



Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees • Issue 1, 2008

Forest Service Employee Shares the Prize

Christine Romero, Audio Visual Specialist, Public and Governmental Relations

There's a Nobel Laureate within the Northern Region, he may even be at a desk near you. Wei Min Hao, an atmospheric chemist who leads the Forest Service's Fire Science Laboratory in Missoula, is among the researchers sharing a piece of the Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore for their work on global warming.

"It's a great honor," Hao told a Missoulian newspaper reporter in November. Hao shares the honor with another Missoula resident, Dr. Steve Running, a professor at the University of Montana.

Both Hao and Running were members of the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC). The United Nations panel is spread across the globe and includes 600 scientists and researchers (*The Missoulian*, November 24, 2007).

The IPCC, was established in 1988, by two governmental bodies, the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Program. The panel's role was to assess the best available scientific and socioeconomic information on climate change around the world.

Hao spent eight years compiling research in order to come up with a methodology to quantify nitrous oxide, methane and other greenhouse gases produced by fires in different ecosystems (*The Missoulian*, November 24, 2007).

According to Hao, 80 percent of deforestation fires occur in tropical areas like Southeast Asia, South America and Africa. These fires send a destructive ripple effect through the world's ecosystems. That ripple threatens human health, air and water quality, the atmosphere and global climate.




Since he started working with the IPCC in 1994, Hao has traveled to the Amazon basin and Africa to gather data on deforestation fires. About 15 colleagues at the Fire Sciences lab have collaborated on the research over the years. Hao is among 13 Forest Service researchers who share in the Nobel Peace Prize.

To learn more about global warming and the USFS, contact Christine Romero, Public and Governmental Relations, for a DVD presentation hosted by Dr. Steve Running called, "Climate Change in the Northern Rockies". You can e-mail Christine at christineromero@fs.fed.us.

NEW !

**REGION ONE
BOOK CLUB**



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 The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. • Comments or concerns regarding articles featured in this edition can be directed to carliemagill@fs.fed.us



Archives Update

The Region One archives are located in the USFS Regional Headquarters in downtown Missoula. The archives have books, artifacts, historical documents and over ten thousand photographs representing every forest in the region. Books may be checked out for a period of two weeks and paper and/or digital copies of materials may be obtained by contacting the archivist.

Online Exhibits

Currently on view at the Northern Region website *Views of the National Forests*. The slide show features images and text from an early promotional album. To view the exhibit go to http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/local-resources/images/features/views_album_comp.pdf.

Coming this summer! The history of the Region One Camera Point Program 'A Stiff Brimmed Stetson' *The Story of the Most Famous Hat in the Northern Region* by photographer KD Swan.



Region One Historical Photo I.D.

The Region One Archives has thousands of photographs. This one was taken of a snow bank on the north side of Mount Emerine in 1920. What Region One National Forest is Mount Emerine located on? Can you guess what month was this photo taken? If you want to view more historical images of the Northern Region please contact the Region One Archives.

For historical photo information or inquiries please email the archivist at carliemagill@fs.fed.us

ANSWER Mount Emerine is located on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. This photograph was taken on

Want to visit the archives? Have a question? Email or call the archivist, Carlie Magill at carliemagill@fs.fed.us, phone 329-3098. Appointments are appreciated but not necessary. Archives Summer Hours Monday through Friday 8-5.

Regional News

Thank You!

To: *USFS Region One* From: *Opportunity Resources*

Twenty years ago, Opportunity Resources began partnering with GSA to provide quality custodial and grounds work services for the Missoula Federal Building. This partnership was made possible by national legislation set forth in the Javits-Wagner-O'Day act which was first enacted in 1938 and expanded in 1971. The expanded legislation came under the umbrella of NISH who has ably assisted ORI and GSA throughout the years. This cooperative effort could not have developed into a successful venture without the strong support of the USFS.

The USFS has been instrumental in developing positive relationships with ORI's custodians. The workers have been made to feel as though they are members of the Forest Service family. This is due in part to the many personal relationships that have developed between the tenants and the workers. ORI is deeply grateful for the human touch provided by the many kind and generous people who work in USFS Region One.

The USFS participated heartily in a twenty year celebration at the behest of ORI during a coffee, cake and ice cream social that took place on October 25, 2007. In addition to the current crew and Forest Service personnel, retired ORI and Forest Service workers were present at this function to share the many pleasant memories experienced throughout the years. Official USFS certificates of appreciation were presented to the ORI custodial workers at that time and are very much appreciated by ORI and the crew.

There are two current ORI workers who have received noteworthy attention as a result of their success on the crew and within the community. Nick Marsello received a prestigious and select NISH National Award in 1993 in recognition for his over the top success in the janitorial field at the community level. After starting with ORI, Nick worked at the University of Montana for several years. ORI and the tenants are very fortunate to have Nick and his considerable skittle back on the crew. Dwayne Ellis has received enthusiastic support within the federal building and the community for the many contributions he has made as an ambassador of good will for ORI and people with disabilities. Dwayne is well known at the Missoula Children's Theater for his unbridled and enthusiastic enjoyment of the theater's many quality productions. ORI is proud of Nick, Dwayne and the entire crew.

