

From: [Falzetti, David](#)
Bcc: [BrownScott, Jennifer](#)
Subject: Winter newsletter, important info
Date: Saturday, March 17, 2018 10:38:24 AM
Attachments: [Brant Winter 2018 \(1\).pdf](#)

Hello Everyone, attached is the latest edition of the Brant hot off the presses and it's loaded with important news.

Thank you to our editor Jason West for another fantastic edition of our Refuge newsletter. We hope you enjoy it. Dave.

Dave Falzetti
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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THE BRANT

VOLUME 1

FRIENDS OF DUNGENESS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

WINTER 2018

Significant Changes Proposed to Dungeness Recreation Area

Clallam County Parks is updating the master plan for the Dungeness Recreation Area. The preferred option presented at the March 6th meeting proposes adding approximately 44 new RV campsites and four cabins across from the existing group site in the only wooded area of the park. What impacts would the proposed plan have on wildlife and on the Refuge? You can learn more about the proposed changes and voice your opinion today by visiting the County's web site:

<http://www.clallam.net/Parks/DRAMP>

[CLICK HERE](#)

Be sure to click on the green navigation tabs along the top of the page to read the narrative and review comments that have been submitted. **The public comment period ends Friday, March 23rd.**



Proposed future location of RV campsites and cabins near the south side of the Refuge.

REFUGE EVENTS

Annual Volunteer Training Friday, April 6, 2018

New Volunteer Training
8:00 am–Noon

Lunch
12:15 pm–1:00 pm

Current Volunteer Refresher
1:00 pm–3:30 pm

See page 2 for more details.

Insects of the Pacific Northwest by Lucia Napolitano Wednesday, May 2, 2018

10:00 am at the Dungeness
River Audubon Center
2151 W Hendrickson Rd.
Sequim, WA.

Beach Clean Up Saturday, May 5, 2018

Meet at the Refuge at 9:00 am
at the old caretaker cabin site.
No RSVP is necessary.
Please wear sturdy shoes, dress
for the weather, bring gloves
and water.

Beach clean up is 9:00am the
first Saturday of the month
May through September.

Volunteer Training is Friday, April 6th

New Volunteers:

The Refuge will hold its Annual New Volunteer Training on Friday, April 6, 2018 from 8:00 am–12:00 pm at the Sequim Prairie Grange Hall, 290 MacLeay Rd, west of Sequim. Lunch will be provided by the Friends 12:15 pm–1:00 pm.

New trainees must reserve their space at the training. Please call the Refuge office at 360-457-8451 or send an e-mail to: david_falzetti@fws.gov

Current Volunteers:

The Refuge will hold its annual Volunteer refresher for current Volunteers from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

There will be a shared lunch sponsored by the Friends of DNWR as usual from 12:15 pm–1:00 pm.

Meet the Friends Board for 2018

Bruce Brod – Treasurer

Ellie Ausmus – Parliamentarian

Jason West – Outreach and Newsletter

Jeanie McNamara – Secretary

Jessie Christiansen – Vice President / Environmental Protection

John Maxwell – President

Linda Gutowski – Fundraising and Grant writing

Margaret Maxwell – Refuge Protection

Ex officio – Jennifer Scott-Brown, Project Leader, Washington Maritime NWRC

Dave Falzetti, Visitor Services Manager and Friends liaison

The Friends Board meets at the Refuge headquarters on the second Thursday of the month, January through May and September through November. The meeting time is 2:30-4:30 pm. Visitors are welcome to come and listen in.

The Friends have plans for 2018:

- Making the Friends of Dungeness NWR more visible in the community
- Continue working on a video about the restoration of Protection Island NWR
- More nature classes for both volunteers and the general public
- Create a field guide to the refuge
- Create a guide to short hikes from the entrance kiosk
- Monitoring possible threats to the Refuge, and taking positions when appropriate

CONTACTS

**Friends of Dungeness
National Wildlife Refuge**

Mailing Address

715 Holgerson Rd.
Sequim, WA 98382

Web Site

<http://www.fodnwr.org>

Friends Email

fodnwr@gmail.com

Refuge Phone

(360) 457-8451

FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellie Ausmus

Bruce Brod, Treasurer

Jessie Christiansen, Vice President

Linda Gutowski

Jeanie McNamara, Clerk

John Maxwell, President

Margaret Maxwell

Jason West

FRIENDS COMMITTEES

Environmental Education

Environmental Restoration

Jessie Christiansen

Fundraising

Linda Gutowski

Outreach

Jason West

Refuge Protection

Margaret Maxwell

Please contact us if you would like to work with the Friends.

Friends Takes on Issues Affecting the Refuge and Its Critters

Margaret Maxwell, Refuge Protection Work Group Chair

There are many issues surfacing which affect Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge and its inhabitants. Here are the issues currently under consideration.

The Refuge Protection Work Group welcomes others to join in what we are doing. Any “meetings” we have are via email or over coffee.

