Take Your Time...

by Michael Smithson, Chief of Resource Education

In this hurried world it is rare for us to take a minute to slow down and relax, even while on vacation. We often try to do too much, only to return home and discover we need to take a break to recover from our trip.

In an attempt to see it all, a tour bus driver once stopped at a panoramic overlook and urged the passengers to quickly disembark. The people only had time to raise their cameras and click before they were ushered back into the bus to pursue their next destination. A visitor who watched commented that they were "taking pictures of memories they never had."

One of the ways to avoid this epidemic of hurry sickness is to stop and take a few minutes to truly enjoy the world. The wild coastline is a wonderful place to leave your worries behind... and it's easy to find a quiet spot even a few hundred feet from the parking lot. Lean against a giant driftwood log and watch the sun set into the azure haze of the Pacific. Or take an evening drive to Hurricane Ridge, far away from city lights, and watch meteors slash across the vast night sky.

Young kids are great explorers, albeit at their own pace. If you have children, investigate that slimy banana slug with them, or get down and peer into the fascinating world of a tide pool.

While hiking, enjoy the solitude, one of the most valuable resources national parks protect. This is especially true at Olympic, where 95 percent of the land is designated as wilderness. As you walk through groves of ancient trees or across mountain ridges, you'll find that your worldly cares drift away like autumn leaves. If you take the time to slow down and "re-create," you'll leave renewed and refreshed.

Within our National parks is room—glorious room—in which to find ourselves, in which to think and hope, to dream and play, to rest and resolve. Enos Mills
Just One Day at Olympic???

Seeing Olympic National Park in a day is like eating just one potato chip... delicious but impossible to do! And yet, in a day you can get a taste of one or two spectacular features of this varied park. For ease of reference, mileages herein reflect distances from Port Angeles. Please consult a park map to locate these and other park areas.

North and East v.s. West? Where are you entering the park? Along the north and east sides, you might visit Hurricane Ridge, Elwha, Lake Crescent, Sol Duc or the less-accessible Staircase, Dosewallips or Deer Park areas. If you drive up Highway 101 on the west side of the Olympic Peninsula, you might visit Quinault, Kalaloch, Hoh, Mora/Rialto Beach or more remote Queets or Ozette.

Mountains, Lakes, Hot Springs, Ocean, Forests? Another difficult choice! Olympic’s collage of ecosystems is connected by several hundred miles of highways and byways. If you visit more than one area in a day, driving time may be significant. Mountains punctuate the center of the park. Powered by gravity, rivers run from Olympic’s peaks to the sea. Along the way, lakes, waterfalls and hot springs speak in water’s lavish tongues. Complex forests, from subalpine to lowland, cover most of the park. Olympic’s variety is endless.

Mountains
The most accessible mountainous area, Hurricane Ridge at 5,230 feet, is 45 minutes from Port Angeles up a 17-mile paved road. Summer offers a brilliant collage of wildflowers - avalanche and glacier lilies, lupines, bistorts and tiger lilies scattered beneath subalpine fir trees.

Summer offers a brilliant collage of wildflowers... avalanche and glacier lilies, lupines, bistorts, phlox and tiger lilies...

A high-pitched whistle identifies the Olympic marmot, found only on the Olympic Peninsula. Black-tailed deer are prevalent, and especially visible in late afternoon. Please remember, for their health and your safety, feeding park wildlife is illegal. Along several paved trails, you can capture views of glacier-capped mountains crowning acres of wilderness. Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center offers information, exhibits and snacks.

Deer Park is a less developed, less-accessible high country area 23 miles southeast of Port Angeles, up a steep, winding dirt road. Camping and picnicking are available.
Lakes
Lake Crescent, 19 miles west of Port Angeles on Highway 101, is a crystal clear 624-foot jewel carved by a huge glacier thousands of years ago.

You can stroll along the shore or hike less than a mile to Marymere Falls (last part steep) for a refreshing spray of cool mountain waters. Lake Crescent Lodge and Log Cabin Resort have overnight accommodations, food service and boat rentals. Roped-off swimming areas in this chilly lake are located at East Beach and Log Cabin Resort. Camping is available in several locations.

Lake Ozette, in the northwest corner of the park, is less accessible, requiring a three-hour drive from Port Angeles. It is a beautiful retreat for canoe enthusiasts.

Hot Springs
The Sol Duc Valley lies 40 miles southwest of Port Angeles off Highway 101. Hot springs mineral pools, overnight cabins, food service and campgrounds accommodate summer visitors. You can experience the roar of Sol Duc Falls at the end of a one-mile nature trail.