ORI would like to thank all of you in USFS Region One for your consistently strong support throughout the years. NISH and ORI look forward to providing many more years of quality services to GSA and establishing lasting personnel relationships that enhance the quality of life for our workers as well as the building tenants. Thanks for helping make it happen !



THANK YOU

Regional News

The Foresters Who Held Down the Home Front

Carlie Magill, Region One Archivist, Public and Governmental Relations



Graphic courtesy Kyle Sorsenson.

Homefront: United or Divided explores the different ideas of patriotism during World War II through the eyes of four Montanans. Producer Jamie Jelenchick used photographs from the Region One Archives to tell the story of smokejumper Phil Stanley. In interviews Stanley, a Quaker, discusses his decision to opt for public service over armed combat.

To learn more about Stanley or the other Montanan's profiled in 'Homefront' log on to the Montana PBS website and click on the *See it Now* link.

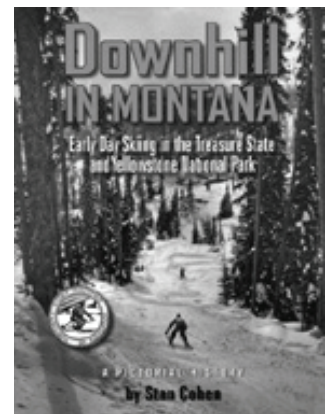
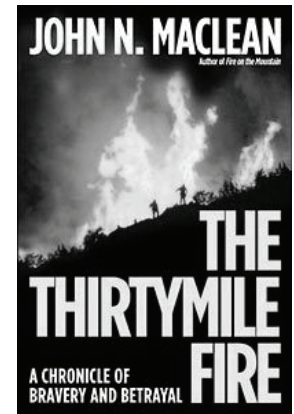
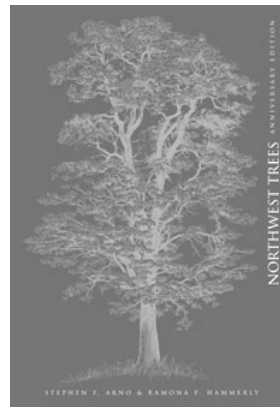
www.montanapbs.org/HomefrontUnitedOrDivided



Phil Stanley, center, preparing for a practice jump, on the Lolo National Forest, 1943. Image Courtesy USDA, USFS.

Region One Book Club

Are you in need of a good summer read? Then drop by the Region One Archives to borrow a book, hot off the press!



Northwest Trees, Anniversary Edition
Steven Arno & Ramona Hammerly

The Thirty Mile Fire
John N. Maclean

The Forest Service: Fighting for Public Lands
Gerald W. Williams

Downhill in Montana
Stan Cohen

Regional News

Wildfire Awareness Day

Christine Romero, Audio Visual Specialist, Public and Governmental Relations



The Smokey Bear Balloon is twenty five feet high and twenty feet in diameter. It is inflated with air.

Missoula's Wildfire Awareness Day was held at Fort Missoula on May 13, 2008. Smokey Bear himself made an appearance and encouraged visitors to learn about wildfires. Participants had the opportunity to learn about fire engines, firefighters, helicopters, smokejumpers and much more. The highlight of the day was the Smokey Bear hot air balloon lift off.

Family Forestry Expo 2008

Denise Germann, Flathead National Forest

The 19th annual Family Forestry Expo was held in the Flathead Valley at the Trumbull Creek Educational Forest on May 10 and 11. The event featured a .7 mile forest walk, logging demonstrations and numerous exhibits on natural resources.

The forest walk included education stations and demonstrations. Each stop provided information and a hands on activity that informed participants about the many uses of public and private forests. On Saturday and Sunday the Flathead Valley Community College Logging Sports Team took over the grand stand and presented logging equipment demonstrations.

Numerous exhibits on natural resources by local and state agencies and business were set up. Exhibits featured information on fisheries, archeology, wildfire, forest management and more. Each day participants were treated to a free lunch courtesy of the Expo's organizers.

For pictures and videos of the 2008 Forestry Expo or to learn about plans for the 2009 Family Forestry Expo visit www.familyforestryexpo.org.

Missoula's International Film Festival

October 6-12, 2008



The CINE International film festival is held annual in Missoula, Montana. The festival features screenings of cultural and environmental films. Montana CINE International provides a global picture of why and how we live in our world and interact with our environment. The subjects of Montana CINE International films are broad, featuring issues that explore the human experience and relationship with nature and their environment. Don't miss an unforgettable week at the Roxy Theater! Call (406) 728-9380 for ticket or entry information.

www.wildlifefilms.org/festivals/mtcine

R-1 Forest & Grasslands Roundup

Roundtop Rises Again

Denise Best, Forest Service Retiree and Volunteer Grant Writer

On September 29, 2007 the new Roundtop Trail Shelter opened to the public. The new trail shelter was built on the site of the old Roundtop Ranger Station. In 1912, the location for the original building was chosen by Ranger Ashley Roche. The Roundtop Ranger District was disbanded in 1957; over the years buildings were removed or destroyed, leaving only a lookout cabin. For the past 15 years the remaining cabin was maintained by the St. Joe Snowriders Club as a snow shelter for the public. In February 2006, the cabin burned to the ground. The loss of the historic Roundtop Trail Shelter inspired a collaborative project between the St. Joe Snowriders Club and the USFS.

