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economic well being
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Lake Roosevelt Forum

NEWSletter

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Enjoying Lake Roosevelt, 2007

IT'S TIME TO PLAY!!! The Lake's rising, the sun is out and the fish are biting.

From June through September, about one million people will visit Lake Roosevelt. Put differently, about 70% of Lake Roosevelt's visitors come during this four month window.

That translates into busy campgrounds, busy boat ramps, lots of fishing, and plenty of recreation. When the Forum surveyed our Newsletter recipients this Spring, 75% said their favorite activity was either fishing, motor boating, camping, swimming or sun bathing.

Survey comments generally reflected appreciation and awe for the wide open spaces, diversity of landscapes, fishing opportunities and privacy available. Said one survey respondent, "Natural beauty, serene settings, country hospitality from locals and recreational diversity, that's the best thing about Lake Roosevelt."

Enclosed with this newsletter are a couple of brochures to help you enjoy the summer at Lake Roosevelt.

The User's Guide pulls together essential information to help people find the

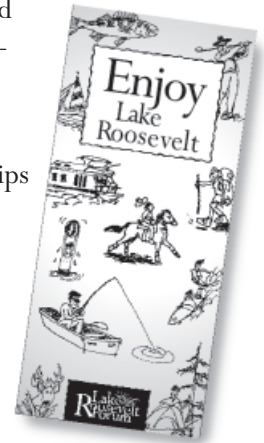
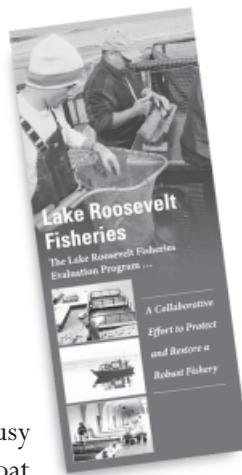
services and just the right activity and location for having a good time.

The fisheries brochure helps tell the story of how this very precious resource is protected and enhanced by agencies, natural resource managers and volunteers. It's a multi-million dollar effort that's worth knowing more about and deserves everyone's support.

The Forum encourages people to follow these tips to ensure everyone can enjoy and protect this wonderful area:

- **Follow hunting and fishing regulations.** Based on where you are fishing, make sure to have the appropriate license from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Spokane Tribe or the Colville Tribe.
- **Be a good boat camper: Camp it in, camp it out.** Solid waste needs to be collected and disposed at pump out facilities. And within the Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, no beach fires are permitted during the summer.
- **Help protect our cultural resources.** Don't dig and don't collect anything or move it from where you found it.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!!



CRAIG SPRANKLE SAYS FAREWELL

In early May of 1980, Mt. St. Helens burst upon the scene of the Pacific Northwest with much belching, spewing, and earth shaking. About that same time, with somewhat less fanfare, I “burst” upon the scene at Grand Coulee Dam and Lake Roosevelt as the new public affairs guy for the Bureau of Reclamation. On August 3 of this year, after 27 years at the dam and more than 35 years with the Federal government, I will retire and hand over my portion of the reins to others.

I have been around Lake Roosevelt for a long time, but there are certainly others who have been here longer. And a lot has changed since 1980, even though it does not seem like that long ago. Back then, Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake was a huge body of water on the dry side of Washington State waiting to be discovered for its recreational potential. The only residential development around the lake was at Seven Bays. Warren Magnuson and Henry (Scoop) Jackson were our Senators. Winn Self was just starting to carry around a frozen fish to promote net pens. That same fish, along with Winn, was in attendance at every lake meeting for many years. The Lake Roosevelt Forum, Lake Roosevelt Water Quality Council, and Lake Roosevelt Management Group did not exist. Cathy Price, later to become LeBret, worked in a bank in Kettle Falls and Gene Smith was herding kids instead of fish.

Since 1980, I have worked with and met a host of folks associated with the lake. I was given my first tour of the area by John Smith, Ernie Clark, Ken Stanger, and Bob Black from the Colville Confederated Tribes. Superintendent Bill Dunmire of the Coulee Dam National Recreation Area took me on my first Lake Roosevelt boat trip. We stopped at Crescent Bay where Bill talked about plans to relocate the NPS headquarters and also develop an additional recreation area, possibly with a marina (sound familiar?).



Speaking of marinas, a lot of managers and workers have passed through the lake’s facilities and the facilities are still there and are more vital than ever. I was present to experience the birth pains of the Lake

Roosevelt Forum and to debate lake level issues with the newly formed Lake Roosevelt Development Association and the Lake Roosevelt Property Owners Association. I’m on my sixth project manager at the dam and my third (or is it fourth?) Biological Opinion.

While in the midst of my career with the associated, everyday problems caused by juggling schedules, telephone calls, changing water levels, visiting dignitaries, and trying to help folks understand just what it is that Reclamation does, I gave little thought to the bigger picture of Lake Roosevelt. Now that I have more time to reflect, I see that much has been accomplished through the dedicated efforts of many people. To the casual recreation visitor to the lake, it may still seem like a huge body of water on the dry side of Washington State waiting to be discovered for its recreational potential. But those of you who work with and live around Lake Roosevelt know differently. The relationships that have been developed among the tribes, counties, communities, landowners, local organizations, state and federal agencies is nothing short of phenomenal! Sure, we don’t always agree on things and sometimes we get downright argumentative, but we are working together. And I think we all have one thing in common – the betterment of the Lake Roosevelt area. For these efforts from so many people, I give you all a standing ovation.

