanging from branches are food for animals such as deer, elk, flying squirrels, and others, and they're used as nest materials. Moss-like epiphytes carpet tree branches and act as a sponge to absorb rainfall.

- Dave Wortman



## FORESTS

# Greenway People:

When Harry Morgan moved to Hobart, south of Issaquah, on the edge of the Cedar River Watershed, in 1988, he and his wife Lesley were told that the adjacent private forest would someday be developed. "We just accepted that," says Harry. "We didn't think we needed to stop development." But roaming through Taylor Mountain forest gradually led Morgan to a different picture that included the town of Issaquah and Lake Sammamish, some 10 miles away.

In 1995, when the forest owners came forward with a development plan for 5-acre home sites, developed, one-by-one over 1700 acres, "we still thought we should just try to make sure the development was done well and the sensitive areas were protected. The trouble with that," Morgan chuckles, "was that when we walked the property to figure out what those areas were, we realized that sensitive area described almost the whole property. We saw steep slopes and very loose soils and the place is just honeycombed with streams. Development would bring erosion and impervious surfaces that would just be a disaster for Issaquah Creek, the floodplain in Issaquah and eventually Lake Sammamish."

The future of Taylor Mountain drew Harry Morgan and his neighbors together to form the Hobart Rural Association. With his professional skills as an engineering project manager, Morgan found himself becoming a leader — calling people, recruiting experts, planning meetings. When King County issued a Mitigated Determination of Non-significance, basically approving piecemeal development on the mountain, Morgan himself hired an attorney for an appeal. "Suddenly, there we are in a courtroom facing the County, the landowner and all their attorneys." But the Hearing Examiner ruled that the county was wrong and the owner had to do an environmental impact statement. "Winning that appeal was the high point of this whole process for me," Morgan says. Grateful neighbors have recently reimbursed Morgan for much of his original investment in legal fees.

That didn't stop the owners from laying more roads on the mountain, so Harry and his neighbors began recruiting a small army of experts and supporters. "We had fisheries biologists and wildlife specialists and a lot of people in Issaquah who began to see how Taylor Mountain and these creeks affect them." Volunteers distributed maps, talking points and environmental analyses. They talked about the negative impacts of development and the benefits of keeping forests on Taylor as a wildlife connection from Tiger Mountain to the Seattle Watershed and a buffer for the working forests up and down Highway 18.

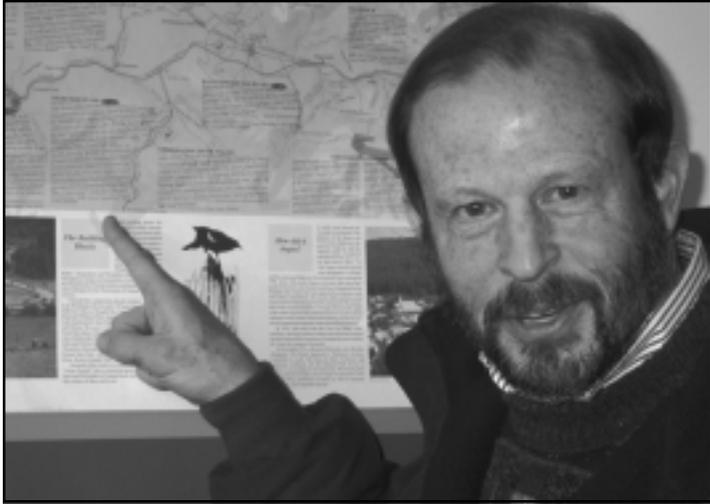
In 1996, word began coming out of County Council chambers that King County was going to solve these potential problems by buying the property. "That was the second high point," Morgan says. "Councilmembers Larry Phillips and Brian Dardowski and their staff

## 2001: New Seattle Education Center Honored



Photo: Andreas Brockhaus

# HARRY MORGAN



Harry Morgan

started that move and got support from Mark Sollitto of the King County Park System and Jim Greenfield of the County Open Space program. That was one happy day, seeing the County recognize all the things of value on this mountain and get on board in a really big way.” The county bought most of Taylor Mountain in 1997 and in 2001, the County and the federal Forest Legacy program pooled funds to buy the final piece of the 1700-acre Taylor Mountain forest.

Morgan never felt the deep discouragement that can be part of an uphill battle. “I’m a half-full glass of water guy,” he says. I always think there are some options left and it just feels better being optimistic.” Morgan recently retired and with Taylor Mountain forests protected, he’s turning to other pursuits that almost all have to do with the world outdoors. He’s an active member of the Mountaineers and leads non-technical alpine scrambles. He has organized an Adopt-a-Road community clean-up effort, is a King County Park Ambassador and schedules practice fields for the Maple Valley Soccer Club with almost 50 teams. He’s also a Board member of the Cascade Land Conservancy and is a regular volunteer at Greenway stewardship events. In 2000, he and his son Geoffrey did the full, 10-day Mountains to Sound Anniversary hike of 130 miles from Thorp to Seattle.

