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Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 12

December 1995

"AT RISK KIDS" Come to Beaverhead NF To Work, Learn

by Jack de Golia and Debbie Johnson,
Beaverhead National Forest,
Dillon, Montana



A bus from Mankato, Minnesota, unloaded nine teenagers--albeit bleary eyed from a 22-hour bus ride--into bright sunshine, July 18, at the Vigilante Guard Station, 40 miles south of Sheridan, Montana, in the Beaverhead NF.

They immediately went to work inventorying blue bird nest boxes for eggs and nestlings. Then they cleaned out the boxes. For the next ten days, under the direction of Madison RD Resource Assistant Debbie Johnson, they did other tasks on the Beaverhead NF.

The teens came with three Mankato police officers. None of the kids had been arrested. But they all came from troubled homes,

directionless lives, and at risk of getting into trouble with the law.

So, how did they end up in Sheridan, Montana? It all started one day in the late fall of 1994, when Debbie ran into Paul Kramer, the local banker, on the sidewalk in Sheridan. He wondered if the Forest Service had work projects for troubled kids. He'd been talking in church to Ron Anderson, a retired photographer from Mankato.

Ron had been in touch with old friends with the Mankato Police Department who were looking for outdoor work to help give their troubled kids a sense that life has more to offer than what they were finding on the streets in Mankato.

Ten months after Debbie and Paul Kramer talked, the nine Mankato teens arrived at Vigilante Guard Station, rubbing their eyes under Montana's Big Sky.

They worked building pole and barbed wire fences around campgrounds and exclosures, and mouseproofed cabins and worked at the Lyons Launch Site

along the Madison River. They also visited the Ennis National Fish Hatchery and toured historic Virginia City.

High atop the Snowcrest Mountains, in the Beaverhead NF, Ed Ruppel (center), retired geologist from the Montana State Bureau of Mines, discusses the geology and landforms of the area with Mankato police officers Marc Erickson (left) and Debbie Dawald. Photos by Ron Anderson

The teenagers also learned geology from Ed Ruppel, retired geologist from the Montana State Bureau of Mines, high atop the Snowcrest Range; heard from Forest Supervisor Debbie Austin, and other natural resource professionals. Through their contacts, the teens heard the benefits of furthering their education, and they learned about natural resource career options.

Their police officer mentors will now follow up on the experience, helping the teens get jobs and more education, in effect, acting as special counsellors.

The Mankato police would like to continue bringing kids to the Beaverhead. The program has also gotten Debbie Johnson looking for similar opportunities for teens and police departments closer to home.

In the end, the experience can develop self-esteem where it doesn't exist, show something of a larger world you can't see from mean streets, and give hope where none was before.



"At-Risk" high school students from Mankato, Minnesota, moving a jack-leg exclosure fence near the Ruby River, Madison RD, Beaverhead NF.

200-Page R-1 Native Plant Handbook

by Alexia Cochrane, Red River RD,
Elk City, Idaho, Nez Perce NF

Four R-1 Forest Service botanists recently completed the "Northern Region Native Plant Handbook."

The 200-page guide provides comprehensive information about the use of native plant species in revegetation projects, including recommendations for on-site evaluations, genetic considerations, propagation, seed collection, erosion control and monitoring.

It is the first regional guidebook of its kind in the Forest Service. The guidebook is being used in many program areas, including soils, landscape architecture, engineering and botany. In addition, it has been requested by a number of other agencies and organizations involved in revegetation and ecosystem restoration.

Certificates of Merit and cash awards have been given to the handbook authors: Alexia Cochrane, Nez Perce NF; Leslie Ferguson, Kootenai NF; Mark Mousseaux, Idaho Panhandle NFs, and Linda Pietarinene, Bitterroot NF.

For additional information about the new handbook, contact Jim Olivarez, RO Forest & Rangeland Management Unit (406) 329-3621 or Steve Shelly, RO Div. of Wildlife, Fisheries & Botany (406) 329 3041.

Priest Lake RD's Grizzly Bear Management Generates Public Interest

by Judy York, Information Assistant,
North Zone, Idaho Panhandle NFs,
Sandpoint, Idaho

It was a sensitive topic to begin with. When the Priest Lake Ranger District asked for public comment on a project that proposed closing more forest roads to protect grizzly bears, they knew it wouldn't be difficult to get people involved. What they didn't know, was that the project would generate so much interest, and so close to decision time.

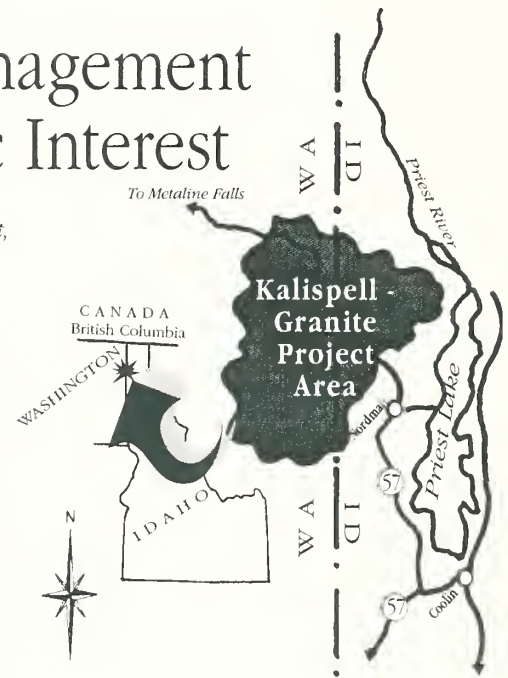
The objective of the project is to provide a minimum secure habitat on 70% of the area in the Kalispell-Granite Grizzly Bear Management Unit to meet the recovery goals of grizzly bears in the Selkirk Mountains Recovery Area. The 133-square-mile unit, in the Priest River Basin, is northwest of Priest Lake.

In May of 1994, the District sent out the proposal for the Kalispell-Granite Grizzly Bear Management Unit project for public comment. A total of 751 notices were mailed and given to members of the public. Only 39 responses were returned.

