



## Snohomish Group September 2016

*Explore, enjoy and protect the planet*

The Snohomish Group serves our members in two counties: Snohomish and Island (Whidbey and Camano Islands).

Our Group's monthly newsletter includes our calendar of events. To receive a single sample copy, send your name and email address to: [Snohomish@Washington.SierraClub.org](mailto:Snohomish@Washington.SierraClub.org) with "**eNews Request**" in the subject line.

For upcoming outdoor and environmental activities here's the calendar of Sierra Club events for Snohomish & Island County members, including local events and some of the many regional events.

The Snohomish Group: We're local volunteers working on Snohomish and Island county issues. Guests are welcome, please join us. Our Conservation Committee would love your help. We're working on issues such as protecting the Skykomish River and stopping dirty coal exports.

This month we also provide a list of political endorsements, as well as a report on our group's efforts to help the Snohomish PUD commissioners reach an environmentally sound decision regarding the proposed hydroelectric project on Sunset Falls near Gold Bar.

### **September monthly volunteers' meeting:**

Tues. Sept. 20th

6:45 pm - Welcome, snacks and refreshments.

7:00 pm - Meeting begins.

8:45 pm - Adjourn.

Location: Everett United Church of Christ, 2624 Rockefeller, Everett.

Contact: Dean Smith 425-328-9979

Meet local volunteers and find out about local and regional issues.  
Please be our guest, we'd love to meet you.

## Outings

Details for the following and future outings are on our Meetup registration site:

[www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Outings-Western-Washington](http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Outings-Western-Washington)

### **Hike: Blanchard Mtn., Samish Overlook and Oyster Dome**

Thurs. Sept 8, at 10 am

Come see and enjoy this beautiful area. We will hike up approximately 1,500 ft to Samish Overlook which is used by hang-gliders. The views over Skagit and the San Juan Islands are outstanding.

Details and Sign-up: [www.meetup.com/Outdoor-Activities-in-the-N-Cascades-with-Sierra-Club](http://www.meetup.com/Outdoor-Activities-in-the-N-Cascades-with-Sierra-Club)

### **Easy Walk in the North Cascades in Newhalem**

Sat. Sept. 10 at 11 am

Let's venture into one of Washington's most beautiful areas and hike some of the trails in the Newhalem area along the North Cascades Highway. This will be easy hiking, roughly 3 miles on fairly even terrain.

Details and Sign-up: [www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Outings-Western-Washington](http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Outings-Western-Washington)

### **Training: Intro to Navigation**

Sat. Sept 17 at 9 am

Join us to learn/review basic map & compass skills, and practice on Magnuson Park's orienteering course. Compasses will be provided; participants should bring water, any desired snacks, shoes for walking, and clothing appropriate for weather

Details and Sign-up: [www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Outings-Western-Washington](http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Outings-Western-Washington)

### **Hamma Hamma Legacy Trail Wild Olympics Outing**

Sun. Sept 18<sup>th</sup>

Take a stroll along the beautiful Hamma Hamma River for a short mile and a half loop in beautiful forest and along peaceful waters.

Details and Sign-up: [www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Outings-Western-Washington](http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Outings-Western-Washington)

## Movies:

### **Where to Invade Next**

Sat. Sept. 10, at 7 pm

Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 8109 224 Street SW Edmonds

[www.meaningfulmovies.org/neighborhoods/edmonds](http://www.meaningfulmovies.org/neighborhoods/edmonds)

### **Sweet Crude (documentary about the Niger Delta)**

Thurs., Sept. 22. Doors open at 7:30 pm, movie begins at 8 pm

Peddler Brewing Company, 1514 NW Leary Way, Seattle 98107

Join the Sierra Club and Peddler Brewing Company for a free viewing of Sweet Crude, by Sandy Cioffi. VARIETY: "A movie about crime and shame, 'Sweet Crude' is also a classic example of urgent, righteous-indignation . . ."

[www.sweetcrudemovie.com](http://www.sweetcrudemovie.com)

## Pay 2 Play

Sat. Oct. 8, at 6:30 pm doors open for refreshments, movie starts 7 pm  
Everett Sanctuary Covenant Church, 4502 Rucker Ave.  
Discussion following led by Cindy Black, executive director of the I-375 campaign to  
overturn Citizens United.