The Roundtop project was funded by the Idaho Panhandle Resource Advisory Committee, the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation and the St. Joe Snowriders Club. The cabin is located on the St. Joe Ranger District of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests at the hub of forest roads 216, 301, and 1900. It is 20'x 38' with a porch and wood storage area. The inside was finished with decorative wainscoting, a woodstove, benches and picnic tables. The Club plans to construct an accessible ramp and complete landscaping around the cabin by next summer.

The Roundtop Trail Shelter will be open to all users for day-use. In winter, it will serve as a snowmobile warming hut and emergency shelter. The building will become the property of the St. Joe Ranger District and will be maintained by the club and the Forest Service. St. Joe District Ranger Chuck Mark stated, "It was amazing to see how the loss of an historic structure provided an opportunity to pull together a collaborative project utilizing volunteer labor and expertise and watch how this dedicated group of individuals made the new Roundtop Trail Shelter a reality."



The new Roundtop Trail Shelter.

Learning from the Bitterroot

*Dr. Debra Enzenbacher,
Dept. of Geography, Bath Spa University, England*

This past summer I was privileged to take part in an incredibly interesting program of volunteer work on the Bitterroot National Forest organised by Julie Schreck, Conservation Education Coordinator.

Over two weeks in late July and early August I was involved in many fascinating aspects of Forest Service work including hiking and camping at Mill Lake, navigating the Magruder Corridor to consider recreation management issues, "Kids in the Garden" event at Daly Mansion, meeting and observing staff administering the National Visitor Use Survey, and participating in one of the monthly Moonwalks at Fort Owen State Park, part of the Be Active Bitterroot Program.

One of many highlights for me was being Smokey Bear in full costume for the annual kids' day in Caras Park, Missoula. There were the children who hugged me tighter than I've ever been hugged before. Everyone should be Smokey for a day. **Continued on Page 8.**

R-1 Forest & Grasslands Roundup

The Adventures of Sherlock Creek

*Lisa Hawdon, South Zone Fisheries Biologist,
St. Joe Ranger District*

The name “Sherlock” is associated with the fictional detective character created by the Scottish author and physician Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. While this story may not bring forth the same level of mystery and suspense as Inspector Sherlock Holmes’ stories, it does employ Holmes’ tenacious capacity to stick to the case until its necessary conclusion. And for the case involving Sherlock Creek, a good ending is drawing nigh.

It began in the 1960s when a miner decided that Sherlock Creek, in the upper St. Joe River area, was a good place to mine gold. He used a huge dredge along with several other pieces of equipment to straighten and move about a mile of the stream, dig ponds and excavate the floodplain. Idaho Panhandle National Forest employees, even without the keen deductive powers of Inspector Holmes, did not take long to recognize the negative impacts of this unauthorized dredging operation in violation of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, a designation given to the St. Joe River for its outstanding scenery, good fishing, and abundance of wildlife.

The Forest Service and the State of Idaho tried to stop the mining in the 1970s and 1980s through legal action which included court cases in the Idaho Supreme Court, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and even the U.S. Supreme Court. The decisions rendered should have stopped the environmental damage but the illegal mining continued.

In 2002, a determined group of Forest Service employees took on the challenge to end the illegal activity occurring in Sherlock Creek. The final effort to remove the miner’s equipment and prevent further illegal activity involved many people: Jeff Johnson, Idaho Panhandle National



Excavation of the flood plain. Photo Lisa Hawdon

USDA Office of General Counsel attorney; Deborah Ferguson, Assistant U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of Idaho; John Macy, St. Joe Ranger District hydrologist and many others.

In 2005, the U.S. District Court Judge ordered the mining to stop and the equipment to be removed. This type of pronouncement occurred in the past, but this time Sherlock Creek had strong advocates that would ensure the order was followed. There were delays and moments of doubt, but in the summer of 2007 the beginning of the end to the mining chapter of Sherlock’s story occurred. Jeremy Johnson and Brent Briggs, from the St. Joe Ranger District oversaw the removal of the equipment and the contaminated soil. Bertalee Mottern, Idaho Panhandle National Forests’ Supervisor’s Office, ensured that the sale of the equipment meet the requirements of the court order.

The restoration chapter of the Sherlock story, is now underway. Acquiring funding has had its own challenges and continues to have some uncertainties but nonetheless, the project is moving forward; and thus, it appears that justice, as in all Sherlock Holmes stories, will triumph in the end.

R-1 Forest & Grasslands Roundup

Arid Peak Lookout Makes Postage Stamp Debut

Steve Matz, Heritage Manager, Idaho Panhandle National Forests



You can now send your US Mail with an Arid Peak Lookout postage stamp and help save lookout towers across the United States. Arid Peak Lookout is located on the St. Joe National Forest in the Idaho Panhandle. Rod Fosback, of the Forest Fire Lookout Association, dreamed of having a lookout on a postage stamp and with the help of Zazzle.com, his dream has come true. The stamp honors the association's lookout restoration effort and provides additional income for the Forest Fire Lookout Association.

Learning from the Bitterroot, Continued from Page 6

Why did I venture out to the wilds of Montana from the manicured gardens of Somerset, England? Funnily enough I had arranged years ago as an undergrad to spend a summer volunteering in the Bitterroot, but financial circumstances forced me to take on paid work that whole summer. I always wanted to know what I had missed.

