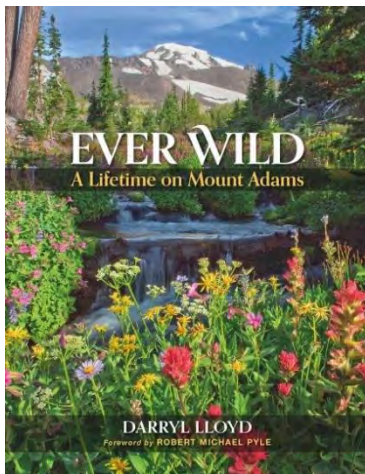




2018 Winter Newsletter
Edited by Julie Odell, Chair

A Review of *Ever Wild: A Lifetime on Mount Adams*

Book by Darryl Lloyd. Review by Susan Hess (with edits for length).



In his new book, *Ever Wild: A Lifetime on Mount Adams*, Darryl Lloyd writes about the human uses of the mountain, its native plants, and the science of this stratovolcano. Interwoven throughout are personal stories. They are reflections of a life spent on and near the mountain that continually drew him in, always beckoning him to explore further. Color photographs serve as snapshots of these explorations, and they bring readers into the harsh domain of rock and ice.

Darryl, 76, was two years-old when the family bought 80 acres at the base of Mount Adams. It was here that his parents built the Flying L guest ranch. Their curiosity stoked by their adventurous father, Darryl and his twin brother, Darvel, were only ten when they first reached the 12,276 foot summit. After that, they sprung at every opportunity to hike, climb, and camp around the mountain.

As adults, both brothers earned master's degrees in the fields of geography and marine affairs. Their careers took them far from south-central Washington. Darryl spent his career as a ship's captain (licensed as Master Mariner), but he returned often to the Glenwood Valley. He and Darvel founded the Mount Adams Wilderness Institute in 1970. For ten years, they led two-week long intensive courses in wilderness mountaineering and natural history.

Ever Wild begins by depicting the Native Americans' seven-thousand year presence on the mountain they call Pahto. He skips the era of fur trapping and explorations, because it left such a small impact on the mountain. But sheep took a significant toll on the native plants and wildlife, and the effects of overgrazing are still evident today, leading Darryl to dedicate a chapter to its history: "The Great Sheep Invasions."

Darryl offers insights into other historical events. In the 1920s, for example, the U.S. Forest Service built a fire lookout atop the summit. An historic photo shows three men climbing 5,000 feet up the rocky slope shouldering heavy wooden beams for the structure. After the forest service abandoned the lookout twenty years later, a prospecting company began mining sulfur in the 15,000 to 5,000-year-old craters.

The book shares a wealth of mountain science: stratovolcanoes, avalanches and lahars, glaciers. Readers who aren't

geologically inclined may want to skim the technical sections, but they give the reader a far more thorough understanding of what makes this mountain unique.

Throughout the book, Darryl writes about his wilderness heroes, people like C.E. Rusk, Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas and David Brower. Their writings and talks shaped the wild mountain advocate he became.

In 2004, an 11,000 acre resort—ski area, an 18-hole golf course, 2,500 housing units, a casino—was proposed on the Yakama Nation region of the mountain. It would spread over pristine areas of the mountain: Bird Creek Meadows, Hellroaring Valley and the Ridge of Wonders. Darryl formed Friends of Mount Adams (FOMA) to mobilize people into protecting the mountain from development. In the end, the Yakama Nation Tribal Council rejected the resort proposal.

Today, FOMA continues to educate and advocate for the mountain, and the group faces a new set of problems. Cattle grazing is allowed on the lower slopes, but ineffective fencing has allowed cattle to damage the fragile alpine meadows. Snowmobilers ignore signs prohibiting them

in the wilderness and on Yakama Nation land. The noisy machines stress and displace wildlife. Logging and wildfires over the past 150 years have reduced old growth trees to a few scattered sections.

A witness to the retreat of some of the mountain's grandest glaciers, Darryl details the impacts of a warming climate on the volcano, and on the plants, animals and people who live around it.

A wealth of information, *Ever Wild* is about a mountain overlooked in the Pacific Northwest. That makes it a reference work, and the author's passion for place gives the book color and warmth. Darryl, who is a well-known photographer, took many of the photographs that accompany his stories.

"The advice I give now:" he writes, "Discover Mount Adams on your own, but be careful of your impact. Future generations will want to make their own discoveries of an undisturbed mountain wonderland."

Copies of "Ever Wild" can be purchased through <http://www.mtadamsbook.com>, or ordered through <http://www.waucomabookstore.com/darryl-loyd-signed-books>.

