



# Loo Wit Rumblings



Environment, Education, Conservation, Outings & Events for Southwest Washington

## Loo Wit's Annual Holiday Party Coming up November 30th

*Mark Leed, Chair*

Dave Pinkernell grew up near Santa Barbara California, often going on Sierra Club hikes with his father. Both were instrumental in giving Dave a passion for helping people and the environment. After retiring from a career in research & development at HP in Vancouver, Dave has focused on giving back to the community. He now serves as president of the Columbia Gorge Refuge Stewards, a non-profit helping to support the three US Fish & Wildlife refuges in the gorge.



Dave Pinkernell, President of Columbia Gorge Refuge Stewards.

Join us at Loo Wit's annual holiday party on Saturday, Nov. 30 to hear from Dave about the exciting floodplain restoration project at Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Together with refuge staff, the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership and others, the Refuge Stewards are working to restore nearly 1000 acres of floodplain habitat for salmon and lamprey. This will be the largest habitat restoration project along the lower Columbia River.

The party gets underway at 5:00 PM at Vancouver's Unitarian Church, located at 4505 E. 18th St., just west of Fort Vancouver High School. We'll enjoy delicious tamales (both meat and vegan) along with desserts. Coffee, tea and wine will be available. Looking for holiday gifts? You might find one in our ever popular silent auction and raffle. As always, we will honor our volunteers and recap Loo Wit's accomplishments over the past year. You can also cast your vote in our 2020 Executive Committee (ExCom) election, and purchase 2020 Sierra Club desk and wall calendars. Please join us for an evening of good food and reconnecting with old friends.



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## **LOO WIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS UNDERWAY**

It's time to vote for your 2020 Loo Wit Executive Committee (ExCom).

Sierra Club bylaws require local groups to conduct an election for Executive Committee members in November and December. You can find candidate statements on the following pages in this issue of *Rumblings*, so please take a moment to mark your ballot and mail it in.

Voting for Loo Wit's ExCom is extremely important, as ExCom is the administrative body and the face of the group. ExCom members make numerous decisions throughout the year on which issues to engage in and how to support those who become involved in those issues. All candidates run at large with ExCom deciding on who will fill specific positions at the January meeting.

**Please vote by December 31st, 2018, either by email to Loo Wit Secretary at [KelSey.King216@gmail.com](mailto:KelSey.King216@gmail.com) with subject line "Loo Wit ExCom Election" or mail paper printout of the ballot on the following page in an envelope. You may also vote in person at the Loo Wit Holiday party on November 30th.**

Sierra Club Loo Wit Elections  
PO Box 13, Vancouver WA 98666

Please include your name and, if possible, your Sierra Club membership number to easily certify your membership is current.



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**2020 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION BALLOT—LOO WIT GROUP, SIERRA CLUB**

To mail: Cut along the dotted lines below, include your name and Sierra Club membership number, and address envelope to:

Sierra Club Loo Wit Elections, PO Box 13, Vancouver WA 98663

**2018 LOO WIT GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BALLOT**

1. Wendy Cleveland
2. Emily Waters
3. Lehman Holder
4. Betsie Ross

**Please vote for up to 4 Candidates**

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Single</b>	<b>Joint</b>
<b>Wendy Cleveland</b>	[ ]	[ ]
<b>Emily Waters</b>	[ ]	[ ]
<b>Lehman Holder</b>	[ ]	[ ]
<b>Betsie Ross</b>	[ ]	[ ]



### Lehman Holder

Institutional knowledge, and the opportunity to mentor new, younger Sierra members who join Loo Wit executive committee (ExCom) is my primary reason for being an ExCom candidate. Sierra Club is a complex organization with a broad range of interests, and I've served on both local group and Chapter ExComs for many years in numerous positions. I understand how the Club does its work to protect our environment. I would appreciate your vote -- thank you.



### Betsie Ross

I am a 2019 transplant to the Pacific Northwest from Austin, Texas, where I lived for 7 years. I chose to move to Vancouver because I am awed by the natural beauty and opportunities for outdoor recreational activities. In Austin I frequently participated in Sierra Club outings, and continued with the outings shortly after arriving in Vancouver. While I have not participated in conservation initiatives in the past, I am passionate about preserving the beauty and nature that we are blessed with here in the Pacific NW, my new home! I'm excited about the opportunity to engage in the community via joining the Sierra Club Loo Wit ExCom.

I'm originally from NY state (mid-Hudson Valley), and attended Brown University, where I majored in Organizational Behavior and Management. I've lived in Houston, New Orleans, Springfield, MO, and Austin. During my years in Louisiana I was a CASA volunteer and employee. Professionally, after returning to school for an MBA with a Computer Information Systems emphasis 20 years ago, I've been employed in Health Care IT and Population Health Management for the last 17 years.