I witnessed high levels of effective communication, team work and coordination amongst the USFS's talented staff. It was heartening to see firsthand the "can do" spirit in action. This is something precious in America. It is not prevalent in every country. The sheer energy, dedication and professionalism evident amongst the staff taught me that the U.S. Forest Service is special.

I took a little bit of the Bitterroot back with me. I hope that's ok. I'll keep it in a safe and treasured place. Summers like this one don't come along very often and when they do they stay with you for a very long time.

Arid Peak Lookout was originally constructed in the 1930's to spot fires started by locomotives along the Milwaukee Railroad. Advances in fire detection over the years led to the abandonment of the lookout. From 1996-1997 volunteers spent 194 days completing a major renovation to preserve the structure. The restoration effort was sponsored by the Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Forest Fire Lookout Association, Back Country Horsemen, Boy Scout Troop 444 and others.

Today the Arid Peak Lookout is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the National Historic Lookout Register. The building overlooks the *Hiawatha Rails to Trails* bicycle route and is available to rent (see www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/ for Information on Arid Peak or www.recreation.gov for reservations).

The Arid Peak Lookout was selected for the stamp because it represents the spirit of cooperation needed to preserve the remaining lookout towers on Forest Service and State lands. Proceeds from the sale of stamps support the Forest Fire Lookout Association and help to preserve the remaining fire detection towers on Forest Service and state lands. Through Zazzle's *Community Giving Program*, the Forest Fire Lookout Association receives 27% of all stamp sales on the website. Stamps are available for purchase through Zazzle.com at www.ffla.org.

R-1 Forest & Grasslands Roundup

Meet the Candidates

Nan Christianson, Bitterroot National Forest

They're not running for president but being selected as the 2008 Capitol Christmas Tree does get you to Washington D.C.. Last fall the Bitterroot National Forest was selected to provide the Capitol Christmas Tree. The tree must be over sixty feet tall. In addition the forest will provide eighty smaller trees for congressional offices, agency's and organizations.

The Bitterroot National Forest is also responsible for decorating all the trees. The theme for the ornaments is 'Sharing Montana's Treasures'. Over 5,000 ornaments will be needed to decorate the Capitol Tree itself and an additional 750 ornaments for the eighty indoor trees.

If you or your organization is interested in making ornaments check with an ornament coordinator and make sure to review the ornament criteria supplied the architect of the capitol available at the Bitterroot National Forest Capitol Christmas Tree website.

All ornaments must be received by September 30, 2008. Please note that no ornaments will be returned. Please ship ornaments to Nan Christianson, Bitterroot National Forest, 1801 N 1st Street, Hamilton, MT 59840.

For additional information visit the Bitterroot National Forest Capitol Christmas Tree website at www.capitolchristmastree2008.org.

CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE FACTS

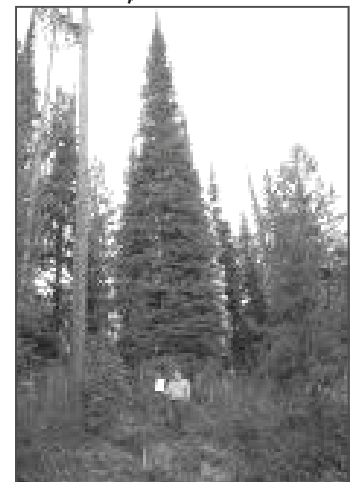
Tallest Tree

An 80 foot tall tree from George Washington National Forest in Virginia selected in 2005.

Shortest Tree

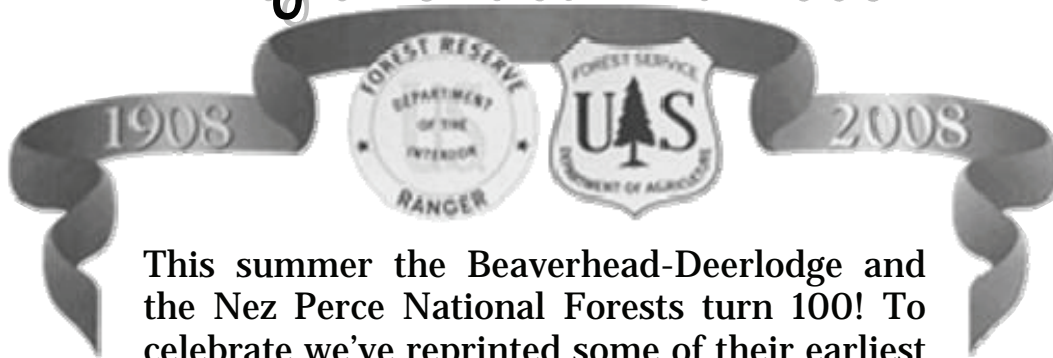
A 40 foot tree from Monogahela National Forest in West Virginia selected in 1968.

Most Popular Species is the Spruce, followed by Fir.