The proposal originally called for seasonally closing 125 miles of roads within the unit to motorized vehicles. The closures would be in effect when the grizzly bears are active, between March 15 and November 15. Many of the routes proposed for closure were into areas popular with summer huckleberry pickers.

When the Environmental Assessment was complete, 350 copies were distributed (August 1994) for public review. That fall, the district received 360 letters, phone calls, and visits from interested people and groups.

By January, Priest Lake District Ranger Kent Dunstan was ready to make a decision. Interest in the project was still very high and several individuals requested that Dunstan re-open the comment period. The local newspapers began highlighting the story. So did the radio and television news stations. Dunstan re-opened the public comment period from February to March, 1995.



The district received 72 more letters and comments, including an alternative drafted by the local Chamber of Commerce, a citizen's group, and Intermountain Forest Industry Association. They called the alternative the "Community Alternative."

After considering all of the comments, the Ranger decided to go with his originally selected alternative, modifying it to accommodate some of the public concerns. The modifications called for leaving some of the more popular roads open from July 1st through September 10th to permit public use. The option maintains security for the grizzly bear during its more vulnerable times in spring and fall, without dropping below the 70% minimum security level in the summer. The decision includes information and education efforts, and cooperative enforcement of the closures by the Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and Washington Department of Wildlife.

In releasing his decision, Kent Dunstan met with the groups and individuals who were most involved. They were all pleased with the final decision. The project began this fall.

The Kalispell-Granite project really was a public involvement success. Hard work and personal contact paid off. In August, the Priest Lake District staff who worked on the project received the Regional Foresters Honor Award for Public Involvement.

Seminar Series Starts in January

by Kimberly D. Landl,
RO Public Affairs Office

The Regional Forester's 1996 Seminar Series starts in January. Theme of the six presentations is "Community Relations/Providing Community Service."

The brown bag seminar presentations will be in the East Conference Room, Missoula Federal Building, 11:30. Each showcases successful programs and projects. The presentations offer opportunities for internal/external information sharing.

MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR

- January 9, 1996.....The CM Russell Trail,** An Interpretive Partnership.
Lewis & Clark NF, Judith RD.
- January 23, 1996.....Implementing Ecosystem Management,**
at Project Level, RO Engineering.
- February 6, 1996.....Outfitting in the Northern Region, WO Wilderness,**
Recreation & Heritage Programs.
- March 5, 1996..... Insect & Disease Considerations Related to Salvage
Logging & Thinning,**
RO Forest & Rangeland Management.
- April 2, 1996..... Health Hazards of Smoke,** Missoula Technology &
Development Center.
- May 7, 1996..... Working with Communities in Transition,**
Nez Perce NF.

(For additional information about the seminar series, contact Kimberly Landl, RO Public Affairs Office: (406) 329-3095; k.Landl:R01A

8th Annual

North Idaho Inter-Tribal Youth Camp

Nez Perce and Kalispell Tribes worked with four National Forests in Idaho this year in planning and preparing for the 8th annual North Idaho Native American Inter-Tribal Youth Camp. Approximately 100 Indian youths from several tribes participated. They ranged in age from those who started the 4th grade this fall to students attending high school.

The Clearwater, Idaho Panhandle, Nez Perce and Payette National Forests worked with the two tribes in planning the one-week camp. The objective of the camp was to provide Indian youths with an understanding of tribal government, natural resource management, natural resource educational opportunities and career opportunities in natural resource management and administration.

At Camp Three Meadows at Dworshak State Park, near Orofino, the students had opportunities to develop leadership skills, sharpen their communication skills and learn about different tribal cultures. The

camp helps the youths "be more educated, more noticeable to the public, so we can survive," explained Kay Kidder of the Nez Perce Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO).

Tom Sandberg, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Panhandle NFs' archaeologist, and Denny Hildreth, forester for the Nez Perce Tribe, are among several Forest Service and tribal representatives who meet regularly during the year to plan and organize the camps.

Richard D. Broncheau, also with the Nez Perce Tribe TERO, says the camp curriculum may change in order to include more Indian culture, focusing on how Native Americans live with their environment. "After hiking to a meadow," Broncheau explained, "participants can analyze the lay of the land in determining the best place to tie their horses and places to pitch their tepees." He said that the rewards for the adults who work with the campers "include frequent feedback from former campers."

Cooperation and preparation are the "how" and "wherefore" of the Youth Camp.

Cooperation is how it all happens, for planners, organizers, counselors, teachers, young campers and the adults guiding the youths at the annual camp. Youths and the adult staff learn to manage diverse resources as they learn to work with people of diverse interests. Protection of the cultures is vital.

"Students learn the importance of teamwork," pointed out Darrel Baptiste, a Nez Perce camp counselor who works to build team spirit among the camp participants.

For additional information about the Inter-Tribal Youth Camp, contact Madelon Caren, forestry technician/silviculture data base, and Doug Shaller, silviculturist, Lochsa RD, Clearwater NF, Route 1, Box 398, Kooskia, Idaho 83539 (telephone 208/926-4275). Caren and Shaller are Native American and Hispanic Program Coordinators on the Clearwater National Forest Human Relations Action Committee.

Cooperation: Golden Word

University Helps Rexford RD Collect Archaeological Data

by Andrea Weiser, Archaeology Technician,
Rexford RD, Eureka, Montana., Kootenai NF

Cooperation is a golden word when it means accomplishing collectively what would not be possible otherwise.

Through a partnership agreement, Texas A. & M. University, College Station, Texas, has offered a valuable workforce to the Rexford RD, Kootenai NF, and the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) for collecting archaeological data. The university's reward



Archaeologists gather around a 2,000 to 3,000-year-old projectile point.
Photo by Andrea Weiser.

has been partial funding and the opportunity to perform a field school for undergraduate students in the unique and beautiful Northern Rockies.

The student group was lead this year by Dr. Alston Thoms and two doctoral candidates and three masters students. Thirteen undergraduate students participated in the eight-week training program that involved archaeological methods, ethnobotany, regional history and prehistory. The group used state-of-the art mapping and computer technology for statistical data analysis. The graduate students prepared a report on their findings.

