

# N E W S



## Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area



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### **The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Holding a Public Meeting for the Cape Horn Trail Plan**

**HOOD RIVER,** – On March 18, 2009, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. the USDA Forest Service, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, will hold a public meeting for the Cape Horn Trail Plan. The Forest Service is seeking public input on its plan to formalize a trail system in the area. The meetings will be held at Rock Creek Center, 710 S.W. Rock Creek Drive, Stevenson, WA.

The Cape Horn area has become a popular destination for hikers and sightseers since the Forest Service began acquiring lands to protect scenic and natural resources of the area. Current demand and impacts to sensitive resources have created the need to develop a comprehensive trail for the area. Approximately 7 miles of unofficial trails have been developed by recreationist's over the last decade. In many locations these trails are poorly located, showing signs of erosion and causing impacts to adjacent natural resources.

“The purpose of this planning effort is to develop a trail system that is safe, environmentally sustainable (protect sensitive resources) while minimizing impacts to adjacent landowners and providing a high quality recreation experience. The meeting will provide an opportunity for our stakeholders to understand the preliminary alternatives we are considering and to provide any comments or input,” said Dan Harkenrider, Area Manager. The trail plan is being analyzed through the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process.

For more please contact Stan Hinatsu at (541-308-1708) or by email ([shinatsu@fs.fed.us](mailto:shinatsu@fs.fed.us)).

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