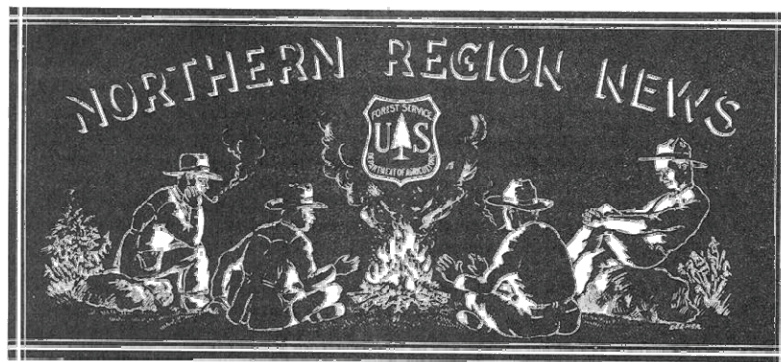
R-1 Forest Centennials

Region One Summer 2008



This summer the Beaverhead-Deerlodge and the Nez Perce National Forests turn 100! To celebrate we've reprinted some of their earliest submissions to the *Northern Region News*. For further information on Forest Centennial events check out the web links below.

www.fs.fed.us/r1/bdnf/
www.fs.fed.us/r1/nezperce/



Vol. XI

Missoula, Montana,
February 6, 1939.

No. 3

MacGregors Guests of Honor: Mr. and Mrs. Charles MacGregor were guests of honor at a dinner given in their honor by the Nezperce National Forest personnel at the Kandy Kitchen Monday evening. Forty-seven were present. Roy Phillips, supervisor, acted as toastmaster and called upon several members of the group for talks. Mr. and Mrs. MacGregor expressed appreciation for the entertainment. After the dinner dancing was enjoyed at the K.P. Hall to the music of John Jenny and his orchestra. Mr. MacGregor was ranger of Middle Fork District of the Nezperce National Forest for nearly 22 years. He began work in 1917 with the Selway Forest, and when it was united with the Nezperce in 1934, he retained the Middle Fork District. Mr. MacGregor assumed duties as ranger at Darby, Montana, this week. ("Idaho County Free Press")

- Nezperce.

R-1 Forest Centennials



Missoula, Montana

Vol. III

July 10, 1931

No. 19

YES, WE TOO HAVE LIGHTNING

I was in the act of demolishing an outworn motorcycle at the West Fork Ranger Station on the afternoon of June 18 when Ranger Skillman and his helper, Richard Richtmyer, rode in with a seven-horse pack outfit. I noticed that Skillman's face didn't light up with its usual wholesome grin when he saw me, but when I got a slant at Richtmyer I saw that something serious had happened.

The story of a lightning bolt striking these two men and their pack string of seven horses, knocking the entire cavalcade unconscious and all of them recovering without very serious injury, was the explanation of their lack of the customary exuberant greeting.

The unusual accident happened on the wooded slopes of Mt. Emorine, about 18 miles southwest of Philipsburg. The two men had just left the lookout station on the mountain top and were slowly winding their way down the rather uncertain trail when a bolt struck the telephone line approximately three-quarters of a mile back of them. The lightning consumed some half mile of wire and jumped to Skillman's head and Richtmyer's shoulder, the men being right under the wire and quite close to it. Both men were knocked unconscious with Skillman being the first to come alive. A grotesque sight met his eyes. The seven horses lay along the trail apparently dead, and nearby lay Richtmyer sprawled out in a manner indicating his death. Skillman, as his brain cleared, crawled to Richtmyer and worked over him a few minutes until he came out of it and then began to gather up his horses (no small task considering that Skillman's right arm was totally out of commission) as they staggered to their feet. However, he finally succeeded in getting Richtmyer mounted and gathering up the outfit, proceeded to the West Fork Station. Both men were obviously suffering from shock when they arrived at the Station, and after administering first aid and getting them to bed, we took stock of the situation.

All of the horses had their knees or heads somewhat lacerated from falling on the rocky trail. Richtmyer's face was badly cut with three of his teeth more or less shattered, while Skilly's polished dome had an appreciable number of his few remaining hairs burned off. The men were brought to the Murray Hospital in Butte the next day and are expected to be discharged from there this week.

Continued on Page 12

R-1 Forest Centennials

Yes We Too Have Lightening. Continued from Page 11

Skillman's account of his coming-to is vividly given in his own words:

"We never heard the crack of thunder.the next thing I remember is looking up from the bottom of a 'lake'. The water was full of weaving incandescent gloams of colored light--green and gold and purple and scarlet. It was fascinating to watch. But while I lay there wondering what it was all about the lake disappeared and I saw the green pine bows waving overhead. A gentle rain was falling, but the storm had passed."

J. N. Tompler -- Doerlodge



Vol. XI

Missoula, Montana,
February 6, 1939.

No. 3

There Might Be Something in It: Every once in a while someone objects to our yellow fire prevention signs. I used to think that perhaps the objectors were merely influenced by some previous unpleasant experience with the law. After reading the following Associated Press item, I'm not so certain.

"Denver - There is something about yellow that makes a motorist mad, so from now on Denver traffic violators will receive white tickets.

"We conducted research to determine what makes some car drivers so angry when they are handed a traffic slip. We found, of course, that..... but in addition we discovered that just a whole lot of folks seem to be mentally 'allergic' to yellow."

Couldn't that sort of person develop into a raving maniac in an R-1 national forest in August?

- B. A. Anderson, Nezperce.

R-1 Forest Centennials



Vol. IV

Missoula, Montana
August 6, 1932.

