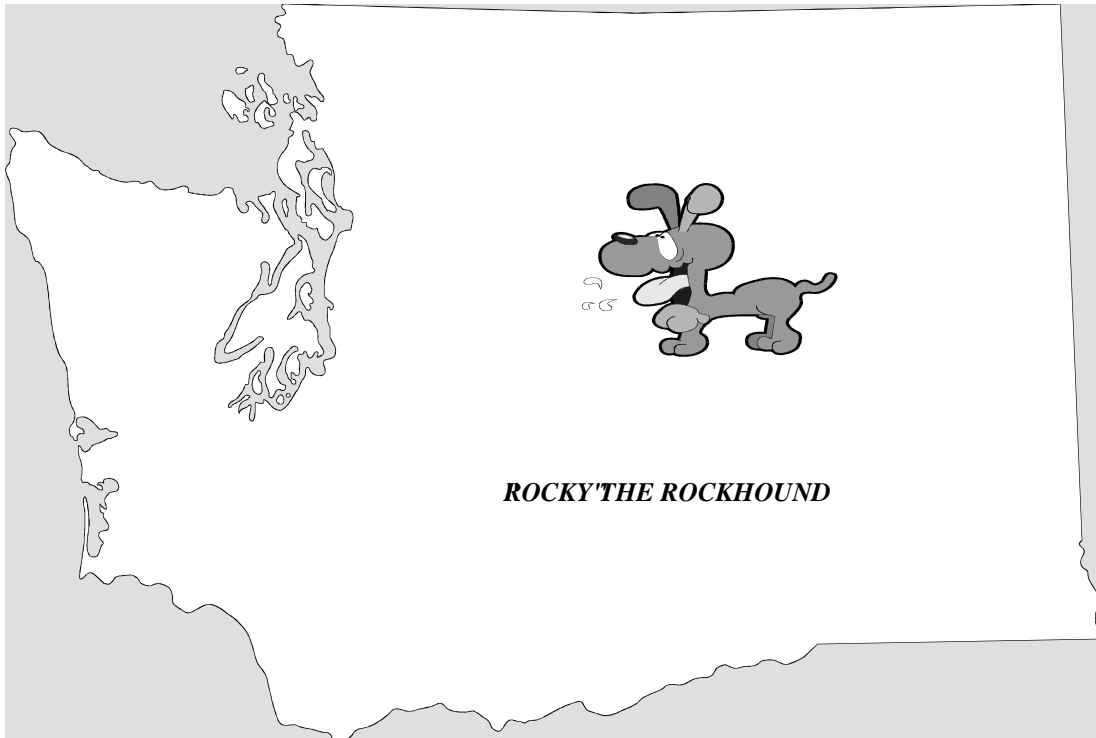

◆ **The Council Reporter** ◆

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Washington State Mineral Council**

**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
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Wagonmaster	open		

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

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Westside Board Meeting Minutes 06/21/16

We were not able to get into the clubhouse so we met informally outside as we also did not have quorum. The weather was beautiful for once!

Lanny Kittleson of NW Rockhounds stopped by to pick up some map booklets for his shop.

Bob discussed his latest research into the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Motorized Travel Management Plan. Here's what he had to say:

"I reviewed the many pages of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Motorized Travel Management plan and I have the following comments.

As you can see I have a very positive appraisal of the plan. The comment period for this assessment is July 7th, and this notice will probably be too late to make a comment.

I don't see anything in this travel plan that will change for the typical rock hound collecting in the Okanogan – Wenatchee National Forest. This Management Travel Plan does reference the current Forest Plan which recognizes rock hound as a hobby.

It will affect the campers that like to take off into the forest where there are no roads and make his/her own, to find a camp site. I can see the purpose of making some rules so the Forest Service can manage the forest for everyone's benefit.

I personally think that Alternative D would be better of the alternatives as it allows usage of the current roads and recognizes that the future will bring more people into the National Forest and their will be some roads available without needing to build new roads/corridors for camping.

Alternative B would also be a good management plan, as it has answered many of the questions brought up in past reviews. This alternative recognizes the many varieties of forest users and allows the use of open corridors for dispersed camping.

