

Summer 2003

New Ground

News of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest

Gifford Pinchot
National Forest

Gotchen Draft EIS Released for Comment



A public field trip is scheduled for Saturday, August 9, 2003, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Mt. Adams District Office to discuss the Draft Gotchen Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). A field trip to the project area will follow. If you plan on attending or for further information, please contact Bruce Holmson, Gotchen Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Team Leader, by phone: (509) 395-3390, or by email: bholmson@fs.fed.us

Beginning July 25, the DEIS will be available for a 45-day comment period, ending on September 8, 2003. Copies of the DEIS are available upon request from the Gotchen EIS Team, USFS, Mount Adams District, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650, (509) 395-3411. The DEIS will also be available through the White Salmon, Wash., public library and posted on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf>. Comments will be accepted by mail at the Mt. Adams Ranger District Office in Trout Lake, Wash., or by e-mail: comments-pacificnorthwest-giffordpinchot-mtadams@fs.fed.us

South RAC Recommends Projects

On July 14 the The South Gifford Pinchot National Forest Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) met to review and make recommendations, from a list of 42 proposals for Forest projects. The committee met at the Wind River Training Center in Stabler, Wash., which had been renovated in 2002 using RAC money. At the end of the day 15 projects totaling \$1,264,000 were recommended. Recommended projects included culvert improvements to enhance fish passage, fish habitat improvement, noxious weed control, as well as road and trail and campgrounds enhancements. These projects are still pending approval by Forest Supervisor Claire Lavendel.



Campfire Restrictions in Place, Remember Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires



Fire danger in the Northwest is currently high. During the last several weeks, the Gifford Pinchot National Forest has received little to no moisture. Warming weather trends and ongoing support of wildfires off-forest emphasize the need for extreme caution. Claire Lavendel, Forest Supervisor, [has issued the following restrictions effective 8 a.m., July 25, 2003](#). Campfires are allowed only in designated campgrounds, and picnic areas. A campfire fueled by charcoal is considered an open fire.

- Smoking is restricted to enclosed vehicles, buildings, and developed or cleared areas.
- Pressurized gas camp stoves and lanterns using jellied petroleum or pressurized liquid fuel are allowed.

"This is a necessary precaution based on continuing dry conditions," Lavendel said. All visitors to the National Forest should exercise caution. If you travel through the forest carry a shovel, axe, and bucket. Make sure campfires are dead out, that is, cold to the touch, before leaving them.

Sixth Annual Pedal the Pinchot a Success

On July 19, almost 250 riders enjoyed a great day of bicycling near Mount St. Helens. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Woodland volunteers took care of riders as they left and returned from cycling. Riders received a t-shirt, goody bag, pancake and sausage breakfast, food at rest stops, hamburgers and salad lunch, and support during the ride. They also enjoyed a day of phenomenal sunshine and cheery volunteers at rest stops. Numerous groups and individuals contributed to the success of the event. Prior to the event members of the Silver Star Search and Rescue did maintenance work on the Smith Creek trail. Proceeds from the event help many local community programs.



How to reach us:

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Cowlitz Valley Ranger District
10024 U.S. Hwy 12
P.O. Box 670
Randle, WA 98377
(360) 497-1100
FAX: (360) 497-1102
TTY: (360) 497-1101

**Packwood Work and
Information Center**
13068 U.S. Hwy 12
Packwood, WA 98361
(360) 494-1172
FAX: (360) 497-1102

Mt. Adams Ranger District
2455 Highway 141
Trout Lake, WA 98650
(509) 395-3400
FAX: (509) 395-3424
TTY: (509) 395-3422

**Wind River Work and
Information Center**
1262 Hemlock Road
Carson, WA 98610
(509) 427-3200
FAX: (509) 427-3215

**Mount St. Helens National
Volcanic Monument**
42218 NE Yale Bridge Road
Amboy, WA 98601
(360) 449-7800
FAX: (360) 449-7801
TTY: (360) 449-7802

**Mount St. Helens
Visitor Center: Silver Lake**
3029 Spirit Lake Highway
Castle Rock, WA 98611
24-hr. recording (360) 274-2103
(360) 274-2100
FAX: (360) 274-2101
TTY: (360) 274-2102

Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center
Located at MP 43
(360) 274-2114
FAX: (360) 274-2129
TTY: (360) 274-2102

Johnston Ridge Observatory
Located at MP 52
(360) 274-2140
TTY: (360) 274-2102

Internet:

www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/

Forest To Commemorate Sesquicentennial of Expedition



In the summer of 1853, one hundred and fifty years ago, [Captain George B. McClellan](#) and his party of 65 men became the first exploring expedition to traverse the southern Cascade Mountains in what is now the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Captain McClellan's group was surveying for a railroad route across the Cascades. On Saturday, August 9, Forest Service archaeologist Cheryl Mack will make a presentation on the history of the expedition in Trout Lake, Washington. The program is scheduled for 7 p.m. in the history room at the Trout Lake School, Highway 141. A re-enactor will be on hand to talk about expedition clothing and equipment. The second event is a short interpretive hike on a section of the original McClellan Trail. A Forest Service archaeologist will lead the 3-mile round trip walk from the Ice Caves interpretive site, 5 miles west of Trout Lake on Forest Road 24. The hike will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 10, the same date the expedition passed through the district in 1853.

Pick Up the Pinchot Events Scheduled for September

This year's event will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2003. This 5th annual event encourages volunteers to help improve their national forest. "Pick Up the Pinchot" will offer volunteers the opportunity to help cleanup their national forest. The Cowlitz Valley Ranger District, Mount St. Helens NVM, and the Mt. Adams Ranger District will host a litter pick up events for more information watch the Forest website or Contact: Dave Olson, FH, 360-891-5154; Jon Nakae MARD, (509) 427-3200; Hans Castren at MSH (360) 449-7800; or Steve Hoecker CVRD, (360) 497-1100.



Urban Youth Camp Outs

For many years now the Forest has been engaged in activities to share the National Forest with local youth who may not otherwise have the opportunity to visit their National Forest. This year the Gifford Pinchot National Forest Urban Youth Program has had two overnight campouts and one daytrip. In May a Migratory Bird Day campout was held at Atkisson Sno Park near Mt. Adams. Also in May students from Washington State School for the Blind visited the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge for the Migratory Bird Day field trip. Another activity included a campout and fishing clinic near Mt. Adams for National Fish Week. Upcoming programs include the annual Teen Urban Forestry Club Training and the annual Christmas tree trip. Also, the Urban Youth Program has nurtured a partnership with the local branch of the NAACP and Vancouver Parks and Recreation to obtain employment for participants in our Youth Employment Program. The City of Vancouver, along with the Forest Service and Safeway, has employed over 10 students so far this year.



Featured Web Page-

NW Fire Coordination Center This site provides daily Northwest Fire information with links to National information: <http://www.or.blm.gov/nwcc/>

Return Address:

Gifford Pinchot National Forest
10600 NE 51st Circle
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