Ocean
The park's 57 miles of wilderness coast is a constantly changing exhibit. Low tide exposes red and purple sea urchins, sea anemones, sea stars and limpets, artistically and strategically arranged on the rocks. You might spot a sea otter playing in the surf, or see a whale on its northerly migration in early spring. Please leave tidepool and beach creatures in their homes. Moving just one animal could disrupt an entire community.

The park's 57 miles of wilderness coast is a constantly changing exhibit.

Rialto and Kalaloch beach areas, 66 and 93 miles west of Port Angeles, offer easy access to the beach, and campgrounds are available. At less-accessible Ozette, 87 miles northwest of Port Angeles, you can stroll to the wilderness coast along a three-mile plank board trail.

Forests
The rain forest provides primeval tranquility amid giant Douglas-fir, western hemlock and Sitka spruce trees. Moss-draped bigleaf maples create a magical scene that seems to obliterate all sense of time. At the Hoh, 91 miles west of Port Angeles, mornings and evenings often bring Roosevelt elk into view along the banks of the Hoh River. Two self-guided loop trails and an 18-mile backcountry trail, leading to Mount Olympus, provide hours of exploration. A visitor center and campground are available.

Moss-draped bigleaf maples create a magical scene that seems to obliterate all sense of time.

The Queets trailhead and campground are 119 miles southwest of Port Angeles. This quiet rain forest valley, experienced mostly by backpackers, is accessible via gravel road. To the south, 121 miles from Port Angeles, Lake Quinault offers several self-guided trails in Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest. An overnight lodge and restaurant are located along the south shore of Lake Quinault.

In the fall, you can crunch along lowland forest pathways cluttered with maple leaves. At Staircase, 100 miles southeast of Port Angeles, and Elwha, 12 miles west of Port Angeles, relaxing trails meander alongside rushing rivers and sparkling creeks. Remote Dosewallips, 73 miles from Port Angeles, is at the end of a steep, narrow 14-mile road. This area serves as a wooded gateway to mountaneous backcountry trails. All of these locations have campgrounds.

These are just a few of Olympic's magnificent areas. With almost a million acres of wilderness and nearly 600 miles of backcountry trails, Olympic offers unlimited adventures. When you arrive at your destination, just ask a ranger about some of the unique opportunities in the area, and for tips about helping to protect the valuable resources. Also check at information stations for a park map and handouts about day hikes, accommodations, campgrounds and natural history.

Yes! With today's busy schedules, you can experience a bit of Olympic's grandeur in just one day. But why not stay another day or two, or longer, and collect memories that will last a lifetime?
Dams Block Passage of Elwha River Fish

The Elwha and Glines Canyon dams have blocked salmon and steelhead access to over 70 miles of stream habitat, mostly within Olympic National Park. The Elwha River Ecosystem and Fisheries Restoration Act became law in 1992. It calls for full restoration of the river ecosystem and native anadromous fisheries.

The final programmatic environmental impact statement (EIS) evaluating alternatives for full restoration was released by the National Park Service in June 1995. The alternatives evaluated included retention of the dams with installation of fish passage facilities and dam removal. The preferred alternative is the removal of both dams.

The draft Implementation EIS was released by the Service in April 1996. It evaluates different ways to remove the dams. A final Implementation EIS will be completed following public review and comment.

The preferred dam removal alternative is to remove both dams over a 24 month period and allow the river to naturally flush accumulated sediments downstream. Further information can be obtained by calling Dr. Brian Winter, Elwha Project Coordinator, at (360) 452-0302.

How Many Miles To...

Olympic National Park contains approximately 900,000 acres and a wide variety of environments. Visiting a park with such size and diversity can require substantial driving. This mileage chart lists travel distances to some of the more frequently visited areas. Highlights include Hurricane Ridge with spectacular mountain views, temperate rain forest at either the Hoh or Quinault and coastal beaches at Mora or Kalaloch. To provide assistance, information centers are located in Port Angeles, Forks, the Hoh Rain Forest, the Quinault Rain Forest, Lake Crescent and Hoodsport.

The Storm King Cruises

The Storm King begins its third Lake Crescent season. This 149-passenger paddle wheel boat is modeled after the M.V. Storm King, which cruised the lake 1914 to 1921.