If anyone would like to make a comment (either positive or negative), use the following address:

Forest Supervisor, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, c/o Jennifer Zbyszewski, 24 West Chewuch Road, Winthrop, WA 98862

Fax (509) 996-2208

*The e-mail address is:
<https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=46467>*

Summary submitted by Glenn Morita

August 16, 2016 Westside Board Meeting AGENDA

Opening of Meeting
Treasurer's Report
◇ Kathy Earnst
Committee Reports
◇ Wagonmaster -Ed Lehman
Old Business
New Business
Open Comments

Meeting Calendar for 2016

West side board meetings:
1/19, 2/16, 4/19, 6/21, 8/16, 10/18

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

General meetings :
3/19, 5/21, 9/24, 11/05

All general meetings will be held at:

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

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

The Washington State Mineral Council web site has MOVED.

Please update your web browsers to the new URL
<https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com/>

The move allows the website to use Wordpress without having to upgrade our web hosting account.

The old URL www.mineralcouncil.org will continue to re-direct you to the new location.

2016 WSMC SPONSORED FIELD TRIPS

The Washington State Mineral Council plans guided fieldtrips to collecting sites. Open to member clubs, and the general public. Most trips are free. Included are the Pow Wow trips (must join to go on trips). Host clubs and contact persons will be set up as I gather info. For updated information, go to: mineralcouncil.wordpress.com, or contact Ed Lehman at wsmced@hotmail.com, or home (425) 334-6282 or cell (425) 760-2786.

ALWAYS contact host for updated info a week before trip !!!

Date	Host	Site	Meeting Place & Time	Material	Tools
1/16	Marysville	Beaver Valley	10:30 @ INFO center	Chert & Zeolites	Hard rock
1/30	Darrington	Walker Valley	9:00 @ Big Lake Store	Geodes & Agate	Hard rock
2/20	Marysville	Cedar Ponds	9:00 @ Monroe Jack n Box	Jasper	Dig & Hard rock
3/19	Marysville	Cherry Creek	9:00 @ Duvall Safeway	Jasper	Dig & Hard rock
4/16-17	POW	Saddle Mt.	8:00 @ Boat Launch	Petrified Wood	Dig & Hard rock
5/7	Darrington	Racehorse Creek	9:00 @ IGA @ Nugent's Corner	Fossils, Mushrooms	Dig & Hard rock
5/21	Ellensburg	Saddle Mt.	9:00 @ Mattawa Lepricon Market	Petrified Wood	Dig & Hard rock
6/10-14	Spokane	Succor Creek & McD	Call Host for Information	ThunderEggs & Agate	Dig & Hard rock
6/18	Darrington	FR 17 & 18	9:00 @ Darrington IGA	Jade, Serpentine, Hematite	Dig tools
6/23-26	POW	Madras, OR	8:00 @ County Fair Grounds	Agate, T-Eggs, Petrified wood	Dig & Hard rock
7/16	DAR	Sweetwater	10:00 @ Darrington Show (Grange)	Travertine	Dig & Hard rock
8/20-21	CAS	Greenwater	9:00 @ Enumclaw Ranger Station	Agate & Jasper	Dig & Hard rock
9/10-11	POW	Teanaway	8:00 @ Teanaway Camp	Geodes, Agate, Jade	Dig & Hard rock
9/24	CAS	Little Naches	9:00 @ Enumclaw Ranger Station	ThunderEggs & Lilypad Jade	Dig & Hard rock
10/15	Marysville	Money Creek	9:00 @ Money Creek Camp Ground	Ore & Picture Jasper	Dig & Hard rock
11/19	Mt Baker	Blanchard Hill	9:00 @ I-5 Exit 240 Gas Station	Dalmation Stone	Hard rock

HOST

CLUB

Msvl = Marysville Rock Club
 Dar = Darrington Rock Club
 Pow = All Rockhounds PowWow Club
 Elb = Ellensburg Rock Club
 Spk = Spokane Rock Rollers
 Cas = Cascade Mineralogical Society
 HC = Hells Canyon Rock Club

CONTACT INFO

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Keep updated on <http://www.mineralcouncil.wordpress.com>. Land management changes, and roads close regularly. There is a area on web page with tool category with pictures and names of tools.

Always have proper clothes and gear for conditions. Be prepared with safety, first aid, food, and drink.

A week before trips, I (Ed Lehman) will have a pdf file with map and info for that trip I can send you on request. I will do the same to trip host.

Try to be at meeting site at least 30 minutes before trip time for details and instructions with a full tank of gas. There will be a display of rough and finished material for that trip. Some of the meeting sites are at eating places, join us for breakfast.

Many rock shows will have a WSMC booth with our WA St rockhounding maps for sale, and information. Map books are for sale at trip meeting. Sale of books finance WSMC, and buy the insurance to get us access to private land to collect.