No. 15

A WORTH WHILE SHOW-ME TRIP

by

Alva Simpson, Beaverhead

July 11, 12, and 13, a land utilization tour was made on the Beaverhead, sponsored by the Montana State College and attended by representatives of the State College, Northern Pacific Railway, Forest Service, and private citizens.

The first day was spent observing the condition of lands that had been dry-farmed subsequent to the land rush of 1912 to 1915 and that have been abandoned for the past six to eight years. Practically all of these plowed lands fail to produce more than an annual crop of Russian thistles and other nonpalatable weeds. Observation was had of public domain lands that are grazed at all seasons of the year, as against National Forest ranges that have been utilized under management plans for the period that they are productive of forage. This comparison was all to the advantage of the managed National Forest lands.

The twelfth and thirteenth were spent largely in observing high National Forest sheep ranges handled under intensive camp unit plans of management, and demonstrating the bedding-out or teepee system of herding. These ranges showed to excellent advantage, especially in comparison with the unrestricted use of similar lands adjacent to the Forest boundary.

Methods of forest inventory of forage resources, fundamentals of range management, and the advantages to permittees and landowners were demonstrated on the ground. It was pointed out that through scheduled use of camp units, stockmen were able to move camps of three and four bands of sheep with one man, and were justified in investing in headquarter pastures and cabins on the basis of their permanent use of the range.

Zonal distribution of cattle to the advantage of range and cattle, was observed.

Evenings were spent in discussions of land utilization problems and the possible application of management practices to the range areas of the State.

Aside from excessive rains and the necessity of depending upon concentrated man-power to assist the motors in making the steep grades, the trip was a very successful demonstration of what the practical management of forage resources may mean to stockmen, owners of land, and the public in general.

Rotating Issue: Archeology

Cultural Heritage on USFS Forests and Grasslands

Story courtesy of www.fs.fed.us, May 15, 2008.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation made public its recent assessment of the Forest Service Heritage Program at a May 15 news conference. At the conference Deputy Chief Holtrop talked about the Forest Service Heritage Program and outlined steps the Forest Service is taking to address the Trust's recommendations for improving protection of cultural and heritage resources on national forests and grasslands.

The Forest Service is committed to protecting the cultural resources on the national forests and grasslands and making them accessible for the public to appreciate and enjoy. Holtrop commended the Trust for its constructive recommendations and said the Forest Service is looking forward to working with the Trust and others to protect and enhance the public's enjoyment of the many cultural resources in our care.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation published its findings from a recent review of the Forest Service Heritage Program in a report titled "The National Forest System: Cultural Resources at Risk – An Assessment and Needs Analysis". The Trust news release and report can be viewed at the Trust's Web site.

PASSPORT IN TIME

A Volunteer Program of the USDA Forest Service

Passport in Time (PIT) is a volunteer archaeology and historic preservation program of the USDA Forest Service. PIT volunteers work with professional Forest Service archaeologists and historians on national forests throughout the U.S. on such diverse activities as archaeological survey and excavation, rock art restoration, survey, archival research, historic structure restoration, oral history gathering, and analysis and curation of artifacts. The Forest Service's professional staff of archaeologists and historians will be your hosts, guides, and co-workers. For further Information on PIT visit www.passportintime.com.



For further information on Cultural Heritage programs and regulations visit the web links below.

Montana Historical Society

www.his.state.mt.us/

National Register of Historic Places

www.nps.gov/history/nr/

USFS Cultural Heritage Programs

www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/heritage/



Rotating Issue: Archeology

Jocko Lakes Fire Reveals Historical Artifacts

Boyd Hartwig & Milo McLeod, Lolo National Forest

On the morning of October 11, 2007 Milo McLeod and Anya Minetz, heritage specialists with the Lolo National Forest, set out on what should have been a routine sweep of the old Jocko Indian Trail. The two arrived to find that the landscape had been transformed by the Jocko Lakes Fire this past summer. The intense heat and flames of the fire had scorched the forest floor leaving it bare for hundreds of feet. It wasn't long before they had discovered numerous mid-nineteenth century artifacts. McLeod and Minetz then realized that their survey would be anything but routine.

As the Lolo National Forest Heritage Program manager for over thirty two years, McLeod was well acquainted with the trail, but the fire changed all that, "The landscape had certainly changed since the last time I had been in there in the early 90s," McLeod said. "The area had burned hot – you could see mineral soil."

The fire revealed a flat, open area close to the trail and a water source. McLeod and Minetz had determined that the area they were searching had a "high probability" for historic finds. Their first find of the day was a shell cartridge. "It was a 56-50 Spencer cartridge, first patented in 1860 and used by the Army until 1870," McLeod said. "The .56-50 was used by trappers and traders and was one of the first repeating rifles used by the U.S. Army."

McLeod and Minetz continued their sweep and discovered eight loaded cartridges and two bullets in the first day. "We had just walked about 50 feet from this modern hunter's camp, and Anya bends over and says, 'here's another one,'" said McLeod. It was another rifle cartridge.

Over the next several days the two continued to search along a linear path about 50 feet long and 30 feet wide.



Artifacts found on the Lolo National Forest.

There they uncovered an axe head manufactured between 1836-1837, a pair of scissors and a whetstone. In addition they found a bullet mold for producing .31 or .36 caliber round balls and eight additional fully loaded .56-50 Spencer cartridges.

