

What would make you drive 1,400 miles?

John Dant and Linda Kearns are Forest Service volunteers who traveled from Scottsdale, Arizona to Olallie Scenic Area to help the Forest Service repair a historic log cabin. Dant told an Oregonian reporter:

"I've been involved for five years and done lots of projects for them. It's doing something I think is worthwhile – preserving our historical roots."

In the southern tip of the Mt. Hood National Forest, next to Olallie Meadow, is a one-room log cabin that was constructed in 1910. The Forest Ranger lived and worked out of this cabin.

Nearly 100 years later, employees and volunteers removed old wood shingles, rived new cedar shakes and put a new roof on the building.

Six volunteers and 13 Forest Service employees worked on putting new shakes on a Forest Service cabin that was constructed when the Forest Service was still young. For four days in August a beehive of activity could be found at Olallie Meadows. Usually a very quiet and peaceful retreat, the campground became the staging area for a historic preservation plan to reroof and repair the 92 year old Forest Service building.

Volunteers from Scottsdale Arizona, Forest Grove and Sandy helped archaeologists and historic preservation craftsmen hand make shakes and then install them on the cabin. Six volunteers were recruited through the Forest Services' heritage resources program called Passport in Time. Over 200 hours of volunteer work was contributed to this project.

Other Passport in Time projects on the Mount Hood have included archaeological excavations at Fish Creek and Summit Meadows, and historic restoration work at Cloud Cap Inn and Tilly Jane Guard Station.

While we have selected our next Passport in Time project for 2003, those who are interested in this program may keep track of projects being held throughout the country at passportintime.com

If you would like to experience the rustic living conditions that this cabin has to offer, it is available for rent through the Olallie Lakes Resort (503-504-1010 or 503-557-1010).

Forest-Wide Projects

Tamarack Rock Quarry Expansion EIS

Contact: Mike Redmond

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The Proposed Action includes expansion of the existing Tamarack rock quarry (formerly called Mud Creek) on approximately 60 acres of National Forest System land. The proposal may also include road improvements on the access road to the quarry. The rock excavated from the quarry would be used over time by the Forest Service and the Oregon Department of Transportation to help meet the long-term needs of maintenance, and reconstruction of roads in the Mt. Hood area.

The project area is located approximately 4 miles south of Government Camp, in Section 2, T.4S, R.8-1/2E, Willamette Meridian, Clackamas County, Oregon. The project area does not include any wilderness, roadless areas, wild and scenic rivers, late successional reserves, or riparian reserves.

Some of the preliminary issues that have been identified include visual quality as seen from key view points on the Forest, and traffic management conflict between commercial use and recreation.

The draft EIS is planned to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and available for public review by March 2003. The EPA will publish a Notice of Availability (NOA) of the draft EIS in the [Federal Register](#). The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the NOA appears in the [Federal Register](#).

Watershed Restoration 2003

Contact: John Dodd

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In the last issue of *Sprouts* we described a project called Watershed Restoration 2002. While we are continuing to pursue this restoration planning, the reality of the timing and the magnitude of the tasks needed to accomplish a completed analysis has caused us to change the name of the project to Watershed Restoration 2003.

At this time we have a list of projects that are in the developmental stage. We still must do field surveys for plants and animals and heritage resources, as well as other detailed analyses of the costs, impacts and benefits of the projects. The final list of projects may be pared down somewhat depending on what we find. The following is intended to give you a feel for the types of projects being considered.

- **Fish Passage Projects**

Certain culverts at road/stream crossings partially or totally block fish passage. Includes culvert replacement or culvert removal so that fish can get through to access habitat on the other side.

- **Ditch to Pipe Conversions**

Irrigation ditches leak and occasionally wash out. Pipes would be installed to transport water, reducing seepage and erosion. Includes Wolf Run Ditch and Lyda's Ditch.

40/60 – Project may create openings-larger than the 40 or 60 acre limitations stipulated by the National Forest Management Act, 36 CFR 219.27. Such creation requires 60 day public notification and approval of the Regional Forester.

CCF – 100 cubic feet

CE – Categorical Exclusion

EA – Environmental Assessment

EIS – Environmental Impact Statement

MBF – 1,000 board feet

MMBF – 1,000,000 board feet

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act

VEG – This symbol indicates a project that may include treatment of unwanted vegetation. When a site-specific project to prevent or treat unwanted vegetation is being considered, the official responsible for that project is to notify the public.

