

From: "The Wilderness Society" <[ncinfo@twsw.org](mailto:ncinfo@twsw.org)>  
Subject: Cross-country Skiing in the Methow, Winter Snowshoe Adventures & More



## December 2009 News & Quick Links:

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By *Elly McClane, age 13*  
*Vertical World Team Youth Rock Climber*

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### [Tell a Friend](#)

Know someone who would like to learn more about the North Cascades? [Click here and let them know!](#)

### [Mark Your Calendars!](#)

*North Cascades: People, Places, and Stories*

Mark your calendars! Thanks to the generous support of REI, [KCTS 9](#) will be airing *North Cascades: People, Places, and Stories* this January. As a sponsor and production partner, we are very excited about this documentary all about the beautiful North Cascades.

The documentary will broadcast on [KCTS 9](#) / [KYVE 47](#):

Sun, 1/17 at 10:30 p.m.  
Wed, 1/20 at 7:00 p.m.  
Sun, 1/24 at 4:30 p.m.

And on V-me in Spanish:  
Sat, 1/23 at 7:00 p.m.  
Sat, 1/30 at 7:30 p.m.

### [El Sendero](#)

El Sendero NCW is a non-motorized winter recreation club located in the central Washington town of Wenatchee. El Sendero works to raise awareness about the unrestricted and unregulated

## Welcome

Dear Andrea,

The mountains are covered in snow and the holidays are just around the corner – it must be winter! Get in the season with one of our snowy events this month: you can go snowshoeing and learn about winter ecology in the Methow Valley or help out the [Skagit Audubon Society](#) with their annual Christmas Bird Count in [North Cascades National Park](#). Both of these activities promise a great learning opportunity and beautiful scenery.

I also want to mention an upcoming event all of us here are very excited about -- PBS affiliate, [KCTS 9](#), is producing a documentary titled *North Cascades: People, Places, and Stories*, which will be premiering on [KCTS 9](#) and [KYVE 47](#) on Sunday, January 17, at 10:30 p.m.\* and will highlight the history, ecology and communities of the beautiful North Cascades. As a sponsor and a production partner, we are especially excited about this film, and can't wait to watch its premiere next month.

Have a wonderful holiday season,

John Chelminiak, North Cascades Initiative Director

\*The documentary repeats Wednesday, January 20, at 7:00 p.m. and January 30 at 7:30 p.m. on KCTS 9 and KYVE 47.

*The Wilderness Society's North Cascades Initiative envisions the North Cascades as a celebrated national treasure, where wilderness is preserved for future generations, where recreational opportunities are enhanced and well-planned, and where vibrant local communities realize the benefits of the wildlands surrounding them.*

## My North Cascades Story

By Elly McClane, age 13

*Vertical World Team Youth Rock Climber*

### Why I Love the North Cascades

Every year my family spends a week around the holidays cross-country skiing in the Methow Valley. We've been doing this since I was 3 years old. My brother even started skiing before he was born! I love skiing all the trails at Sun Mountain and in the summer, we ride our bikes (or horses if I'm lucky) on the same trails. [Click here to continue reading Elly's story.](#)



*Elly and her brother, Cash, cross-country skiing in the Methow Valley*

## Conservation

### Natural Wonders of the North Cascades

*North Cascades National Park Christmas Bird Count*

Each year the National Park Service does a Christmas Bird Count centered on Newhalem along the North Cascades Highway. The species count is low but often includes surprises and species not seen in the downriver world. When the weather is good, the scenery makes this about the most beautiful Christmas Count you could hope to attend close to home. Join the North Cascades National Park in their annual bird count on Saturday, December 19th. [To learn more about this event, click here.](#)

## Recreation

### Explore the North Cascades

*Lake Twentytwo, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest*

use of snowmobiles on local public lands.

[To learn more about this great organization, click here.](#)

### Learning Activity of the Month

*Nature of Winter Snowshoe Tours*

December 23, 26, 27, 30

The [Methow Valley Sport Trails Association](#) (MVSTA) hosts snowshoe tours throughout the winter. Local naturalists lead the tours which are about winter ecology, wildlife and tracks, snow and more.

[To learn more about this event, click here.](#)

### The North Cascades Are Calling -- You!

We're now on [Facebook](#)! Make sure to check out our new nonprofit page and [become a Fan](#) of the North Cascades!

Do you love to picnic, hike, camp, climb or commune with nature? Or do you simply like to admire it all from afar? You can do all of that and more in the North Cascades! Visit: [www.experiencewilderness.org](http://www.experiencewilderness.org) to plan your next adventure into the North Cascades.

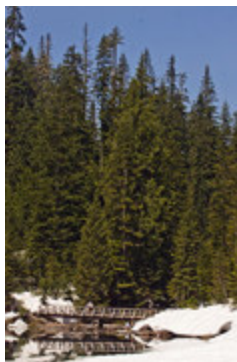
### Questions? Comments?

Email us at [ncinfo@twsnw.org](mailto:ncinfo@twsnw.org).

*This message was sent to AIMLER@TWSNW.ORG. Visit your [subscription management page](#) to modify your email communication preferences or update your personal profile. To stop ALL email from The North Cascades Are Calling, click to [remove](#) yourself from our lists (or reply via email with "remove or unsubscribe" in the subject line).*

The 5.4 mile, round-trip hike to Lake Twentytwo is a great early winter jaunt, complete with towering old-growth trees, cascading waterfalls, and gorgeous mountain views. The hike is in a Forest Service Research Natural Area, which protects this unique and diverse forest ecosystem.

[Learn more about this hike by clicking here.](#)



*Footbridge at the outlet of Lake Twentytwo.*

## Vibrant Communities

### Index

This tiny town of barely 150 people sits along the North Fork of the Skykomish River on the west side of the Cascades. The town was named for 5,979' Mount Index, whose summit is just 3 miles from town.

[Learn more about Index by clicking here.](#)



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