The most interesting find was a fourteen inch long cut-down rifle barrel with a beveled end. "Anya got on the internet and found out that this was buffalo hide scraper manufactured after 1804 by the Hudson Bay Company out of a segment of a .50 caliber octagonal rifle barrel," McLeod said. "This is when the buffalo hide trade was still very active in Montana. And Fort Connah south of Ronan was an old Hudson Bay trading post, abandoned sometime before 1870."

According to McLeod all the artifacts discovered were important to survival in the west, "These were not things you would just lose," he said. ***Continued on Page 16.***

Rotating Issue: Archeology

McLeod also noted that the old Jocko Indian Trail was the route Indian Tribes used to get to the great buffalo herds east of the Continental divide. "It was the route from the Flathead Valley to Seeley/Swan, and connected with the Blackfoot River and the trail to the buffalo," said McLeod, "Lewis commented on it in the Lewis and Clark Journals as the Great Road to the buffalo used to gain access to the plains and the buffalo herds."



*Lolo National Forest Heritage Specialists
Anya Minetz & Milo McLeod.*

McLeod and Minetz have already catalogued the items and mapped their locations. Some will be sent off to a lab for testing to determine their precise age. They may end up on display in the future. Why a traveler left behind valuable possessions over 100 years ago near the old Jocko Indian Trail will likely remain a mystery, "The artifacts and the distribution say that there was an event that happened here," said McLeod. "Whoever had them, didn't lose them, and didn't cache them. Was somebody attacked while traveling the Jocko Trail? Were they run off by a grizzly bear...we will never know."

Gallatin National Forest Protects Cultural Resources

Rachel Feigle, Wildlife Biologist, Gallatin National Forest

On June 15, 2007, Regional Forester Tom Tidwell established the Bangtail Special Interest Area (SIA) on the Gallatin National Forest. An SIA designation is used by the Forest Service to protect areas with historical, geological, botanical, or paleontological characteristics. The designation ensures long-term protection of the area and provides for scientific research opportunities. The Bangtail SIA was selected for its botanical and paleontological characteristics.

The Bangtail SIA is located north of Bozeman and includes 3,366 acres of land. The area is unique because of its accessibility and proximity to a research facility like Montana State University, Bozeman.

For over thirty years Dr. Tad Weaver, of the Montana State University Bozeman, Department of Ecology has been conducting research in the Bangtail area. Dr. Weaver's work focuses on subjects like exotic plant invasion, climate change and cloud seeding. The Bangtail SIA designation will allow researchers like Dr. Weaver to continue to learn from the areas botanical characteristics

The paleontological features of the Bangtail SIA include one of the longest continuous records of Paleocene terrestrial and freshwater life, approximately 55-65 million years ago. Fossils of mammals, dating back 10 million years, have been found in rock formations. Researchers say that studying the fossils is critical to understanding the evolution of climate and global ecosystems.

The designation of the Bangtail SIA will protect the paleontological resources found there and help to maintain the ecological integrity of the area.

Awards and Personnel Actions

HR Specialist Retires After Twenty-Nine Years

Jennifer Stephenson, Nez Perce National Forest

Kenda Tribble's career aspirations leaned toward the medical field but when she moved with her family to the Powell Ranger District in central Idaho the Forest Service became her career of choice. For the next 29 years she held various positions at several Forest Service locations.



From 1978 – 1986, she worked for the Powell and Canyon Ranger Districts and the Supervisors Office on the Clearwater National Forest. In 1986, she started her personnel career advancing to a Human Resources Specialist for the Nez Perce National Forest in 2002, the position she held when she retired.

Kenda and her husband, Bob will continue to live in Orofino with their dog, Rowdy. They operate Trib's Place Bed and Breakfast and Robert Tribble Photography businesses. Bob and Kenda have 4 sons between them and 3 grandsons.

When asked about her employment highlights she said "It's been a privilege and pleasure to work for Jane Cottrell (Forest Supervisor, Nez Perce National Forest) and her staff."

In her true gracious nature she retired with these parting words "When I look back on my career I have no regrets; only gratitude for the wonderful opportunities that have come my way by being a part of this agency. The people part of my job was the very best thing and I will miss that more than anything".



'Sort of Retired'

Geof Hochmuht retired from the Forest Service after almost 40 years of dedicated service. Well, he sort of retired. Two weeks later he volunteered to help with additional restoration of the Historic Adams Ranger Station.

In 1974, Geof received his degree from Montana State University in Recreation Area Management. In 1983 he acquired a teaching certificate for Major Industrial Technology with a minor in Biology. Geof assisted the Forest Heritage Department with the historic restoration of Burnt Knob, Sourdough, and Square Mountain Lookouts as well as the Adams Ranger's House.

Geof started his career in 1968 on the Missoula District, Lolo National Forest as a lookout for the West Fork Butte Lookout. In 1970, he transferred to the Hot Shot Crew on the Slate Creek Ranger District, Nez Perce National Forest. In 1973, he became known as G-1, the first smokejumper assigned to the Grangeville Air Center.

For the past 13 years, Geof has been the airtanker base manager for the Grangeville Air Center. Geof's fondest memories of his Forest Service career are with smoke jumping and with the people he has met and worked with over the past 40 years.