Remember our code of ethics. Keep the lands open to rockhounding (remind or public guardians they are our employees, and it is our land).

Oregon Senate Republicans Oppose 2.5 Million Acre Owyhee Canyonlands Monument Declaration

Salem, Ore. - Oregon lawmakers met with multiple stakeholders to discuss the Owyhee Canyonlands Monument Proposal. Special interest groups are pressuring President Barack Obama, Governor Kate Brown, and Oregon Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley to declare 2.5 million acres of land in Eastern Oregon a federal monument. The designation would create excessive regulations that will close roads, reducing access to the public for hiking, camping, hunting, fishing, and rafting, prevent farmers and ranchers from sustainably managing the land in their own backyard, and threaten the rural economy of Southeastern Oregon.

"The Owyhee Canyonlands are home to Oregonians who live and farm the land, caring for it responsibly for generations," said Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli (R-John Day). "Declaring this land a monument is unnecessary and goes too far. The Canyonlands already enjoy multiple layers of protection that preserve the water quality, environment, recreation, wildlife, and sustainable multiple use of the public lands. The Oregon Senate Republicans stand with the people of the Owyhee Canyonlands in united opposition to a monument declaration that will inhibit public access and harm families in this unique rural community. This divisive, progressive assault on rural Oregon needs to stop."

Those opposing the Owyhee Canyonlands monument declaration are encouraged to join the Oregon Senate Republicans by signing a petition telling Governor Brown and Oregon's Congressional leaders to oppose the declaration without a vote of Congress. The petition and more information about the history of the Owyhee Canyonlands can be found at www.ourlandourvoice.com

From Boulder Buster, 06/16

Understanding the definition of silver and sterling is a slippery topic.

I've been floundering about for a better way to explain.

Let's establish a few ground rules.

Metallurgical facts -

1. Silver must be mixed with copper to make an alloy strong enough to be workable and functional. The mixture reaches about 50-50 before the copper colors the silver.

Human behavior -

1. Fact #2 above is very inconvenient, as it leaves wide open the possibility of fraudulent behavior. Without resorting to scientific tests, there is no way for the average person to determine if a piece is .950, .750, possibly even .550

Each country legally defines what the standard of fineness, or ratio of silver:copper is for that country. It then issues an official Assay stamp to prove to consumers that they are getting what they pay for.

Have I completely lost you? I believe the trouble lies in two places.

Number 1, for unknown reasons standards of fineness varied from place to place.

Different ratios of silver: copper impart varying qualities to silver alloy. More copper means greater strength. For example, I have a very old ladle that is .750. Its handle is sufficiently fine, and comes off the

very large cup at such an angle, if it was made of .925 silver, I don't think it could stand the weight of a heavy stew.

The second difficulty is with the word sterling.

Unfortunately, I can not think of another term in the English language that expresses this concept of "standard of fineness" in the way that "sterling" does.

In Germany, .800 is the legal standard of fineness.

In Japan, .950 is the legal standard of fineness.

In France both .950 and .800 are legal standards of fineness.

One could argue that a country's standard of fineness is the definition of sterling in that country.

Originally, sterling referred strictly to the English standard of fineness – which happened to be .925. In England, the first known regulation of the silver trade dates to 1238. The origin of the term sterling is more obscure. One explanation is that the group of silversmiths who petitioned the King to issue this decree were called Easterlings, in reference to their Germanic descent. Over the years this corrupted to sterling. As an interesting aside, in England the shorthand way of referring to silver pieces that meet the standard of fineness is to say they are HM or hallmarked silver. What I do know, is that the term "sterling" crossed the Atlantic to the US and came into circulation in the mid-1800's. Tiffany (in a stroke of marketing genius) adopted and stamped sterling .925 on its goods as a way to differentiate them from the competition.

Since colonial times, US silversmiths used coin silver – literally melted silver coins – to fashion their wares. In practice, the ratio of silver: copper in coins ranged from .892-.900.

Tiffany's marketing worked extremely well. Although there was no official standard of fineness in the US until the early 20th century, it didn't take long for other silver companies jump on the "sterling" bandwagon. Consequently, domestic silver became perceived as inferior goods. (For the record I do not believe that for 1 second, let alone 1 minute.)

In the US, "sterling" has turned into slang for .925. Sterling and .925 are synonymous. The best analogy I can come up with is, it is similar to the way Xerox has come to refer to a copy.