Volunteer Opportunity: Monitoring the White Salmon River By Pat Arnold

The Upper White Salmon Wild & Scenic (W&S) Management Plan was adopted this year (2018). All of the scenic area is in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and includes the White Salmon and Cascade Creek. United States Forest Service (USFS) staff at the Gifford Pinchot approached Friends of the White Salmon to undertake some monitoring in the W&S area. The hope is to have a monitoring program that can be maintained over the next several years, under USFS direction. The USFS has identified specific areas and concerns, including dispersed campsites, trails, and invasive species.

Friends of the White Salmon, Friends of Mt. Adams, and the Suskдорfia Native Plant Society are joining together to organize this effort and to find volunteers to help with, and enjoy, the

monitoring. Volunteer commitment would be one or two monitoring visits, in groups of two, between April and October. Visits would be followed by a report. No trail work or plant removal is involved, just observation and reporting.

USFS will provide instruction of monitoring protocols and may also provide GPS units for volunteer use. Safety training and a pre-visit safety checklist will also be provided. There will probably be an invasive species training available in the spring as well.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Pat Arnold at pat.arnold@friendsofthewhitesalmon.org.

While the Wilderness Act of 1964 provides a high level of protection for Mount Adams, there is an ongoing need for careful stewardship to ensure that its wilderness character endures for present and future generations. With limited agency resources, volunteers are an increasingly critical component of wilderness stewardship, and can contribute in many different ways: collecting data, visitor education, trail work and site registration. If you would like to learn more please visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/giffordpinchot/workingtogether/volunteering/?cid=stelprd3814772> or contact Justin Ewer at 509-395-3390.

Gifford Pinchot National Forest Annual Winter Recreation Meeting By Jurgen Hess

The November 27 meeting, hosted by the USFS, was held at the Rock Creek Ctr. in Stevenson with 23 people attending representing federal, state, county agencies, ski and snowmobile clubs and grooming contractors. Jurgen Hess and Dean Myerson represented FOMA.

Pam McConkey, WA State Parks Winter Rec. Mgr. said there was a total of \$3.3million available this year to manage the program including trail grooming and snowplowing. Most of the funding comes from snow park permit sales and snowmobiling licenses. Skamania County will receive about \$49,000 for Mt. Adams area grooming.

A new snowmobilers' warming cabin has been built at North Woods. Skamania County will plow snow to Trapper Creek trailhead and to Old Man Pass. Permits are checked by WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officers who gave out 500 warnings and many tickets last season. Trails around Snow King at Mt. Adams will be groomed weekends. Wind River Hwy will be plowed daily to Old Man Pass snow-park.

Jurgen gave the FOMA report: "We are not against snowmobiling per se, but are concerned when this occurs in closed areas like Wilderness and Yakama Nation lands." Cozy Cabins, at Trout Lake has several photos of snowmobiling in Mt. Adams closed areas on their website. Jurgen gave copies of the photos and a FOMA letter to Justin Ewer. Justin said he would talk to the Cozy Cabin owners. Also, Trout Lake Snowmobile Facebook site had a photo of a snowmobiler at Hell Roaring Overlook site. He gave this photo to Justin also. Jurgen showed the brochure FOMA designed for the YN that shows closed areas and is handed out at shops and commercial outlets. The closed areas are shown on WA's snowmobile closure statewide map.

By Jocelyn Akins

It has been a busy year with field projects throughout the Washington Cascades. Our last winter and spring were spent searching for the wolverine and Cascade red fox throughout the southern Washington Cascades – from Mt Adams, into the Goat Rocks, and up to the William O Douglas Wilderness. We lead the South Cascades Wolverine Project in a partnership with the USFS to monitor the expansion of wolverines across Interstate 90 (I90) into southern Washington.

The wolverine was wiped out of Washington by the mid 19th century and has naturally returned from Canada in recent decades. Today, while extremely uncommon, it is increasingly being detected south of I90 on the Okanogan-Wenatchee and Gifford Pinchot National Forests. Little is known regarding their presence south of I90, the presence of additional individuals, connectivity to individuals north of I90, or trends in the population. We are collecting data on individuals that inhabit this area to help to understand the conservation status and basic ecology of this small population.

We deploy monitoring stations designed specifically to identify individual wolverines from photographs based on their unique chest blaze and determine the wolverine's sex, and possibly its reproductive status. Previously, we documented a very small number of

wolverines, perhaps all photographs of a single male, throughout the Mt Adams and Goat Rocks area for almost a decade (2009-2016).

