

**From:** [Falzetti, David](#)  
**Bcc:** [BrownScott, Jennifer](#)  
**Subject:** Brant, Spring newsletter  
**Date:** Friday, June 8, 2018 4:41:29 PM  
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Hello Volunteers, attached is the latest news letter hot off the press from editor Jason West. We hope you enjoy it. Dave

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# THE BRANT

VOLUME 2

FRIENDS OF DUNGENESS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

SPRING 2018

## Summer Picnic in August

You are invited to join Refuge volunteers on August 2nd at the group picnic area of the County Park for a mid-season picnic. We'll eat, get to know each other better, tell stories about the season so far and ask questions about things that have come up in your work at the Refuge. And if it's not too hot, we'll have a campfire.

It'll be a chance to get to know other volunteers besides the ones on either side of your shift. There's already at least one happy story about a dog who was found, thought to be lost and found again.

The Friends will sponsor the picnic and provide wraps, hot drinks and lemonade. The time is 11:30-2:30. Please bring a dessert or salad. We are asking everyone to bring their own table service including a mug because we are going to do our best to be environmentally friendly and generate minimal trash.



View from the lower overlook in late May 2018.

### REFUGE EVENTS

**Rock Walk with Dave Parks**  
geologist with Washington  
Dept. of Natural Resources

Volunteers Only Walk  
10:00 am Friday July 27th

Volunteers and General Public  
10:00 am Saturday July 28th

Meet at the upper overlook.

**Beach Clean Up**  
**Saturday, July 7th**  
**Saturday, August 4th**  
**Saturday, September 1st**

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 9:00 am the  
first Saturday of the month  
May through September.

**Annual Volunteer Picnic**  
**Thursday, August 2nd**  
See article on this page (left)  
for additional information.  
11:30 am – 2:30 pm

# News From Friends of Dungeness NWR

John Maxwell, President

## We made some exciting decisions at our recent May board meeting.

We agreed to work with *Discover Nature App* to design an app for Dungeness NWR. Discover Nature Apps is a joint venture of Evan Hirsche and Sam Serebin. It seeks to connect families to the outdoors in ways that are fun and engaging and which ultimately lead to taking meaningful action in support of protecting our public lands. Evan is past president of National Wildlife Refuge Association.

This cellphone app is a great educational product, focused around a game that invites youth to identify wildlife on the refuge. It works like a scavenger hunt with lots of clues. At the end, the players use the points they earn for a prize to be determined by the Friends.

The app includes virtual signs and pages of information about the refuge and its surrounding area. It will also keep track of your wildlife sightings, by date, time and location through GPS.

You can download the basic app platform anywhere, and then use it in the refuge of your choice. It is free. For example, I downloaded it from Google Play. The Oregon Coast Refuge complex already has their app up and running. Check it out. We plan to have the official rollout of our version at Family Discovery Day, next year on August 3, 2019.

The cost, to be determined after consultation with the company, may be in the neighborhood of \$26,000. The Friends board believes we can raise most or all that amount through educational grants from various sources. If you know a local source of such grants, please let Linda Gutowski, our fund-raising chair, know. We are also seeking people who are willing to canvas the community for sponsors, especially restaurants, motels and B&Bs. It will be a great way to serve the visitors to the Refuge!

## Get Your Friends T-shirts Here

Second, the board decided to order 30 green T-shirts of various sizes with the Friends logo in white. They will be available for sale at the Friends mid-summer picnic on August 2. We already proudly wear our refuge fleeces and jackets. Now we can also advertise the Friends of Dungeness NWR. (The green color is to distinguish volunteers working specifically as Friends.)

## And Speaking of Selling...

The Friends are investigating the possibility of having an on-line store, selling things like t-shirts, caps, Friends pins, and other Refuge/Education-oriented items. We would use our already-existing PayPal account for people to purchase the products. All the money would go to Friends projects like the Discover Nature App.

