Through the Eyes of a Child

"Waterfall!"

For perhaps the fifth time since we’ve started our drive through the park, my eight-year-old son has chimed in with this eager observation. He’s referring to the small cascades of water that trickle down the embankments along Highway 101, most of which are lost to me amidst oncoming logging trucks and the passing blur of rocks, ferns, and evergreens.

"WOAH! BIG one!"

This one I do notice, and can’t help but crack a smile. That’s nothing, I think to myself. We’re on our way to Salmon Cascades, on the Sol Duc River. There, as spawning salmon fling themselves upward against the rushing whitewater, some exclamations of excitement like nothing I’ve ever heard from him, nor from Legos, nor from Hot Wheels, nor even from the PlayStation 2. “Oh my goodness!” he shouts, delighted and grinning, as one really soars. And he means it! This is not PlayStation 2. “Oh my goodness!” he shouts, delighted and grinning, as one really soars. And he means it! This is not

As an adult, sometimes it’s easy to overlook the utter magic of a place. The everyday world is too busy, too fast-paced, too stressful, whatever. But if you take a few moments and pretend you’re eight again, the perspective can really help. Feel free to giggle.

by CHRIS ECKARD, East District Interpreter

Wilderness is... a place for people seeking solitude, escape, wildness, beauty and much more. A place for clean water, clean air, abundant wildlife, and diverse and unique plants. A place for the solo adventurer, families, mountaineers and for friends. A place for the young and the old. Wilderness is a place for all people.

For the past 25 years I have camped and hiked all over the west and Olympic National Park is still one of my favorite places. In this spectacular park my family and I can enjoy the comfort of a campground, take a short day hike or embark on a backpacking trip.

I am always amazed that at Olympic we can stand on a sandy beach with waves lapping at my feet and gaze out past mammoth sea stacks at the Pacific Ocean, and the next day I can become immersed in the refreshing embrace of the temperate rain forest. Or I can walk through groves of giant trees while following the path of a crystal clear river up to its source in the lofty, snow covered mountain passes and peaks that overlook the valley below.

My spine has tingled as a giant bull elk and I have watched a mountain lion run along a huge log in the rain forest. I have seen unimaginable sunsets and experienced the fury of winter storms in the mountains and along the coast. And I have been soaked to the bone by torrential rains only to bask in the soul-warming sunlight the next morning. The beauty of this wilderness never ceases to amaze and inspire me.

In 1988, Congress designated 95% of Olympic National Park as wilderness to protect its wild character. We are all responsible for the future of this magnificent place. Through thoughtful protection and use of this unique wilderness resource, we can ensure its endurance for future generations.

Thank you for your stewardship and love for wild places like Olympic.

by BRYAN BELL, Wilderness Information Center Supervisor

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Come Explore
Olympic’s Wilderness

Olympic National Park
Summer Newspaper 2010

Take A Last Look

by BARB MAYNES, Public Information Officer

A fter years of planning and preparation, Olympic National Park is gearing up for the largest dam removal in U.S. history and celebrating the ‘last dam summer’ in the Elwha River Valley. Next summer, removal of Elwha and Glines Canyon dams on the Elwha River will begin, the culminating step in a process that will free the river and allow thousands of salmon to return to over 70 miles of river and stream in a pristine and protected ecosystem.

When the two Elwha River dams were built in the early 1900s, they played a vital role in the history and development of the area, but provided no way for salmon to reach upstream habitat. Removing the dams will restore salmon to the river, and open pathways for regional vitality.

For the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, who have lived along the Elwha River since time immemorial and are primary partners in Elwha Restoration, this project will renew their culture by restoring salmon and revealing sacred sites now covered by water.

For more information, ask a ranger for a copy of the park’s Freeing the Elwha brochure or check www.nps.gov/olywa/. And while you’re here, visit the Elwha Valley for a last look at the dams—and start planning your next trip to see dam removal in process and at last, the restored Elwha River.
Welcome to Olympic National Park. Whether you are here for a day, two days, or a week, many spectacular sights awaits your discovery this visit in the wooden, forest-cloaked Olympic National Park. Highway 101 encircles the park and several spur roads lead to mountains, forest and coast. Look for interpretive exhibits along park roadways. The center of the park, untouched by roads, offers incredible wilderness adventure. Olympic National Park Visitor Center in Port Angeles provides information, exhibits, a children’s discovery room, park film, park passes, bookshop and trails. Located in the visitor center, the Wilderness Information Center offers wilderness trip planning assistance and camping permits. Minimum impact tips and bear canister information. The visitor center is open daily from dawn to dusk. Parking fees are $10 at the visitor centers and visitor centers at Hob, Hurricane Ridge, Lake Crescent, Kalaloch, Forks, Quinault and other areas. Ask for手outs about day trips to the lower east side of the park and Ozette is a unique destination in the park's northwest corner. Of course, you can relax in warm or cold pools. The center of the park, untouched by roads, offers incredible wilderness adventure.