The 90-minute interpretive boat tours offer optional stops for lunch or hiking. Cruises operate weekends May 4-26 and September 28-October 27; daily June 1-September 22. Boat tours depart 10am, noon, 2pm and 4pm from Storm King Ranger Station parking area at Lake Crescent, 18 miles west of Port Angeles on Highway 101. Please arrive 30 minutes early to park your car and purchase tickets. Rates are: adults $15.00; ages 6-17 $7.50; 5 and under free. Call 452-4520 for advanced reservations.

Show this article to save $1 per person.
Welcome... to Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary.

We hope your visit to Olympic National Park and all of the wonders of the Olympic Peninsula is enjoyable and memorable.

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary was designated in July 1994 as the first National Marine Sanctuary in the Pacific Northwest and the 14th in the nation. Within its 3,300 square miles lies a marine ecosystem that supports whales, seabirds, fish and shellfish and a multitude of other marine organisms.

Managing the resources of this vast area requires many partners. We are proud to join the National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington State Parks, the Makah, Quileute, Hoh and Quinault tribes, Washington departments of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife and Ecology, and the US Coast Guard in protecting—for your use and enjoyment—this great treasure.
The Intertidal Zone: 
An Abundance of Life 
At the Ocean’s Edge

"Like the sea itself, the shore fascinates us who return to it, the place of our dim ancestral beginnings."

Rachel Carson, The Edge of the Sea

The Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary embraces one of the last relatively undeveloped coastlines in the United States. Within this coastline’s intertidal zone—the narrow belt lying between the highest and lowest of twice-daily tides—are some of the biologically richest areas in North America. Here, scientists have identified over 300 resident species of aquatic plants, invertebrates (animals without backbones) and fish. It’s thought that this number may be but a fraction of the species that actually inhabit this stretch of coast. This wealth of intertidal life can be attributed to:

Fairly stable weather. Although the Olympic Coast is legendary for its ample rainfall and dramatic winter squalls, overall the region’s climate can be characterized as uniformly hospitable. Water temperatures vary little with the seasons, while air temperatures seldom dip below freezing or rise above 80 degrees. As such, conditions are nurturing for sea life year-round.

CONTINUED CHANGE. Even within this comparatively stable environment, there’s a constant state of turnover and change. Shifting sand, wave-tossed cobbles and water-borne logs create bare patches on the rock, opening up new locales for sea life to colonize, especially in winter months. As sand moves seasonally up and down the beach, it covers and uncovers surfaces of partially buried rocks—creating new habitat for some plants and animals while doing away with others.

An array of habitats. Along the Sanctuary’s 135-mile-long coastline are exposed rocky headlands, more protected rocky shores, boulder and cobble areas, and sandy beaches. This diversity of dwelling places offers niches for nearly every kind of coastal-dweller. Some intertidal animals and plants are specially adapted to withstand the action of crashing waves. Many others can claim spots, however short-lived, on tumbling boulders and rocks. Others are well suited to a life in the sand, whose seasonal movements up and down a beach can cover and uncover areas, exposing or smothering many organisms in the process.

Plenty of food. Many large rivers originate deep within the Olympic Peninsula’s forests and empty into the sea, carrying nutrients from the soil into the intertidal zone. Nutrients also well up from the ocean depths and are wafted to the nearshore environment by ocean currents. Both nutrient sources feed billions of small floating plants and animals (known as plankton), which, in turn, become food for larger animals such as jellyfish, clams, mussels, anemones, and sea cucumbers. Many of these animals are food for even larger organisms—fish, sea birds, marine mammals, and humans.

Remarkable relationships. Many species have entered into curious partnerships with other life forms. The giant green anemone (Anthopleura xanthogrammica) is one: its bright hues are the product of microscopic green algae, which grow in the anemone’s digestive tract. Some scientists think that the compounds produced by the algae may be feeding the anemone.

Recyclers of the intertidal world, purple shore crabs (Hemigrapsus nudus) feed on decaying plant and animal matter, transforming waste into nutrients for the vast oceanic food chain.
TIDE POOL ETIQUETTE

Easily observed by beachwalkers at low tide, the intertidal areas of Olympic National Park and Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary are ideal locations to learn about the sea and its resources first-hand. However, for these areas and their inhabitants to thrive, all visitors must show care and respect for the life at the water’s edge:

- Bring a bag with you on every beach outing to pick up any paper, glass, metal or plastic trash that you find.
- Find footholds on bare rock—they’re not as slippery and you’ll avoid stepping on the animals and plants that cling to these surfaces.
- If you want to peek under a rock, put it back the way it was when you’re done. Leaving a rock “belly-up” is an almost sure way to kill any animals that were living on its underside—not to mention those that dwell on its upper side.
- Always obey fish and shellfish regulations with respect to seasons, limits and sexes of animals taken for food. Intertidal animals within Olympic National Park should not be collected for bait.
- Refrain from building driftwood campfires, which can smolder beneath the sand for many weeks.

