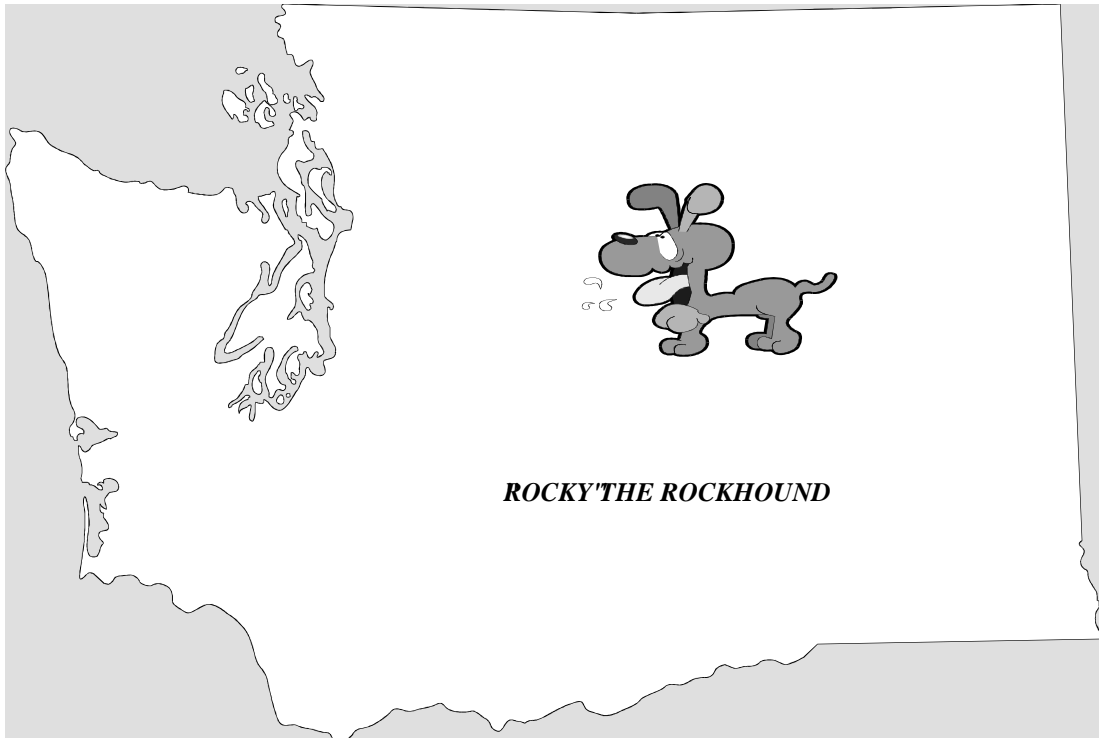

◆ **The Council Reporter** ◆

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Washington State Mineral Council**

**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
2011 OFFICERS**

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Wagonmaster	open		

The West Side Board meets the third Tuesday of each month between Quarterly meetings, unless a meeting is specially called. Usually no meeting in July and December dependent on Board action.

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Westside Board Meeting Minutes 04/19/11

The meeting was convened at 7:40 pm, with seven members in attendance.

Treasurer: A check was sent to Bob Pattie to allow for printing of additional WSMC Map Books for the W. Seattle Show at the end of this month.

Money is owed to Brian Waters (\$10) and Bob Pattie (\$20) as WSMC expenses from the last regional meeting in Ellensburg. \$50 is owed to Christina Morrissey to reimburse her for monies paid for ALAA membership at the ALAA Regional Meeting in Lakeside this last weekend on behalf of the WSMC.

Wagonmaster: We had an excellent turnout at the Racehorse Creek Fossil dig; 40-50 people showed up including one family all the way from Spokane who were mainly interested in the mushrooms, of which there were none given the too cold spring. Brian Murril and his team from the Marysville Club managed to dig out an entire 3-4 foot fossilized palm frond after 5-6 hours dedicated work.

Bob Pattie has been in contact with various US Forest Service officials regarding recent collecting regulations in the Okanogan-Wenatchee Forest Area. The Mineral Council is sponsoring trips to the area (Timberwolf Mtn and Heather Lake - Garnets), just two of many collecting sites in the area. There appears to be some serious disagreement and lack of consistency of policy as to casual collection of rock and minerals between the various officials contacted. Brian Waters will be speaking with the local District office in Enumclaw for the Naches National Forest District in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest to see what their requirements are regarding the council trips to the Little Naches and the Greenwater areas and to see if further discussion with the regional office Wenatchee or Portland will be necessary.