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## CONTACTS

**Friends of Dungeness  
National Wildlife Refuge**

### Mailing Address

715 Hologerson Rd.  
Sequim, WA 98382

### Web Site

<http://www.fodnwr.org>

### Friends Email

[fodnwr@gmail.com](mailto:fodnwr@gmail.com)

### Refuge Phone

(360) 457-8451

## FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**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.

By the way, did you know that Amazon Smile allows people to designate a part of their purchase price to a charitable organization? Friends of Dungeness NWR is already on their list. [CLICK HERE](#)

### Friends Groups Connect With Each Other Through Facebook

There are two Facebook groups you want to know about. One is Region 1, the other is nationwide. Our Friends group is not alone. We have lots of “friends.” Check out “groups” on Facebook.

### The National Wildlife Refuge Association Is Another Way To Connect

This advocacy group is our best source for information about challenges and issues facing our refuges. They send out alerts about both issues and other organizations who share our love for the out-of-doors and its wildlife. Their website is [www.refugeassociation.org](http://www.refugeassociation.org) [CLICK HERE](#)

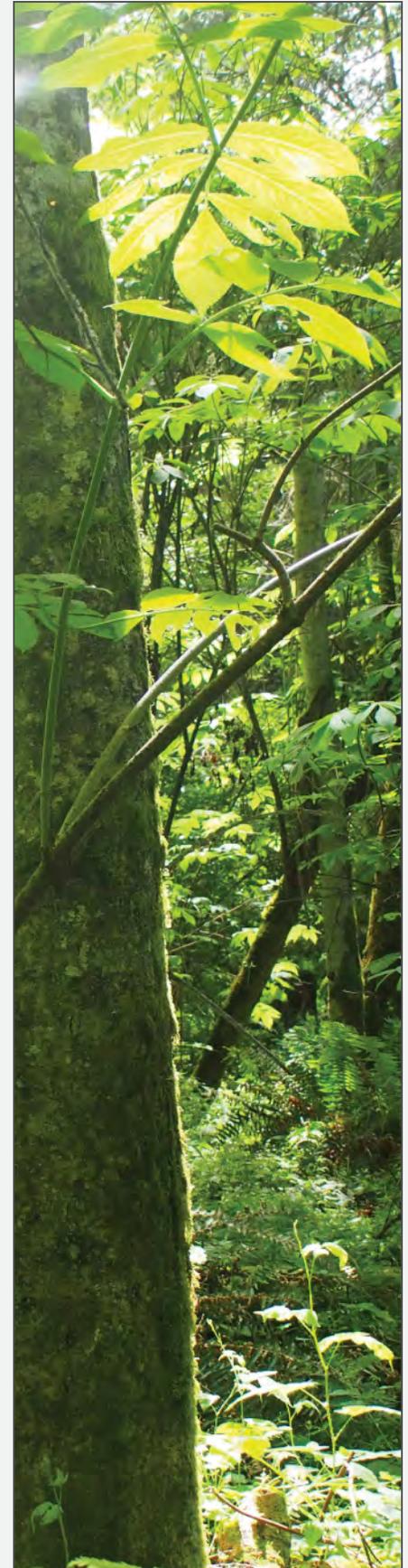
### Finally,

Thank you to all who greet visitors at the entrance kiosk and point out the “blue ranger.” Remember that this is the place to deposit gifts and memberships for the Friends. So far this year, “Blue” has earned \$527.80. That may not sound like much, but every bit helps our work supporting the Refuge. Keep up the good work. Thank you.

— John Maxwell, President



An octopus washed up on the bay side of the spit on May 22nd. Photo: Ron Andris / USFWS



Spring foliage along the primitive trail.

## Geologist Dave Parks Receives National Award and Gives Rock Walks

Dave Parks, a geologist with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, is well known among Refuge volunteers for his geology walks/talks on Dungeness NWR. Dave recently received the E.B Burwell Jr. Award from the Council of the Geological Society of America. The award is given annually in recognition of outstanding contributions to the field of engineering geology. Dave was especially recognized for his paper on coastal bluffs, shoreline armoring and large-scale dam removal.

