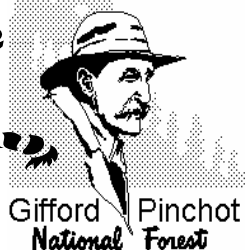


Autumn 2005

New Ground

News of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest



Current Mount St. Helens Eruption Marks One Year



The current eruption at Mount St. Helens, which started in September of 2004, continues. Analysis of a DEM (Digital Elevation Models) created from aerial photographs taken on June 15 shows that the volume of the new lava dome is about 54 million cubic meters (70 million cubic yards), or about 60% of the volume of the lava dome that grew in the crater from 1980 to 1986. To learn more about activity during the past year visit the [US Geological Survey website](http://www.usgs.gov). (Source: USGS)

Concession Opportunities Offered at Mount St. Helens

Concessionaires are being sought by the Gifford Pinchot National Forest to provide a broad range of visitor services at sites located throughout the [Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument](http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/purchasing/solicitations/proposals.shtml). Opportunities offered include restaurant operation, retail gift sales, educational book sales, mobile food vending, recreational equipment rentals, outfitter guide services and others. A pre-application informational meeting for prospective applicants is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 3, 2005, at the [Gifford Pinchot National Forest Headquarters](http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/purchasing/solicitations/proposals.shtml). A complete description of potential opportunities is available online at <http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/purchasing/solicitations/proposals.shtml>.

Resource Advisory Committees Recommend Forest Projects

Enhancing salmon spawning, trail restoration, improving fish passages, and removal of noxious weeds are among the 29 projects valued at more than \$1.8 million recently recommended by our two [Resource Advisory Committees](#). These projects await final approval by Forest Supervisor Claire Lavendel. Once approved, funds will be used for projects located across the Forest under the 2000 County Payments law.

Seventh Annual 'Pick Up the Pinchot' a Success Thanks to Volunteers

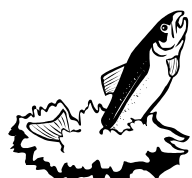


More than 45 people volunteered to help "[Pick Up the Pinchot](#)" during National Public Lands Day, Saturday, September 24, at two different sites on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. More than two tons of garbage were collected and hauled away as part of the Forest's seventh annual clean-up day. Volunteers worked picking up trash near Sunset Campground and the Surprise Lakes/Sawtooth Huckleberry Fields area. They picked up litter as diverse as tires, a microwave, a large metal gate, fishing tackle, bottles, cans, cups, ammo shells, and other trash.

Cody Horse Camp Dedicated September 17

A celebration dedicating the newly constructed [Cody Horse Camp](#) on the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District was held on Saturday, September 17.

The horse camp, conceived by the late District Ranger Harry Cody, was planned and constructed with the generous assistance of the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, the Lewis County Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, and the White Pass School District Discovery Team. The camp, located 29 miles southeast of Randle just off of Forest Road 5600059, provides great riding experiences.



Forest Recommends Removal of Hemlock Dam

In a recently released [environmental impact statement](#) the Forest has recommended removal of Hemlock Dam as the preferred alternative for restoring steelhead fish runs in the Wind River drainage. Hemlock Dam is located on Trout Creek, a tributary to the Wind River, approximately 10 miles northwest of Carson, Washington. The dam has been identified as an impediment to the migration and survival of Lower Columbia River steelhead, a fish that is listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

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Mount St. Helens

Visitor Center: Silver Lake

3029 Spirit Lake Highway
Castle Rock, WA 98611
(360) 274-0962

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/



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White Salmon Receives Wild and Scenic Designation:



On August 2, President Bush signed legislation championed by U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) and Rep. Brian Baird (D-WA) to permanently protect a 20-mile stretch of the upper White Salmon River and one of its tributaries as part of the [National Wild and Scenic River System](#). Senator Cantwell originally announced the introduction of her

legislation in August, 2003, during a press conference at the Gifford Pinchot National Forest headquarters in Vancouver.

Mt. Adams Volunteer Receives National Award

Ian Muirden, a volunteer with the Mt. Adams Ranger District Wilderness Stewardship program, was honored recently with the Forest Service Director's National Volunteer Award. Ian has volunteered 1,080 hours serving the public in Wilderness areas. Success of the Wilderness Steward program at the Mt. Adams Ranger District led to expansion of the program on the entire Forest. For more information about this program, contact Jon Nakae with the Mt. Adams Ranger District.



Christmas Trees

Now is the time to start thinking about the perfect Holiday Christmas tree. Starting Monday, November 14, permits will be available at several locations for cutting a special Christmas tree from the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Permits may be purchased for \$5 per tree. For more information, call any office or visit the Forest web site.



Sno-Park Permits



Sno-Park permits soon will be required at many Sno-Parks on the Forest. Make sure to have your permit before venturing out for your wintertime play on the Forest. Purchase a permit from Forest Service offices or other [local vendors](#). Sno-Parks on the south side of Mount St. Helens will be open for the winter.

Mount St. Helens Visitor Centers Fall Back to Winter Hours

Winter hours begin at Coldwater Ridge on Monday, October 31. Throughout the winter the Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday through Monday and closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Johnston Ridge closed for the winter on Monday, October 31.

Forest Centennial Film to be shown On Thursday, November 10, a two-hour [documentary film](#), "The Greatest Good," celebrating the Forest Service Centennial, will be shown at Fort Vancouver High School in Vancouver, Wash., beginning at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free.



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