If a question comes up about non-commercial collecting by rockhounds of material on Forest Service land, you should be aware of the Federal Regulations which allow collecting, although you may be required to apply for a "Free-Use" permit (36CFR 228.62). Free-use permits "may be issued for periods not to exceed one year, for mineral materials to settlers, miners, residents, and prospectors for uses other than commercial purposes, resale or barter. The Free-use permit, issued on a Forest Service-approved form, must include the basis for the free-use as well as the provision governing the selection, removal, and the use of the mineral material. No mineral material may be removed until the permit is issued. The 'permittee' must notify the authorized officer upon the completion of mineral material removal."

May 7, 2011 Combined Board Meeting AGENDA

Pres. Opening of Meeting
 ◇ Brian Waters
 Treasurer's Report
 ◇ Kathy Earnst
 Committee Reports
 ◇ Wagonmaster
 Old Business
 New Business
 Open Comments
 Adjourn

Tentative Meeting Calendar for 2011

West side board meetings:
1/18, 2/15, 4/19, 6/21, 10/18

At 7:30PM at the
Maplewood Clubhouse
8802 196th St SW, Edmonds

General meetings (tentative):
3/26, 5/7, 9/24, 11/5

All general meetings will be held at:

Palace Café
4th & Main
Ellensburg
Meeting @ 9:30 AM

The Mineral Council is looking into this process and will report in future meeting regarding permits. Clubs and individuals scheduling their own trips, should understand the requirements of the land owners and take whatever steps necessary. For further information on this permit, please go to this link: <http://cfr.vlex.com/vid/228-62-free-use-19770027#>.

Furthermore, the U.S. Forest Service is in the midst of updating the "Planning Rule." Public meetings were held for the NW Region (6): One in Seattle on March 23, 2011, and two in Portland on March 25th. Public meetings were also held on April 6th, 2011 in Portland. "The U.S. Forest Service {held} these meetings ...to explain both the details and intent of the recently proposed draft Planning Rule that, if put into law, will serve as a national blueprint for how hundreds of individual plans will chart national forest management in the coming years."

Interestingly enough, recreation was not identified as an agenda topic. When the majority of the meeting attendants indicated otherwise, organizers had to quickly set up a last minute forum in which these folks could comment on their recreational

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concerns. Please note, for one reason or another, RECREATION was not considered a stakeholder in the "national blueprint for how hundreds of individual plans will chart national forest management in the coming years."

Admittedly, the USFS indicates that in their news release that "the proposed planning rule provides a collaborative and science-based framework for creating land management plans that would support ecological sustainability and contribute to rural job opportunities." It doesn't sound as though this would have anything to do with rockhounding or other recreational uses on the surface of it. However, they indicate, "Forest Service land management plans guide management activities on the 155 National Forests and 20 Grasslands in the National Forest Systems. It is precisely because of this, that recreational concerns must be kept on the table. All it takes is one badly or ignorantly written line or paragraph and casual, non-commercial rock collecting is suddenly forbidden in all National Forests.

The proposed planning rule was published in the February 14, 2011, Federal Register, kicking off a 90 day public comment period ending on May 16, 2011. To be considered, written comments need to be submitted electronically at <http://www.govcomments.com/> or <http://www.regulations.gov>, or sent in hard copy to Forest Service Planning DEIS, C/O Bear West Company, 132 E 500 S, Bountiful, UT 84010, or sent via FAX to 801-397-1605. Please identify your written comments by including "planning rule" on the cover sheet or the first page. Comments are available for public inspection at <http://contentanalysisgroup.com/fsrd/>.

Everyone - please send in something saying what and how you rockhound and why it is so important that you continue to do so!! If we don't do this, no one else will.

Continuing on with the Wagonmaster report - the WSMC trip to Ed Lehman's Jade Claim is cancelled.

Land-Use Special Committee - The BLM has indicated that at Saddle Mtn they will be replacing a temporary fence with a permanent one in sections 5-8 that will secure approximately 150 acres near the water tank in section 8 and enclose an active grazing allotment. Further information on this can be found at the BLM website. The current roads in the area will be outside the fenced area. Rockhounds are allowed to collect in sections 6 and 8.