Congratulations to Dave and many thanks for the time and effort he has given to helping us learn about geology on the Refuge.

Dave will be conducting two “Rock Walks” this July. The volunteer only walk will take place on Friday, July 27th at 10:00 a.m., and the volunteer and public walk will be Saturday, July 28th at 10:00 a.m. Meet at the upper overlook and expect to finish the walk an hour and a half later at the base of the bluffs.



Dave Parks explains aspects of bluff erosion during a geology walk in 2015.



Refuge volunteers get creative in educating about fish. Photo: Tarleton / USFWS



Refuge volunteers help a young artist hang artwork to dry. Photo: Tarleton / USFWS

## Volunteering at Kid’s Fishing Day

For the 3rd time our Volunteers helped out with the Makah National Fish Hatchery’s Kid’s Fishing Day on June 2nd. Ten Refuge Volunteers and one Refuge employee spent the day helping Hatchery employees and volunteers from the U.S. Coast Guard base in Neah Bay teach children about fishing, archery, and a variety of other subjects.

The Makah NFH Kid’s Fishing Day has become an important annual event for the Makah community.

**Are you interested in volunteering at an event like this?**

If so, contact Dave Falzetti about future volunteer opportunities.

**360-457-8451 x 29**

# Friends of DNWR Following Important Issues

Margaret Maxwell, Refuge Protection Work Group Chair

Friends of the Refuge have been following and taking stands on several issues:

## **Jamestown S’Klallam Commercial Oyster Farm Proposal**

Board members and volunteers submitted written testimony and gave oral testimony at a recent hearing on the oyster farm proposal. The oyster farm would take up 35 acres in the tidelands near Graveyard Spit on the Refuge.

The hearing/permitting process has been continued for six months at the request of the Tribe in order to prepare a new assessment as required by the Army Corps of Engineers. In addition Clallam County has withdrawn its “determination of non-significance” for the project.

The open hearing will continue until 11/15/2018. Comments deadlines will be announced and public comments are accepted at any time.

We are concerned about the visual impact of thousands of black mesh bags in the tidelands as well as the disturbance of wildlife, particularly wintering birds.

## **Dungeness County Park**

We are committed to continue to work in partnership with the County Park, particularly in helping visitors understand the difference in purposes of the Park and the Refuge and pointing out what a great public lands partnership it is.

However, we took a strong stand against a proposed 40-site RV loop. It would cause the loss of too much wildlife habitat.

The Park proposal is in three phases, with the new RV loop now scaled back to 20 sites being part of phase 3. Many of us are still wondering why we need new RV sites at the expense of forested wildlife habitat.

More information is available at <http://www.clallam.net/Parks/DRAMP>

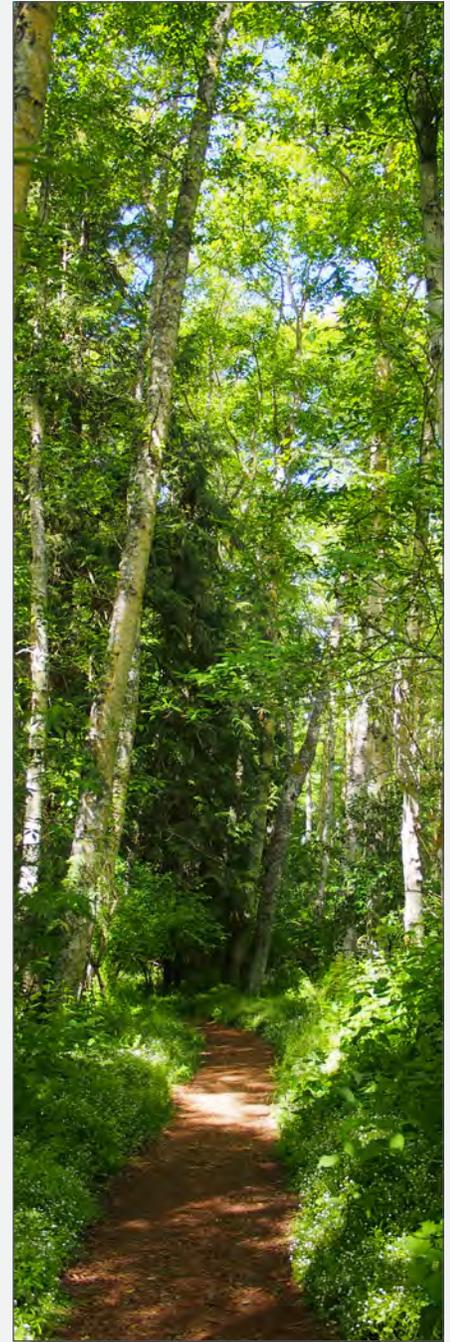
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## **International Migratory Bird Treaty**