The large workforce enabled the Texas archaeologists to focus on specific Kootenai River Valley research questions that require considerable data. Study areas are in or near the Middle Kootenai Archaeological District which contains more than 300 known sites that are between 2,000 and 7,000 years old.



Students peel camas bulbs - traditional food for foraging tribes - before baking them in stone ovens. Photo by Dennis Pry.

Students aided the COE in excavating known sites eroding into the reservoir, thereby gleaned information before it is lost forever. Previously undetected sites were found on Forest Service lands in areas of proposed projects.

Without the help of student crews, the COE and FS would have a difficult time evaluating the sites surveyed and tested in the cooperative effort. In cooperating with the university, the COE and Kootenai NF increased their productivity while providing unique opportunities for the students to gain experience in a new environment.

These inventories, in the long-run, will aid management strategies for recreation, timber, range, fuels and other departments.

Summer on Clearwater NF

University Students From Texas Join Crew In Monitoring Soils

by Kathy Thompson,
Information Assistant,
Clearwater National Forest,
Orofino, Idaho

Three young men from Texas came to Idaho last summer to work with a crew monitoring soil conditions across the Clearwater National Forest. They focused on timber harvest units but also sampled meadows and areas that had experienced wildfires.

Patrice Bailey, Thavann Un and Gene Donahue traveled from Prairie View, Texas, to work for the summer. They attend Prairie View A & M University, located 30 miles from Houston.



A crew of five monitored soil conditions across the Clearwater National Forest last summer. Three of the men - Patrice Bailey, Thavann Un and Gene Donahue - attend Prairie View A & M University in Prairie View, Texas. Pictured (l to r) are Ron Heinemann, Craig Thomson, Bailey, Un and Donahue.
Photo by Jim Mital

The newcomers worked with crew boss, Craig Thomson, in his third season on the Clearwater, and Ron Heinemann, who assisted with the project in 1994. Overseeing the project was Jim Mital, the Clearwater NF's ecologist and soil scientist.

"We are focusing on landtypes con-

taining a volcanic ash cap from the eruption of Mt. Mazama (now Crater Lake in Oregon) 6,700 years ago," Mital explained. These landtypes are the most productive sites for forest growth and diversity on the Forest.

The crew is sampling a range of the dominant landtypes across the Clearwater NF.

PIT/FFLA Volunteers Join in Restoration Of Cougar Peak Lookout

by Libby Langston, Fire Information
Officer, Missoula (Montana) RD,
Lolo National Forest

Another lookout has been restored on the Lolo National Forest.

During the week of June 26th, volunteers from all over the country arrived in Plains, Montana to restore Cougar Peak Lookout as part of the Passport In Time (PIT) program. Project coordinator C.Milo McLeod, Forest archeologist, Lolo National Forest, said he had little trouble finding volunteers and actually had to select from several applicants.

Six lookout restoration projects were tackled Servicewide this year through the PIT program. The purpose of each PIT project is to provide opportunities to work alongside professional heritage resource specialists, archeologists, historians and presentation crafts people on a variety of projects ranging from archeological surveys and excavation to oral history interviews and restoration of historical buildings.

Through the PIT program and the volunteer efforts of the Montana Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association (FFLA), there has been a big push to restore forest fire lookout towers in western Montana. The Cougar Peak restoration project drew applicants from Iowa, California, New Mexico and Montana. The newly formed Montana Chapter of the FFLA recruited volunteers to restore West Fork Butte Lookout, also on the Lolo NF.

Next year, McLeod and John Waverek, president of the Montana Chapter of FFLA, plan to blend the PIT and FFLA programs in restoring Skookum Butte, another historic lookout on the Lolo NF. McLeod explained that the goal is to restore several lookouts throughout the Forest, most of them having been built in the 1930s.



PIT Volunteers at Cougar Peak Lookout Restoration: (No. 1, back row, l-r) Doug Jantz, Dave Petteys, Joe Offutt, Lois Crepeau, Robin Kent. (row 2): Joyce Jantz, Amy Lawrence. (row 3): Jan Rothberg and Susan Hillstrom. (row 4) C. Milo McLeod, Ken Duce, Colin McCleod. Photos by C. Milo McLeod.

Passport in Time Moose Rock Art drawn by Colin McLeod, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Each PIT volunteer "signed" the rock and added it to the names of former lookouts who worked on Cougar Peak back into the early 1930s.

More than 800 fire detection lookouts were in use in the Northern Region in 1945. Today, fewer than 80 lookouts are occupied during the fire season.

The volunteers worked together with Forest Service employees in reroofing the 14' X 14' Cougar Peak lookout roof with cedar shingles installing a triple-walled woodstove chimney, and replacing and repairing the windows and doors. Forest Service employees will complete the work with a few final touches later this year.

The volunteers enjoyed excellent meals each night, thanks to George Leighton, a former Plains/Thompson Falls District Ranger, and Don Courtney, the first lookout to serve on Cougar Peak (1954).

Joyce and Doug Jansz, from Des Moines, Iowa, saw the volunteer work as an adventure. Susan Hillstrom, forestry technician, Cabinet RD, took leave without pay from her job on the Kootenai NF to spend a week in the PIT program.

McLeod selected Cougar Peak Lookout as a PIT project because of its unique architecture and potential use as an excellent cabin rental. Another interesting aspect of Cougar Peak is the unique rock art created



by the former lookouts. The earliest rock inscription reads "W. Rew- 1921", surrounded by numerous other rock carvings of names, dates and artwork by lookouts of the past. Colin McLeod, an artist and the youngest PIT volunteer, inscribed the PIT logo (a replica of a moose pictograph found in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Minnesota) on a rock with the names of all the volunteers surrounding the logo.

Readers Comment On R-1 Newsletter

by Beth Horn,
Director, R-1 Public Affairs Office

On November 2nd, I sent out a survey form via the DG to employees asking for comments about the Northern Region News. The response was great and timely -- much better than in previous surveys.