To observe and learn about intertidal life, join a naturalist-led beachwalk, offered by the staff of Olympic National Park during summer months. For information on these outings, see the schedule of interpretive programs listed in The Bugler.

For additional information about intertidal life of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary:

**Seashore Life of the Northern Pacific Coast** by Eugene N. Kozloff (1983, University of Washington Press, Seattle)


**The Intertidal Wilderness** by Anne Wertheim (1984, Sierra Club Books, San Francisco)

MARINE MAMMAL MANNERS

Each year, visitors to the Olympic Coast encounter seals, sea lions and their pups on shore. Too often those encounters, especially ones involving pups, have tragic results.

Seals and sea lions frequently haul out on rocks. Mothers occasionally leave pups unattended for days at a time. Approaching hauled out adults or unattended pups can be harmful—to people and to the wildlife.

Federal laws prohibit the harassment of marine mammals. Report “stranded” seals, sea lions, or other marine mammals to the nearest Ranger Station or call OCNMS at 360/457-6622.

SEA OTTERS AND KELP

The sea otter played an important role in the exploration of the Olympic Coast. Trade for their rich furs brought American, British, Spanish and Russians into competition. By the early 1900s, Olympic Coast populations were extinct.

In the early 1970s, sea otters were reintroduced. A group of about 70 was captured in Alaska and released near La Push. Today, about 390 sea otters live in the waters of Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary.

Sea otters are found in kelp beds from Destruction Island to Cape Flattery. Look for them in or near the large floating communities of bull kelp. The best sightings are made along Rialto Beach, at Cape Alava and at Cape Flattery. Usually, otters swim on their backs, giving them the profile of a small barge.
**SANCTUARY MANAGEMENT**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) manages Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary to maintain its natural beauty and ecological diversity. Central to this task is encouraging compatible uses of the Sanctuary and cooperating with others who manage coastal resources within the Sanctuary.

Our partners include, Washington State, the Makah, Quileute, Hoh, and Quinault tribes, the US Coast Guard, the National Park Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and many others. Sanctuary management also includes maintaining close ties with sanctuary users—the maritime and fishing industries, citizens, conservation groups, local governments and businesses within the region.

To advise the Sanctuary Manager and NOAA, a 15-member Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) has been formed. The SAC will meet regularly to gather information and present recommendations on the Sanctuary.

Overseeing 3,300 square miles of the rugged Olympic Coast is a challenge in communications, organization and logistics. Overcoming these challenges is the Sanctuary manager's daily role. But more importantly, by coordinating education, research and resource protection, the Sanctuary provides more efficient and better comprehensive protection of its resources.

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**RESEARCH PROGRAM**

The Olympic Coast is a wondrous collection of scientific puzzles. Their answers will lead to better understanding ocean processes, the health of fish and shellfish resources, and cultures of the past. In order to gather and gain from this knowledge, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary operates its Research Program.

**Responsibilities of the Research Program include:**

- Building communications among scientists, agencies and tribal staff.
- Establishing baseline data and monitoring trends on plants, animals, environmental conditions and potential contaminants.
- Identifying research priorities and seeking the funding and other resources necessary to fulfill those priorities.
- Coordinating research carried out in Sanctuary waters.
- Developing publications and conferences to present research findings.
- Reviewing research proposals and administering research permits in the Sanctuary.
- Planning for oil spill response, damage assessment, and restoration.

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**EDUCATION PROGRAM**

The Olympic Coast is a textbook waiting to be opened. Its lessons are applicable to young learners in schools, visitors experiencing the coastal environment firsthand, and, in the era of electronic information, television, radio and computer network audiences everywhere.

**Responsibilities of the Education Program include:**

- Developing programs and products that educate and inform people about the Sanctuary and its mission.
- Helping Sanctuary users benefit from the Sanctuary without impairing its resources.
- Assisting regional visitor information organizations in serving Sanctuary visitors with interpretive programs and up-to-date information about the Sanctuary’s resources.
- Aiding education institutions (kindergarten through university) in developing teaching tools about the marine environment and coastal resources.
- Identifying ecotourism opportunities to visitors and businesses in the region.
- Helping media organizations tell the Olympic Coast’s stories.
- Making research results understandable to lay audiences.

