

Public Invited to Propose RAC Projects for 2004



The public is invited to propose projects by April 1 for improvements on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest under a two-year-old Payments-to-Counties program. The legislation encourages individuals, non-profit organizations, local governments and others to propose projects that restore watersheds, decommission or maintain roads, remove noxious weeds, thin tree stands, or otherwise improve the condition of the Forest. The proposed projects need not be on the Forest, but must benefit Forestlands. Applications for these Title II

proposals can be obtained from Forest Headquarters, 10600 N.E. 51st Circle in Vancouver, the district offices, or on line at <http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/forest-administration/county-payments/> Mailed proposals must be postmarked by midnight, April 1. They should be submitted to Fred Noack at the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District, P.O. Box 670, Randle, WA, 98377-9105; or emailed to fnoack@fs.fed.us

Evening workshops are planned February 24 in Stevenson, Wash., and February 26 in Morton, Wash., to present information about both Title II and III grant programs and answer questions. Both workshops will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Stevenson workshop is at the Rock Creek Community Center. The Morton session is at the new Community Hall. Title III projects are managed by the county and must fall into at least one of the following categories: search, rescue, and emergency services, community service work camps, easement purchases, forest related educational opportunities, fire prevention and county planning, or community forestry.

(Photo above shows resurfacing at Goose Lake parking lot, a 2002 RAC project)

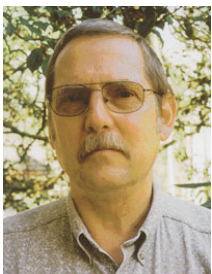
Forest Mourns the Passing of Beloved Ranger

Harry L. Cody, District Ranger of the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District for the past 15 years, died last November during an apparent boating accident near Wallula, Wash., where he was duck hunting. Harry, 53, of Mossyrock, Wash., had been Ranger at the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District - and before that at the Randle Ranger District - since early 1988. Prior to that, he had worked as a Ranger on the Chiloquin District of the Winema National Forest, and in a variety of positions at a number of other National Forests in Oregon, including the Willamette and Siuslaw. "Harry had a strong connection to the land as evidenced by his love of hunting, fishing and horseback riding. It's like a death in the family for us. He will be greatly missed,"

Supervisor Claire Lavendel said. Plans for a new horse camp to be dedicated in Harry's honor are under way. In a recent interview with *The Chronicle* of Centralia, District Recreation Planner Diane Bedell said, "I can't think of a more appropriate memorial to Harry."



New Ranger Named for Cowlitz Valley Ranger District



A ranger from the Pisgah Ranger District of the National Forests in North Carolina has been named as the [new district ranger of the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District](#). With 26 years in the U.S. Forest Service, Ben Kizer brings a wealth of experience to the ranger position. "We are very fortunate to have someone the caliber of Ben stepping in to lead the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District, especially at this difficult time," said Forest Supervisor Claire Lavendel. Kizer succeeds long-time Cowlitz Valley District Ranger Harry Cody. Kizer returns to the Northwest where he was Ranger on several districts of the Olympic National Forest during the 1990s.

National Public Lands Day 2003

Mark September 20 on your calendar! The Gifford Pinchot National Forest will again host a National Public Lands Day event for the fifth year. This day is set aside nationally as a day to encourage stewardship on public lands. The Forest will again host "Pick Up the Pinchot" to help clean up the Forest and is looking for partners. Last year each of the three field units held an activity. If you have other event ideas and/or would like to participate, contact Dave Olson at 360-891-5154 or e-mail him at dfolson@fs.fed.us

How to reach us:

**Gifford Pinchot National Forest
Forest Headquarters**
10600 NE 51st Circle
Vancouver, WA 98682
24-hr. recording (360) 891-5009
(360) 891-5001
FAX: (360) 891-5045
TTY: (360) 891-5003

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 Employees Spread Christmas Cheer



On a cold, windy, Saturday, December 7, two vans full of young people from the Portland/Vancouver area came to the Mt. Adams District to cut and bring home a Christmas tree for their families. Despite the lack of snow at the gathering site, frosty conditions made the footing hazardous and put holiday cheer in the air. This year marked the ninth year that the Forest has sponsored this outing. We would like to thank Alice Meyers from the Skamania County School District and students from her summer youth program who helped with this event.

Forest Headquarters employees from Vancouver, Wash., also made sure that 30 Vancouver children had presents to open under the tree on Christmas morning. This was done through a donation to the Vancouver Housing Authority's [RISE and STARS Community Center](#).

Partnership Site Debuts

The National Forest Foundation and the Forest Service have joined to create the Partnership Resource Center-



<http://www.partnershipresourcecenter.org/>. The Center is a web-based point of entry to existing resources, organizations, tools and other materials. It provides access to diverse information, networks, and services for Forest employees, other agencies, existing partners and potential partners.

Winter (?) Activities on Your National Forest

Snowfall continues to elude most of the Forest this winter. While the winter sports are not available, there are many trails open and ready for hikers. Many trails in the Trapper Creek Wilderness are mostly open. Hiking, biking and horseback riding can be a great way to spend some late wintertime on the forest.

Upcoming Events

CCC 70th Anniversary Celebration: Thursday, May 22, 7 p.m. at the [Water Resources Center](#) in Vancouver, Wash. Watch for more information on the Forest web site or in local newspapers. This is a joint program with the National Park Service and the Center For Columbia River History.

Yacolt Burn Centennial Exhibit: At the [Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center](#) in Stevenson, Wash., this spring. The exhibit will cover the nature and history of fire in the Columbia River Gorge and Clark County, Wash., and provide information on protecting your home from a wildfire. Stay tuned for more information.



Featured Web Page

Climbing Mount St. Helens

<http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/mshnvm/climbing/>

Return Address:

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10600 NE 51st Circle
Vancouver, WA 98682