While comments received covered the extremes as you would expect in any survey, definite trends emerged. Here is a synopsis of what seemed to surface most often in the responses:

✓ Most of you do look at the newsletter -- probably no more than 1% to 2% said they don't read it at all. The average time indicated spent reading an issue was about 10 to 15 minutes.

✓ Most of you support that we continue to publish about one issue a month; a few of you preferred it once every other month.

✓ Cost considerations were constantly mentioned, e.g. use a cheaper paper; many of you suggested sharing copies.

✓ While a few of you would like an electronic newsletter, most prefer a printed newsletter with photos. Concern for retirees not being able to access an electronic newsletter was also recognized as a deterrent to such a change.

✓ Regarding content, many of you expressed concern about articles being too long and not being current. Many of you wanted more emphasis about what is happening on the ground. While the "Personnel Actions" section seems to be a highlight for people to keep tabs on who has been promoted, transferred, retired, etc., a lot of opposition was expressed to the listing of those who received awards. Also, articles about, and photos of, award presentations received a lot of negative comment.

✓ Among suggested ideas for change was the addition of a "Forest Digest" column to give a short monthly overview from each of the 13 Forests about current activities.

Two positive things we heard from many of you are, (1) that the Regional newsletter helps retain the feeling of belonging to the "Forest Service family," and (2) that the newsletter is important for employee morale.

We anticipate trying to incorporate some subtle changes to the Northern Region News based on what you told us. Our goal is to make the newsletter more meaningful to everyone.

I really appreciate so many of you taking the time to share your ideas and thoughts about the newsletter with me.

Three Summer Projects

Clearwater NF Employees/Volunteers Work On Projects

by Kathy Thompson,
Information Assistant,
Clearwater National
Forest, Orofino, Idaho

Clearwater NF employees gave of their time this summer to work and share their expertise with volunteers working on a variety of projects on the Forest.

North Fork RD personnel, Orofino, Idaho, joined forces in July with local user groups for the fourth year of rehabilitation work at Fish Lake, a high mountain lake on the west side of the Bitterroot Divide between Idaho and Montana. Forest Service employee volunteers worked alongside volunteers from the public to install waterbars, clear brush along the six-mile trail to the lake, install fire rings and hitching posts at dispersed campsites near the lake and complete annual maintenance work.

Later the same month, Forest Service personnel from the Pierce RD, Kamiah, Idaho, headed the ninth annual "Take Pride in America" project along the historic Lolo Trail System. Six crews worked on trails clearing brush, installing waterbars and culverts. One crew stabilized an historic cabin once used by lookout personnel. Approximately 100 people participated in the weekend of volunteer work. For some, it was their eighth or ninth season of volunteer service. Many will be back next July for their 10th year of work on the project they've renamed "Take Pride in the Clearwater."

Also in July, about 30 volunteers worked for two weeks with Forest Service archaeologists on the third annual "Passport In Time" project on the Pierce RD. The volunteers helped the archaeologists inventory cultural and heritage properties along the Lolo Trail System. They cataloged places where events occurred, physical features telling of human presence and objects of historic value. These volunteers included a group of high school students and their history teacher from Columbus, Indiana.

A member of the Clearwater County Road and Trail Advisory Committee worked in July along side North Fork District Ranger Art Bourassa (right). It was the fourth year of rehabilitation work at Fish Lake, near the Bitterroot Divide. One of the projects completed this year was a 600-foot wooden walkway across marshy grounds to a popular fishing spot.



Bill Walker (left) and Pierce District Ranger Doug Gober dug out piles of rocks before they installed a culvert at a marshy section of the Nee-Me-Poo (Nez Perce) Trail in the Lolo Trail System. Walker and Gober were among the many Forest Service volunteers who spent a weekend with nearly 100 other people at the Pierce RD's ninth annual "Take Pride In America" project, renamed "Take Pride In the Clearwater" for the continuing annual event.

Jeff Fee, archaeologist on the Clearwater NF, and Tom Geouge (foreground), retired resource assistant on the Pierce RD, examined a culturally modified tree during the "Passport In Time" inventory of the Lolo Trail System in July. The modification of the tree, located near Howard's Camp along the Lolo Trail, dates to 1877 when General Howard and his troops camped at the site and stripped hundreds of trees in order to feed their horses. Howard was in pursuit of Nez Perce Indian bands who fled their lands rather than be confined to a reservation.

Photos by Kathy Thompson



Volunteers Participate In Heritage Sharing: Archaeology, History

Passport In Time (PIT) volunteers participated in fourteen Northern Region projects in history and archaeology last year.

"More than 300 volunteers came together from diverse international and American backgrounds," reports Mike Beckes, RO Wilderness, Recreation & Heritage Program, "united by the desire to share a heritage-based experience." Beckes coordinates the regional Passport In Time program in cooperation with host Forests.

PIT participants had opportunities to work with Federal land managers and academic professionals. Beckes explained that careful planning allowed the 10 participating R-1 National Forests to meet a variety of practical management goals while providing the volunteers quality recreational experiences.

Volunteers proved more than \$62,000 in labor towards the completion of nine archaeological excavations, four historic structure restorations, hundreds of acres of cultural resource survey, inventory and site recording and one historic trail project. Partnership contributions were three times that amount. The partnership included universities, historical societies, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, community foundations, museums, private businesses, and individuals.



Canyon Creek Charcoal Kilns Restoration.
Photo by Mike Ryan



Sourdough Lookout Restoration Project: Warren Miller (left) and Ali Abusaidi.
Photo by Cindy Schacher

Northern Region "Passport InTime" Projects (Fiscal '94)

High Altitude Adaptations at Monument Ridge, Beaverhead NF. 12 volunteers; labor valued at \$4,560. Project leader: Mike Ryan.

Canyon Creek Charcoal Kilns Restoration, Beaverhead NF. 29 volunteers; labor valued at \$5,453. Project leader: Mike Ryan.

