What is your definition of a wilderness experience? Is it to hike through rain forest to subalpine lakes surrounded by wildflowers? Or to sit and gaze at forested river valleys and glacier-capped mountains from a viewpoint at Hurricane Ridge? Or maybe to sink your toes into the sand along miles of wild coastline? Olympic National Park protects wilderness for visitors of all ages, interests and abilities to enjoy for a day or a lifetime.

In 1988, Congress set aside 95 percent of Olympic National Park as designated wilderness, “to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.”

What is wilderness? The 1964 Wilderness Act defines wilderness as Federal land “retaining its primeval character and influence.” Olympic’s wilderness character speaks of star-filled skies, vital clean air and water, natural soundscapes, opportunities for solitude, and the unfolding mysteries of how nature works in untrammeled environments. In these diverse and fragile lands, where opportunities for exploration are endless, your stewardship is invaluable.

Wilderness is not a luxury but a necessity of the human spirit.

Edward Abbey

This summer visitor surveys about wilderness use and protection will be distributed at several backcountry trailheads. Your responses are important and will help shape the park’s Wilderness Stewardship Plan. For more information on the Olympic Wilderness, go to www.nps.gov/olym.
Welcome to Olympic National Park. Whether you are here for a day, two days, a week or more, many spectacular sights await your discovery in this vast and diverse wilderness 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 adventures. Olympic National Park Visitor Center at Port Angeles provides information, exhibits, children’s discovery room, park film, park passes, bookshop and trails. Located in the visitor center, the Wilderness Information Center (WIC) offers wilderness trip planning assistance and camping permits, minimum impact tips and bear canisters. Also visit the ranger stations and visitor centers located throughout the park. Pick up a free park map for trip planning or purchase topo maps for hiking. Ask for handouts about day hikes, accessible facilities, campgrounds and more! Self-guiding trail brochures are available for $1.00 donation at various park trailheads. Park programs, including talks and guided walks, are offered throughout Olympic. See program schedules in this newspaper and check park bulletin boards for further details. Most programs and facilities are seasonal.

Are you entering the park from the north, east or west? Along the north side of the park, you can visit Hurricane Ridge, Elwha, Lake Crescent or Sol Duc. Staircase is a popular destination on the east side of the park. On the west side, the rain forests of Quinault or Hoh, and beaches at Kalaloch, Mora and Ozette await your discovery.

How long is your visit? Mountains, lakes, forests or coast? In one day on the north side you can drive up to Hurricane Ridge in the morning, and then visit either Elwha, Lake Crescent or Sol Duc in the afternoon. On the west side, you can explore the rain forests at Quinault or Hoh in the morning, and then enjoy the coastal sunset at Kalaloch. Park programs, including talks and guided walks, are offered throughout Olympic. See program schedules in this newspaper and check park bulletin boards for further details. Most programs and facilities are seasonal.

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Mountains

The most accessible mountain area is Hurricane Ridge at 5,242 feet, 17 miles up a paved road from Port Angeles. Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center offers information, exhibits, 20-minute film, snack bar and gift shop. Picnic areas provide a chance to relax amid the breathtaking scenery. Along the trails you can capture views of glacier-clad mountains crowning miles of wilderness. Avalanche and glacier lilies, lupines, bistorts and tiger lilies dance beneath stunted subalpine fir trees. High-pitched whistles announce the Olympic marmot, found only on the Olympic Peninsula. Black-tailed deer feed in summer meadows and migrate downslope when cold recaptures the high country.
The document contains information about various programs and activities at Olympic National Park, including locations such as Hurricane Ridge, Heart O’ the Hills, Meadow Walk, Terrace Talk, and various other activities in different areas of the park.

**DISCOVER THE NIGHT SKY**

HURRICANE RIDGE ASTRONOMY PROGRAMS

Meet Master Observer John Goar at Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center for a DISCOVER THE NIGHT SKY

**EAST SIDE**

7. STAIRCASE

Staircase Ranger Station - Open Friday - Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Other days as staffing allows.

Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps, trails, wilderness permits, bear cans.

Forest Walk - Friday, Sunday 2:00 p.m.

Meet on the bridge for this 1 1/2-hour guided walk through lowland forest along the Skokomish River.

Family Forest Activities - Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Meet by the river in the campground for 1 1/2 hours of activities.