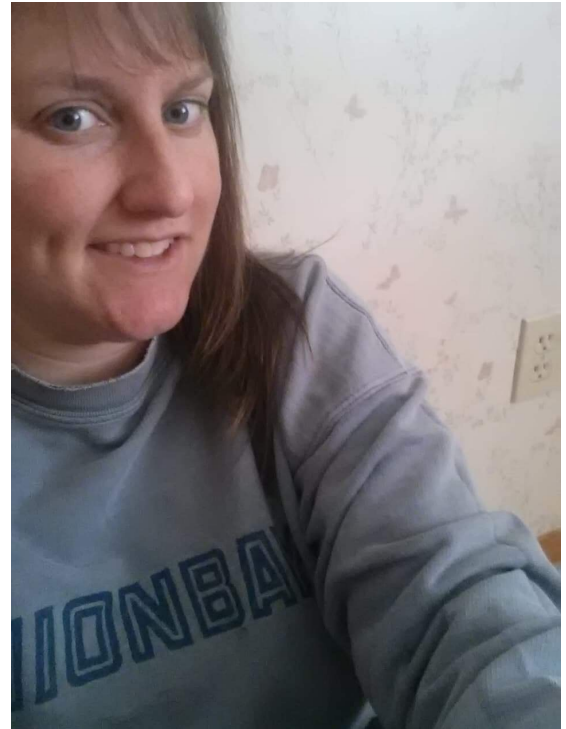






### Wendy Cleveland

My name is Wendy Cleveland. I am the conservation committee chair for Loo Wit. I am passionate about local conservation and land use. I have worked on several local campaigns for county council. I want to protect and preserve our amazing natural resources. In my spare time I advocate for our unsheltered community and enjoy teaching painting at my parent's retirement community. I am blessed with an amazing husband that supports me in all these endeavors. And I am running for a position on the Loo Wit ExCom.



### Emily Waters

I have been a member of the advisory committee, and then the Executive Committee, of Loo Wit for the last 4 years and would like to continue on the Executive Committee for another two year term. Being a part of the Sierra Club has introduced me to so many people who care about the environment just as much as I do, and has given me opportunity to take action to protect local places I love. I have spent the last 2 years focused on protecting the Hantwick Trail in North Clark County and have a particular interest in forest, water, and public lands policy. When I'm not volunteering with the Sierra Club, I'm at work as a hydrologist, at school earning my master's in environmental law, or out hiking with my dog Giselle. I greatly appreciate your vote for me to serve another term on the Loo Wit Executive Committee.



# LOO WIT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sat. Nov. 30th.** Loo Wit Annual Holiday Party. Details on Page 1.

***Executive Committee Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Vancouver, WA. Glass Room. 6:30—8:00 pm.***

***Beyond Coal & Oil Task Force Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Vancouver. Meet & greet with pizza starts at 6:00 pm, followed by the meeting at 6:30 pm.***

## Connect With Us!

If you haven't already, please give us a "like" on Facebook! We share information about upcoming events, photos from outings and the latest Loo Wit news. You can even share our posts with your own Facebook friends, helping to spread the word about Loo Wit!

All of our upcoming outings are posted on MeetUp, and archives of our monthly newsletters on our website. You can find us on Instagram by searching "LooWit.Group"

[www.facebook.com/loowit.group](http://www.facebook.com/loowit.group)

[www.meetup.com/Portland-Vancouver-Sierra-Club-Outings-Events](http://www.meetup.com/Portland-Vancouver-Sierra-Club-Outings-Events)

[www.sierraclub.org/washington/loo-wit](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/loo-wit)

You can also join our listserv for pertinent conservation related news! Send an email to [CASCADE-LOOWIT-CONSFORUM@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG](mailto:CASCADE-LOOWIT-CONSFORUM@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG) with "subscribe" in the subject line to be added to the list!



## Loo Wit Executive Committee Members

**Mark Leed**—Chair

**Don Steinke**—Oil & Coal

**Steve Foster**—Treasurer/Sales

**Lehman Holder**—Outings Liaison

**Alona Steinke**—Oil & Coal/at large

**Fred Suter** — Vice Chair/Legislative Liaison

**David Bybee**—Secretary

**Emily Waters**—Newsletter/NF Comm.

**Kelsey King**—At Large



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## Loo Wit ExCom Leaders 2019 (voting members)

Mark Leed – Chair  
(360) 735-9451 home, (360) 356-0974  
[markleed02@gmail.com](mailto:markleed02@gmail.com)

Don Steinke – Coal & Oil/At Large  
(360) 892-1589 home, (360) 903-3052 cell  
[crvancouverusa@gmail.com](mailto:crvancouverusa@gmail.com)