Then we discovered Pepper in 2016. She is the first wolverine documented south of I90 in contemporary times. She visited one of our monitoring stations east of Mt Rainier this past March and appeared to be lactating. After extensive searching, our field crew followed wolverine tracks to her den. This is the first reproductive natal den ever documented in Washington's southern Cascade Range and only the 3rd den recorded in the state. At the den, we set remote cameras and discovered that she was raising two kits. We also followed tracks to several snow holes, where wolverines had cached prey items deep into tree wells that act like refrigerators. During the last night of our trip, we were woken to a sniffing sound close to our tents. The next morning, we discovered fresh wolverine tracks in the snow 4-ft from one of the tents! In North America, wolverine kits are typically born in mid to late February so these kits are likely 9 months old if they have survived. Both Pepper and her kits, and her mate, were documented at the den. We have verified three individuals, including the reproductive pair, through DNA analyses and now have a database of three adults and two kits, showing there are at least 5 wolverines south of I90.



As we gear up for our winter wolverine and Cascade red fox field projects this season, we are seeking funding to purchase additional field cameras that can document

these rare carnivores. Learn more about our work and consider making a donation at www.cascadescarnivore.org

Mt. Adams Lodge at the Flying L Ranch Development

In 1945, Les and Ilse Lloyd, parents of 2 year olds Darryl and Darvel, purchased 80 acres of second-growth pines and meadowland near Glenwood, WA. They built a “ranch house” - a 100-foot-long building with great views of 12,276-foot Mount Adams, whose southeast face stood boldly only 15 air-miles away and 10,000 vertical-feet above the valley. This would become the childhood home of Darryl and Darvel that launched their lifelong exploration of the mountain. The Lloyds sold the property in 1997, and it has been run since by various owners as a lodge and retreat center, currently renamed the Mt. Adams Lodge at The Flying L Ranch.

The property is currently being considered for purchase from Julee Wasserman by Getaway LLC. The proposal by Getaway is to create a modified mobile home park with 40 tiny park model RVs (think 150 sq. ft. tiny homes, not trailers), which will rent for 1 to 7 nights. Getaway is an East Coast LLC with current operations in NH, NY, VA and soon in CA. The development proposal has gone through the Klickitat County Board of Adjustment for a conditional use permit, the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for an environmental impact assessment, and the Klickitat County Planning Commission. Its final hurdle will be the Board of County Commissioners, which will hold its meeting on Tuesday, December 11th, to consider the recommendations forwarded by these groups. If approved, the sale will go through and construction will begin. If you have any questions, you can contact the Klickitat County Planning Dept., 509-773-5703.

Stagman Ridge Trail Sign Correction

FOMA has become aware of an incorrect trail sign on Mt Adams on the Stagman Ridge trail that mistakenly points some hikers the wrong direction, sending them east towards Lookingglass Lake when they actually want to stay towards the left on the Stagman Ridge trail going to meet the PCT. The Forest Service is now aware of this problem and it should be fixed next Spring when the snow melts and trail managers return to the area.

Lahar Detection System Update By Rachel Haymon

Over geologic time, the volcanic rock of Mt. Adams has reacted with water to form clay, gypsum, and other hydrous minerals that are much weaker than the original rock. Water-saturated landslides of this weakened material can travel speedily down drainages as dangerous "lahar" mudslides.

Approximately 6000 years ago, a lahar known as the Trout Lake Mudflow came down the White Salmon River as far as Husum, and spread thickly across the upper White Salmon River Valley, impounding Trout Creek to form a shallow lake. About 250 years ago, a smaller lahar, called the Salt Creek Lahar, reached the area where downtown Trout Lake is today. Lahars can be triggered by volcanic eruptions and earthquakes, however many deadly lahars initiate suddenly without any such precursors or predictability. Yet, if the onset of a lahar can be detected, and even a few minutes of warning are given, it can give people enough time to get to higher ground.

LEAP (**L**ahar **E**vent **A**wareness and **P**reparation) is a local citizen's group initiated in 2014 and endorsed by the Trout Lake Community Council, FOMA, and the Klickitat County Dept. of Emergency Management. LEAP is focused on educating local communities about lahar danger in Klickitat County, and on exploring means of developing a rapid lahar detection-and-warning system for Mt. Adams.

LEAP leader, Rachel Haymon and her colleague, Robin Matoza, both professors of Earth Science at Univ. of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), obtained a research grant and Gifford Pinchot National Forest permission to develop on Mt. Adams a new prototype method of rapid lahar detection. Since September 2017, their prototype sensor array has been in place to detect low frequency sounds ("infrasound") propagating through the air from the directions of the Cascade & Salt Creek drainages. Detected sounds are digitized

and streamed continuously, via the Flattop Mt cell tower, to both UCSB and a national website, where the data are processed and interpreted by the UCSB team and other volcano scientists.

