



# Northern Region

# News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 1

Spring 2003

## Montana Crews Help in Columbia Emergency

By Jodie Canfield, Helena National Forest

In the early morning of February 21, a group of 80 Montana wildland fire fighters boarded a plane at the Helena airport. They did not have the comfort of a familiar fire routine when they arrived at their destination somewhere in east Texas. Instead, for the following 21 days, they joined the forces and Incident Management Teams already in place to help grid a large area in hopes of finding more clues about the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster.

The four 20-person crews were from the Helena National Forest, the Helena Indian Alliance, the Bitterroot National Forest, and the Blackfoot Montana Indian Firefighters from Great Falls. They, along with several other Montana crews, helped support what is being called the Space Shuttle Columbia Incident prompted by a Presidentially-declared emergency to search and recover key shuttle components critical to NASA's investigation. A total of 304 Regional employees have been called in to assist, 10 percent of the regional workforce.

NASA stated that another shuttle will not fly until the cause of this tragedy is determined and hoped to complete the recovery by the end of March. The tremendous need for human power has prompted Federal Emergency Management Agency

(FEMA) to ask the Forest Service to play a greatly increased role.

The crew work includes gridding the search areas by walking as well as following compass lines in rough vegetation to specific locations. The work is described as "difficult"—walking ten feet apart for 12 hours a day through forests and fields, which are often cold and wet. Crews are in fire camp situations and have to be on the lookout for some hazards they may not have experience with, including poisonous plants, deadly snakes, alligators, and hazardous materials.

This is the first incident involving the Office of Homeland Security, and the wildland fire community is expected to play a significant role in Homeland Security, both now and in the future. Montana's crews and other wildland fire fighters represent the work force needed to recover more of the shuttle remains, which NASA hopes will be the key to determine the accident cause. Time is critical, since visibility in these southern forests will decrease as spring arrives.

The incentive to go is more than just a paycheck. David Nunn, a fire fighter from Townsend, Montana, said "the crews are proud to be going to help out on such an important National cause."



# Sudden Oak Death in California and Oregon

By Dr. Patrick Shea, Sudden Oak Death Project Manager  
Pacific Southwest Research Station

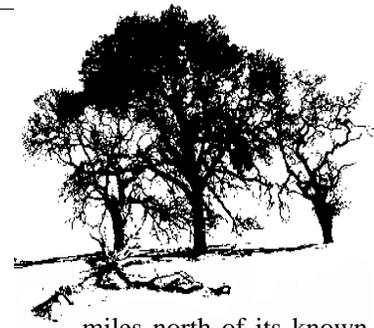
**S**udden Oak Death (SOD) recently emerged in California and Oregon as a threat to forest and urban trees and to horticultural and nursery plants. Raising the alarm to a higher level is its potential to spread to other parts of the country and to other tree and shrub species. The economic and environmental repercussions of the disease, if it continues to spread unabated, could be enormous.

Large numbers of dying tanoaks were first reported in Marin County, California in 1995. In 2000 research plant pathologists found the cause of the mortality to be a previously unknown forest pathogen, *Phytophthora ramorum*. The microorganism is related to the one that caused Ireland's potato blight.

Trees appear to die quickly, within 2-3 months; hence the name Sudden Oak Death. Since its discovery, SOD has expanded to kill hundreds of thousands of

trees in 12 coastal counties of California and one county in southwestern Oregon. It is presently known to affect 17 horticultural-plant and forest-tree species throughout this geographic range. Among the species the organism attacks and can kill are tan oak, coast live oak, black oak, and Shreve's oak. Douglas-fir, coastal redwood, and big-leaf maple have recently been identified as hosts. However, SOD only causes a leaf or shoot problem on these and other hosts. The disease is attacking many other plant species, including rhododendrons, huckleberry, California bay, manzanita, madrone, buckeye, coffeeberry, and toyon.

The sale and movement of nursery plants, such as rhododendrons may provide a critical avenue of disease spread into currently unaffected areas. This may account for the recent occurrence of the disease in southern Oregon, some 250



miles north of its known distribution in California.

Researchers speculate that air-borne spores may be the vehicle for dispersal as well as through infected soil and rainwater. Once infected, trees begin to exhibit oozing reddish cankers, crown dieback, and stem bark lesions. Lesions on foliage are the main symptom on certain hosts.

The Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Research Station is responsible for managing the Sudden Oak Death research program. There are four main areas of research: biology, spread, and behavior of the pathogen causing SOD; ecological impacts of SOD; development of management options; and utilization and disposal of dead trees.