At the urging of National Audubon Society, the Friends Board took a stand against changes proposed to the International Migratory Bird Treaty. The proposed changes would allow birds to be killed with no consequences. We wrote Representative Kilmer and Senators Cantwell and Murray expressing our opposition to the changes.

Check the National Audubon website for information. There is still time for individuals to weigh in on this tragic proposal. The Treaty dates from 1918.

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Refuge volunteers help a young artist hang artwork to dry. Photo: Tarleton / USFWS

**Want to get involved  
with the Friends?**

Send us an email and let  
us know how you can  
help achieve our goals.

**[fodnwr@gmail.com](mailto:fodnwr@gmail.com)**

**Two other issues of interest**

Work is continuing by the Wild Fish Conservancy and their Our Sound, Our Salmon campaign to make sure farmed fish are not carrying viruses that would affect wild salmon. Salmon eggs and fry are transported internationally by Cooke Aquaculture and there could be viruses brought in from around the world. The Friends Board is a member of the Wild Fish Conservancy. They are the folks who worked so hard at the legislation prohibiting new Atlantic salmon pens, including one proposed not far to the west of the Refuge.

The Washington State Department of Ecology has denied the request for a permit for spraying the pesticide imidacloprid on oyster and clam beds to control native burrowing shrimp in Willapa Bay. The Department determined that damage would be too great to all life in the water, including birds.



Nootka Rose in bloom along the trail.

## Leave No Trace (LNT) Training

Volunteers attended LNT training on May 31st. The trainers were Donielle Stevens and Aaron Hussmann from the Subaru LNT Center For Outdoor Ethics.

There were 22 Volunteers at the training. Donielle and Aaron did a fantastic job!



Donielle Stevens (left) Aaron Hussmann (right) train Refuge Volunteers. Photo: Falzetti / USFWS



LNT Training. Photo: Falzetti / USFWS

**You can donate to the Friends at no cost to you when you shop on Amazon.**

**Sign up at Amazon Smile**

## Seasonal Ranger Gary Tarleton

Gary grew up on a cattle ranch in the sand hills of Nebraska. He spent four years of active duty in the US Air Force in Europe and other parts of the world.

Graduating with a BA in Photography from the Brooks Institute of California and having twenty plus years as a corporate/commercial photographer for Fortune 500 companies working on national and international projects, he landed the job as photographer for the National Park Service in Washington D.C. and Museum Conservation Services. There he both traveled to many National Parks to document/survey historic objects and architecture as well as documenting and working as a conservator on many of this country's most important historic objects.

As a park ranger and photographer he has experience with the National Park Service at San Juan Island National Historic Park and recently with the Dept. of the Army-Army Corp of Engineers based at Lake Sonoma, CA and most recently the Willamette Valley in Oregon watching over 13 flood control dams and reservoirs with the Army Corp of Engineers.



Gary Tarleton at the lighthouse.

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## Washout! No Vehicle Access to Spit

Water from an irrigation line has washed out the road used by vehicles to access the Dungeness Spit. The New Dungeness Light Station Association will be running two UTVs on the trails and Spit for the next 6 months or so until the road is repaired and they can return to the large trucks they normally use for the keeper transports. They used the UTV vehicles last Saturday for the first time.

