



US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

Background

The Office of Information and Education provides support to every other Division and Program in the Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office. We help the public, media, Congress, and non-governmental organizations better understand and appreciate the efforts of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.



Chehalis River Discovery Trail – an interagency project (USFWS, Taylor Pittman)

Who We Are

We are experienced reporters, outdoors writers, and educational and interpretation specialists knowledgeable and experienced in natural resources issues. We are skilled at working with communities, Tribes, Congressional offices, and non-governmental organizations. To assist in case of oil spills and other catastrophic events we are trained in the Incident Command System and hazardous Materials Preparedness and Response.

Who We serve

- The Public
- Other FWS Divisions and Programs
- Congressional Offices
- Other Federal, State and local agencies
- Tribes
- Media
- Public Interest Groups

What We Do

We serve as full service in-house staff consultants and assistants to other WWFWO Divisions and programs in media, Congressional Affairs, Tribal Affairs, public relations, and design and development of informational programs and products.

We provide professional expertise in writing and editing, public involvement planning and techniques, and meeting facilitation.

We develop and implement public outreach plans announcing Endangered Species Act listing actions, Federal Register Notices, and other significant FWS actions or activities.

We write the press releases, fact sheets, and question-and-answer sheets that help the public understand FWS actions, activities, and policies.

We produce informational reports, brochures, pamphlets and displays to support managers and field staff in their communications efforts.

We respond to informational inquiries from members of the public, media, Congressional offices, Tribes and local governments.

We provide in-house communications and media relations training to FWS staff.

We provide graphics, photographic, design and editing support to FWS staff.



Oil-filled Catala shipwreck emerging from 40 years under the sands of Damon Point (WDOE)

We provide planning, logistical support, and staff to assist other Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office Divisions and Programs in holding effective public informational meetings.

We serve on inter-agency committees such as the Inter-agency Grizzly Bear Committee Information and Education Subcommittee, North Cascades Grizzly Bear Management Subcommittee Information and Education Committee, Western Snowy Plover Outreach Committee, Grizzly Bear Outreach Project, and others to help explain the actions and activities of these organizations.

We assist biological staff with special projects such as the Sea Otter Nuisance Guidance, Grizzly Bear Nuisance Plan, Wolf Nuisance Plan, Trumpeter Swan Working group, and various Watershed Protection and Restoration projects.

We develop and maintain electronic contact lists for media, Congressional offices, Non-Governmental Organizations, Tribes, local, State and Federal agencies involved with FWS activities and actions.

We assist the FWS Region 1 and Washington Office offices of External Affairs and other

FWS offices and facilities on issues of Regional or National significance.

Recent Accomplishments:

- Assisted the WWFVO Fisheries Division in the development and production of a brochure on the salmon mass mark program.
- Assisted the WWFVO Environmental Contaminants program with public outreach efforts related to the *Catala* shipwreck site.
- Assisted the WWFVO Division of Listing and Recovery with the development and production of a brochure on golden paintbrush.
- Developed an interagency outreach team to help educate the public about invasive species issues in Washington.
- Assisted with national and regional outreach efforts involving the northern spotted owl and the Marbled Murrelet.



Northern Spotted Owl (Karl Vogel)

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