For more information on the disease, check the following websites: <http://www.suddenoakdeath.org/>  
<http://danr.ucop.edu/ihrmp/sodsymp/summary.html>

## It's Been a Busy Two Years

by Tami Paulsen, Bitterroot National Forest

**T**he historic fires of 2000, which burned 307,000 acres of Bitterroot National Forest, are still keeping forest employees busy implementing and monitoring Burned Area Recovery projects. Accomplishments include advertising and awarding contracts to reduce fuels on over 9,500 acres, removing about 100,500 tons of hazardous fuels from project areas, putting 3.2 miles of road into storage, obliterating 0.5 miles of road and completing upgrades on 13 miles of road.

The Bitterroot is monitoring Burned Area Recovery projects through a process that involves reviewing, approving and documenting any changes on the ground from what was originally predicted in the Environmental Impact Statement. Monitoring focuses on watersheds, soils, fish-

eries, fuels, snags, visuals and riparian areas, and ensures that problems are addressed and corrected before a project is completed. It requires close teamwork between interdisciplinary team specialists and contract administrators.

One resource being monitored is the coarse woody debris left following fuel reduction treatments. Monitoring provides information on how we are meeting our fuel reduction objectives, while ensuring that we are leaving behind sufficient woody debris for short- and long-term soil productivity, erosion prevention, small mammal habitat and site protection for shrub and tree regeneration.

We are also monitoring standing snags. Snags have been described in timber sale contracts rather than being marked by



Location of Bear Timber Sale where the Bitterroot NF is monitoring woody debris and standing snags.

Forest Service crews. This requires a timber sale purchaser to provide the agency with a snag management plan. Forest Service wildlife biologists follow closely on the heels of the loggers, providing direction. By continually feeding information back to the loggers, biologists help leave sufficient numbers and types of snags within the treated units.

To conclude, there has been a whole lot of work going on.



*Brad Powell*

## Message from the Regional Forester

to be strongly competitive with the private sector.

For the duration of this process, leadership is going to be fully engaged at all levels, from the Washington Office to the ranger district. We want to do the best job we can with communication. We'll keep you informed about decisions, and we hope that you'll let your supervisors and line officers know your questions and concerns.

We will continue to give competitive sourcing the time and attention it deserves. This may mean adjusting other priorities if we have to. If we have fires, we may ask that some employees not participate in order to concentrate on competitive sourcing duties. Of course we'll make those decisions on a case-by-case basis, depending on the severity of the fire season.

Turning to the budget this fiscal year, we anticipate getting \$6 to \$7 million dollars back from the \$56 million that R1 returned to Washington in FY 02 to cover fire spending. So we won't get it all back.

The biggest impact will be that fire restoration projects may not be completed within the same time frames planned. Otherwise we are anticipating a flat budget.

Based on predictions from our meteorologists, we can expect another active fire season this year. Hopefully it will not be as severe as 2002, but only time will tell. The recent moisture and any additional snow and rain we receive this spring and summer should help us. One of the lessons learned from last year's severe season which caused fire borrowing is that we need to do all we can to manage fire costs.

Regardless of the kind of fire season we have, there are many pressing issues weighing on our minds that may distract our attention. Remember, there can be no compromises and no shortcuts when it comes to safety. That is and always will be our first priority, whether in the office or the field. There's not a job that we do that is worth a human life, so please be careful out there.

Everywhere I go in the Northern Region, employees want to talk about competitive sourcing. It's understandable that we should all be thinking about it, discussing it and learning everything we can about it. Whatever our opinion about competitive sourcing, it's going to have an impact on how we accomplish our work.

Over the last few weeks I've become more optimistic about the outcome of the competitive sourcing process. We have skilled people, and we have efficiency in our organization. But where we can improve our efficiency we have the obligation to do so. I believe between our talented staff and our experienced consultants we can design our organization and processes

## Forest Service Dollars Help Idaho Projects

*By Laura Smith, Nez Perce National Forest & Elayne Murphy, Clearwater National Forest*

It was a good year for projects supported by the North Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee (RAC). The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture established the use of resource advisory committees in response to Congressional legislation passed in 2000 to involve communities in expenditure of federal funds.

The North Central Idaho RAC, with representatives from the entire community, recommend projects benefiting national forest resources within Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nezperce counties. A large portion of the dollars funding the projects are from area national forests, as outlined in Title II of the legislation. Those important funds are used to con-

tract necessary work for all approved projects, contributing to local community economies.

Projects implemented in 2002 include: treating 2,366 acres of priority weed infested areas along roads on and off the Nez Perce National Forest and along key private/forest interface areas; reducing erosion and improving access along 20 miles of the Nez Perce Forest's Sourdough Road #492; launching an effort to restore fish habitat and improve water quality in the Little Slate Creek drainage; salvaging dead and dying trees and analyzing support of long-term resource restoration throughout the Red River drainage; protecting 10 bridges and adjacent resources



*Weed eradication was a high priority for the North-Central Idaho RAC.*

from scour damage during high flow storm events; and treating 1,500 acres and 200 miles of roads for weeds in Latah and Clearwater counties.