“When I was a child, I just hated being put in the playpen and I guess my favorite song was ‘Don’t Fence Me In,’” he says. As he learns to sail his recently acquired small sailboat, Morgan is now planning to hike the Copper Canyon in Northern Mexico and dreaming of a hike on Alaska’s Chilkoot Trail.

Retired? “I really haven’t noticed that much,” he says.

**Mayor Paul Schell** (far left) scans the Greenway map for Seattle’s latest contribution to regional education – the Cedar River Watershed Environmental Education Center at Rattlesnake Lake. Schell and City Council President **Margaret Pageler** (second from left) were a successful team in securing City funding to build the new center, operated in conjunction with Seattle Public Utilities. **Marie Ruby**, center, runs public programs at the Watershed and was project manager for the four-building education center. **Nancy Rottle** (second from right) was lead designer from Jones & Jones Architects and Landscape Architects and **Annette Laico**, right, was Executive Director of the private, non-profit Friends of the Cedar River Watershed, which raised private funds for the Center.

## They Can’t Cross the Road to Get To the Other Side

The Greenway is largely marked by the path of Interstate 90. A pretty wide path it is too. So wide in fact that wild, native Kokanee in Lewis Creek by Lake Sammamish can’t go underneath I-90 to get to the other side. These freshwater cousins of sockeye salmon certainly would enjoy the better habitat over there but the obstructions, sharp curves, darkness and lack of resting spots in the quarter-mile culvert are quite discouraging. So, a few weeks back, one of the Greenway’s board members and avid fan of these engaging fish, Joanna Buehler, led the charge to take a few over the freeway to the promised land. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Friends of Issaquah Salmon Hatchery lent a hand also. Even the feds were there snapping photos as these kokanee may someday be listed under the Endangered Species Act. After being netted and placed in buckets and then hand delivered ala a fire bucket line to their new home, about two dozen Kokanee were acclimating on the south, up-mountain side of I-90. May they find a good spot to raise a family.



**WATER**

- Steve Bell

Snowshoeing has most recently been listed as a “sport,” but to me it’s a great mechanism by which one can gain access the backcountry for some marvelous views of nature during winter. Look around, carefully, examine your surroundings for hints of what is going on in the environment; for instance, snowshoe hare tracks leading off into the brush, wing-tip marks made by an owl in the snow as it obtained its dinner the night before, a possible track left by a bobcat showing the marks of the fine hair that surrounds its foot.



**HIKING**

These are just some of the things that one might observe while snowshoeing, especially along the I-90 corridor. Some of the best places for these observations can be found in the Snoqualmie Pass area, but be mindful of the avalanche potential.

Before you leave home, you may want to enhance your snowshoe outing by obtaining books or articles about snowshoeing routes and also about nature in winter. In addition, properly preparing yourself for any sort of winter outing or travel is advisable and will add to your enjoyment of being in this type of environment. This does not mean just having the proper clothing and equipment, but also checking the avalanche danger for the day you plan your outing. Call 206-526-6677 for current avalanche conditions.

- Toby Hastie

# MOUNTAINS TO SOUND



Traveling over Snoqualmie Pass used to be an arduous journey, with trees, rocks and mud on the road. Sometimes horses worked better than cars. The Sunset Highway was constructed in 1914 and 1915, and until 1931 the road was closed during the winter and had to be cleared each spring. Photo courtesy of the Pemco Webster & Stevens Collection at the Museum of History and Industry.

*Mountains to Sound Greenway Mission: Protect and enhance scenic beauty, recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, historic communities and healthy economies in a multi-purpose Greenway along Interstate 90 from the shores of Puget Sound over the Cascade Mountains to the Kittitas Valley foothills in Washington State. Help make this human and natural heritage visible and accessible to all people.*

## MOUNTAINS TO SOUND STAFF

### Newsletter Staff

Newletter Production: Nancy Keith, Amy Brockhaus  
Line Drawings: Nicola Yarbrough

### Greenway Trust Officers

Sally Jewell, President

Jim Ellis, Immediate Past President

Rich Hanson, Vice President

Ted Thomson, Secretary

Bill Chapman, Treasurer

### Greenway Trust Staff

Nancy Keith, Executive Director

Ken Korigsmark, Director of Special Projects

Amy Brockhaus, Program Coordinator

Doug Schindler, Director of Field Programs

Kelly Kirkland, Volunteer Program Coordinator

### Consultants

Sally Luttrell-Montes, Environmental Education Coordinator

Sally Kenich, Environmental Field Educator

*Mountains to Sound* is a quarterly publication of the

*Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust*. To receive a

regular copy, call the Greenway office, or e-mail

MTSGreenway@tpl.org.

<http://www.mtsgreenway.org/>



1011 WESTERN AVENUE, SUITE 606  
SEATTLE, WA 98104  
PHONE (206) 382-5565  
VOLUNTEER LINE (206) 812-0122  
FAX (206) 382-3414

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SEATTLE, WA  
PERMIT NO. 5881