Restoration of Old Spotted Bear Ranger Station, Flathead NF. 5 volunteers; labor valued at \$1,900. Project leader: Gary McLean.

Bowman Spring Excavation, Helena NF. 12 volunteers; labor-valued at \$7,030. Project leader: Gary Fairchild.

Bartoo Island Test Excavation, Idaho Panhandle NF. Labor valued at \$2,000. Project leader: Cort Sims.

Restoration Historic Logging Camp Access, Idaho Panhandle NF. 7 volunteers; partnership with Boy Scout Troop #326. Labor valued at \$3,108. Project leader: Carl Ritchie.

Trail Creek Prospector Camp, Idaho Panhandle NF. Labor Valued at \$1,894. Project leader: Carl Ritchie.

Surveying Cabinet Mountain Wilderness, Kootenai NF. 7 volunteers; labor valued at \$2,792. Project leader: Becky Timmons.

An Investigation Into Archaic Lifeways, Gibson Reservoir, Lewis & Clark NF. 11 volunteers; labor valued at \$4,144. Project leader: Sandy Morris.

Hogback Homestead, Lolo NF. Labor valued at \$3,800. Project leader: Milo McLeod.

Sourdough Lookout Restoration Project, Nez Perce NF. 10 volunteers; labor valued at \$3,106. Project leader: Cindy Schacher.

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Chief, Forest Service, USDA,
P.O. Box 96090,
Washington, DC 20090-6090.

Beetle-Killed Timber

Plains-Thompson Falls RD Receives Showcase Award For Tom Thumb Timber Salvage

by Cheryl A. Vanderburg,
Public Affairs Officer,
Lolo National Forest

The Plains-Thompson Falls Ranger District has received a National Salvage Sale Showcase Award for the Tom Thumb Salvage Sale.

The award was based on sound and timely management of human and natural resources, efficient preparation and completion of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation, and innovative approaches on the project.

Ten nominations were submitted to the Ecosystem Management, Wildlife & Fish-

eries, and Timber Management staffs of the Forest Service's Washington, D.C. office. During the past two years of the Salvage Sale Showcase Award program, nine projects around the country have been recognized. The Plains-Thompson Falls RD was one of five selected this year to receive the national award.

The award was in recognition of the district staff efforts on the sale of beetle-killed pine timber in the Tom Thumb area north of Plains, Montana. Forest Service and local forest products industry personnel became concerned about the long-term health of the drainage. The 10,000 acres identified in the Montana Pine Beetle Analysis showed that

mortality of certain stands ranged from 18 to 92 percent.

Cooperative efforts of the district staff and the public resulted in the award. District Ranger Richard Smith credits the real team effort. He said the national recognition is for everyone on the Plains-Thompson Falls District staff. Smith said the local community folks in the timber industry also deserve credit. "These folks in the timber industry were instrumental in making this work. They really did a good job in shifting their priorities. It is appropriate that we share this recognition award with our associates in the timber industry."



Plains-Thompson Falls RD Staff.

Michael Giesey, Cabinet RD, Kootenai NF, Receives National Forest Products Recognition

by Diana Enright, Cabinet RD, Trout Creek,
Montana, Kootenai NF

Michael S. Giesey, forester, Cabinet RD, Trout Creek, Montana, Kootenai NF, was recognized at the recent National Forest Products meeting in Lakewood, Colorado, as the Northern Region employee who "made a difference" in the 1994 timber program.

It is a tradition at the National Forest Products annual meeting to honor a field person from each region. The Northern Region selection was said to be difficult because all of the R-1 candidates were highly qualified as someone who "made a difference."

John Gubel, Giesey's supervisor, submitted the letter nominating Giesey. The letter, in part, read: "In 1994, the Cabinet Ranger District faced an enormous task in timber sale implementation. We were responsible for preparing and selling an 11-million-board-foot sale (Smeads Rice), with a timber shop that was hit hard by retirements and resignations.

"Several noteworthy qualities contributed to his overall achievements," Gubel wrote:

"His high degree of knowledge in sale preparation; his thoroughness and concern for quality; his involvement of all district personnel, from biologists to our sale administrator; his eagerness in tackling this difficult assignment; his personal land ethic; and his role as a district team player."

On hearing of his selection, Mike who calls Decatur, Illinois, his home town, was genuinely surprised and perplexed by the attention, saying that the sale was truly a district effort.

The award citation read at the presentation:

"Mike's thoroughness, dedication, and land ethic allowed the District to ensure that quality land management was achieved in the Smeads-Rice Timber Sale. Mike took charge and led the project every step of the way from plan to implementation. He took an aggressive role in ensuring that the layout, marking, cruising, and appraisal all fit together to achieve the desired result."



MICHAEL S. GIESEY (right) was recognized at the National Forest Products meeting in Colorado for "efforts and work in the Forest Products Program" in the Northern Region. Dan Costillo (left), R-1 Forest & Rangeland Management, and Dave Hessel (center), WO Director of Timber Management, are pictured congratulating Giesey following the award presentation.

Employee Spotlight

Don Esslinger, Animal Packer

NAME: Don Esslinger, Moose Creek RD, Nez Perce NF.

JOB: Animal Packer.

JOB INVOLVES: Supporting trails construction crew; livestock care and usage.

The Moose Creek Ranger District is such a vast area (1,240,000 wilderness acres) that packing supplies to the trails crew is a logistical challenge and requires the district to maintain 25 mules and four horses. A typical twelve-hour work day includes: gathering trail construction supplies; catching and loading livestock; hauling livestock to the trailhead; unloading & readying animals for the trail; trail-riding from the trailhead to work sites, unloading/re-packing at the work sites, possible trail work, then moving on to the next work site. All in all, ten hours on the trail and an hour to unload packs and bed down.

PREVIOUS LIFE: I was born in Portland, Oregon in 1945. Moved to Idaho in 1971.

Started to work with the Forest Service in the 1960s on the Siuslaw NF, working on a road crew. After two years in the U.S. Army (1966-68), I attended Oregon State University in 1970. I began working for the Nez Perce NF in 1989 as an animal packer. I also contracted with the Forest Service to do farrier work.