Title II funds are the stimulus that forms the partnerships that lead to more resource management work, providing for ecological needs and economic enhancements in local areas.

# Land Deal Saves Habitat



*Anaconda Range.* Photo courtesy of Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

By Jack De Golia, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Just over 9,300 acres between Anaconda and Georgetown Lake is now part of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, thanks to a cooperative effort between YT Timber, Inc., Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Forest Service.

The land deal, closed last summer, is the second part of a larger, three-phase purchase of the 23,000-acre "Watershed Property," owned by YT Timber, Inc. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation optioned the land from YT Timber in 1999, and is giving the land to the Forest Service in three phases.

The Forest Service paid the elk foundation \$7 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for this second phase of the purchase. "The elk foundation was instrumental in giving us the time it takes to request the funding and get into a position to buy this valuable piece of wildlife habitat," said Gary Morrison, then acting forest supervisor of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. In the first phase of the purchase, completed in 2001, the Forest Service purchased over 6,800 acres in the area from the elk foundation.

A final 7,100 acres will be purchased this year with about \$5.3 million from the Land

and Water Conservation Fund. When complete, this will be the largest land acquisition facilitated by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation in their history.

Bob Gilman, the Forest Service's Pintler district ranger, said the property adds valuable and unique wetlands and important habitat for many plants and animals including westslope cutthroat trout, bull trout, Canada lynx, elk, deer, bighorn sheep, black bear, moose, and mountain goat. "This is also part of what's often called the Georgetown Corridor, which is a strip of forested lands linking the Flint Range with forested land that stretches into Idaho," Gilman said. The corridor allows wildlife to move freely across the region, he said.

Morrison praised the Deer Lodge County Commission, Montana Congressional delegation, the Anaconda Sportsmen's Club, and YT Timber, among others, for supporting the Watershed purchase.

"This will keep an important, large area available for important wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities now and for future generations," Morrison said.



*Tom Reilly*

At their annual meeting in Reno in February, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation presented Forest Supervisor Tom Reilly an award on behalf of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest for the outstanding work done on the Watershed Land Acquisition Project. The Pintler Ranger District was specifically cited by the foundation for their critical participation.

The award is the first-ever Elk Country Award for Wildlife Habitat Protection, a national recognition jointly sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Forest Service.

# Seeking Opportunities for Individual and Team Growth

by Paula Nelson, Regional Office



Great Northern Type II crew, 2002.

Formed in 2001, the Great Northern Type II fire crew is preparing for their third season of fighting fires and preparing future fire managers. Conceived as a way to supply new firefighters with quality training and exposure to fire suppression and fuels management, the 20-person crew brings together firefighters from across the nation and from diverse backgrounds.

Led by Bill Miller with assistance from Region One detailers, the crew is housed

at the Aerial Fire Depot where they can receive training and support from the smokejumper, aviation, T&DC, weather and research communities.

Recruitment starts long before the fire season, with Bill making phone calls and taking trips across the country. His crewmembers arrive focused on hard work, personal growth and a fire management career. They learn a land and work ethic and how to establish goals and work as a team. They also learn about the latest fire technology and research.

The 2002 season started with two weeks of classroom and practical training in all firefighting basics with an emphasis on safety and teamwork. Crewmembers developed a vision statement on the first day and merged it with one developed by the crew overhead. The statement served as the

team's summer mantra to "...believe in our ability to contribute to the long-term success of the wildland fire organization."

Three days after training, the crew was on the road to Wyoming for their first two fire assignments. From there the season progressed, from initial attack assignments to additional reinforcement assignments on campaign fires in Oregon and Montana.

The crew used time between fires for project work on the Lolo and Bitterroot forests, maintenance and additional training. After the students departed, Bill augmented the crew with R1 firefighters who continued with fire assignments, prescribed burning and a standby assignment in California.

If you know someone who might be interested in the program, or if you are a career employee interested in detailing as a crew assistant, visit [www.fs.fed.us/r1/nfp/crew](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/nfp/crew) before contacting Bill Miller at [bdmiller@fs.fed.us](mailto:bdmiller@fs.fed.us), or by calling (406) 829-6942.

## Local Firefighters: *Have Pulaski, Will Travel*

by Shelly Milburn, Lewis & Clark National Forest

Thanks to the refreshing lack of local fire activity last summer, the Lewis and Clark National Forest was able to send many of its fire crew to lend a hand fighting nearly 50 different fires in other parts of the west.