Evening Program

Friday, Saturday 7:30 p.m.

Meet at the Staircase amphitheater.

**WEST SIDE**

8. RECREATION INFORMATION CENTER - Forks

NPS/SAN Recreation Information - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Information, bookshop, maps, wilderness camping permits, park passes.

9. HIK

Hoh Rain Forest Visitor Center - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Information, bookshop, maps, trails, wilderness permits, bear cans.

Rain Forest Walk - Daily 2:00 p.m.

Learn about giant trees, wildlife and more on this 1 1/2-hour easy walk on either the Hall of Mosses or Spruce Nature Trail. Meet at Hoh Visitor Center.

Evening Program - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 p.m. - Hoh Campground amphitheater. Topics on bulletin boards.

**10. QUINAULT**

Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station - North Shore Road

Open Thursday - Monday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps, trails. Closed for guided walks & lunch.

Life in the Rain Forest Walk - Thursday through Monday 1:00 p.m.

Learn about rainforest plants, animals and homestead life. Meet at Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station for this 1 1/2-hour, 3/4-mile walk.

**11. MORA**

Rialto Beach Ramble

Hike-in-the-Wall Tidepools

Topics, locations, dates, and times vary due to changing tides. See Mora bulletin boards, visit the park website (www.nps.gov/ olym/planyourvisit/events.htm) or call (360) 374-7566 for current schedules and information.

Evening Program - Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 p.m.

Mora Campground amphitheater. Topics on bulletin boards.

**12. KALALOCH**

Kalaloch Ranger Station

Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps.

Beach walk

Tide Pool Walk

Topics, locations, dates, and times vary due to changing tides. See Kalaloch bulletin boards, visit the park website (www.nps.gov/olymp/planyourvisit/events.htm) or call (360) 374-7566 for current schedules and information.

Ranger’s Favorites! - Tuesday through Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Drop by the Kalaloch Lodge gazebo anytime during this one-hour hands-on exploration of Olympic’s treasures. Bring your coastal curiosity!

Evening Program - Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 p.m.

Kalaloch Campground amphitheater. Check bulletin boards for topics.

**Junior Ranger**

Olympic National Park Junior Rangers learn exciting facts about the park. Pick up a free activity booklet at park visitor centers and earn your Junior Ranger badge!

**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 $5.00 donation.

Look! Look! Look deep into nature and you will understand everything. Albert Einstein

**DISCOVER THE NIGHT SKY**

HURRICANE RIDGE ASTRONOMY PROGRAMS

Meet Master Observer John Goar for a 2 1/2-hour sunset full moon hike August 3, 4 and 31, and September 1 and 2. Meet at Hurricane Hill trailhead at 8:30 p.m. Bring flashlights and wear sturdy shoes. The walk is 1.6 miles one-way on a partially paved trail that climbs 700 feet to the top of Hurricane Hill.

If skies are cloudy, both programs will be canceled. For program status, call the park recorded phone line (360) 565-3131 after 5:00 p.m. the day of the program.

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To Learn More
Visit the park website at www.nps.gov/olym for in-depth information about the park and its resources. For general park information call (360) 565-3130. For 24-hour recorded park road and weather information call (360) 565-3131.

The Wilderness Information Center in Olympic National Park Visitor Center in Port Angeles, has wilderness information and permits, minimum impact tips, bear canisters and more. When camping in the backcountry, you must use bear canisters in many areas including Sol Duc, Royal Basin and Forks.

Celebrating A Century of History!

Excitement and bustle filled the air as passengers boarded a steamship on a misty Seattle morning in 1912. They crested 75 miles to Port Crescent, then traveled by automobile to a paddleshed that ferried them across Lake Crescent. The final 14 miles to Stanley Steamer's took them to the luxurious Sol Duc Hot Springs Hotel.

Guests stayed at the rustic yet elegant 165-room Sol Duc Hot Springs Hotel that housed up to 10,000 visitors each summer. Patrons sipped mineral waters and soaked in hot baths. Horseback riding, tennis, golf, croquet, bowling and dancing filled their days.

After only four years of grandeur this magnificent resort burned to the ground. The legacy continues in modern pools, cabins, restaurant and a shop still on the site. This year commemorates the 100th anniversary of Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort.