FAMILY LIFE: My home is in the Salmon River area. I raise mules.

FAVORITE PLACE IN THE WORLD: Idaho's Salmon River area.

HOW I SPEND MY TIME AWAY FROM WORK: Work is my way of life. Having animals is a full-time job, with no days off.

DREAM VACATION WOULD BE: To be able to be in the blue Lazy Boy (chair) for over 10 minutes.

FANTASY JOB: I'm very close to having my fantasy job. Rearing and raising well-trained mules.



Don Esslinger, animal packer, Moose Creek RD, Nez Perce NF, heading up and moving out on the Fog Saddle to Cove Lake Trail. Photo by Frank Yates, Moose Creek RD, Nez Perce NF.

MY GREATEST ADVENTURE: Every day is a great adventure. When you're out on the trail, you never know what the day will bring.

ACHIEVEMENTS I'M MOST PROUD OF: The place I've earned in the community. The satisfaction in knowing that I've created good rapport with the community members by a fair and square work ethic.



Left: Wallace RD, Idaho Panhandle NFs, Received the "Rise to the Future" Award from Chief Thomas (left) for an "aggressive approach to watershed restoration and fish habitat improvement." The award was accepted by Ed Linder (center) Wallace/Fernan zone biologist, and Robert Harper, Wallace RD hydrologist.

Right: Chief Jack Ward Thomas (right) presents "Rise to the Future" Award for the Flathead NF's planning & implementing "a strong, integrated fish program for the Forest." Accepting the award are Pat VanEimeren, (center) Flathead NF zone fisheries biologist, and Tom Wittinger, Flathead NF wildlife & fisheries staff officer



Wallace RD, Flathead NF Receive "Rise to the Future" Awards from Chief Thomas

At the meeting of the American Sportsfishing Association in Alexandria, Virginia, in August, Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas presented "Rise to the Future" awards to the Wallace RD and the Flathead NF for their "contributions to protecting, restoration, use and enjoyment of aquatic resources" last (1994) year.

Personnel Actions

BEAVERHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BENGEYFIELD, PETE, hydrologist, SO, spot award
 BLACKBURN, ROBIN, business management clerk, Madison RD, spot award
 BROWNING, DAVID, fisheries biologist, Dillon RD, spot award
 CARPITA, SUZAN, voucher examiner, SO, spot award
 DEZORT, ANITA, landscape architect, SO, spot award
 FREESTONE, JAMES, forestry technician, Wise River RD, spot award
 FURNANDIZ, MARVIN, forestry technician, Wisdom RD, spot award
 HOWERY, JACQUELYN, support services specialist, Dillon RD, spot award
 HUTTON, ROBERT, range technician, Wisdom RD, spot award
 IVERSON, LOREN, operations research analyst, SO, spot award
 JENSEN, BARBARA, business management clerk, Wise River RD, spot award
 JOHNSON, DEBORAH, geologist, Madison RD, spot award
 JOHNSON, GEORGE, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 KIRKPATRICK, LURENE, supervisory forestry technician, Wise River RD, spot award
 KIRTLEY, JACKIE, information receptionist, Madison RD, spot award
 LAVALLEY, SHANE, contract specialist, SO, spot award
 MCKNIGHT, DALE, range conservationist, Wise River RD, spot award
 MOUSEL, MARTHA, planner, SO, spot award
 PETRONI, DIANE, forester, SO, spot award
 QUINN, BRIAN, forester, Wise River RD, spot award
 RUSSELL, FRANK, supervisory forestry technician, SO, spot award
 RUSSELL, LAURIE, accounting technician, SO, spot award
 SALO, DAVID, hydrologist, SO, spot award
 SCHOTT, LINDA, business management assistant, Madison RD, spot award
 SUENRAM PERI, appeals specialist, SO, spot award
 WISEMAN, RONALD, wildlife biologist, Madison RD, spot award
 WOODS, PATRICIA, forestry technician, SO, spot award

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

CURRY, NORBERT, forestry technician, Stevensville RD, cash award
 FLOCK, RICK, forester, Darby RD, cash award
 HAMMEL, BONNIE, community health nurse, Trapper Creek JCC, cash award
 HINMAN, LENNY, forestry technician, Darby RD, cash award
 JANY, JOSEPH, teacher, Anaconda JCC, cash award
 MAJORS, MARCIA, training instructor, Trapper Creek JCC, promotion, teacher
 MAKI, ANDY, forestry technician, Sula RD, cash award
 MENK, JEFF, social services assistant, Trapper Creek JCC, promotion, teacher
 MOODY, KATHY, forestry technician, West Fork RD, cash award
 NEYENHUIS, WARREN, social services assistant, Trapper Creek JCC, promotion, teacher
 PEPION, MIKE, forestry technician, Aerial Fire Depot, promotion, social worker, Trapper Creek JCC
 RUSSELL, LARRY, forestry technician, Darby RD, cash award
 TERRILL, BILL, forester, Darby RD, cash award
 UNDERWOOD, RITA, support services specialist, Darby RD, cash award
 WEMPLE, DEBBIE, forestry technician, West Fork RD, cash award
 WILSON, MIKE, forestry technician, Stevensville RD, temporary promotion, forester

New Employees

LAMLEY, HELEN, senior community service employment program, Anaconda JCC
 MARTZ, PEGGY, administrative officer, Trapper Creek JCC
 PIKE, JAMES, senior community service employment program, Anaconda JCC

CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BELL, PAMELA, purchasing agent, SO, cash award
 BERRY, DELORES, purchasing clerk, SO, cash award
 BURGER, GUADALUPE, rangeland management specialist, Medora RD, time off award
 ENDERUD, CHERYL, forestry technician, McKenzie RD, time off award
 FRIDLEY, BETTY, applications clerk, McKenzie RD, cash award
 KELLOGG, TIMOTHY, biological science technician, Sioux RD, cash award
 KNUTSON, JESS ANNE, range technician, McKenzie RD, time off award
 MARTINEZ, GERALD, forestry technician, Sioux RD, cash award
 NEWELL, SUSAN, realty specialist, SO, promotion