Awards and Personnel Actions

Resource Manager of the Year Retires

Don Sorenson retired from the U.S. Forest Service on January 3, 2008 after 31 years. Don graduated in 1974 from the University of Montana with a BS in Forestry/Range Management.

His first permanent position with the Forest Service was on the Plumas National Forest in Northern California in 1976. In 1980, Don, moved back to Montana, to the Gardiner District of the Gallatin National Forest. He worked as a Range Conservationist.

In 1991 Don moved for the last time and he started work as a Rangeland Management Specialist on the Salmon River District of the Nez Perce National Forest.

“My fondest memories of the Nez are of those Range Permittees and Outfitters that have been true partners in management of the forest resources in achievement of our mutual goals,” said Don. Don was recently named this year’s recipient of the “Resource Manager of the Year,” by the Idaho Outfitter and Guides Association.

Don and wife Vicki will stay in the Grangeville area after retirement. He plans on spending his time in wood shop and with his six-year-old grandson and four-year-old grand daughter.

Forty Years a Forester

Jim Christensen retired this year after forty years with the Forest Service. Jim started his career in Dillon on the old Beaverhead National Forest. At that time the supervisors office was on the second floor of the post office building and had a staff of about eight employees. Jim was noted around the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest for making miniature National Forest signs for departing employees. We're not sure who'll make one for Jim!

Engineer Named “Rising Star”

Dave Tippets, Public Affairs Officer, Rocky Mountain Research Station

Rocky Mountain Research Station Civil Engineer Sarah A. Lewis was honored with Washington State University’s Rising Star Award for Women’s History Recognition in the College of Agriculture, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences on April 16, 2008.



Lewis completed her Master’s Degree in Biological Systems Engineering from Washington State University in 2003. She works as a Civil Engineer in the Air, Water, and Aquatic Environments Program at the Moscow Forestry Sciences Laboratory on the University of Idaho campus.

Her research work with the U.S. Forest Service requires Sarah to spend many weeks each summer and fall in the field, validating remotely sensed post-fire images.

“Her innovative research is changing the approach used by federal agencies to map post-fire burn severity” Robichaud said, continuing, “She pioneered the use of hyperspectral remote sensing imagery for post-fire assessment.”

Although still early in her career, Lewis has studied post-fire soil burn severity all the way from Alaska to Southern California. Her Master’s thesis research was on the highly-publicized 2002 Hayman Fire in Colorado.

M e m o r i a m

Eileen E. Allen, 80 of Lewiston Idaho passed away January 4, 2008. Allen was born in Crary, North Dakota. She worked in the Office of Timber Management at the USFS Regional Office in Missoula for twenty nine years. Allen is survived by her husband Gene and their children.

Audrey Louise Beagle, 82 of Missoula, Montana passed away January 26, 2008. Beagle was born in Great Falls, Montana. She began working for the Forest Service in 1963 and retired in 1986 after twenty three years. She is survived by her three sons.

Michael Czerwinski, 65 of Trout Creek, Montana passed away April 14, 2008. Czerwinski was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He attended the University of Idaho and joined the Forest Service after graduating. He is survived by his wife, Betty and his sister Carol.

Alice Faye Seidell Fite, 87 of Missoula, Montana passed away March 8, 2008. Fite was born in Bellingham Washington. In 1944 she began work at the USFS Regional Office in Missoula as a finance officer. Fite retired in 1973 after twenty nine years of service.

Ronald Joseph Herron, 65 of Superior, Montana passed away March 4, 2008. Herron was born in Butte, Montana. After high school he worked as a fire fighter for the Forest Service until joining the Navy. He later returned to Superior and resumed working for the Forest Service. Herron is survived by his daughter and grandchildren.

Frank W. Martin, 61 of Florence, Montana passed away January 23, 2008. Martin was born in Modesto California. He worked for thirty one years on the Summit Ranger District in the Stanislaus National Forest in North Central California.

Laurence Osburnsen, 94 of Kalispell, Montana passed away May 4, 2008. Osburnsen was born in Joliet, Illinois. He attended the University of Montana, Missoula and in 1939 received a degree in forestry. In 1942 he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served as a pilot. After the war he worked the Soil Conservation Service in Nebraska and Montana. He retired in 1973.

James D. Risley, 79, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, passed away at his home on October 26, 2007. He began work with the Forest Service at age 17 during World War II. In 1963, Jim returned to the Forest Service and worked on the Coeur d'Alene National Forest until his retirement in 1983.

Noel Eugene Rosetta, 91 of Missoula, Montana passed away February 21, 2008. Rosetta was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado. During World War II he enlisted in the Army and served in Africa. He worked for the Forest Service in Townsend, Plains and Helena, Montana. Rosetta retired from the in 1973. Rosetta is survived by his wife, Irene and their children.

Nicholas L. Stewart, 63 of Libby, Montana passed away May 4, 2008. Stewart was born in Wichita, Kansas. After graduating high school he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. In 1972 he move to Libby Montana and began work for the Forest Service. He retired in 1998.

Herald Wetzsteon, 69 of Dillon, Montana passed away November 4, 2007. Wetzsteon was born in Hamilton, Montana. He began work for the USFS in 1963 on the Beaverhead National Forest. In 1993 he retired. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis and their children.

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