I'm (slowly) realizing many Americans feel the only "sterling" silver worth having is .925. I've been shocked many times when people essentially say everything else – regardless of the standard of fineness in its place of origin – is somehow substandard!! Compare coin silver (.892-.900) to .925.

Design and craftsmanship are the real issues, not 25/1000th's of silver vs. copper.

From Stone Age News, 06/16

ROCKHOUNDING IN CALIFORNIA GETS HARDER

by John Martin

AFMS Conservation & Legislative Chair

The recent events in California have turned the world of some Rockhounds upside down with the creating of three new National Monuments in Southern California's deserts. The presidential proclamations created the National Monuments and within each of the proclamations are the statements "Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of the

monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.” This statement includes the Recreational Collecting of Rocks, Minerals and Fossils inside the boundaries of these monuments. Though it is now unlawful to collect in these monuments and goes against the AFMS Code of Ethics and the AFMS Land Use Policy there is still hope that collecting may be restored in some of the 11 million acres of the desert public lands. Included in the proclamations is the requirement to create a National Monument Management Plan which will include inputs from the public and is stated here below.

“For purposes of the care and management ... the Secretary, through the BLM, shall within 3 years of the date of this proclamation prepare and maintain a management plan for the monument and shall provide for maximum public involvement in the development of that plan including, but not limited to, consultation with tribal, State, and local governments.” This is the only chance to preserve your rights to collect Rocks, Minerals and fossils on your public lands. What is happening and has happened in California could happen in your region or state at any time. In order to continue and ensure the hobby of self collecting of rocks, minerals and fossils is preserved now and for future generations the time has come to be aware of legislation and land management process issues that will affect how you collect in the future.

Every Federation, Club/ Society and individual needs to become proactive in the Land Management Process and make sure your voice is heard in order to protect your right to engage in the hobby of self collecting of rocks, minerals and fossils which has become known as Rockhounding.

If you know of any actions that would limit your ability to self collect rocks, minerals or fossils on public lands please let your Federation PLAC Representative or the AFMS Conservation and Legislation Committee know so the issues may be investigated and a possible course of action formulated.

From West Seattle Petroglyphs, 06/16, via NFMS Newsletter 4/16

JUNE BIRTHSTONES

June counts three gems as birthstones: pearl, Alexandrite, and moonstone.



Pearl: For centuries, pearls have been used as an adornment., and were one of the favorite gem materials of the Roman Empire. Later in Tudor England, the 1500s were known as the pearl age.

Pearls are unique as they are the only gems from living sea creatures and require no faceting or polishing to reveal their natural beauty. In the early 1900s, the first successful commercial culturing of round saltwater pearls began. Since the 1920s, cultured pearls have almost completely replaced natural pearls in the market.

Alexandrite: A relatively modern gem, Alexandrite, was first discovered in Russia in 1831 during the reign of its namesake, Czar Alexander II, and is an extremely rare chrysoberyl with chameleon-like qualities. Its color is a lovely green in both daylight and fluorescent light; it changes color to a purplish red in incandescent light.



Due to its rarity, some jewelers stock synthetic versions of this enchanting gemstone. (Synthetic gemstones are man-made alternatives to the natural material, possessing the same physical, optical, and chemical properties as the natural gemstone.)



Moonstone: The third birthstone for June is the moonstone. It was given its name by the Roman natural historian Pliny, who wrote that moonstone's appearance altered with the phases of the moon — a belief that held until well after the sixteenth century. A phenomenal gemstone, moonstones show a floating play of light (called adularescence) and sometimes show either a

multi-rayed star or a cat's eye.

Considered a sacred stone in India, moonstones often are displayed on a background of yellow (a sacred color) and are believed to encapsulate within the stone a spirit whose purpose is to bring good fortune.

Part of the family of minerals called feldspar, moonstone occurs in many igneous and metamorphic rocks and comes in a variety of colors such as green, blue, peach, and champagne.

The most prized moonstones are from Sri Lanka; India, Australia, the United States, Myanmar, and Madagascar are also sources.

Via Hard Rock News, 06/16

How To Saw Montana Agate

People not familiar with working with Montana agate have, perhaps, wondered how to “set-up” to saw the first nodules they acquire. Most Montana nodules are found in two shapes, flat and slightly curving, or round and elongated. As this material probably has rolled hundreds of miles down turbulent streams, nearly all of it is cracked, so take this into consideration when sawing to get the largest slab free from fractures.