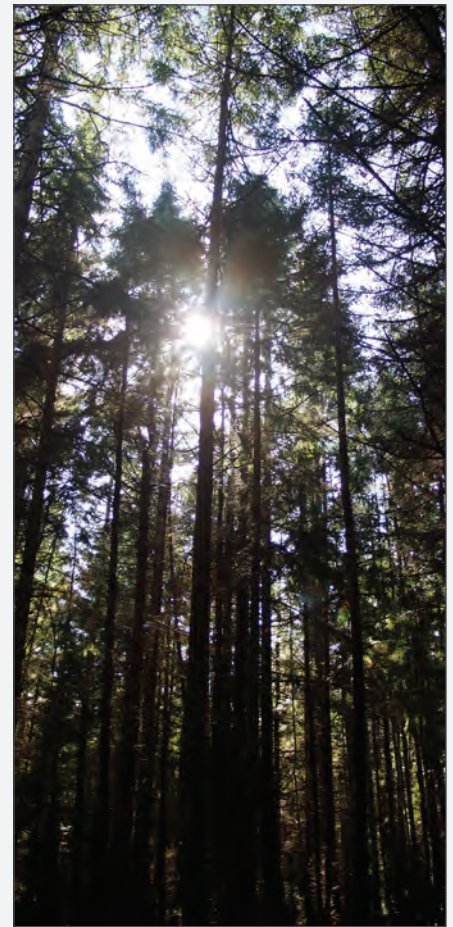
Coastal Oil Drilling The Administration (D.C.) has proposed greatly expanding offshore oil and gas drilling. The Friends group, working with the Marine National Sanctuary Foundation, sent a statement opposing this expansion. The offshore islands which are a part of our Washington Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Complex would be in danger from drilling. The Governor is also working against offshore drilling.

Atlantic Salmon Net Pens Last fall the Friends sent a statement to Clallam County opposing the large net pen installation proposed for just west of Dungeness Spit. We feared for the harm it could do to our beautiful Refuge. Things happened and we now have legislation headed for the Governor’s desk which phases out Atlantic salmon net pens. Many thanks to our legislators, Senator Kevin Van de Wege and Representatives Mike Chapman and Steve Tharinger who worked and voted for the legislation. Particular thanks to Senator Van de Wege who was a sponsor of the legislation in the Senate. Thanks also to our partner the Wild Fish Conservancy who worked hard on this issue.

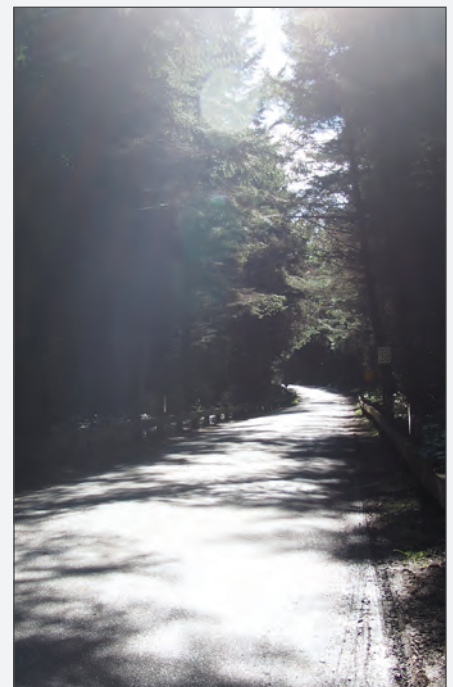
Oyster Aquaculture On Refuge Tidelands The Jamestown Tribe has submitted an application for oyster aquaculture in the tidelands of the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge to Clallam County. Comments are due April 5th and the Friends group is currently studying the issue. Documents are available on the Clallam County Website: www.clallam.net [CLICK HERE](#) under the Department of Community Development.

Dungeness Recreation Area Clallam County is proposing major changes to the Dungeness Recreation Area, the county park next to the Refuge. Friends members attended a hearing last week. Comments are due by March 23rd. Information is available at: www.clallam.net/parks/DRAMP [CLICK HERE](#)

Migratory Bird Treaty The Administration (D.C.) is proposing drastic changes to the Migratory Bird Treaty. Changes would allow “incidental” killing of migratory birds which has not been allowed since the international treaty was enacted in the early 20th Century. National Audubon is the best source of information on this issue. [CLICK HERE](#)



Area of proposed RV campsites in the Dungeness Recreation Area.



Area of proposed cabins along the road.



February snow covering Dungeness Spit as seen from a residence on Anderson Road.



Winter trees along the primitive trail.

The 2017 Volunteer of the Year: Grant Rollins

- Grant has been a volunteer since 2015. He and his wife Marlene were originally caretakers on Protection Island. As such they were ineligible for Volunteer of the Year award. After retiring from that job they moved to the area permanently and Grant began volunteering as a regular person.
- PI is still his passion, in fact Grant's family has history on the Island.
- Grant's help has been invaluable. For example, he researched the cost of laying an electrical cable from shore to PI and solar energy alternatives. He created an information packet to help us better understand the benefits and limitations of alternative energy.
- He helped build the new fire truck for PI and provided caretaker support on the Island in the absence of full-time caretakers.
- He also keeps the water tower full, and preps the bunkhouse and caretaker cabin for other users.
- Grant is fun to work with, available at a moments notice, extremely skilled, dependable, energetic, and creative.
- He doesn't just show up to give a hand, he provides great ideas, planning, and expert assistance. Grant works extremely hard and we rely on him very much.
- He's also committed to our mission and enjoys the Refuge's wildlife, and loves sharing his experiences with his grand kids.
- Grant is always ready with a smile and a witty sense of humor.
- Now in his 4th year, Grant has almost earned his 2,000 hour pin.



2017 Volunteer of the Year: Grant Rollins



2017 Top Five Volunteer Hour Earners: Steve Muller (298.25 hrs), Lizzie Baatz (326 hrs) [not pictured], Jessie Christiansen (368.5 hrs), Grant Rollins (405 hrs), and Ron Andris (970 hrs).



Volunteers enjoying the banquet meal.