NORDSVEN, ELMER, forestry technician, McKenzie RD, time off award
 ODELL, CHARLES, range technician, Sioux RD, cash award
 PETERS, ANN, accounting technician, SO, cash award, temporary promotion, budget & accounting analyst
 RUFVOLD, COLLEEN, resource clerk, Sheyenne RD, promotion, support services specialist
 SHIMEK, DELORES, support services supervisor, McKenzie RD, cash award
 SPEER, ANN, accounting technician, SO, cash award
 STRADINGER, MAXINE, range technician, Sioux RD, cash award
 TEETS, DAVID, forestry technician, Beartooth RD, cash award
 VANOMMEN, LESTER, computer assistant, McKenzie RD, cash award
 YOUNG, DIXIE, accounting technician, SO, cash award

DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

DODGE, JOCELYN, recreation forester, Butte RD, special act award
 HOWARD, GARY, realty specialist, Flathead NF, promotion, Deerlodge NF

FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

ALBERT, BOB, logistics assistant, SO, spot award
 BAXTER, BRIAN, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 DAVID, JACK, civil engineer technician, SO, promotion
 GAYLORD, MONICA, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 HACKMAN, BRETT, office automation clerk, SO, spot award
 JOHNSON, PAUL, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 LEMIEUX, LAURIE, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 MURPHY, JOE, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 SAFIRAN, RAY, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 THOMSEN, LYLE, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 TOOMBS, JASON, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 MORGAN, DE W I, budget and accounting analyst, SO, spot award
 SODERSTROM, KEITH, supervisory forestry technician, SO, promotion
 UNDERWOOD, CINDY, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 WATSON, LESLIE, forestry technician, SO, spot award
 WILCZYNSKI, MIKE, forestry technician, SO, spot award

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

KURZENHAUSER, BOB, voucher examiner, SO, spot award
 RUCHMAN, JANE, landscape architect, SO, spot award
 TAYLOR, CHERYL, hydrological technician, SO, spot award
 WYTANIS, JOHN, forester, Livingston RD, cash award

HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BURNS, LAURA, biological technician, Lincoln RD, promotion
 CARPENTER, MARVIN, forestry technician, Helena RD, promotion
 DANLIKER, BRIAN, forestry technician, Helena RD, spot award
 GOLIE, JOYCE, office automation clerk, SO, spot award
 MCCANN, DAVE, forestry technician, Helena RD, special act award
 PANEK, GEORGE, forester, Lincoln RD, special act award
 SCOTT, SHARON, forestry technician, Helena RD, special act award
 SENN, DON, forestry technician, Helena RD, time off award

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

OLESON, ROSE, business management assistant, transfer, support services specialist, Townsend RD

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

Awards & Promotions

BORNITZ, LYNN, supervisory forestry technician, St Maries RD, promotion
 BRISTOL, SUSAN, computer assistant, Sandpoint RD, promotion
 CLARAHAN, JOHN, computer specialist, SO, promotion
 KNODEL, DOROTHY, budget analyst, SO, temporary promotion
 NIPP, IRENE, support services supervisor, Wallace RD, temporary-promotion
 PARKS, STAN, supervisory forestry technician, Wallace RD, cash award
 RIDGE, DIETRA, administrative officer, Wallace RD, temporary promotion

Reassignment/Transfers

BURNSIDE, SUZANNE, forestry technician, reassignment, resource assistant, SO

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

ADAMS, PAM, computer assistant, Libby RD, cash award
 APPELHANS, ANNJE, hydrologic technician, Fortine RD, special act
 BAIN, FLOYD, supervisory civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 BARTEL, TERESA, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 BUCKMASTER, JOHN, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 CAMP, CAROLINE, forestry technician, Libby RD, cash award
 CURRY, SCOTT, civil engineer, West Zone, cash award
 DAVIS, KONI, business management clerk, Three Rivers RD, cash award
 DEYOUNG, LINDA, support services supervisor, Three Rivers RD, cash award, promotion, administrative officer
 FRANKE, MATT, engineering equipment operator, West Zone, cash award
 FRIEND, MILES, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, cash award
 GRABINSKI, TOM, supervisory civil engineer, West Zone, cash award
 GROMLEY, TOM, forestry technician, Libby RD, cash award
 HAMILTON, JOHN, archeologist, Fortine RD, cash award
 HENSON, JOHN, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 HIGGINS, BRUCE, forester, Libby RD, cash award
 JAMES, VIC, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 JONES, GARY, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 KERN, KEN, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 KROEGER, LEWAYEN, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 LANE, WENDY, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 LARSON, JOAN, forestry technician, Libby RD, cash award
 LEWIS, MIKE, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 LUNDEEN, JANET, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 MCGRATH, JOHN, supervisory civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 MJELDE, RON-, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 MOHAR, KATHRYN, resource technician, Three Rivers RD, promotion, writer/editor
 MYERS, RONALD, resource technician, Cabinet RD, promotion, resource assistant, R3 Santa Fe NF
 NIX, JANET, resource clerk, Rexford RD, promotion, SO
 NORMAN, DAVE, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, cash award
 ODOR, ANN, forestry technician, Libby RD, cash award
 PARK, JERROLD, forester, SO, performance award
 PESICKA, WALTER, engineering equipment operator, West Zone, cash award
 THORBURGH, DEWAYE, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, cash award
 WALDRON, CRAIG, forestry technician, Cabinet RD, cash award
 WELTZ, BILL, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 WELTZ, JOE, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 WILLIAMS, CHUCK, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 WILLIAMS, MARYJO, civil engineering technician, West Zone, cash award
 ZEARFOSS, JACK, civil engineer, West Zone, cash award