New Business:

The Draft Programmatic (*Of, relating to, or having a program*) Environment Impact Statement (DPEIS) is part of an effort to update planning rules put into effect in the year 2000. This Draft plan was initiated in 2009 and the USFS received 26,000 inputs to address the changing usage of our National Forests. The following areas were to be analyzed in the scope of the DPEIS: Ecosystem Restoration, Watershed Protection, Diversi-

ty of Plant and Animal Communities, Climate Change, Multiple Uses (!), Efficiency and Effectiveness, Transparency and Collaboration, and Coordination and Cooperation Beyond NFS Boundaries.

The DPEIS has five alternatives considered and in general terms discussed:

Alternative A (Proposed Action) - The proposed planning rule is developed around a framework where land managers and partners would work together to understand conditions on the land and develop plans that reflect conditions, requirement and needs of the public.

Alternative B (No Action) - Continue with current processes.

Alternative C - This alternative addresses the concern that the planning process exceeded both the scope and the intent of the National Forest Management Act and would limit the Forest Service activities.

Alternative D - This alternative addresses the concerns that there have not been enough evaluations of protections for watersheds and an alternative approach is needed to protect the diversity of plant and animal communities.

Alternative E - This final alternative consists of combining Alternative A with additional and replacement direction focused on prescription requirements for public notification for inputs to a plan. This would require collaboration which would follow a prescribed process to assure consideration of a full spectrum of recreational uses and values relevant to each NFS unit.

Bob Pattie and Brian Waters both support Alternative E as it would appear to provide a way for rock hounds to be involved in the future planning of recreational usage of our National Forests.

Open Comments

Bob Pattie has been in contact with Andy Johnson regarding agenda topics and questions for the speakers at the May regional meeting.

General Questions:

A council attendee wondered how gas expenses were handled by club attendees. He was informed that some clubs reimbursed mileage, others donated the expense. Car pooling was offered as an alternative, particularly for the regional meetings. If anyone is interested in carpooling to any meetings, please contact the secretary.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm
Christina Morrissey
Secretary

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FIELD TRIPS FOR 2011

Locations and times subject to change

The WSMC sponsors field trips through the Wagonmasters. These trips offer the rockhound the opportunity to collect a wide variety of materials from agate and jasper to crystals and fossils. Experienced guides familiar with the sites are on hand to help the novice collector find good quality material. Check with the local clubs in your area for further information.

AREAS CURRENTLY CLOSED TO COLLECTING: LUCAS CREEK, ADNA, DIATOM PITS (FRENCHMAN HILLS)

Walk-in only: Green Mountain (Kalama) and First Creek.

Check out the trip info, and tool listing at mineralcouncil.org.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>Meet</i>	<i>Material</i>	<i>Tools</i>
2/19	Msvl	Cedar Ponds	9:00 @ Monroe, WA Jack 'n Box	Red & Yellow Jasper	Dig & light hard rock
3/26	Ellb	Saddle Mtn	9:00 @ Mattawa, WA-Harvest Foods	Petr. wood & common opal	Light & dig tools
4/09	WSMC	Racehorse Crk	9:00 @ Nugent's Corner, E of Bellingham	Fossils; Morel mushrooms	Dig, light, & split tools
4/16-17	Pow	Saddle Mtn	8:00 @ Boat launch: S. Mattawa	Petr. Wood	Light hard rock & dig tools
5/21-22	CMS	Wasco, OR	8:00 @ Goldendale, WA China Hollow	Picture Jasper	Trip is Full, adults only
5/27-30	Tri-Fed	Central Oregon	TBD Prineville, Hampton Butte	Petr. wood, agate, limbcasts	Contact Federation Representative
6/11	Spkn	Emerald Crk, ID	8:00 @ Emerald Creek Parking Area	Star Garnets	Old clothes, Ziploc bag/\$fee dig
6/29-7/3	Pow	Madras, OR	8:00 @ Jefferson Fair Grounds	Agate, jasper, wood, T-Eggs	Dig & light tool
7/16	MtBk	Lk Wenatchee	9:00 @ Coles Corner Gas Sta.	Garnet, actinolite, talc	Screen, wood saw, dig tools
7/23-24	Spkn	Lolo Pass, ID	8:00 @ Lolo Pass Visitor Ctr, Hwy 12	Smoky Quartz Crystals	Shovel & pick (lots of digging)
8/6	Yak	Timberwolf Mtn	9:00 @ Ace Hardware, Naches, WA	Quartz Crystals w/inclusions	Shovel, pick, rock hammer
8/20-21	Pvgm	Greenwater	9:00 @ Enumclaw Rngr Station	Agate, jasper	Dig & light hard rock
8/27	Ed L.	Jade Claim	Canceled		
9/10-11	Pow	Red Top	8:00 @ W Frk Teanaway Camp	Geodes, Agate, jade	Dig & light hard rock
9/17	Pvgm	Little Naches	9:00 @ Enumclaw Rngr Station	Thunder eggs	Dig & light hard rock
9/24-25	Msvl	Wasco, OR	8:00 @ Goldendale, WA China Hollow	Pic Jasper	Registr. Opens 7/15/11 \$25 deposit*
10/1	Spkn	Red Marble Quarry	9:00 @ Chewelah Safeway	Magnesite, Barite Minerals	Container, and rock hammer
10/29	Msvl	Miller Rvr	9:00 @ Hwy 2 Skykomish, WA	Picture Jasper	Rock Hammer & Container
11/5	MtBk	Blanchard Hill	9:00 @ I-5 exit 240 gas mart	Stilpnomelane in Quartz	Hard rock tools

