

Spring 2004

# New Ground

## News of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest

Gifford Pinchot  
National Forest

### ***Hemlock Dam Project Revived***



The Mount Adams District is seeking your comments, ideas, and suggestions concerning fish passage and aquatic habitat restoration at Hemlock Dam near Stabler, Wash. This project has been inactive for two years. Now, with a new District Ranger and a new interdisciplinary team, we are ready to resume work on an environmental impact statement (EIS). A draft EIS will be available this September followed by a 45-day comment period. We expect the final EIS to be issued in February, 2005. A decision will be made in March, 2005. If you participated in the public meetings in 2001 or sent us comments in response to a previous scoping letter, dated May 16, 2001, there is no need to send comments again or repeat your concerns and suggestions. However, if you have not commented previously or if you have something new for us to consider, please mail written comments to Bengt Coffin, Hemlock Dam Team Leader, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650. E-mail comments to [comments-pacificnorthwest-giffordpinchot-mtadams@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-pacificnorthwest-giffordpinchot-mtadams@fs.fed.us) or contact Bengt Coffin at (509) 395-3425 or [bcoffin@fs.fed.us](mailto:bcoffin@fs.fed.us). Comments should be received by June 30, 2004.

### ***Changes to Northwest Forest Pass Program Include Fewer Sites***

Beginning May 1, the Gifford Pinchot National Forest reduced the number of sites that require a Northwest Forest Pass and now offer a new, multi-agency recreation pass.

The number of sites on the Forest was reduced from 112 to 54. Fees will be charged only in areas where higher levels of recreation development or services are provided. Rustic camping will no longer be included under a day pass or annual pass. The changes represent a significant reduction from last year in the number of recreation sites where a day-use fee is charged. For [a list of sites](#), visit the Gifford Pinchot National Forest website or contact a Forest Service office.

National forests in the Pacific Northwest will sell [the new Washington and Oregon Recreation Pass](#). Seven state and federal agencies in Washington and Oregon are now collectively offering a convenient day-use recreation pass which is honored at a majority of agency sites.

Your recreation fees continue to make a difference. Revenues from the passes will continue to go to locations based on use. Eighty percent of the fees are put back into direct services users say they want. On the Gifford Pinchot National Forest last year, recreation fee dollars helped pay for more than [\\$1.1 million worth of services and improvements](#).

### ***Gifford Pinchot Receives National Fisheries Award***

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest, along with a number of local partners, recently received national recognition for its efforts in stream restoration with the **2004 Riparian Challenge Award** at a conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

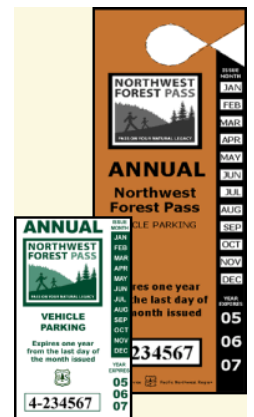
Members of the partnership team were honored for their outstanding efforts to protect and enhance fish habitat. Forest Supervisor Claire Lavendel and project coordinator Brian Bair were on hand to receive this award presented by the [American Fisheries Society](#). The award was given for the Mining Reach Riparian and Stream Channel Restoration Project located in the Wind River watershed, a Southwestern Washington tributary which enters the Columbia River near Carson, Wash.

### ***Celebrate the Beauty of Spring***



**Wildflower Viewing:** Spring flowers are starting to show in many areas. Several wildflower walks are still scheduled for this spring. Visit the Friends of the Gorge website at [www.gorgefriends.org](http://www.gorgefriends.org) for more information or call (503) 241-3762. (Photo Friends of the Gorge)

**Fishing Clinics Planned:** The Forest will be hosting three Kids' Fishing Days on Saturday June 12 as part of its 16th annual observance of National Fishing Week. For a list of sites, call the Forest Headquarters at 360-891-5001 or visit the [Forest web site](#).



## How to reach us:

### **Gifford Pinchot National Forest**

#### **Forest Headquarters**

10600 NE 51<sup>st</sup> 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

### **Mt. Adams Ranger District**

2455 Highway 141  
Trout Lake, WA 98650  
(509) 395-3400  
FAX: (509) 395-9384  
TTY: (509) 395-3422

### **Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument**

42218 NE Yale Bridge Road  
Amboy, WA 98601  
(360) 449-7800  
FAX: (360) 449-7809  
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/](http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/)



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## Cabin Reservations Now Available Through ReserveUSA



Starting this spring, the [Peterson Prairie](#) and [Government Mineral Springs](#) Guard Stations on the Mt. Adams Ranger District can now be reserved through the national reservation system [www.reserveUSA.com](http://www.reserveUSA.com) or by calling the reservation center at 1-877-444-6777 (toll free).

These two historic cabins are available for rent year-round with a stay limit of seven consecutive days. The cost of rental for the cabins is \$50 per night for Peterson Prairie and \$65 per night for Government Mineral Springs. There is a two-night minimum over the weekends (Fri-Sat). There is also a \$9 fee per reservation.

## Smokey Marks 60 Years of Preventing Human-Caused Fires



This spring the Northwest has experienced record dry weather. Wildfire season could come early and stay well into the summer and fall this year. For the past 60 years, Smokey Bear has kept a vigilant watch over the forest, reminding people of their role in preventing Forest Fires. Planning is underway for a birthday celebration at the Trout Lake Community Fair the weekend of August 7-8, in Trout Lake, Wash. Smokey's Birthday is August 9, 1944. For more information about Smokey Bear visit [www.smokeybear.com](http://www.smokeybear.com)

## Upcoming Events:

**Summer Hours at Mount St. Helens Visitor Centers:** On May 6 the Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center extended hours of operation for the summer season. Johnston Ridge Observatory opened on May 7 for the summer. Both centers are open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. [Summer schedules will continue until late October.](#)

**Free Days:** The Forest Service will waive the need for the [Northwest Forest Pass](#) on National Trails Day, June 5 and National Public Lands Day, September 18. Simply visiting a national forest does not require a pass. Access to the national forests is free, and there are many free recreation sites. May 18th will be a free day at the [Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument](#) in remembrance of the 1980 eruption.

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Wind River Canopy Crane Science Conference:** Will be held June 24-25 at the Canopy Crane north of Carson, Wash. Watch the Gifford Pinchot Forest website for more details.

## Featured Web Page:



**Mount St. Helens Teachers Corner.** The Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument was established, in part, to promote environmental and science education. Each year thousands of students travel to Mount St. Helens to see the dramatic effects of the 1980 volcanic eruption and learn how plants and animals have responded.

This web site is designed to provide environmental and science education information for teachers and students.

[www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/mshnvm/education/teachers-corner/](http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/mshnvm/education/teachers-corner/)

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Gifford Pinchot National Forest  
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