New Employees

NELSON, BRENDA, business management clerk, Libby RD

Reassignments/Transfers

BREDESON, GLENN, computer specialist, SO, reassignment
 EHMANN, CHERYL, resource clerk, Libby RD, reassignment, information receptionist
 THATCHER, JANE, supervisory computer specialist, SO, reassignment, R6, Winema NF
 VEVERA, GEOFFREY, forestry technician, R6 Deschutes NF, reassignment, Fortine RD

LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

WHITFORD, THOMAS, wildlife biologist, Musselshell RD, special act award

LOLO NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

ARNOLD, DEWEY, civil engineering technician, SO, special act award
 ARTLEY, SUZANNE, forester, SO, extra effort award
 CALCATERRA, HARRIET, support services supervisor, SO, spot award
 CARROLL, ROBERT, supervisory forestry technician, Missoula RD, extra effort award

CRAWFORD, JOHN, forestry aid, Missoula RD, spot award
 DERLETH, ROBERT, supervisory forestry technician, Superior RD, quality step increase

DUVAL, JOHN, civil engineer, SO, spot award
 FISHER, FOSTER, biological science technician, SO, extra effort award
 GARR, DAVID, forestry technician, Missoula RD, spot award
 GREEN, SANDRA, financial assistant, Superior RD, spot award
 HARDEN, TED, electronics technician, SO, promotion
 HAYDEN, LINDA, supervisory forester, Superior RD, spot award
 IPPISCH, CAROL, resource assistant, Superior RD, promotion, support services supervisor, Seeley Lake RD, spot award
 JACOBS, BERNARD, forestry technician, Missoula RD, spot award
 JENSEN, MICHAEL, biological science technician, SO, extra effort award
 KIPPHUT, JOSEPH, resource forester, Missoula RD, extra effort award
 KOPPENOL, PATRICIA, supervisory forester, Superior RD, promotion
 KRIVACEK, JANET, supervisory forester, Missoula RD, extra effort award
 LEWIS, LORI, forestry technician, Superior RD, spot award
 LOKEN, KRISTEN, biological science technician, SO, extra effort award
 LUBINSKI, MARJORIE, cartographic technician, SO, spot award
 LUMPRY, DUANE, forestry technician, Missoula RD, spot award
 MCLEOD, MILO, forest archeologist, SO, spot award
 MCNAB, JOAN, contracting specialist, SO, spot award
 MAD PLUME, VICTOR, forestry aid, Missoula RD, spot award
 MAHR, MARGUERITE, biological science technician, SO, extra effort award
 MCPHERSON, TAMMY, accounting technician, SO, promotion
 MILLER, JERALD, forestry technician, Missoula RD, spot award
 MORGAN, DAVID, forestry technician, Superior RD, spot award
 MYERS, CONNIE, wilderness training director, Arthur Carhart Center, extra effort award
 NUNEZ, MELISSA, forestry aid, Missoula RD, spot award
 PANCAKE, JEANNE, supply clerk, SO, performance bonus award
 PARTYKA, PATRICIA, forester, Plains/Thompson Falls RD, special act award
 REEL, SUSAN, wildlife biologist, SO, extra effort award
 RIGGERS, BRIAN, fisheries biologist, SO, extra effort award
 RONCK, VICTOR, forestry technician, Missoula RD, spot award
 SANDER, CORRINE, office automation clerk, Superior RD, spot award
 SAVIK, VIRGINIA, resource assistant, Plains/Thompson Falls RD, spot award
 SMITH, ELAINE, computer assistant, Superior RD, spot award
 SMITH, WANDA, forestry technician, Missoula RD, spot award
 STADLER, DONALD, resource forester, Superior RD, extra effort award
 STEWART, FRED, economist, SO, special act award
 SUGAR, JUSTIN, forestry technician, Missoula RD, spot award
 VANDEWERKER, TED, budget & accounting analyst, SO, special act award
 WALLS, MICHAEL, forestry aid, Missoula RD, spot award

Reassignments/Transfers

STADLER, DON, forester, Superior RD, reassignment, Nine Mile RD

Natural Areas Association Names Evenden National V.P.

Dr. Angela Evenden, R-1/R4/INT natural areas program manager, was elected vice president of the Natural Areas Association (NM) at the professional organization's national conference in October in Fayetteville, Arkansas. NAA has more than 2,500 members from State, Federal agencies, private organizations and individuals interested in natural areas conservation. Harry R. Tyler, Jr., Maine State Planning Office, Augusta, ME, is NAA president. Evenden has served on the NM board of directors for four years. NAA's 1996 conference will be in Chicago in October

North Idaho Symposium

"Dynamics of Northern Idaho Forests",
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, February 2 & 3

A symposium on plants, animals and people, "Dynamics of Northern Idaho Forests," will be Feb. 2-3, at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The public forum will explore the conditions of north Idaho forests, the people equation in land management and the broader social and political scope of natural resource management in today's world. The symposium will include a hands-on workshop assessing a north Idaho watershed and developing a management plan. Keynote speaker will be Penny Morgan, University of Idaho. Special Luncheon speaker will be Neil Sampson, nationally recognized conservationist. The sym-

posium is sponsored by the Idaho Panhandle, Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests; University of Idaho; Kootenai Tribe; Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho; Coeur d'Alene Tribe; Intermountain Forest Industry Association; Sierra Club; Idaho Fish & Game; Bureau of Land Management; Idaho Department of Lands; and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Attendance is limited to 300. Registration fee is \$25 for the meetings only or \$35 including luncheon. For additional details, contact Barbara Coyner, P.O. Box 564, Potlatch, Idaho 83855; telephone (208) 875-1528.



Retirees Invited
To Join Associates

The Northern Rocky Mountain Retiree Association (NRMRA) invites all retirees to join them at their monthly luncheon meeting at the Country Harvest Buffet restaurant in the South Gate Mall in Missoula. NRMA meets at noon on the first Wednesday of each month.

Mailing address for NRMRA is P.O. Box 20186, Missoula, Montana 59801. President of the Association is Jim Freeman, 1637 Red Crow Road, Victor, Montana 59875, telephone (406) 961-3959.

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The Northern Region News
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P.O. Box 7669
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Official Use - Penalty for Private Use \$300