Before I depart, I hope to introduce many of you to my replacement; and I hope you all will continue to work with the Power Manager, David Murillo, and the Reclamation crew at the dam. As importantly, I am confident people will continue to develop and strengthen the relationships that have been forged. ✱

Water Trail Being Planned for Lake Roosevelt



OURS IS A WORLD with endless electronics and motors connecting us to each other and events with ever greater speed and intimacy. And for every action there is a reaction.

In the Northwest, water trails are becoming a popular means for thousands of people to reconnect with nature and each other without the electronics and motors that populate our daily lives.

Water trails are designated routes along a river or other water body that are well suited for paddlers, e.g.—those using muscle power to propel kayaks, canoes, or rowboats. Pamphlets and signage let people know about distances, directions, boat launches, campsites, trailheads, support facilities, water conditions and cultural attractions. Confidence soars as people enjoy nature's bounty being better prepared and knowing what to expect.

Currently, the Washington Water Trails Association has identified five water trails in Washington State. Each is supported by a coalition of volunteers, agencies, and businesses.

The Greater Columbia Water Trail (GCWT), which will include Lake Roosevelt, will be the sixth water trail in Washington.

GREATER COLUMBIA WATER TRAIL AND LAKE ROOSEVELT

The developers envision “a network of water trails within the Columbia River watershed, from Canada through the Hanford Reach, that supports flatwater paddle sport recreation for day and overnight excursions.” Main arteries for the trail will include the the Okanogan River, and the Upper Columbia (which includes Lake Roosevelt), Lake Rufus Woods, and the Wells Pool. Below Chief Joseph Dam the rivers and trail join in what's commonly referred to as the “mid-Columbia.” The trail will extend southward to the Columbia's confluence with the Snake River.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Washington Water Trails Association: www.wwta.org
- Greater Columbia Water Trail: www.wwta.org/gcwt/sc/
- Aimee Pope, Port of Chelan County: 509.663.5159, aimee@ccpd.com
- Arnie Marchand, Colville Confederated Tribes: 634-2150, arnie.marchand@colvilletribes.com

Warm Weather Welcomes Kids to Student Discovery Week 2007

NEARLY 450 LAKE ROOSEVELT AREA SCHOOL CHILDREN enjoyed field trips during one of the warmest weeks of the year. Student Discovery Week, coordinated by the Lake Roosevelt Forum, was held May 14 – 18 and proved to be a great event for all involved.

Sixty one teachers and parents also participated in Student Discovery Week this year. The students came from nine schools throughout the Lake Roosevelt area. Each school, some of whom sent multiple classes, picked from one of seven “discovery zones.” Each zone focuses on specific natural resource work being conducted by managers and scientists in the area.



“We enjoyed our time there {Swanson Lake} and learned many new things. Our favorite part was actually picking up and touching the animal pelts,” said Kim

Todd, a 3rd grade teacher from Odessa. Nancy Howard from Springdale Elementary visited Fort Spokane with her class. “It was well planned and I think there was just the right amount of activity at each section to keep the kids engaged,” she said.

The zone leaders enjoy their time with the children as well. Student Discovery Week is a chance for them to share their knowledge and love for their job.

Started by the Forum in 1999, Student Discovery Week allows students and teachers to visit one of seven discovery zones. Scholarship dollars were given to help offset transportation and substitute teacher costs. ✨



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WATER TRAIL, CONT. FROM PAGE 3

Planning activities began in 2006 and a steering committee now meets monthly. Their goals include:

- “Increase public access to flatwater rivers and provide solutions for barrier-free water travel.
- Boost economic development in Washington communities by encouraging more people to recreate on Columbia watershed rivers.
- Encourage healthy lifestyles through local programs and activities associated with a water trail.
- Promote cultural heritage and environmental education along water trail corridors within the Columbia River watershed.”

Lake Roosevelt offers a unique, barrier free 150 mile water trail reach. Because the shoreline is managed cooperatively by the National Park Service, Colville Confederated Tribes and the Spokane Tribe of Indians, there are both full service campgrounds and miles of rustic shoreline camping.

The wide open, flat water behind Grand Coulee Dam will be attractive to paddlers of all skill levels. The river is generally one half mile to one mile wide until it narrows considerably above Kettle Falls.

Those traveling the trail can learn about the ice age floods that carved this area. They can also experience the vegeta-

tion changes of thick Ponderosa Pines to the north giving way to the arid southern reaches populated by sage-steppe.

Says Arnie Marchand, with Colville Confederated Tribes, “The recreational, educational, and economical opportunities for all of us to enjoy the Greater Columbia Water Trail is limited only by your imagination.”

A growing list of over twenty partners representing government agencies, local businesses and tribes is moving forward. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has already provided funding to initiate projects on the Similkameen and Okanogan Rivers, and the National Park Service has awarded a technical assistance grant.

Over the coming months, the Forum looks forward to providing more information about forming the group to support the Lake Roosevelt Committee of the Greater Columbia Water Trail. ✱

Feedback

1-509-535-7084 OR EMAIL: info@lrf.org. Please share your questions and comments with us. Let us know what you'd like more information about or would like to see featured in future issues. We will provide you with a response or additional information. ✱