Steve Foster – Treasurer, Sales  
(360) 607-8076 cell, (360) 892-4289 home  
[siberman88@aol.com](mailto:siberman88@aol.com)

Lehman Holder – Outings Liaison, Political  
Chair, (360) 901-0861  
[tripsguy@aol.com](mailto:tripsguy@aol.com)

Alona Steinke – At Large  
[AlonaKotkaSteinke@hotmail.com](mailto:AlonaKotkaSteinke@hotmail.com)  
Other contact info, see Don Steinke

Fred Suter – Vice Chair, Legislative Liaison  
360-901-7699  
[frsuter@comcast.net](mailto:frsuter@comcast.net)

David Bybee – Secretary  
(360) 993-4247  
[DaveBybee@washington.sierraclub.org](mailto:DaveBybee@washington.sierraclub.org)

Emily Waters – Newsletter Editor, Listserv,  
National Forests  
(360) 713-4281  
[waters\\_emily@hotmail.com](mailto:waters_emily@hotmail.com)

Kelsey King — At Large  
(319) 321-3073  
[Kelsey.king216@gmail.com](mailto:Kelsey.king216@gmail.com)

## Loo Wit Advisory & Committee Leaders 2019 (non-voting members)

Tom Forest – Outings Chair  
(503) 730-7697  
[tforest@prometheal.com](mailto:tforest@prometheal.com)

Frank Marre—Political Committee  
(360) 883-5441

Donna Schnuck – Webmaster  
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Wendy Cleveland  
Conservation Committee  
360-513-4360  
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Richard Kolber -- Political  
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(360) 314-2963,  
[richardkolber@hotmail.com](mailto:richardkolber@hotmail.com)



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## **Climate Action Updates**

### **Don and Alona Steinke**

We believe we have a climate crisis and that doing nothing is not an option.

We know from experience that nothing happens without persistent advocacy from large groups of citizens.

Along with our partners, we have stopped 20 giant fossil fuel export terminals by organizing large groups of people to show up at public hearings and advocate.

If you'd like to join the climate fight, send an email to [Don.SteinkecrVanWash@gmail.com](mailto:Don.SteinkecrVanWash@gmail.com) to be added to the list for our newsletter called Climate Action of SW WA.

Our next goal is to get the Port and the City to commit to Climate Action Plans.

We still have some terminal threats:

### **Kalama Methanol**

The proponent for that project has misled everyone including the EIS writers, but we believe the Department of Ecology is doing more fact checking and should easily have grounds to reject the project.

### **The Zenith Oil export Terminal** in Portland.

The Portland City Council and staff have denied a permit for Zenith to install some more pipes under Front Avenue to connect the storage tanks to the docks. Zenith gave the City an ultimatum – give us a permit, or we'll see you in court.

The City Council did not back down !!!!!

### **The Global Partners Oil export Terminal in Clatskanie**

This terminal was permitted in 2012, before we knew what happened. Now it wants to expand and we are helping Columbia Riverkeeper fight back.

Columbia Riverkeeper leads most of these fights and we do all we can to help.

All of these oil terminals involve loaded oil trains going through Vancouver.

Now we are concerned about the threat of LNG and LPG trains and we are addressing that.

We need more people to get involved and lead.





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## **Volunteers Drive Endorsement Support**

*Lehman Holder, political committee*

On Oct. 25 and Nov. 1, Loo Wit political committee (polcom) volunteers, with help from campaigns of endorsed candidates, coordinated two sign waving efforts to get the candidates names before voters.

Candidates endorsed by Loo Wit included Jack Burkman, Port of Vancouver commission; Adrian Cortes, Clark County Council; Ty Stober and Sara Fox, Vancouver City Council, and Divya Jain, Evergreen school board.

Polcom members and others waved candidates' signs for two hours at the NE 9<sup>th</sup> Street overpass over I-205 on Oct. 25 and at E. Mill Plain and Chkalov on Nov. 1. Honks and "thumbs up" from drivers and passengers in passing vehicles put a positive spin on their efforts.

## **Loo Wit Hosts Fundraiser for Hantwick Trail**

*Emily Waters, NF Committee*

On October 19th, Loo Wit hosted a fundraising event for the Hantwick Trail at the Moulton Falls Winery in Yacolt, WA. Over 75 people attended and enjoyed wood fired pizza, wines, ciders and live music. The Winery graciously donated use of the winery during normal business hours for our event, and the community showed up and surpassed our expectations.

Currently, efforts are being made to do a land swap between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Clark County in order to permanently protect this trail. The money raised at this event will go towards assisting the County financially in these efforts. If you were unable to attend the event but would still like to donate to the cause, please mail your contribution to Sierra Club, Loo Wit Group, PO Box 13 Vancouver, WA 98663. Please include a note letting us know that your donation is intended for the trail so that we can add it to the correct account.

