

North Cascades Environmental Learning Center

A Hub of Discovery for All Ages



A Complement to Field-Based Programs

The project's design team, led by architect David Hall of The Henry Klein Partnership of Mount Vernon, Washington, has achieved the difficult task of creating a world-class multi-use complex that exists in harmony with the spectacular landscapes of the North Cascades. The tree-sheltered buildings will be a model of energy-wise and environmentally sound architecture whose "ecological footprint" rests lightly on the land.

Distinguishing features will include:

- Multi-media science library, aquatic & terrestrial labs
- Lakeside dining hall / community center & classrooms
- Computers, web access, video & digital cameras
- Overnight accommodations for 46 participants & 12 staff
- Floating classroom & Discovery Boathouse
- Outdoor amphitheater & learning shelters
- Trails which lead deep into the wilderness



By providing a home base for many of the Institute's educational programs, the Learning Center will combine outdoor education with welcoming indoor facilities and technological links to the larger world of study and research. While not replacing them, the residential Center will complement the Institute's camping and private facility-based programs that will continue throughout the region.



The *North Cascades Environmental Learning Center* will be a stunning addition to environmental education in the Pacific Northwest and the nation, occupying the critical space where human learning intersects with the fragile processes of nature.

Located on the shore of Diablo Lake, a three-hour drive northeast of Seattle, the Learning Center will be a "hub of discovery" for a million-acre classroom that reaches deep into a landscape of glacier-clad mountains, deep-green forests, endless icy streams and lakes, lush valleys and vibrant cultures.



- A Dining Hall
- B Recycling & Composting
- C Maintenance
- D Boathouse (Seattle City Light)
- E Dock
- F Discovery Boathouse
- G Parking
- H Amphitheater
- I Main Classroom
- J Restrooms
- K Aquatic Lab
- L Equipment Storage
- M Library
- N Entrance & Reception
- O Educational Support & Administration
- P Terrestrial Lab
- Q Deer Creek Learning Shelter
- R Graduate Student & Staff Housing
- S Participant Accommodations