- **Fencing**
Includes fencing of meadows and sensitive areas to control the movement of livestock.
- **Wildlife Projects**
 - Oaks would be released by cutting small conifers.
 - Snags would be created from live trees by girdling, topping, and heart rot inoculation.
 - Down Woody Debris would be created by felling trees in areas that are deficient.
 - Roads would be closed to reduce harassment.
 - Meadows would be restored by removing encroaching young conifers.
- **Rock Quarry and Gravel Stockpile Restoration**
Includes the addition of soil, reestablishment of natural drainage patterns and revegetation.
- **In-stream Projects**
Includes the addition of logs or boulders into streams to create pools and improve diversity.
- **Riparian Projects**
Includes riparian planting and thinning in the dry upland areas near streams, and blocking areas where unauthorized vehicles are damaging stream-side zones and other sensitive areas.
- **Road Stabilization**
Includes deep patch repairs of cracking and sinking roadways, resurfacing and erosion control.
- **Road Decommissioning**
Includes the removal of gravel and culverts (if any) and deep ripping, water barring, and revegetating.
- **Erosion Prevention**
Includes storm proofing and repairing roads.

This year there are a few areas that are being comprehensively restored with several of the above project types packaged together. For example, the Fifteenmile River Keeper Project involves several restorations in the City of Dufur municipal watershed. It includes the conversion of the Lydia's Ditch to a pipe, flood plain and in-stream restoration, and roadwork. Also, the Salmon River Keeper Project is a complex project that involves in-stream work and bank stability work to redirect the energy of the river away from key improvements that are at risk.

Some of these projects are on private lands and are being designed with the cooperation of local landowners to achieve important restoration objectives. Also, this EA includes projects within the Oregon portion of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

If you would like a copy of the projects with site-specific details, an email inquiry would be the quickest way to get it. Please be as specific as you can about what geographical area or what project types you are curious about.

It is anticipated that an Environmental Assessment will be completed some time in 2003.

We are continuing to implement the restoration projects from last year's EA as funding becomes available. Last year's EA and the prioritization model can be viewed at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/pubs.htm>

Barlow Ranger District Projects

Juncrock Planning Area

Contact: *Becky Nelson*

Phone: (541) 467-2291

Email: *bnelson@fs.fed.us*

The draft EIS is scheduled for completion during the fall of 2002. Copies of the draft document will be available.

Knebal Springs Trail Reconstruction

Contact: *Dennis Beechler*

Phone: (541) 328-6211

Email: *dbeechler@fs.fed.us*

The project review team has been out in the field and has relocated the proposed trail, and is shortening the reconstruction length. The existing trail is open to horses, mountain bikes, and hikers. Relocation will minimize trail maintenance and provide a better recreation experience. The crossings will be constructed on the existing trail. One will be a two-stringer decked bridge and the other will consist of cobble placed in the streambed itself. Both of these stream crossings will reduce the amount of sedimentation into Fivemile Creek. Work is continuing on this project.

Swisher/West Gobbler Underburn (1480 acres)

Contact: *Mel Gard*

Phone: (541) 467-2291

Email: *mgard@fs.fed.us*

Analysis of the underburns is continuing. The Barlow Ranger District is proposing to burn approximately 2,200 acres in two different areas. The objective is to introduce fire back into the ecosystem, reduce the natural accumulation of litter, prevent the arc build-up around the base of large ponderosa pine, and enhance the fire dependent native grasses, forbs, and shrub species. Underburning will enhance deer and elk forage quantity and quality, reduce risk of a stand replacing fire, and protect large ponderosa trees from the effects of future underburning. Required surveys for these projects have been completed. Final field verifications are being completed.

Precommercial Thinning (TSI) CE

Contact: *Jordan Woods*

Phone: (541) 467-2291

A Categorical Exclusion (CE) will be prepared for approximately 3,800 acres of precommercial thinning. Work will be accomplished over the next five years. Precommercial thinning, thinning trees less than eight

inches in diameter, promotes forest health, species diversity, increases growth and wood quality, and reduces susceptibility of treated stands to fire, insect and disease problems. A decision is expected by the winter of 2003.

Special Use Permits

Contact: *Doug Jones*

Phone: (541) 352-6002, ext 682

Email: *dgjones@fs.fed.us*

The following special use permits have expired and the forest intends to re-issue permits for existing facilities, pending policy change to allow issuance of permits where no changes are proposed to the facilities using a categorical exclusion.