Thank you to all who attended the event! Stay tuned for further developments.



Sierra Club members enjoying the evening. Photo courtesy Emily Waters





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## **Snake River Dam Update**

*Fred Suter, Vice Chair*

In Mar 2018, Gov Inslee established the Southern Resident Orca Task Force to develop a long term plan for recovering the dwindling southern resident orca population. Throughout much of 2018, public input was made to the task force.

Broadly speaking, task force recommendations called for increasing the abundance of Chinook salmon (the orca's main dietary source), decreasing the risks posed by water vessel traffic, reducing exposure to toxic pollutants, and making sure funding was in place to effectively address the issues.

One of the more controversial issues that was proposed was the potential removal/breaching of the four lower Snake River Dams in order to increase the number of Chinook salmon. While proponents point to the need to remove the dams to ensure the survival of Snake River Chinook, opponents point to the economic costs of dam removal.

To address the issue, Gov Inslee called for \$750,000 to be budgeted to form a process that would collect stakeholder input (the tribes, the farmers, the shippers, local communities, various government agencies, environmental groups, etc). During this past session, Washington state legislators allocated the funds to proceed. In August 2019, the stakeholder process began.

A team made up of Ross Strategic, Kramer Consulting, White Bluffs Consulting, and Anchor QEA is tasked with facilitating and evaluating stakeholder input. They then will submit a report to the Governor's office. The team has until mid-November to meet with stakeholders and gather input. In early December, the draft report will be made available for written public comment.

*Article continued on following page*



Save Our Orca image courtesy SierraClub.org



## ***Snake River Dam Update, Continued***

There will also be more public workshops during this time period. Vancouver and the Tri-Cities are possible venues. In late December, the public input period will end. The final report is to be completed by mid-February 2020.

The scope of this report is limited to providing a summary of the impacts of breaching or retaining the lower Snake River dams, getting stakeholder input, and informing the State of Washington's position on the US District for Oregon, Court Order for an Environmental Impact Statement on Columbia River Operations.

Gov Inslee will also use the stakeholder report in conjunction with the Environmental Impact Statement that is currently being conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers, the Bonneville Power Administration and the federal Bureau of Reclamation to address the operations, maintenance, and configurations of the four lower Snake River dams.

The draft EIS will be made available to the public in February 2020 and the final EIS will be completed by June 2020. Sometime after that, we should start hearing from the Governor's office concerning his recommendations to address Snake River Chinook salmon recovery. If you are interested in following this, here are some good sources to start with:

<https://www.governor.wa.gov/issues/issues/energy-environment/southern-resident-orca-recovery>

<https://mailchi.mp/sightline/snake-river-dams>



Map showing the four Snake River dams being considered for removal (in the circle).

Courtesy SierraClub.org





## LOO WIT OUTINGS

### **Nordic (x-c) Skiing set for Jan/Feb/March**

*Lehman Holder, Outings leader*

Almost time to get your glide on! After a terrific spring, summer and fall of hiking, cycling and sea kayak outings, outings leaders are looking ahead to a new year of outings opportunities in 2020.

Nordic (cross-country) ski outings will kick things off in January. This year, all x-c outings will be done on Thursdays, due to no parking availability on weekends. Weather permitting, two Nordic outings each will be scheduled in January, February and March, and posted on Loo Wit's Meetup page:

[www.meetup.com/portland-vancouver-sierra-club-outings-events](http://www.meetup.com/portland-vancouver-sierra-club-outings-events) . To sign up for an outing, you must RSVP on Meetup. X-c ski outings are limited to a max of 10 participants, including leaders.

If you have specific questions about x-c ski or other outings, email Lehman Holder, [tripsguy@aol.com](mailto:tripsguy@aol.com). Outings leader Matthew Diamond may also be leading snowshoe outings, depending on interest. Those will also be posted on Meetup.



Over the river and through the woods...Join Loo Wit on a winter outing! Photo courtesy Emily Waters





# Don't Get Left Out in the Cold... Join Us!



Sierra Club Outings are a terrific way to meet new people and enjoy the great outdoors. Whatever your interests - hiking, canoeing or birdwatching - there is an outing for everyone. If you are new to the area, let your local Chapter or Group give you the lay of the land. Join today and become part of America's largest environmental organization offering the most enjoyable outings.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

**YES! I would like to give a gift membership to:**

Gift Recipient \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club**

Please charge my:  Visa  Mastercard  AMEX

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!**



Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 15	N/A
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35

Contributions, gifts & dues to Sierra Club are tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$ 7.50 for a subscription to SIERRA magazine and \$ 1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

**Enclose a check and mail to:** Sierra Club, PO Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

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