Minutes of Cascade Volcanoes Chapter Meeting 5/18/21

FIRST IN-PERSON MEETING IN MANY MOONS – WE ARE IN FACT ALL 3-D GREAT OLD BROADS

Many thanks to Jean Brodahl for hosting the meeting in her beautiful back yard.

Thanks also to Robin for beer bread and to team efforts erecting rain shelters when needed.

We began the meeting with a round of introductions, including the intro of Barbara Fox-Kilgore as Laurie Kerr’s new co-leader.

Advocacy

WA – Laurie hailed the passage and signing of the Wildfire Resilience Bill, noted no news regarding Chehalis flood control project or Pumice Plain issues. Members are urged to send comments opposing the Zimmerly Mine north of Steigerwald National Wildlife Refuge. Comments should be sent to the Columbia Gorge Commission by 5/24.

OR – Felice and Darlene noted that there has been considerable press about post-fire logging. On the Santiam Forest, some timber sales have been made even before comments are due, and ODOT practices have been questioned by whistleblowers.

The wildfire resilience bill for state and federal lands is moving through the legislature and Sen. Merkeley has a letter urging protection of old growth forests. There are good things in the bill but more emphasis than desirable on forest alteration.

There will be meetings on 5/24 and 6/3 regarding the Habitat Conservation Plan for Elliot State Forest. There will also be a Westside Forest Conservation plan. Darlene thinks a plan to preserve designated natural areas should allow us to argue that such areas should recover naturally after fires.

In eastside forests it seems that the 21” rule is currently being followed.

Lower Snake River Dams

People submitted questions for and some attended the Blumenauer/Simpson meeting. Since then, the WA Congressional delegation and Gov. Inslee have come out against using Simpson’s template as a starting point. Groups are seeking grounds for a lawsuit that could lead to dam removal. Micky reported an excellent day of “kayaktivism” in Hood River.

Education

JEDI – Linda and her cohorts are continuing their thoughtful assessment of how we might best educate ourselves on issues of justice, equity, diversity and inclusion. National Broads are looking at strategies for effective allyship.

National Wilderness Institute runs the week of May 24. Laurie urged people to look at the website (posted in Stewardship Google group) and attend selected free sessions.

Book Groups

Two suggestions: Finding the Mother Tree by Suzanne Simard

Caste by Isabelle Wilkerson

Carolyn said she’s interested in leading a group, though maybe not immediately.

Clean and Affordable Energy Conference – Laurie urges attendance at June 2 session, as the subject is salmon recovery. Cost is $25. Registration at

<https://nwenergy.org/nw-clean-affordable-energy-conference/>

Stewardship

Solitude Monitoring – We were awarded the grant and the season is now open. Laurie will post excel spreadsheets, one per area, so people can sign up. Casey has not returned phone calls so no further training has been scheduled. Laurie will be point person for WA Spot device and Felice will be OR Spot person. Make sure you provide advance notice to “your” spot person and arrange for pick-up and return in advance of planned trips. Carpooling is encouraged for vaccinated monitors.

Solitude Monitors must be fully vaccinated and be current dues paying members of Broads. Volunteers will carpool to trailhead and submit receipts for meals, camping, and RT mileage to Laurie. Volunteers will also be awarded a $25 swag item from the Broads merchandise on the website. Laurie will post the recording and the webinar training for the monitoring when it is scheduled. Please sign up on the schedule which will be posted on the stewardship google group before going out and be sure to have a SPOT device and maps before you go. Please review the attached protocols for monitoring.

Field Checking

There are costs associated with this but not insurmountable ones. We hope for a field training session June 11; confirmation (or new date options) will be sent to stewardship group.

WTA Half-Day Women’s Work Party Vancouver Lake or Whipple Creek June date TBA

Bitterbrush Regional Broadwalk at Bates State Park May 25-27 $30 for camping. Cascade Volcanoes Broads are welcome to register SOON.

Fun

Hikes

Barb will lead a hike Tuesday 6/22. Hoping for Ape Canyon (chance to view the Pumice Plain) with Hummocks Trail or Coldwater Lake as back-ups. Meeting at Woodland Park & Ride.

Campout

More details to come, but still at Peterson Prairie August 5,6,7

Next Meeting in-person June 15 at the home of Linda Buckley

7402 NW 16th Ave Vancouver, WA 98665

She has a very sturdy deck, so even 3-D Broads are welcome!

Your faithful scribe, Kathleen