

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region
Umatilla National Forest

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Umatilla National Forest Celebrates 100 Years of Service

The Umatilla National Forest will celebrate its 100th anniversary of natural resource management and conservation on Saturday, June 28. To commemorate this historic event, a variety of celebration activities will take place from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Heritage Station Museum in downtown Pendleton, Oregon. Admission to the museum is free on the day of the celebration.

“We encourage anyone who has worked on the Umatilla National Forest, been a partner or contracted with the Forest, or is interested in Forest Service history to join us for the day,” said Kevin Martin, Forest Supervisor. A number of exhibits, photos and historic documents highlighting the Forest’s history and events will be on display. The celebration will also feature the High Desert Museum’s “*Century of Service*” exhibit which showcases remarkable historic images and artifacts as it explores the evolution of the Forest Service from its earliest beginnings to its complex, modern-day role managing timber, wildland fire, land use, and recreation.

“Our centennial provides a great opportunity to reflect on the diversity, dedication and accomplishments of those who have worked together to manage these public lands for those who own it, the people of the United States,” said Martin.

The event begins at 11:00 am with the showing of documentary “The Greatest Good.” Also scheduled at 11:00 AM is a Retiree Coffee - Story Telling Hour. At noon, Forest Service Retiree Rolf Anderson will make a presentation on Forest Service history and read from the book *We Had an Objective in Mind*, a compilation of short stories written by retired Forest Service leaders from the Pacific Northwest. Smokey Bear will be on hand to greet visitors and children’s activities will be offered at the “Kids Table” until 2:00 PM, when the formal Centennial Presentation is scheduled to take place.

“We’re expecting a number of retirees, cooperators and partners to attend,” said Martin. “It will be fun to reconnect with our friends and neighbors.”

For more information on the Umatilla National Forest Centennial, visit the Forest website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/> or contact us at 541-278-3716.