

Autumn 2003

# New Ground

## *News of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest*

Gifford Pinchot  
National Forest

### **Mt. Adams District Welcomes New Ranger**



A wildlife biologist from Colorado has been named as the new Mt. Adams District Ranger on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Nancy Ryke, Forest wildlife biologist on the Pike/San Isabel/National Forests and Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands in Pueblo, Colo., took over managing the 367,000 acre District in the southern one-third of the Forest, on Oct. 19.

Ryke has worked on three ranger districts and at two national forest headquarters in Colorado and Montana. She has a strong resource background and breadth of experience working on natural resource issues related to forest and rangeland health, endangered species and recreation management. She has served in temporary assignments as acting district ranger and as the regional Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species program manager in the Rocky Mountain Region of the Forest Service.

"I am thrilled about moving to this beautiful part of Washington," Ryke said. "One of my first priorities is to learn more about the area by working with the local communities and employees of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest."

### **Forest Supervisor Approves \$1.9 Million in Forest Projects**

Maintaining Forest roads, paving the parking lot at the Flattop Sno-Park, improving fish passages, and enhancements at Forlorn Lakes, are among the \$1.9 million in [Resource Advisory Committee projects](#) approved by Forest Supervisor Claire Lavendel recently. These funds are approved for Forest projects under the [County Payments law](#). The projects are under a revised program that requires a portion of federal payments to counties be spent on improving national forest lands.



(Flattop shelter and parking lot)

### **Wind River Information Station to Close Following Many Years of Service**

Starting in mid-November, visitor services for the Mt. Adams Ranger District will be provided through the Mt. Adams Ranger Station in Trout Lake, Wash., (509) 395-3400. Visitors will still be able to obtain information at the Wind River office Tuesday through Saturday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., through Nov. 15, 2003. Special forest product permits will continue to be sold at the Wind River Work Center 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., Monday - Friday. Information can also be obtained at other Gifford Pinchot National Forest offices and on the [Forest web site](#).

### **Pick Up the Pinchot Completes 5th Successful Year**



More than 50 volunteers picked up a ton of garbage near Sunset Campground during the Gifford Pinchot National Forest's fifth annual Pick Up the Pinchot (P.U.P.) clean-up day on Saturday, September, 20 as part of National Public Lands Day. A clean-up effort held in the Cowlitz Valley the same day picked up almost another ton of litter along Skate Creek Road. Volunteers worked from 9 a.m. until noon on the roads out of Sunset Campground on the southwest corner of the Forest. They picked up litter as diverse as a battered camper shell, fishing tackle, bottles, cups, diapers, ammo shells, and other assorted trash. Volunteers included Boy and Girl Scout troops, the C.A.S.E.E. center (Center for Agriculture, Science and Environmental Education) in Brush Prairie, and the Chinook Trail Association along with Forest Service employees. Special thanks go to the Northwest Interpretive Association, the Cispus Environmental Learning Center, Americorps, Packwood Fire District 10, White Pass Highway Shopper, Lewis County Solid Waste, and Waste Connections of Vancouver for their support.

**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

**Wind River Work Center**  
1262 Hemlock Road  
Carson, WA 98610  
(509) 427-3200  
**FAX:** (509) 427-3356

**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/)

“USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

**Backcountry Horseman Wins Award for Work at Mt. Adams**

**National Volunteer Award** – The Mt. Adams Chapter of the Back Country Horsemen received the Forest Service Volunteer Director’s Award for its 700-plus hours of service over the past year. The chapter constructed the Mt. Adams Horse Camp, maintained the Pacific Crest Trail, and planted fish in high lakes. Dave Welch received an individual citation for spearheading the chapter’s efforts. Diane Rubiaco, Acting District Ranger for the Mt. Adams Ranger District, presented the awards.



**Forest Personnel Responded to Many Incidents this Year**



This past year 347 people from the Gifford Pinchot responded to a number of incidents across the United States. In February, several people, including a 20-person crew responded to a national tragedy as the Columbia Space Shuttle broke up on re-entry over Texas and the Western U.S. This summer, employees also responded to fires across the western United States. In total Forest employees spent 6,700 days in support of incidents in 2003. Thanks for all you do!

**Mount St. Helens Interpreter Receives Regional Award**

Todd Cullings, Assistant Visitor Center Director at the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, has been selected as the 2003 Pacific Northwest Region Interpreter and Conservation Educator of the Year. Congratulations, Todd! Todd will be honored and a national winner will be announced at the National Association for Interpretation's National Interpreters Workshop in November. Todd has served the Monument and its visitors for almost 17 years, providing interpretive and educational programs.

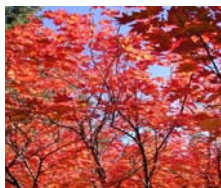


**‘Tis the Season**



This is the time of year to start thinking about the perfect Holiday Christmas tree. Starting Friday, November 14, permits will be available at several locations for cutting your 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.](#)



**Featured Web Page-**

**Fall Color:** The Gifford Pinchot National Forest continues to provide one of the best displays of current fall color of any National Forest web site in the country. There is still time to catch some of this viewing in person. For more information, visit the Forest fall color web site at:

[www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/recreation2003/autumn-colors/index.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/recreation2003/autumn-colors/index.shtml)

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