

PRESS RELEASE North Olympic Library System 2210 South Peabody Street Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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360-417-1815 x2; Lexi@northolympiclandtrust.orgAttached:StoryWalk-Lindholm.jpgRe:Library's StoryWalk displayed along the trail at Lyre Conservation Area

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) and the North Olympic Land Trust (NOLT) have partnered to offer a StoryWalk® experience at the Lyre Conservation Area throughout November. Families and nature enthusiasts are invited to enjoy a display along the trail featuring pages from "We Are Water Protectors," a Caldecott Award-winning picture book by Carole Lindstrom (Anishinaabe/Métis), with illustrations by Michaela Goade (Tlingit and Haida).

This outdoor reading adventure coincides with Native American Heritage Month, National StoryWalk Week (Nov. 10-16), and the 10-year anniversary of NOLT's stewardship of the Lyre Conservation Area.

Inspired by Indigenous-led environmental movements, "We Are Water Protectors" emphasizes the importance of safeguarding Earth's water sources from harm and contamination. As visitors explore the trail, they'll encounter successive pages from the book and build connections with the local ecosystem as the story unfolds. StoryWalk is an engaging way to combine physical activity, early literacy and quality family time in nature.

The Lyre Conservation Area, located on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Indigenous S'Klallam and Makah people, spans 280 acres east of the Lyre River. Managed by the North

Olympic Land Trust, the area features the Lyre River estuary, streams, tide flats, kelp beds, a stretch of shoreline along the Strait of Juan de Fuca and diverse forest habitat. It supports salmon, migratory and resident birds, and other wildlife, providing a rich educational experience for visitors.

To reach the trailhead, drive west on Highway 112 from Port Angeles and turn right onto Reynolds Road. More information about the trail and StoryWalk can be found at <u>nols.org/storywalk</u>.

This StoryWalk display is funded in part by Port Angeles Friends of the Library and offered in partnership with the <u>North Olympic Land Trust</u>. StoryWalk® is an initiative developed by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont, in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library, to combine literacy and outdoor activity.



North Olympic Land Trust acting Executive Director Erika Lindholm reads a page from "We Are Water Protectors" at StoryWalk.