

News You Can Use - October 2012

Bridging Communities with Trails: The 2012 Washington State Trails Conference

Sponsored by the Washington State Trails Coalition

October 25th-28th, Hilton Hotel and Conference Center, Vancouver, WA

Complete conference details at <http://www.washingtonstatetrailscoalition.org>

Have you made plans yet to attend the Washington State Trails Conference? Come network with other trails professionals and enthusiasts and learn about how to plan for and manage trails, as well as outreach and recruitment techniques for volunteers. There is a packed agenda full of incredible learning and networking opportunities that includes the following speakers:

- Mickey Fearn, deputy director of Communication and Community Assistance for the National Park Service
- Dave Hahn, accomplished mountaineer
- Randy King, superintendent of Mount Rainier National Park
- Maureen Hyzer, deputy regional forester, U.S. Forest Service
- Don Hoch, director, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
- Peter Goldmark, Washington State Public Lands Commissioner
- and more...

Also included in the registration is a community forum featuring Dr. John Crompton, Texas A&M University professor renowned for his research on the economic benefits of parks, trails, and open spaces. Check out the [incredible conference program online](#) – you won't want to miss this conference!

RCO Welcomes Nona Snell

In October, RCO will say farewell to Steve McLellan, policy director and legislative liaison, as he and his wife head south into retirement. RCO is excited to announce that Nona Snell will join the team in Steve's place. Nona comes to us from the Washington State Treasurer's Office, where she was the policy director for the past two years. Before that, she was the coordinator for the House Capital Budget Committee, where she oversaw RCO's capital budget. Nona received her undergraduate degree in communications from Washington State University and her master's degree in public administration from The Evergreen State College. In her free time, Nona runs marathons and is the director of the Capital City Marathon that takes place in Olympia every May. Nona's first day in the Office will be October 15.

RCO's New Policy Analyst

Marnie Tyler began work at RCO on September 10, providing salmon policy support on special projects. She will be working closely with Governor's Salmon Recovery Office staff and the Salmon Section team. Marnie has a long history in Washington State government including the Governor's Office of Accountability and Performance, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Ecology, Department of Health, and the Puget Sound Action Team.