The ultimate goal is to be able to distinguish the sounds of a dangerous lahar from non-concerning background noise (for example, sounds of streams and waterfalls, avalanches, rockfalls, steam venting, small landslides and debris flows, etc). With a single array, the direction from whence a sound comes is known, but it is not possible to triangulate and pinpoint the location of a sound source. Thus, with Forest Service permission, the UCSB team placed temporary mini-arrays in the Wilderness Area on upper Stagman and Crofton Ridges in August 2018, to more precisely locate persistent intermittent sounds coming from the direction of Mt Adams. The mini-arrays were removed after a few days, and their recorded data is being analyzed at UCSB to locate and assess the origin and nature of the persistent sounds heard by the main array. If the sounds are coming from bottom of the stream ravines, then we are likely detecting the creeks and their waterfalls. If the sounds are coming from slopes above the creeks, then we likely are hearing avalanches (winter months) or landslides/rockfalls (summer).

The UCSB team and LEAP are collaborating with the U.S. Geological Survey Cascade Volcano Observatory (CVO) in 2019 on potential additional detection methods. It is likely that no single method is going to be full proof enough by itself for a robust warning system, but multiple methods and sensor arrays working in parallel could be quite effective. Next summer, after consultation with CVO, it is likely new funding will be sought for developing a robust, but not prohibitively expensive, detection-and-warning system for Mt. Adams.



Bird Creek Meadows Bridges Reconstructed

By Ryan Ojerio

This season Washington Trails Association (WTA) volunteers reconstructed two foot bridges on the picnic loop at Bird Creek Meadows, one had been burned by the fire in 2016 and the other had rotted, cracked and was about to collapse into the creek. In both instances Yakama Nation Forestry staff were able to purchase and haul in the materials. Since the road leading in to Bird Creek Meadows was under construction, WTA staff had initially scheduled the trips to backpack in from the South Climb trailhead, but a break in the construction

work allowed our crews to drive in and camp much closer to the project site than we had anticipated being possible. In total, the projects required 632 hours on site and involved 11 volunteers.

Next year we hope that the road into Bird Lake and Bench Lake is fully restored so that we can schedule additional trail restoration work so that this special place can be truly appreciated by all those who haven't been able to hike there since the fire.



A Late Fall Hike on Mt Adams By Dean Myerson

The lack of snow allowed me and a couple of friends to get up onto Mt Adams probably for one last time this season. We drove to the Stagman Ridge trailhead for a hike up to Lookingglass Lake via the Graveyard Connector, which is a well worn but not official trail.

It was crisp conditions in the 30s as we left the trailhead among just a few cars and a few distant hunter's shots. The ground was completely bare at this altitude and we warmed as we hiked up the trail. After the initial section, we entered the extensive burn from the 2012 Cascade Creek Fire, which started not far to the east on Crofton Ridge. Most of this hike would be in fully burned areas.

After a couple of miles we hiked passed Grassy Hill and dropped down into the ravine, and as expected this is where we suddenly got full snow coverage. But it was only a few inches and the trail was easy to follow. The clear skies were now partly cloudy and we continued through the shallow snow, past the large meadow and up to the trail junction a half mile later. At this point you turn right for the final mile to the lake. Although there are a few spots where the trail can be hard to follow, there was a boot path that followed the correct route and we soon arrived at the lake.



Unfortunately clouds mostly blocked views of the mountain, which have opened up since the fire. There are hardly any green trees left at the lake and the summer crowds of years ago rarely appear any more. But the sun was on us occasionally and we opened our hiking chairs and enjoyed lunch by the lake.

Soon it was time to return by the same route. The forecast had been for full sun but there wasn't too much sun out by the afternoon, but we still enjoyed the day. We saw a few hikers on the way up as we went down and return to the car. The hike is 9 miles round trip and about 1800 feet up.

End of Year Giving

Many thanks to all of our wonderful supporters who have given generously to FOMA over the years. We hope you will consider us again as you make your end of year giving plans. In addition to supporting our ongoing conservation and advocacy activities, we hope to organize a conference for the fall that will explore a topic of interest to those committed to the long term protection of Mt. Adams and continue to support small research grants that focus on the mountain. Donations can be sent to Friends of Mt. Adams, P.O. Box 1914, White Salmon, WA 98672, or made via our website mtadamsfriends.org.

Our current board members are: Julie Odell, Chair; Alec Maule, Vice-Chair; Jurgen Hess, Conservation Chair; Laurie Wilhite, Secretary; Dean Myerson, Treasurer; Darvel Lloyd, Darryl Lloyd, Bill Weiler, and Jocelyn Akins. Our next board meeting will be held in early February. Please watch our website for time and place. All are welcome!