(* Deposit must be received no later than 30 days before trip date to reserve spot; deposit partially refundable: \$15; \$10 to go to cost of portapoty. Adults only. No Pets Please)

ALWAYS CALL TO CONFIRM TRIPS—SEE BELOW

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
CMS, WSMC	Cascade Mineralogical Society	Brian Waters (206) 290-2312	bwaterss2011@gmail.com
Ed L		Ed Lehman (425) 334-6282	wsmced@hotmail.com
Ellb	Ellensburg Rock Club	Dave Master (509) 925-3827	
Msvl	Marysville Rock Club	Christina Morrissey (425) 398-1300	cmvw@frontier.com
Msvl-Wasco trip		Stu & Kathy Earnst (360) 856-0588	earnstkk@comcast.net
MtBk	Mt Baker Rock Club	Kris Menger (360) 366-0576	kmenger@comcast.net
POW Wow Club	All Rockhounds Club	Cliff Matteson (253)475-8433	cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com
Pvgm	Puyallup Rock Club	Tony Johnson (253) 863-9238	
Spkn	Rock Rollers of Spokane	Mike Shaw (509) 244-8542	mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com
WSea	West Seattle Rock Club	Brian Waters (206) 290-2312	bwaterss2011@gmail.com
Yak	Yakima Rock & Mineral Club	Jerry Wichstrom (509) 653-2787	

Trips are open to all. Most 2 day trips include Sat. potluck, horse shoes, tail-gating & swap. Sun. free breakfast. A small fee is required for Pow Wow and Madras trips. For more information contact Ed Lehman at wsmced@hotmail.com (425)334-6282 or mineralcouncil.org

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Public Review of Rockhound State Park Management Plan

by MaryKay Brady
 excerpted from Friends of Rockhound SP newsletter

It was standing room only at Rockhound State Park on Tuesday, March 29th. Folks started arriving at 5:00 for the meeting scheduled to start at 6:00.

The purpose of the meeting was to allow the public to review and discuss the recent Rockhound State Park management plan, drafted by the NM State Park managers. It included a proposal to ban rockhounding within the State Park.

The following representatives attended from Santa Fe:
 John H Bemis , Cabinet Secretary (designate) for Energy, minerals and Natural resources
 Tommy Mutz, State Park Director
 Dave Gatterman, Park projects
 Christy Tafoya , Archeologist
 Cynthia Lovely, Park Planner

Other State Park managers:

Rolf Hechler, Region 3 superintendent
 Robert V. Apodaca, Rockhound/
 Spring Canyon park superintendent

Special guests in attendance were Representative Dona Irwin, Deming City Council Linda Enis and David Sanchez, John Sutherland, Luna County Manager along with Mary Galbraith, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, Linda Smrkosky Economic Development, and Virginia Pool and Pat Guthrie, representatives of the Deming Luna County Museum.

Many members from the Deming community spoke about how much rockhounding has meant to them as well as the reason they settled in this area. Several out of state people in attendance commented that they spent \$2,000 and more per visit to this area. Comments included limiting the area where rocks can be gathered; lowering the amount of rocks (currently 15 pounds) and setting limits like how much per person per day for those guests camping the 21 day limit.

