

# Rock formations in the Teanaway



BRIAN MYRICK / DAILY RECORD

Members of the Teanaway Community Advisory Committee get a view of the Stuart range from atop a sandstone formation, known as Frog Slab, during a tour of the Teanaway and its rock formations on Wednesday.



# Advisory committee takes tour as work on recreation plan continues

BY TONY BUHR  
staff writer

Members of the Teanaway Community Advisory Committee participated in a tour Wednesday of the Teanaway and its rock formations.

The tour was part of an effort by the committee to familiarize itself with possible destinations for various activities, said Doug McClelland, assistant region manager for the Department of Natural Resources. The advisory committee toured Frog Slab, Mammoth Rock, Exclamation Rock and Hoodoo Rock in the Teanaway.

"These are going to be points on a map where we say these are obvious destinations. So how best should we connect people here?" McClelland asked. "Is this a series of rocks that people go to? Is this just one place that they come to?"

The Teanaway Community Advisory Committee is working in the next 10 months to develop a recreation plan for the com-

munity forest. The committee is looking at biological, geological and other factors to determine which activities and trail systems to maintain.

The rock formations the group visited are not easily accessible in the Teanaway at this time. People could hike, mountain bike or ride a horse to the destinations, but private property stands between several of the rock formations and Teanaway roads.

## CHALLENGES

The forest contains several endangered species, including wolves and spotted owls, said William Meyer, biologist with Washington State Fish and Wildlife.

Meyer said a female from the Teanaway wolf pack was shot north of Salmon la Sac in 2014. Spotted owls in the Teanaway have been reduced to about five owls with one mated pair. The Teanaway forest could be prime territory to help the species make a comeback in this area, he said.

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ELIZABETH EBERLE

Members of the Teanaway Community Forest Advisory Committee observe the Exclamation or Unbalanced Rock during a tour Wednesday of the Teanaway Community Forest.

## Teanaway/

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Cabin owners in the Teanaway Community Forest have seen an increase in the number of people trespassing on their property, said Larry Leach, assistant region director with DNR.

"So we're trying to figure out ways to get the word out about respecting property rights," Leach said.

## GEOLOGY

The Teanaway has large sandstone buttes that form ridges and shelves with waves and bumps. The forest also has sandstone pillars in various shapes and layers.

The Teanaway has several different types of rocks including two types of sandstones, Grande Ronde basalt and Teanaway basalt, said Greg Morrow, a geolo-



BRIAN MYRICK / DAILY RECORD

Mammoth Rock was included in a tour of the Teanaway and its rock formations for members of the Teanaway Community Advisory Committee, Wednesday. The tour was part of an effort by the committee to familiarize itself with possible destinations for various activities.

gist with DNR.

"The Teanaway is really interesting because there is just a lot going on," Morrow said. "You've got the Cascades here and then sandstones here, deposited

by rivers and then eroded by mountains formed even before the Cascades."

Tectonic plates under the Teanaway have tilted the landscape, he said, causing the youngest rocks to be

found to the south toward Roslyn and the oldest to the north toward the Stuarts forming crescent shapes.

The basalt is a harder type of rock than the sandstone, he said, so as the sandstone erodes it leaves these basalt ridges in the Teanaway. Teanaway basalt is where El-lensburg blues can be found.

"It is a good window into the past. The sandstones is from much warmer climates," Morrow said. "I think it gives us a good perspective that the Earth is always changing."

During a presentation during a advisory committee meeting on June 8, Morrow said that the majority of the Teanaway sits on a firm bed of basalt that does not erode easily. The Teanaway does show some evidence of landslides from sandstone structures, but for the most part is stable.