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**SANCTUARY REGULATIONS**

The marine ecosystem of Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary benefits many people and drives an important part of the region's economy. To protect the resources within Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, the following activities are prohibited:

- Exploring for or developing oil or mineral resources.
- Moving, removing or injuring historical or cultural Sanctuary resources.
- Discharging or depositing any material.
- Altering the seabed or constructing any structures on the seabed.
- Injuring or harassing marine mammals, sea turtles and seabirds.
- Flying motorized aircraft (below 2,000 ft.) within a mile of the sanctuary’s coastal boundaries and offshore wildlife refuges.
- Military bombing.

**For information about specific regulations, contact:**

Sanctuary Manager
Olympic Coast NMS
138 West First ST.
Port Angeles, WA 98362
(360) 457-6622

Produced through cooperation with:
The Northwest Interpretive Association

Text: David Gordon, Robert Steelquist
Art: Laurel Black  Design: Robert Steelquist
Please do not feed any park wildlife. It is harmful to the animal and hazardous to you.

Main park visitor-use areas charge a $5 fee for 7 consecutive days use at all entrances. A $15 annual park pass, $25 annual Golden Eagle Pass and $10 lifetime Golden Age Pass (age 62 and older) are available at entrance stations.

Free backcountry permits are required for all overnight travel in the backcountry.

Boil all backcountry water for five minutes to avoid infection by Giardia, a microscopic intestinal parasite.

Bring rain gear and warm clothing! Hypothermia (a dangerous lowering of body temperature) may result from exposure to wet or chilly weather.

Drift logs are dangerous! Avoid swimming or walking near the water during storms or heavy surf.

Bicyclists beware! Travel around Lake Crescent can be hazardous due to heavy traffic on the narrow road.

For park information: in the Port Angeles area tune your radio to 530 AM; Lake Crescent or Quinault areas tune to 1610 AM.

Please! Pets are not allowed on park trails or in the backcountry.

The Northwest Interpretive Association is a non-profit organization. Proceeds from sales at park visitor centers support educational programs at Olympic National Park.
Educational Programs

NORTH SIDE

1 - OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK VISITOR CENTER
In Port Angeles. Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Staff available to answer questions. Maps, books and publications for sale. Orientation slide program, exhibits and nature trail. For information phone (360) 452-0330 or tune to 530 AM.

2 - HEART O’ THE HILLS
* Evening Program - Nightly
9:00 p.m. - June 23 through August 10
8:30 p.m. - August 11 through September 1
Heart O' the Hills Campground amphitheater.
Check local bulletin boards for topics.

3 - HURRICANE RIDGE
Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center - 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. Information, exhibits, orientation slide program.
* 11:00 a.m. daily - Meadow Exploration - Easy one-hour guided walk to learn more about life in the mountains.
* 1:00 p.m. daily - Terrace Talk - Join a ranger for a 20-minute talk exploring various aspects of Hurricane Ridge and Olympic National Park.
* 2:00 p.m. daily - Meadow Exploration - see above.
* 4:00 p.m. daily - Terrace Talk - see above.

4 - ELWHA
Madison Falls Nature Trail begins opposite the Elwha Entrance Station. Naturalist activities are not available.

5 - LAKE CRESCENT
Storm King Ranger Station. Information, maps, publications. Open intermittently.
* 11:00 a.m. Marymere Falls Walk - Friday, Saturday, Sunday; June 23 through September 1. Stroll 1 1/2 hrs. to Marymere Falls. Meet at Storm King Ranger Station.
* Lakeside Lore Talk - Sat. 7:30 - 8 p.m.
Log Cabin Resort. Informal gathering - various topics.
* Just for Kids - Sun. 10 - 10:30 a.m.
Fairholm Campground amphitheater. Parents welcome.

6 - SOL DUC
Ranger/Information Station with maps, publications. Sol Duc Road interpretive shelter and wayside exhibits. Ancient Groves 1/2 mi. Loop Trail, 8.3 miles up the road.
* Evening Campfire Programs - Nightly except Friday.
9:00 p.m. - June 23 through August 10
8:30 p.m. - August 11 through September 1
Sol Duc Campground amphitheater. Topics vary. See local bulletin boards.

7 - USFS/NPS SOLEDUCK RANGER STATION
Hwy. 101, 4 1/2 miles north of Forks. Maps, brochures, publications. Open daily 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. (360) 374-6522.