[www.meaningfulmovies.org/neighborhoods/everett](http://www.meaningfulmovies.org/neighborhoods/everett)

## Sierra Club ST3 Happy Hour.

Thurs. Sept. 8th, 6 pm - 8 pm

Belltown Pub, 2322 1st Ave, Seattle, WA 98121

[RSVP](#) (an RSVP is not required to attend, but will help us with logistics)

**Contact:** Jesse Piedfort, Seattle Group Chair: [jesse.piedfort@gmail.com](mailto:jesse.piedfort@gmail.com)

Join us for an informal happy hour. Enjoy food, drink, and good company, and hear  
more about ST3, Mass Transit Now.

## Political Committee

The Sierra Club has endorsed these Snohomish County candidates. To see the latest  
endorsements, including national and statewide endorsements see:

[www.sierraclub.org/washington/endorsements-2016](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/endorsements-2016)

Angie Homola – 10<sup>th</sup> LD – Senate [www.angieforpeople.com](http://www.angieforpeople.com)

Shelley Kloba – 1st LD – Leg. Pos. 2 [www.votekloba.com](http://www.votekloba.com)

Doris Brevoort – 10th LD – Leg. Pos. 2 [www.dorisbrevoort.com](http://www.dorisbrevoort.com)

Ronda Metcalf – 39th LD – Leg. Pos. 2 [www.rondametcalf.org](http://www.rondametcalf.org)

John Lovick – 44th LD, Leg. Pos. 1 [www.electjohnlovick.com](http://www.electjohnlovick.com)

Hans Dunshee – Snohomish County Council, Pos. 5

[www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Hans-Dunshee-120081101342072](https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Hans-Dunshee-120081101342072)

Derek Stanford – 1st LD – Pos. 1

Strom Peterson – 21st LD – Pos. 1

Lillian Ortiz-Self – 21st LD – Pos. 2

Cindy Ryu – 32nd LD – Pos. 1

Ruth Kagi – 32nd LD – Pos. 2

June Robinson – 32nd LD – Pos. 1

Mike Sells – 32nd LD – Pos. 1

All are strong candidates with impressive environmental records and positions.

We urge our members to consider volunteering with one or more candidates during the course  
of the election season. If you are interested in doing so but aren't sure where to start, contact  
Political Group Chair Jackie Minchew [JWMchew@aol.com](mailto:JWMchew@aol.com) or 425-238-8657

## PUD meeting report

On August 23 a dozen or more of our local Snohomish Group volunteers testified before the Snohomish PUD Commissioners. They explained some of the reasons for their strong opposition to the proposed hydroelectric project on Sunset Falls:

1. The high risk to residents, endangered salmon, and the ecosystem from blasting a 19-foot diameter tunnel through a hillside where there is an active landslide.
2. The costs of the project -- costs for consultants and many studies to determine the feasibility of constructing a new hydroelectric project. Since 2011 nearly \$2 million of ratepayers' dollars have been spent on this project. By the time the project would be licensed and built, the price tag would be closer to \$7 million. Energy analysts argue that investments in energy efficiency would be the most effective source of new energy for the future. <[www.ACEEE.org](http://www.ACEEE.org)>
3. The existing environmental protections for the Snohomish River Basin. Protections include the "Fish and Wildlife Protection Program" of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NWPCC/"the Council"), WA Scenic River, Shoreline Management Act, and others.
4. The 2007 "Energy Independence Act" that resulted from WA State Initiative I-937. I-937 was designed to stimulate new, clean renewable sources of energy for our state without relying on new hydroelectric power. That exclusion was intended to protect our streams for our endangered species of fish. [www.nwcouncil.org/fw/program/2014-12/Program](http://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/program/2014-12/Program)

After hearing testimony, the commissioners stated that they would revisit the plans and goals of the project and try to make a decision on whether the Sunset Falls project is still a viable plan. Next meeting at the Snohomish PUD building in Everett (2320 California St.) will be on September 20. We hope that more of our members will attend and learn about this and other power planning activities. For details about meetings, see:

[www.snopud.com/AboutUs/Leadership/commmtg.ashx?p=1238](http://www.snopud.com/AboutUs/Leadership/commmtg.ashx?p=1238)

For further information, contact Conservation Chair, Rebecca Wolfe  
[rebeccawolfe@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:rebeccawolfe@vermontlaw.edu)

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For more information about the Snohomish Group contact:

Tom Crisp at [tom.crisp@washington.SierraClub.org](mailto:tom.crisp@washington.SierraClub.org) or 425-737-0350.

See the Snohomish Group Web site:

[www.SierraClub.org/Washington/snohomish-group](http://www.SierraClub.org/Washington/snohomish-group)

And visit the Washington State Chapter Web site:

[www.SierraClub.org/Washington](http://www.SierraClub.org/Washington)