**Lakes**

Lake Crescent is located 19 miles west of Port Angeles on Highway 101. This 64-foot deep shimmering jewel was carved by a huge glacier thousands of years ago. Stroll along the shore or take the paved trail in the Marymere Falls, Sol Duc Railroad or Moments in Time trails. Storm King Ranger Station has information, books and maps. Lake Crescent Lodge and Log Cabin Resort offer restaurants, boat rentals and overnight accommodations. Faithhome Campground and a convenience store with boat rentals are located at the west end of the trail. Olympic National Park offers a lovely lake for boaters, a small campground and trails to the rocky beach (see CACLE, page three).

**Temperate Rain Forest**

Drenched in over 15 feet of rain a year, west side valleys flourish with giant western hemlock, Douglas-fir and Sitka spruce trees. Moss-draped bigleaf maples create a magical scene that obliterates all sense of time. Roosevelt elk may linger along riverbanks at dawn and dusk. The Hoh Rain Forest, 90 miles west of Port Angeles, offers a visitor center, exhibits, books, maps, self-guiding nature trails and a campground. The Quinault Rain Forest, on the North Shore Road, is 18 miles west of Port Angeles. Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station offers information, exhibits, bookshop and self-guiding trails. On the South Shore Road visitors will find USDAFS recreation information, nature trails, lake activities, lodging and restaurants.

**Lowland Forest**

On the north and east sides of the park, the magnificent lowland forest cloaks lower elevations. This old growth is dominated by western hemlock and Douglas-fir trees. Five miles south of Port Angeles, Heart O’ the Hills Campground offers sylvan beauty and access to the Heart O’ the Hills Trail. Hurricane Ridge, 12 miles south of Port Angeles, offers 360-degree views of Port Angeles, Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station and Sol Duc Falls. A remarkable realistic reproduction of the fossil prepared by the museum is on display at the center of the park. Bruce Crowley of the park coast, was buried by a coastal avalanche 12 to 20 million years ago as sediments piled up to form the Olympic Peninsula. The fossil was extracted at the beach. Bruce Crowley of the park coast, was buried by a coastal avalanche 12 to 20 million years ago as sediments piled up to form the Olympic Peninsula. The fossil was extracted at the beach. Bruce Crowley of the park coast, was buried by a coastal avalanche 12 to 20 million years ago as sediments piled up. This discovery illustrates the unique resources that make Olympic National Park one of America's Special Places. (Photo: Bruce Crowley)

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**Mountains**

The most accessible mountain area is Hurricane Ridge. Visitors to the park coast, was buried by a coastal avalanche 12 to 20 million years ago as sediments piled up. This discovery illustrates the unique resources that make Olympic National Park one of America's Special Places. (Photo: Bruce Crowley)

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**Wilderness Use Fees**

50% discount with Interagency Senior / Access or Golden Age / Access Passes, 25% discount with any National Park Pass. (Photo: Bruce Crowley)

This discovery illustrates the unique resources that make Olympic National Park one of America's Special Places. (Photo: Bruce Crowley)

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Safety and More

Help keep wildlife wild! Never feed park wildlife. It is harmful to animals and harmless to you. Your food can attract other wildlife. Farm animals can lose fear of people, which may lead to aggressive behavior. Secure all food, garbage and scents from wildlife 24 hours a day. In the campsites, store items in your vehicle. When in the backcountry, you are required to use bear canisters in the Sol Duc area, Royal Basin, along the coast and in other park areas. For more information please check the Wilderness Information Center. In case of an emergency dial 911.

Filter or boil all backcountry water for five minutes to avoid infections caused 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.

Pets are not allowed on park trails for the safety of your pets, park wildlife and you!

In case of an emergency dial 911. Park rangers are located throughout the park. They will assist you with safety, crime and other issues.

Visit the park website: www.nps.gov/oly for the latest park information. To contact the Olympic National Park, call (360) 452-0511.

Bicycles allowed! Travel around Lake Crescent and other park areas can be hazardous due to heavy traffic, narrow narrows and seasonal road construction. Please use extra caution.

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

Drinking water is available at Lake Crescent concessions. All of these purchases help fund educational programs at Olympic National Park.

Making Your Memories Last

Bookshop Coupon: 15% OFF

Discover Your Northwest

Valid on all merchandise except sale items at park visitor centers and ranger stations in Port Angeles, Hoh, Kalaloch and Forks.