8 - HOH
Visitor Center open daily 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; exhibits, maps, publications, information. Self-guiding nature trails.
* 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Daily - Guided Walk - Forest dynamics, Hoh River, wildlife and more! Up to 1 1/4 mi.
* Evening Campfire Programs - Nightly
9:00 p.m. June 26 through August 10
8:30 p.m. August 11 through September 1
Campground amphitheater. Topics vary. See local bulletin boards.

Additional programs may be offered or schedules may change. Please check local bulletin boards for current information.
June 26 - September 1, 1996

KALALOCH DAILY INTERTIDAL BEACH WALKS
MORA WALKS ARE 1/2 HOUR EARLIER
(Mora walks may be cancelled late summer due to road repairs.)

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| * These are program times, not actual low tides. Tide tables list tide times. *

10 - KALALOCH
Ranger/Information Station. Maps, publications.

* Daily - Intertidal Beach Walks - Mora walks depart 1/2 hour earlier than times listed in schedule above. Meet at Rialto Beach parking lot bulletin board. About three miles round trip. 2 1/2 hours. Mora walks may be cancelled late summer due to road repairs. Please check with rangers.

* Evening Campfire Program - Nightly
9:00 p.m. June 26 through August 10
8:30 p.m. August 11 through September 1
Campground Amphitheater. Topics on local bulletin boards.

11 - QUINAULT
Ranger/Information Station open periodically. Maps, brochures, publications. Self-guiding nature trails are located next to Ranger Station (1/2 mile trail) and at Graves Creek (one mile trail). Naturalist activities are available intermittently. Please see local posted information.

12 - U.S. FOREST SERVICE/LAKE QUINAULT LODGE
Please check at the Ranger Station for naturalist walks and other programs.

13 - OZETTE
Ranger/Information Station open intermittently. Maps, publications. Naturalist activities are not available.

EAST SIDE

14 - STAIRCASE
Ranger/Information Station. Exhibits, maps, brochures and publications. Please check local bulletin boards for naturalist activities.

15 - USFS/NPS HOODSPORT RANGER STATION
Open daily 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Information, maps, publications.

HEY KIDS!
Become an Olympic National Park Junior Ranger. You can pick up an activity booklet ($1.00 donation) at most park visitor centers.
Olympic National Park, Summer 1996

**Non-Native Goats**

Mountain goats are not native to the Olympics. Approximately 11 goats from Alaska and Canada were introduced during the 1920s, before Olympic National Park was established. The introduced goats thrived and their population increased to almost 1,200 animals by 1983.

By policy, national parks are managed to preserve native ecosystems. The Park Service is particularly concerned with the presence of exotic species that threaten park resources. Mountain goats cause significant impacts to native ecosystems within the park.

Park employees live-captured and removed goats throughout the 1980s. This program was discontinued due to safety and other concerns. Currently, the goat population contains about 350 animals.

**Mountain goats cause significant impacts to native ecosystems within the park.**

The National Park Service released a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in March 1995. This document identified three alternatives: 1) Eliminate goats by shooting (the preferred alternative); 2) No action; 3) Eliminate goats by a combination of live-capture and shooting.

Approximately 1,200 comments were received during the public comment period. Public input will be incorporated into a final EIS scheduled for release this winter.

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**The Mount Rainier, North Cascades & Olympic Fund**

The Mount Rainier, North Cascades & Olympic Fund is a private, non-profit agency whose mission is to restore and preserve Washington State's National Parks. Thanks to the generous contributions by park visitors, the Fund has supported many enhancements to Olympic National Park including:

- *Migratory Roosevelt elk herd study*
- *Interactive exhibits for the Discovery Room*
- *Establishment of a Wilderness Information Center*
- *Animal-proof trash receptacles*
- *Wheelchair-accessible interpretive trail at Barnes Point*
- *Improvements to a scenic overlook at Hurricane Ridge*

For more information, call the Mount Rainier, North Cascades & Olympic Fund at (206) 621-6565, or mail your tax deductible donations to 1221 Second Avenue, Suite 350, Seattle, WA. 98101. Web site: [http://outside.starwave.com](http://outside.starwave.com)

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THE OLYMPIC PARK INSTITUTE offers adults and children the opportunity to stay on the shores of Lake Crescent, while attending cultural and natural history courses in the park. Please contact Olympic Park Institute, 111 Barnes Point Road, Port Angeles, WA 98362. (360) 928-3720.

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