- **Rock Creek Improvement District**
Rock Creek Reservoir & Dam and associated ditches.
- **Sportsmans Park Water Association**
Water transmission pipeline and 90,000 gallon storage tank.
- **Oregon Department of Transportation**
Permit for the Warm Springs Junction Maintenance Compound and employee housing area.
- **Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife**
White River Game Management Area permit for a ¾ mile irrigation ditch off Gate Creek.
- **Lester Lindell**
Permit for the Chase Irrigation ditch – 3.5 miles.
- **Wasco County Sheriff**
Permit for a radio repeater located at Flag Point Lookout.
- **Wasco Electric Co-op**
Three permits for electric power lines serving:
 - Bear Springs and Warm Springs Junction;
 - Camp Cody (Rock Creek); and
 - Camp Baldwin Boy Scout property.

Clackamas River Ranger District Projects

Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail #2000

Contact: Jacquelyn Oakes

Phone: (503) 630-8815

Email: joakes@fs.fed.us

Trail reconstruction from saddle between north and south Pinhead Buttes to intersection with Forest Road 4220. All work occurs on Warm Springs Reservation. Total length – 4.8 miles.

Shellrock Trail #700

Contact: Jacquelyn Oakes

Phone: (503) 630-8815

Email: joakes@fs.fed.us

Trail reconstruction from trailhead, 2000 feet plus log footbridge construction.

Monon Trail #729

Mon-Olallie Trail #732

Olallie Trail #731

Contact: Jacquelyn Oakes

Phone: (503) 630-8815

Email: joakes@fs.fed.us

Trails to be reconstructed where destroyed by fire of 2001.

Thinning Program

Second-growth stands across the District are being examined for thinning opportunities. At this time four planning areas are moving forward into the early stages of environmental analysis. Descriptions of the purpose and need, and the details of the proposed action including maps and photos are available on the Forest web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/projects.htm>

- **Upper Clackamas Area**

700 Acres

Contact: Jim Roden

Phone: (503) 630-8722

Email: jroden@fs.fed.us

- **South Fork Clackamas and Clear Creek Area**

590 Acres

Contact: Jim Roden

Phone: (503) 630-8722

Email: jroden@fs.fed.us

- **Oak Grove Area**

970 Acres

Contact: Don Davison

Phone: (503) 630-8742

Email: ddavison@fs.fed.us

- **Collawash Area**

340 Acres

Contact: Don Davison

Phone: (503) 630-8742

Email: ddavison@fs.fed.us

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment on these projects, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27 (d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality.

Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within a specified time-frame.

Hood River Ranger District Projects

Trail Reconstruction Projects

Contact: Kevin Slagle

Phone: (541) 352-6002, ext 605

Email: kslagle@fs.fed.us

The Hood River Ranger District proposes to reconstruct the following trails in the years 2002-2005.

- Pacific Crest Trail from Lolo Pass to Bald Mountain,
- Barlow Pass to Wapinitia,
- Palmateer Trail,
- Timberline Trail from Cloud Cap to White River, and
- Elk Cove to McNeil Point.

Most of the work would occur within the existing cleared trail area. During planning, some minor relocations may be identified for consideration.

Bear Knoll Planning Area

T.4S., R.9E., Sec. 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, 36 and T.5S., R.9. 2, 3, 4, 10

Contact: Becky Nelson

Phone: (541) 467-2291

Email: bnelson01@fs.fed.us

This planning effort began in 1998. It has been put on hold for the last six months, while other work was being completed. Bear Knoll proposes to thin overstocked mature and immature stands through commercial timber sales and the sale of special forest products (post,

poles and firewood). Over mature stands, especially those heavily infected with Indian Paint Fungus, are proposed to be regenerated. Commercial thinning and restoration projects are proposed in the riparian reserve area of Frog Creek. Visual enhancement projects along Highway 26 are proposed. Removal of off site ponderosa in a plantation is proposed. Temporary road construction, road closure and decommissioning are also proposed. An EIS will be completed during the winter of 2003.

Mill Creek Planning Area

Contact: Becky Nelson

Phone: (541) 467-2291

Email: bnelson01@fs.fed.us

The Hood River Ranger District is proposing to treat approximately 7,200 acres located approximately five miles southeast of the community of Mount Hood. The purpose and need have been identified. Specialists concerns identified are:

- Forest condition due to the lack of fire over the last 100 years.
- The invasion of non-native plant species.
- The high level of roading and the resulting wildlife harassment and poaching.
- Aquatic habitat degradation due to roads and grazing operations.