Amanda Park

East Quinault

Staircase

Olympic National Park

Inspirations for future visitors. Help protect this beautiful wilderness park for future visitors.
**PARK PROGRAMS JUNE 25 - SEPTEMBER 5**

**NORTH SIDE**

1. **PORT ANGELES**
   - Olympic National Park Visitor Center - Open Daily 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
   - Information, Discovery Room, park film, bookshop, maps, exhibits, accessible forest trail. Park information: (360) 565-3130. Recorded 24-hour road and weather information: (360) 565-3131. In Port Angeles/town radio to 550AM.

2. **HEART OF THE HILLS**
   - Join a 20-30 minute talk about Olympic's treasures of fish, fur and flowers.
   - Weather information: (360) 565-3131. In Port Angeles/town radio to 550AM.
   - Forest trail. Park information: (360) 565-3130. Recorded 24-hour road and weather information: (360) 565-3131. In Port Angeles/town radio to 550AM.
   - Information, Discovery Room, park film, bookshop, maps, exhibits, accessible forest trail. Park information: (360) 565-3130. Recorded 24-hour road and weather information: (360) 565-3131. In Port Angeles/town radio to 550AM.

3. **HURRICANE RIDGE**
   - Join us for 1 1/2- hours of forest activities. Meet at campground amphitheater.
   - Meadow Walk - Daily 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
   - Check bulletin boards for programs.
   - Discover wildlife, wildflowers and other features of the Olympic landscape.

4. **ELWAH**
   - Elwha Ranger Station
   - Information, bookshop, maps, trails. Check bulletin boards for programs.

5. **LAKE CRESCENT**
   - Storm King Ranger Station - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
   - Information, bookshop, maps, trails.

6. **MORA**
   - Hoh Rain Forest Visitor Center - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
   - Information, bookshop, maps, exhibits, accessible forest trail. Spruce Nature Trail Walk - Daily 11:00 a.m.
   - Explore nature's intimate world along the Hoh River. This 1 1/2-hour easy stroll follows part of the 1 1/4-mile loop trail. Meet at Hoh Visitor Center.

7. **STAIRCASE**
   - Staircase Ranger Station
   - Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps, trails. East Side programs.
   - Forest Walk - Friday, Saturday, Sunday 2:00 p.m.
   - Meet at Staircase Ranger Station for a 1 1/2-hour lowland forest guided walk.
   - Discovery Backpack
   - Have fun exploring nature with a Discovery Backpack filled with binoculars, guidebooks and more! Borrow a backpack at park visitor centers for a $3.00 donation.

8. **FORKS**
   - Hoh Rain Forest Visitor Center - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
   - Information, bookshop, maps, exhibits, accessible forest trail. Spruce Nature Trail Walk - Daily 11:00 a.m.
   - Explore nature's intimate world along the Hoh River. This 1 1/2-hour easy stroll follows part of the 1 1/4-mile loop trail. Meet at Hoh Visitor Center.

9. **HOH**
   - Helen Hughes Campground amphitheater. Please check bulletin boards for hours.
   - Hall of Mosses Trail Walk - Daily 2:00 p.m.
   - Learn about giant trees, wildlife and more on this 1 1/2-hour, 1/4-mile walk through bigleaf maple glades. Meet at Hoh Visitor Center.

10. **QUINAULT**
    - Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station - North Shore Road
    - Open Thursday through Monday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
    - Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps, trails. Closed for guided walks & lunch.
    - Hall of Mosses Trail Walk - Daily 2:00 p.m.
    - Learn about giant trees, wildlife and more on this 1 1/2-hour, 1/4-mile walk through bigleaf maple glades. Meet at Hoh Visitor Center.
    - Evening Program - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 p.m. - Hoh Campground amphitheater. Topics on bulletin boards.

11. **KALALOCH**
    - Kalaloch Campground amphitheater. Please check bulletin boards for additional programs.
    - Evening Program - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 p.m. - Kalaloch Lodge. Topics vary.
    - Meet at Staircase Ranger Station for 1 1/2-hour guided walk to explore life in the mountains.
    - Tagore
    - In the mountain, stillness surges up to explore its own height; in the lake, movement stands still to contemplate its own depth.

12. **KALALOCH**
    - Kalaloch Ranger Station - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
    - Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps. Beach & Tide Pool Walk - Thursday, Friday, Saturday - 2 hours
    - On mornings when the tide is low, join the Tide Pool Walk. Meet at Hole-in-the-Wall, a 1 1/2-mile beach walk north of Rialto Beach parking lot. Please check Mora bulletin boards for days and times.
    - Discovery Backpack
    - Have fun exploring nature with a Discovery Backpack filled with binoculars, guidebooks and more! Borrow a backpack at park visitor centers for a $3.00 donation.
    - Junior Ranger
    - Olympic National Park Junior Rangers learn exciting secrets about the park. Booklets are $1.00 donation at park visitor centers. Earn your Junior Ranger badge!