Mr. Bemis & Mr. Mutz were very pleased with the turnout and quite impressed to see that folks did respond—they now understand that we DO read the management plans. It was my impression and other Friends members that the park will remain as always—no ban on rockhounding but perhaps some more clear delineations of where and how much.

Mary Galbraith from the Chamber of Commerce had numbers of RV's and folks who came into the visitor center during Rockhound Roundup—the numbers were significant. Thank you so much to all of you Friends who attended, e mailed, faxed and wrote letters. We could not meet our mission of preserving, promoting and protecting without all of you!

One example of the outpouring of support was told to me by Linda Enis, City Councilwoman, who said she received 70 e mails from all over the US in favor of Rockhound State.

from Andy Johnson

Rock & Gem Show & Sale

Darrington Grange—7/16 & 17 - 9:00 to 6:00

Displays & Demonstrations



Highly Skilled Amateur Dealers
 No Commercial Dealers

KID'S ACTIVITIES & TAILGATING

FREE ROCKS—RAFFLE—DOOR PRIZES

Rock Maps—Used Tools—Custom Rock Sawing

GPS Co-ordinates Needed

The WSMC needs the GPS co-ordinates of any and all of the collecting sites in the state. In an effort to make the map booklets as accurate as possible the Mineral Council is asking for everyone to record GPS readings while on field trips. Fill out the form on Page 4 and return to the editor.

The data can also be used to help in our fight to keep our collecting areas open.

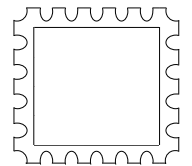
Local Area Shows for 2011

DATE & TIME	CLUB	SHOW	LOCATION
May 2011 21st 10am - 6pm	Seattle Mineral Market		Lake City Community Center 12531 28th Ave NE Seattle, WA
June 2011 11th 10am - 5pm 12th 10am - 5pm	Butte Mineral and Gem Club	Mineral & Gem Show	Civic Center Annex 1340 Harrison Ave. (exit 127 North) Butte, Montana
July 2011 16th—9am—6pm 17th—9am—6pm		Rock & Gem Show & Sale	Mansford Grange 28806—43rd AVE NE Darrington, WA
July 2011 23rd 9am - 6pm 24th 9am - 5pm	Washington Agate & Mineral Society with the Teninio Rock Cruisers	16th Annual Rock & Gem Rendevousz	Parkside Elementary School on Stage St South (take 15 exit 88) Tenino, WA
August 2011 13th 10am - 5pm 14th 9am - 4pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	5th Annual Rock & Mineral Sale	Maplewood Clubhouse 8802 196th St SW Edmonds, WA
August 2011 20th 9am - 5pm	Shelton Rock & Mineral Society	Tailgate Rock Sale & Swap Event	Shelton Youth Soccer Park 2102 Joihns Prairie Rd Shelton, WA
		\$15 Pre-registration fee \$20 fee day of event	For information contact Richard 360-427-2497 or giggpig@aol.com
October 2011 8th 10am - 5pm 9th 10am - 5pm	Marysville Rock & Gem club	36th Annual Rocktoberfest	Totem Junior High School 7th and State St, Marysville
October 2011 15th 5pm - 11pm 16th 8am - 11pm 17th 8am - noon	PNW Friends of Mineralogy	Annual Mineralogy Symposium and Mineral show Minerals of Mexico	Kelso Red Lion Hotel 510 Kelso Dr Kelso, WA
October 2011 22nd 10am - 5pm 23rd 10am - 5pm	Bellevue Rock Club	Octoberfest of Gems	Vasa Park 3560 West Lake Sammamish Blvd. SE Bellevue, Washington 98009 (I-90 Exit 13)
November 2011 12th 10am - 5pm 13th 9am - 4pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Annual Fall Show	Maplewood Clubhouse 8802 196th St SW Edmonds, WA
November 2011 11th 10am - 5pm 12th 10am - 5pm 13th 10am - 4pm	NW Opal Association & Boeing Employee's Mineralogical Societ	7th Annual South Sound Gem, Opal & Mineral show	Expo Hall Puyallup Fairgrounds Meridian St S & 9th Ave SW Puyallup
November 2011 19th 10am - 5pm 20th 10am - 5pm	Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society	Fall Festival of Gems	Kitsap County Fairgrounds President's Hal 1200 NW Fairgrounds Rd. Bremerton, WA

Combined Board Meeting
May 7, 2011
9:30 AM

Palace Café
4th & Main
Ellensburg

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The
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