First, look into the rocks with a strong light to determine which way the moss or banding layers lie. Light cuts taken off an end, or side, at right angles to the layers, will then reveal whether you should slab from end to end or side to side. Many people who are used to sawing thunder eggs get used to sawing each nodule through the center to expose the pattern. While this method works well with nodules, it cannot be used to the best advantage with Montana material. It will probably ruin the best sprays as the larger and best ones usually lie toward the center. Sawing across them will render them valueless.

Only a very few specimens carry fine large sprays, so do not be disappointed if the first few do not have them. About the time you are ready to give up; one of the poorest looking pieces may have the fine spray you are looking for.

via Tumbler, 9/10, Skagit Gems, 9/05; via The Puget Sounder, 11/99, via Rock Rollers, 7/97; via Grindings 6/94; from Gem Cutting Shop Help

Attention: All Newsletter Subscribers

If you, or someone you know should be receiving this newsletter electronically and are not, please contact Bob Pattie or myself (Glenn Morita).

We are trying to keep our mailing list current and want to make sure that everyone who wants an electronic version of the newsletter gets one.

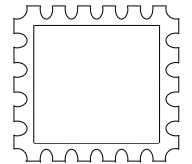
Local Area Shows for 2016

July 2016 15th 10am—5pm 16th 10am—5pm 17th 10am—4pm	Lower Umpqua Gem & Lapidary Society	Treasures from the Earth Rock and Gem Show	Reedsport Community Building 415 Winchester Avenue Reedsport OR
July 2016 16th 10am—5pm 17th 10am—5pm	Darrington Rock & Gem Club	Rock and Gem Show and Sale	Manford Grange 1265 Railroad Avenue Darrington, WA (behind IGA)
July 2016 22nd 9am—6pm 23rd 9am—6pm 24th 9am—5pm	Washington Agate and Mineral Society	Rock and Gem show during Tenino Oregon Trail Days	Parkside Elementary School 301 Central Avenue E (corner of Central Avenue and Stage St. South) Tenino WA 98589
July 2016 29th 10am - 6pm 30th 10am - 6pm 31st 10am - 4pm	Willamette Agate And Mineralogical Society	2016 AFMS/NFMS Show Treasures of the Northwest \$4/day/\$10 3 day pass Under 12 free	Linn County Fair and Expo Building 3700 Knox Butte Road Albany OR
August 2016 5th 10pm—5pm 6th 10am—5pm 7th 10am—4pm	Far West Lapidary & Gem Society	54th Annual Gem and Mineral Show \$1 adults, 12 & under free w/ Adult	North Bend Community Center 2222 N. Broadway North Bend, OR
August 2016 12th 10am—8pm 13th 10am—8pm 14th 10am—6pm	Port Townsend Rock Club	Annual Rock, Gem, & Mineral Show in conjunction with the Jefferson County Fair	Jefferson County Fairgrounds 4907 Landers Street Port Townsend WA 98368
August 2016 13th 9am—5pm 14th 10am—5pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Annual Rock and Mineral Sale	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse 8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA
August 2016 20th 9am—5pm	Shelton Rock and Mineral Society	7th Annual Tailgate Rock Sale and Swap Meet Vendor space \$25	MCRA 2102 E Johns Prairie Rd Shelton, WA To register contact Susan @ 360-275-9432 or SRMS242@yahoo.com
September 2016 10th 9am - 6pm 11th 10am - 4pm	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association	Annual show	Vern Burton Community Center 308 East 4th Street Port Angeles WA
September 2016 10th 10am - 5pm 11th 10am - 5pm	Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society	Annual Gem and Mineral show \$23adults, 12 & under free w/ Adult	Walla Walla County Fairgrounds Community Center Building 363 Orchard St., Walla Walla WA
September 2016 17th 10am - 5pm 18th 10am - 4pm	Southern Washington Mineralogical Society	51st Annual show	Castle Rock Fairgrounds 120 Fair Lane Castle Rock, WA
October 2016 1st 10am - 5pm 2nd 10am—5pm	Marysville Rock and Gem club	42nd Rocktoberfest	Totem Middle School Cafeteria 7th Street and State Avenue Marysville WA
October 2016 15th 10am - 6pm 16th 10am - 5pm	Hell's Canyon Gem Club	50th Annual Show Gemstones, Carvings, & Jewel- ry From Around The World	Nez Perce County Fair Building 1229 Burrell Avenue Lewiston ID

Westside Board Meeting
August 16, 2016
7:30 PM

Maplewood Clubhouse
8802 196th St SW
Edmonds

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The
Washington State Mineral Council



WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
27871 Minkler Road
Sedro Woolley, WA. 98284