A decision is expected in the fall of 2003.

In an effort to better serve you and conserve resources and energy, *Sprouts* is available online. You can now view the most current issue of *Sprouts* on the Mt. Hood National Forest Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood>

Zigzag Ranger District Projects

Lady Creek Water Line Replacement and Permit Renewal

Contact: Paul Norman

Phone: (503) 622-3191, ext 668

Email: pnorman@fs.fed.us

The Lady Creek Water District is replacing approximately 4,000' of water line within the District's recreation residence tracts. Project implementation is planned for the summer of 2003. The special use permit for the water district has expired and needs to be renewed. The Forest Service is evaluating reissuing the special use permit to the current permittee to allow for continued use of the water system collection and transmission facilities on National Forest Lands.

Timberline Ski Area (RLK and Company) New Chair Lift and Ski Trail System Construction

R 9E, T 3S, SW1/4, Section 7

Contact: Paul Koehler

Phone: (503) 622-3191, ext 614

Email: pkoehler@fs.fed.us

Timberline Ski Area proposes to construct a new chairlift and trail system in the southwest corner of the ski area's special use permit boundary. The proposal would expand the permit boundary by approximately 40 acres. The proposal would involve approximately 55 acres of forested lands. Analysis for this proposal will be documented in an Environmental Impact Statement.

Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp Facility Improvements

Contact: Paul Koehler

Phone: (503) 622-3191, ext 614

Email: pkoehler@fs.fed.us

The Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp proposes to upgrade existing facilities and construct new facilities as authorized in the camp's approved Master Development Plan. The improvements are needed to better serve the camp's primary client base (children and adults with mental and physical disabilities). A new 30-year term permit would be re-issued to the Camp. The proposal does not represent an expansion of the permit boundary, the authorized capacity or the authorized uses.

Mt. Hood Ski Bowl Resort Miscellaneous Ski Facility Improvements

45°18'8.81"N; 121°46'10.49 W

Contact: Paul Koehler

Phone: (503) 622-3191, ext 614

Email: pkoehler@fs.fed.us

H. Ski Corporation proposes to implement the following projects:

- Additional night lights in the vicinity of the West Side Base Area and Upper Bowl, Downhill and Fire Hydrant Ski Trails.
- Slope contouring on the Downhill Ski Trail (200 ft x 100 ft).
- Expansion of the Multopor Snowplay Hill.

Timberline Ski Area (RLK and Company) Ski School Improvements

R 9E, T 3S, SW1/4, Section 7

Contact: Paul Koehler

Phone: (503) 622-3191, ext 614

Email: pkoehler@fs.fed.us

Timberline Ski Area is proposing to install a 200' rope tow in the same location as the original West Rope Tow and approximately 300' south of Timberline Lodge. A yurt on a raised deck will also be built 250' to the west of the Wy'east Day Lodge. Both facilities are desired to better serve younger skiers and snowboarders enrolled in the area's ski school program.

Mt. Hood National Forest Offices

Mt. Hood National Forest Headquarters Office

16400 Champion Way
Sandy, OR 97055
Business: 503-668-1700
Visitor Information: **503-622-7674**
Hours: 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, M-F

Barlow Ranger District

780 NE Court Street
Dufur, OR 97021
Phone: **541-467-2291**
Hours: 7:45 AM to 4:30 PM, M-F

Clackamas River Ranger District

595 NW Industrial Way
Estacada, OR 97023
Business: **503-630-6861**
Visitor Information: **503-630-8700**
Hours: 7:45 AM to 4:30 PM, M-Sat
Closed weekends during winter months.

Hood River Ranger District

6780 Highway 35
Mt. Hood - Parkdale, OR 97041
Phone: **541-352-6002**
Hours: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, M-F
Summer Hours: May 30 - Sept. 6
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, 7 days a week

Zigzag Ranger District

70220 E. Highway 26
Zigzag, OR 97049
Business: **503-622-3191 or
503-668-1704**
Hours: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, M-F

Mt. Hood Information Center

*Forest Service Information in partnership
with Clackamas County and Mt. Hood
Area Chamber of Commerce Visitor
Information*
65000 E. Highway 26
Welches, OR 97067
Phone: **503-622-7674**
Hours: March 1 - Dec 1, 8:00 AM to
6:00 PM, 7 days a week
Winter Hours: Dec 1 - Feb 28
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, 7 days a week
(Closed Dec 25)



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