

Pacific Northwest

A year-long process to develop a management plan and EIS for mountain goats on the Olympic Peninsula was announced on Oct. 31, 1991 by Olympic NP, Olympic NF, and the Washington Department of Wildlife. An interagency team has been appointed to develop a plan balancing the mandates and objectives of each agency, the preservation of fragile alpine ecosystems, and the concerns of the public.

Olympic NP has been working actively on the mountain goat problem within the park for more than 10 years. Recognizing potential effects from mountain goats on rare plants within forest wilderness areas, Olympic NF has joined the planning effort. The Wash. Dept. of Wildlife, as manager of wildlife within the national forest, is a cooperating agency. Scoping meetings for preparation of the plan and EIS will begin in January 1992. The management plan and final EIS are slated for completion in spring 1993.

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Steve Gibbons, Natural Resource Specialist for the PN Region, attended a 2-day workshop on "Biology and Management of Wild. Edible Mushrooms in Pacific Northwest Ecosystems" on Oct. 29-30, 1991 in Eugene, OR. Co-sponsors were the Willamette NF, the Pacific Northwest Research Station, Oregon State University, and the Washington Dept. of Natural Resources. Participants (270 of them) represented the commercial mushroom industry, mycological societies, state and federal agencies, the scientific community and the NPS.

Objectives of the workshop were to educate resource managers on the basic ecology of fungi in forest ecosystems, characterize the major edible species with commercial implications, discuss current regulations and concerns regarding commercial harvest, and provide a forum to develop regional consensus for managing and monitoring this resource.

For more information on this workshop and its applicability to resource management and protection of wild edible fungi in the PNR, contact Gibbons in Seattle, WA at (206) 553-5670 or FTS 399-5670.



Ted Fremd, paleontologist at John Day Fossil Beds National Monument in Eastern Oregon, scrutinizes a hillside near the burial site of "Ellen the rhino," (described in the Fall 1991 issue's *Regional Highlights*). The rhino (*Rhinocerotidae Diceratherium armatum*), who died nearly 25 million years ago, had the largest skull known – almost 2 feet from nose to neck. Photo by Ellen Morris Bishop, courtesy of *The Oregonian*, Portland.

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A gray wolf, listed by the USFWS as an endangered species, was sighted last summer in the Hozomeen area of Ross Lake National Recreation Area, first by a park archaeologist and later by a park biologist and several park rangers. The visual sighting, photographs and tracks provided undisputed evidence that the animal is a gray wolf. In 1990 a wolf was sighted in late May and vocal responses from 2 adults and several pups indicated an active den in the same approximate area. The den location was never found.

Hozomeen is at the north end of Ross Lake on the US/Canada border, approximately 40 miles south of the town of Hope, BC. The lucky "sighters" included Park Geologist Jon Riedel (into whose camp the gray wolf entered and passed within 15 feet of him), Chief Ranger Dave Spirtes, Park Biologist Bob Kuntz, and WA/Dept. of Wildlife biologists Jon Almack and Scott Fitkin.



Endangered gray wolf is caught by the camera in the Hozomeen area of Ross Lake National Recreation Area. The gray wolf resembles a large domestic dog but has longer legs, larger feet, and a narrower chest.