

Views from a Kayak – Two Seasons of Survey in Willapa Bay, Washington

Speaker: Anna Antoniou, Doctoral Candidate in Anthropology - University of Michigan

Host Department: Museum of Anthropological Archaeology

Date: 10/29/2015

Time: 12:00 pm

Location: Room 2009 Ruthven Museums Building

Description:

This talk introduces current archaeological research on late prehistoric shellfish harvesting practices in Willapa Bay, Washington in order to illuminate aspects of Chinookan subsistence practices and resource ownership on the northwest coast of North America. The Chinookan people of Willapa Bay had access to over 86 taxa of shellfish, fowl, and mammals for consumption. However, current models of prehistoric subsistence practices on the Northwest Coast suffer from a case of “salmonopia,” stressing salmon as a staple food, and minimizing the importance of gathered food such as shellfish. This presentation will discuss the challenges of conducting research in the Pacific temperate rain forest, the preliminary findings of two seasons of survey, and future research into marine-resource exploitation beyond salmon fishing.