



Our mission is to cultivate awareness, understanding, and stewardship of the Wenatchee River region by developing an active corps of well-informed community volunteers

Sept. 30, 2017 Field Trip 1: White River Watershed Exploration
Guest scientist co-leader, Wildlife Biologist & Artist Heather A. Wallis Murphy.

SUGGESTED READING: *Gestures of Stone and Water: A Natural History of the Wenatchee Watershed*, by Tim McNulty. Pg. 31-36, [Images of the Watershed](#) (2002). *Loaned booklet*

Wenatchee Naturalist website, [White River Exploration Field Trip](#)

Logistics Overview: We will be driving to 4-5 different locations, stopping at each for about an hour to do natural history observations, journaling activities and short walks. Because we'll be standing still and moving slowly or sitting in place, plan to have adequate layers of clothing available and small foam-seat pad. Your extra clothing can be stored in a bag kept in the car so you can use a small backpack to carry field supplies. We will do the field trip rain-or-shine with the option of using indoor space at Tall Timber Ranch in case of bad weather. Tall Timber will serve us a hot meal and we will be using their restrooms. For this trip only, you have to option to purchase lunch:

\$10 - hot lunch & beverage (or bring your own extra-large lunch and snacks if you are not planning to pre-purchase a meal) Pay Susan - check or cash.

\$1 to purchase hot drink at Tall Timber Lodge (if you are not pre-purchasing a meal)

CARPPOOL POLICY: For all field trips, we will seek volunteer drivers with a goal to minimize the total number of cars used. At many of our field sites parking may be limited. **NOTE: A WA State DISCOVER PASS is required for one of our stops.**

- ✓ If you are able, please volunteer to be a driver. Contact the class instructor
- ✓ We ask that all passenger help to cover the driver's costs. For each trip, we suggest the government rate of \$0.55 per mile reimbursement.
- ✓ Field Trip 1 to Tall Timber Ranch:

Wenatchee passengers: 114 miles RT Leavenworth passengers: 76 miles RT

Take the total miles, multiply by \$0.55/mile, & divide by # of passengers (not the driver)

OUTING TIMELINE:

- 7:35 am Wenatchee carpoolers meet **Olds Station Park-and-Ride**, 320 E Penny Road, near Olds Station. Firm departure time of 7:45 AM.
- 8:00 All others meet at **Leavenworth Park-and-Ride**, SR 2 near USFS. Organize into carpools.
- 8:15 Wenatchee carpoolers meet all others at **Leavenworth Park-and-Ride**. All cars will caravan to **Lake Wenatchee State Park** (elevation 1873 ft.)
- 8:45 Quick bathroom stop. Flush toilets and running water at this bathroom. Check-out a pair of WRI binoculars if you like. Overview of geology and history of the area.
- 9:15 Depart for Little Wenatchee Road #6300, at the bridge over the White River.
- 9:30-10:30 Little Wenatchee Road Bridge over the White River (1880 ft.). We will walk ½-mile round trip through the fields, into the forested wetland to the river bank.

- 10:30 Depart for Dirtyface Viewpoint (White River Rd #6400 to Rd #6403, 2 miles dirt road).
- 10:45 **Dirtyface Viewpoint** (2890 ft.) with spectacular view of White River Valley. Journaling focus: landscape drawing. Tree species focus: ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir.
- 11:15-11:30 Drive the 7-mile paved road along the White River to Tall Timber Ranch.
- 11:30-12:30 Walk the **White River-Tall Timber Ranch Interpretive Nature Trail** (1972 ft.). Journaling focus: riparian wetlands and birds drawing. Tree species focus: black cottonwood, grand fir, big-leaf maple.
- 12:30-1:15 **Tall Timber Ranch** Dining Hall. Indoor restrooms and hot beverages available. We'll eat our sack lunches and hear about a Citizen Science Project: Upper Basin Birders
- 1:15-1:30 Load cars and drive a total of 10.5 miles. First drive 4.5-mi downstream on the White River Rd #6400 to the junction with Sears Creek Road #6404. Turn south, crossing the Sears Creek bridge. Drive upstream 6 miles to the Ware Walk Trailhead at the end of the Sears Creek Road #6404, a gravel/dirt road. There are no pit toilet facilities.
- 1:30-3:15 **Ware Walk Interpretive Trail** (2000 ft.) Old-growth forest and wetlands. Journaling focus: plant phenology recording; sites-sounds-smells journaling exercise. Tree species focus: Pacific silver fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, Douglas-fir, western yew, and western white pine. The Ware Walk traverses through a 5-acre old growth western hemlock forest, it reaches riparian and wetlands habitats. The 73-acre forest plantation from 1970 has been thinned twice to develop a multi-story, multi-species with the objective to grow into an old growth forest. The 2012 Sears Creek forest fire 617 acres may be seen as you access this trail.
- 3:45 pm Load cars and depart
- 4:15 pm Option: Short stop to use bathrooms at **Lake Wenatchee State Park**
- 4:45 pm Return to **Leavenworth Park-and-Ride**
- 5:15 pm Return to **Wenatchee Old Station Park-and-Ride**

The following are general guidelines for being outside all day:

WEAR: It may be hot and sunny, or cold and wet. Check the weather report to see what the day will bring! Use layers so you can take clothing off if you get warm while we are moving, and then put clothing on when we stop. Avoid cotton clothing (it gets wet and stays wet!).

- hiking shoes or boots (we will be away from our cars walking 1 mile, several times)
- 2 layers of non-cotton socks (carry 1 extra dry pair)
- inner layer: long underwear top (not cotton)
- additional thermal layer like a puff coat or down jacket, - plan to carry this inside your backpack when we are moving, then pull it out when we make stops.
- outer wind and waterproof layer top and bottom: parka and rain pants. Will use if windy and /or rainy. Can provide additional thermal warmth when stationary.
- Gloves or mittens. Bring a pair that you may be able to wear while writing
- scarf or neck warmer (turtle)
- hat (can be used in combination with hood on coat)

GEAR

- daypack so you have room to carry 1 hour's worth of supplies
- a small foam-seat pad (Susan has 12 loaners)
- 1 quart water. Option: A thermos with a hot beverage
- whistle
- 2 quart-sized Ziploc bags with toilet paper, lighter or candle with matches.
- headlamp or flashlight.
- sun protection: Visor or cap, sunscreen, lip balm, sunglasses
- 1 gallon-sized Ziploc bag with field journal, pencil, pen, & reading glasses
- binoculars (we will have loaners available that day)
- hand lens and Parish/Coupe/Lloyd field guide (inside a Ziploc bag)
- option: camera, G.P.S. unit (this would be just for your personal fun), field guides, personal first aid kit