Park Concessions
Park concessions offer food services, lodging and gift items at Lake Crescent Lodge, Log Cabin Resort, Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort and Kalaloch Lodge. Food and gift items are available at Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center and Fartheim Store. Boat rentals are available at Lake Crescent concessions.

All of these facilities are operated seasonally, except Kalaloch, which is year-round open.

Programs are offered by Aramark interpretive guides at various locations in Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest. Activities may include walks, hikes, can and boat tours, campfire programs and festival events. For more details visit their website: www.olympicnationalparks.com.

Friends of Olympic National Park
support the park’s natural, cultural and recreational resource management and future generations. They promote understanding of Olympic’s ecological, educational, scenic and recreational importance, and they work on park projects. Website: www.friendsolympic.org

Making Your Memories Last
Visit one of the Olympic National Park bookshops located throughout the park.

Purchase the Discover Your Northwest educational program at Olympic National Park Visitor Center. This program helps fund educational programs at Olympic National Park.

For Your Safety

In case of an emergency dial 911.

Pack rain gear and warm clothing. Hypothermia, a dangerous lowering of body temperature, may result from exposure to wet or chilly weather.

Filter or boil all backcountry water if a safe trip.

Please plan carefully for your visit to Olympic National Park.

Thank you for your visit. Your support of the fee program is very important.

Entrance and Recreation Fees

Entrance Fees: single visit up to seven consecutive days $15 – Vehicle (private) or $5 – Individual (foot, bike)

Entrance Passes (Please show photo ID with passes.):

$30 – Olympic National Park Annual Pass
$10 – Interagency Senior Pass (ages 62+; U.S. citizen/resident)
Free – Interagency Access Pass (disability; U.S. citizen/resident)
Free – Interagency Annual Pass – Military limited to U.S. uniformed service active duty members and their dependents; must presentCAC

Denali National Park and Preserve (Concession) – (866) 948-7275

Wilderness Use Fees

50% discount with Interagency Senior/Senior Access, Golden Age/Access Passes

$10 - Dirt Park, North Fork Quinault, Quinault, South Beach

12 - Alzate, Elwha, Fartheim, Glines Canyon, Heart Of The Hills, Hoh, Moms, Omtatse, Quatsatse
14 – Kalaloch (southern end) and Sol Duc
18 – Kalaloch, June 20 - September 5. Make reservations at least three days in advance online at www.reserveamerica.com or by calling (877) 444-6777.

$5 – RV septic dump station use at Fartheim, Hoh, Kalaloch, Moms, Sol Duc

Thanks to YOU...

Your recreation fees provide about $2,000,000 annually to support visitor services and projects at Olympic National Park. Current and recent projects include replacement of Staircase Rapids Bridge, production of Elwha Wayfarer exhibit, and printing park brochures, including the park map and visitor guides. Your support of the fee program is very important. Thank you.

Elwha River Restoration in Action

North America’s largest dam removal began in September 2011 on the Elwha River. By mid-March 2012, the 108-foot high Elwha Dam was gone and the river flowed through its native channel for the first time in over a century. Removal of the 210-foot high Glines Canyon Dam is estimated to be complete in 2013.

Restoration has already begun. Last winter crews planted over 30,000 native plants in the exposed sediments of the old reservoirs. When both dams were gone, all five kinds of Pacific salmon, steelhead, sea-run cutthroat and bull trout will be able to return to more than 70 miles of habitat protected in Olympic National Park. This will restore an ecological link between sea and forest and provide a living laboratory for current and future scientists.

The project will restore the culture of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, whose members have lived along the river since time immemorial. As the reservoirs drain, tribal members will regain access to sacred sites submerged for 100 years.

To learn more about Elwha River restoration, stop by Olympic National Park Visitor Center or Elwha Ranger Station. Visit the Port Angeles Library for a summer showing of Elwha art and historical artifacts and to learn more about scientific and tribal information. For updates, photos and links to six project webcasts, visit Olympic National Park’s website at www.nps.gov/olym. Share photos or ask questions on Facebook/ElwhaRiverRestoration.

To help protect marine life.

Washington’s National Park Fund
is a non-profit organization whose mission is to restore and preserve national parks in Washington. The Fund supports projects in Olympic, North Cascades and Mount Rainier National Parks, including promoting voluntarism and stewardship, and funding ranger programs and essential research. Call: (206) 560-4464. Mail donations to: PO. Box 64626, University Place, WA 98444-0626.

