

## 01/20/09 Westside Board meeting minutes

Stu opened the meeting at 7:40pm

Kathy gave the treasurer's report. Bob Pattie submitted bills for printing the newsletter and map booklets. The bills were approved.

### **Old Business:**

A fairly lengthy discussion about the map booklets took place.

Bob Pattie handed out samples of the new format in color and black and white. The new format booklet is stapled in the middle instead of the edge.

Ed Lehman handed out CD's with samples of the electronic version of the map booklets. Currently Ed must scan in the map pages and edit the text within the graphics. This is very time consuming so ed is looking for some Optical Character Recognition software to speed up the task.

The question of how best to deliver map booklets to clubs came up. In some cases such as the upcoming Everett show, the maps can be hand carried. In other cases such as requests from clubs in other parts of the state it may be better to ship 10 to 20 via the mail, UPS, or FedEx. Requests for one or two copies can be mailed.

Ed has received only a couple of GPS coordinates for collecting site. We need more if we are to make the maps more useful. Also, if you are at a collecting site, don't forget to take a few pictures of the collecting area and material in addition to the GPS co-ordinates. Pictures will definitely enhance the maps.

### **New Business:**

Bob Pattie reported that the DNR is in the process of cataloging recreational activities on the lands it manages. One area, the Reiter Foothills in eastern Snohomish County reportedly has produced facet grade smoky quartz crystals several inches long. This is in the foothills near Index. The DNR is also looking for volunteers to help clean up the area.

### **From the DNR:**

*"Reiter Foothills, located in eastern Snohomish County, has long been a popular recreation area. The 10,000-acre area attracts a diverse range of users including off-road enthusiasts, campers, hikers, mountain bikers, and hunters. The southern portion, in particular, has become increasingly popular over the years for motorized use.*

*Reiter is so popular that certain locations have become overused, and some streams and stream corridors have experienced environmental damage from off-trail riding and the large numbers of riders using the area.*

*The Washington Departments of Natural Resources (DNR), Ecology, and Fish and Wildlife, and the Tulalip Tribes are working on some interim projects to protect the area from further damage to its resources. These interim measures will help address water quality problems until the Reiter Foothills recreation advisory group completes its final recommendations and DNR determines the best course of action for the long term. (For more information about recreation planning for Reiter Foothills, visit: [http://www.dnr.wa.gov/RecreationEducation/Topics/RecreationPlanning/Pages/amp\\_rec\\_reiter\\_foothills.aspx](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/RecreationEducation/Topics/RecreationPlanning/Pages/amp_rec_reiter_foothills.aspx))*

*Volunteers have played an important role in restoring Reiter Foothills. In the past few months, DNR staff have worked with volunteers from groups such as the Northwest Quad Association, the Pacific Northwest Four Wheel Drive Association, and Reiter Trail Watch to complete on-the-ground projects that:*

*Protect water quality by keeping sediment from flowing into streams.*

*Protect wetlands and fish habitat.*

*Clean up and prevent litter.*

*Volunteers and DNR staff have already completed the following projects:*

*Hardening the Deer Creek crossing.*

*Conducting weekend cleanups of the area.*

*Repairing fencing and eliminating motorized access around Reiter Pond to protect the area.*

*The next planned work will involve placing ecology blocks to control access to sensitive areas along Reiter Road and near Reiter Pond where a significant amount of garbage dumping is occurring. We expect this work to be completed by mid-January. View a map of the barrier installation project at: [http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/em\\_reiter\\_foothills\\_barrier\\_installation.pdf](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/em_reiter_foothills_barrier_installation.pdf)*

*Please note that primary off-road vehicle routes currently being used will remain open.*

*The work going on at Reiter is a great example of how volunteers are helping to make a difference on DNR-managed lands. If you'd like to help by volunteering your time, equipment, or materials for upcoming work projects in the Reiter area, contact David Way at 360-854-2830 or [david.way@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:david.way@dnr.wa.gov).*

*DNR recently put out a press release about the work going in Reiter at:  
[http://www.dnr.wa.gov/RecreationEducation/News/Pages/nr08\\_217.aspx](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/RecreationEducation/News/Pages/nr08_217.aspx)*

*For more information about Reiter Foothills, contact Candace Johnson at 360-854-2803 or [reiterfoothills@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:reiterfoothills@dnr.wa.gov). “*

**Wagonmaster's Report**

Ed reported that the field trips for 2009 were set up at the planning meeting on January 17. Twelve people representing eight clubs attended. Once the dates and contacts are finalized they will be published in the newsletter and online.

**Miscellaneous**

Christina Morrissey reported on an article that appeared in the newsletter of an Ogden, Utah club, the Beehive Rock and Gem Club. This article was about the Wyoming Fossil which specializes in Green River formation fossils. The store also offers field trips to local collecting areas such as the Sweetwater Agate locality.

Meeting adjourned,  
submitted by Glenn Morita, Secretary Pro-Tem