



NORTHWEST GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A regional association of professionals, students & others interested in geology
Please browse www.nwgs.org for more about us

December, 2025 Newsletter

Volume 39, Number 8



December 9 Program Speaker (New meeting location-see below!)

5:30pm: No-host social hour; 6:30pm: Dinner
7:30pm: Speaker program ([reservations here](#), see below for details)

Speaker: Kathleen Goodman, WSP USA; NWGS Field Trip Coordinator

Title: Ophiolites: Exotic Cyprus, Stunning Cornwall, and Washington Favorites

Abstract: Ophiolites are sections of oceanic crust that typically form at mid-oceanic ridges and are obducted onto continental crust during tectonic plate subduction. The NWGS has enjoyed field trips to the Fidalgo Ophiolite in Anacortes, Twin Sisters in the North Cascades and small portions of the Ingalls Complex in central Washington. The Troodos Ophiolite in Cyprus is an even more remarkable example of an ophiolite, although it did not form in the typical way, which adds to its uniqueness.

The Troodos Ophiolite, often referred to as the type-locality for volcanogenic massive sulfide deposits, forms the backbone of the island of Cyprus. Cyprus-type volcanogenic massive sulfide deposits are renowned for their abundance of copper and other base and precious metals. The Troodos Ophiolite is the source of the copper that was key to the historical prosperity and technological achievements of the eastern Mediterranean during the Bronze Age (3200-1200 BCE). The Troodos Ophiolite is so significant that it was granted a UNESCO Global Geopark distinction. The 1100 sq km Geopark encompasses all of the exposed ophiolite with 50 well-curated outcrops exhibiting the full section from the upper mantle to the seafloor sediments.

An April 2025 geological field trip to the Troodos Ophiolite provided an opportunity to see an ophiolite that is relatively young (90 my) and well-exposed, and to compare it to the ophiolites in Cornwall, UK that we saw on our September 2025 NWGS field trip, and Washington favorites from past NWGS field trips.

IN-PERSON PROGRAM DINNER RESERVATIONS!

Cost: NWGS member dinner: \$40; Non-member dinner: \$50; Student dinner: \$10; Talk-only: \$10;
Student talk-only: free

To register for attending in-person: please [make your reservation here \(nwgs.org/meeting-registration/\)](http://nwgs.org/meeting-registration/) by the Thursday prior to the meeting.

Catered menu: cheese & artisan bread and teriyaki beef skewer appetizers, garden fresh greens, roasted potatoes, seasonal veggies, Tuscan chicken, dessert bars, regular & decaf coffee.

*Please note special dietary needs or food allergies when you register so that a special meal may be ordered for you.



New Location: [Hotel 116, 625 116th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA. 98004 \(Google Maps driving directions\)](#). Park in the hotel parking area, enter near or through Woods Coffee to a small lobby, then up the stairs to the ballroom.

Upcoming Speakers and Field Trips

Jan 13: David Unruh; LG, LHG; Dept. of Ecology; Historical Geology at Contaminated Sites

Feb 10: Colin Amos, WWU, topic TBA

Mar 10: Sean Mulcahy, WWU, topic TBA

Apr 14: Isabellah Von Trapp, Geosyntec/Aspect, topic TBA

Spring Field Trip: Jim Miller & Kathy Troost, Olympic Peninsula landslide and eroding terrace at Rialto Beach, April 10-12.

If you would like to volunteer to give a talk or lead a field trip for NWGS, please contact President [Jackson Lundgren](#).

Please see the [NWGS website](#) for detailed announcements.
Contact webmaster [Matthew Porter](#) if you have any announcements to post on the website.

Announcements

- Several **Board members** are still seeking replacements, including Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor. Please contact President [David Boyer](#) or the Board member directly for more information. Shared governance is critical for the continued viability of our organization.
- Field trip coordinator [Kathleen Goodman](#) is working on a field trip to **Cornwall & Devonshire** and possibly **Wales** in the summer of 2027. Please contact her to be put on her list of interested folks. No payment is required yet, cost TBD.
- Be ready to join an amazing field trip to the **Olympic Peninsula** led by **Jim Miller** and **Kathy Troost**, April 10-12, 2026, where they are monitoring “a really cool landslide” and will visit an eroding terrace at Rialto Beach.
- Chris Darman (sp?), Wales, early Sept., 2027, central Wales & south coast
- Next **Board of Directors meeting**: Tuesday, **Monday, December 15**, 6:00 pm via Zoom. Members are welcome to attend. Please email nwgs.secretary.com for the Zoom link.

Photo Spotlight



Picture of the South Mathiatis Mine in Mathiatis, Cyprus. Copper was mined by the ancient Romans and mined in the 1930s for gold and silver. Ore body is the Lower Pillow Basalt unit that was extensively hydrothermally altered. Kathleen Goodman photo.

About NWGS

The [Northwest Geological Society](#) is a non-profit educational organization which provides a forum for information and discussion on Northwest geology and related topics. The Society sponsors talks by leading academic and professional geologists at its monthly meetings, conducts field trips to locales of regional geologic interest, and publishes meeting summaries and field guides based on those activities. Membership is open to anyone interested in regional geoscience issues.

Program meetings are the 2nd Tuesdays, October through May at the [Fauntleroy YMCA in West Seattle, 9140 California Ave SW, WA. 98136](#). Reservations are required to attend in-person (Member dinner: \$40; Non-member dinner: \$50; Student dinner: \$10; Talk-only: \$10; Student talk-only: free).

Field trips (members only): The Society sponsors two overnight field trips each year, one in the fall and one the spring, to locales of regional geologic interest.

Membership is open to anybody with an interest in geology. **Annual dues**: Professional: \$55; Student: \$10. **To join or pay annual dues**: go to the [NWGS website](#), or visit our website for more details. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Recommended Readings

For more on the Troodos Ophiolite Complex, Cypress Island, see the [Troodos Unesco Global Geopark](#) web page.

Cheney, E.S. 2013, Fidalgo Island Field Trip, [Northwest Geological Society Field Trip Guide Book #043](#).

Please send your reading recommendations to Newsletter Editor [Maria Parente](#).

To update your account information,, go to NWGS.org/membership.
Questions or comments? Contact President [Jackson Lundgren](#).

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