NatureBridge is a private, non-profit educational organization on the shores of Lake Crescent in Olympic National Park. Field science courses are offered for students. For more information please call NatureBridge, 111 Barnes Point Road, Port Angeles, WA 98363.

For making your memories last, contact bookshops located throughout the park.

Discover Your Northwest is a non-profit organization that provides educational materials at park visitor centers and information stations in Port Angeles, Hoh, Kalaloch and Forks.

The visitor centers and information stations in Olympic National Park offer you for your invalidable support.

To Visit the Park

Visit www.nps.gov/olym for more information. The park is open year-round, except for some backcountry trails.

Please plan carefully for your visit to Olympic National Park.

Remember, pets are not allowed on park trails. This is for the safety of your pet, park wildlife and you. Ask for park maps.

Bicyclists beware. Travel around Lake Crescent and other park areas can be hazardous due to heavy traffic, narrow roadways and seasonal road construction. Please use extra caution.

Report all cougar observations to park rangers, located throughout the park, can assist you with any issues of safety or crime.

Thank you for your visit. Your support of the fee program is very important.

Wilderness Use Fees

50% discount with Interagency Senior/Senior Access, Golden Age/Access Passes

Permit required for overnight trips, $5 plus $2 per person per night. For further information, please call the Wilderness Information Center at (360) 565-3100.
Climate Changes

By JANIS BURGER, Park Ranger

From rising sea levels in the Everglades to melting permafrost in Alaska, our changing climate is challenging the National Park Service mission of preserving landscapes and resources “unimpaired for future generations.”

Climate change impacts throughout the national park system include more frequent fires, plant community shifts, decreased snowfall and melting glaciers. Glaciers are sensitive indicators of climate change because they grow or shrink in response to snowfall and snowmelt. With less winter snow and warmer temperatures, glaciers are in retreat worldwide.

“I believe that climate change is fundamentally the greatest threat to the integrity of our national parks that we have ever experienced.”

Jonathan Jarvis, Director National Park Service

Researchers in Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks are monitoring the region’s shrinking glaciers. By comparing aerial photographs, scientists documented a 30% loss of glacier surface area in Olympic National Park from the late 1970s to 2009. Elevation data revealed the glaciers are also thinning. Some smaller glaciers have disappeared.

The National Park Service is working to reduce its carbon footprint, but climate change and its solutions transcend park boundaries. Together, the choices we all make today can help preserve our nation’s natural and cultural legacy for our children. Learn how you can help at www.nps.gov/climatechange/athome.

Saving Ozette Sockeye

Once abundant, Lake Ozette sockeye salmon were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act in 1999. This winter, Mike Haggerty Consulting and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration scientists collaborated with Olympic National Park and the Makah Tribe to study these fish using cutting edge technology. The researchers were able to count these unique fish by using DIDSON sonar to “see” with sound waves, allowing them to observe and accurately count fish in up to 30 feet of water.

Understanding the abundance of this rare species is an important step along their road to recovery. The epic story of Ozette sockeye will continue as more information emerges on the biological and environmental factors affecting them. To learn more, please visit: http://www.nps.gov/olym/naturescience/sockeye-salmon.htm.

Spotting wildlife can be a memorable part of your park visit. Some animals are elusive and rarely seen, such as fishers and bobcats. Others, like deer, chipmunks, gray jays and non-native mountain goats, have become overly accustomed to humans. Their natural reaction to your presence should be to flee and not approach you, but some habituated animals have lost their natural wariness. Do not follow when they move away. Thank YOU for keeping wildlife wild!

• Stay fifty yards from wildlife. If they approach, scare them away with waving arms and loud shouts.
• Never feed park wildlife. It is illegal, harmful to animals and hazardous to you. Animals fed by humans lose fear of people, which will alter natural animal behavior and may lead to aggression.
• When camping or picnicking, secure food and trash from animals. Whenever possible, store these items in your vehicle. At Olympic, diligent visitors have helped prevent dangerous interactions with bears.

Lillian Glacier, in the heart of the Olympic Mountains, is nearly gone after shrinking dramatically between 1905 and 2010.