The White Sulphur and Belt Creek ranger districts (a.k.a., Kings Hill Fire Zone) sent firefighters to Oregon, California, Colorado, Wyoming, Minnesota, Nevada and Utah. A few firefighters traveled with the Lewis and Clark Hotshots, filling in for absent crewmembers. Others traveled in fire engines to Oregon and New Mexico. Several engine crews were on stand-by status in Arizona and New Mexico in case a new fire started.

The Fire Zone also sent out helicopter support crews (helitac). These crews helped suppress fires and detect new ones through aerial patrols. They spread out over eight states, from Arizona to Hawaii. A Helitac crew assisted firefighting efforts in South

Dakota, then returned a few weeks later to rehabilitate the burned area by reseeded it from the air.

Other district personnel traveled as well. Trail crewmembers, range and silviculture employees and the White Sulphur Springs district ranger helped fight fires. From helitac to handcrew, EMTs to engine operators, from security guards to the teams who organize and direct the hundreds of firefighters battling a large wildfire, the Fire Zone and the forest pitched in.

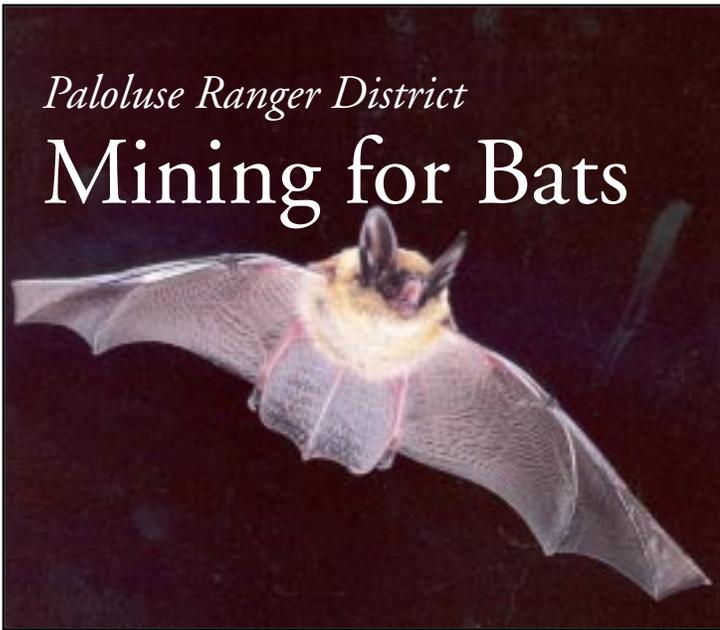
As the wildfires began to wind down, the districts shifted their focus toward autumn prescribed burning. Crews treated six units on the Tenderfoot Experimental Forest, White Sulphur Springs district—a total of 207 acres. The Fire Zone also lent crews and equipment to the BLM and Helena National



Lewis and Clark NF's King's Hill Fire Zone firefighters.

Forest, as well as other districts on the Lewis and Clark Forest.

It was a productive summer for the Fire Zone, full of travel, hard work, sweat and excitement. Despite the hectic "go-go-go" schedule of fire travel, the miles we drove and the fires we fought, everybody came home safely in the end.



*Paloluse Ranger District*

## Mining for Bats

*Western long-eared bat. Courtesy Arkansas Game & Fish Commission.*

*By Harry Jageman, Clearwater National Forest*

In mid-August, Idaho Fish and Game Biologist Rita Dixon and I spent a night catching bats at the Morning Star Mine. We arrived about an hour before dark. Thinking we still had plenty of time to set up our mist net before dusk, we were quite surprised when two bats zoomed past our heads and into the mine!

Rita remarked that we wouldn't be the only ones in for a surprise, as we set up the net around the brushy mine entrance. Finishing before dark, we retreated about 100 feet from the mine

and waited with anticipation. As shadows closed in, slow moving ghosts filled the sky.

Upon returning to the net, we saw that several bats were already caught. A more experienced and rabies-vaccinated Rita went to work removing them from their entanglement. I stood by with cloth sacks for storing each bat after it was removed from the net.

After collecting 10 bats, we returned to a prepared work area to process them. Bats were weighed, sexed, aged and measured to assure accurate species determination. Some species of bats, particularly those in the genus *Myotis* are hard to identify without detailed analysis. We checked the net at 15-minute intervals as we processed bats. We hoped to work quickly and not leave any bats in the net for too long.

In the end, we processed 13 bats. We found two species at the site: long-legged myotis (*Myotis volans*) and long-eared myotis (*Myotis evotis*). Long-eared myotis was the most common, making up 9 of the 13 bats netted. All bats were adults and most were female.

On the Clearwater National Forest, there are about 25-30 abandoned mines that may provide suitable habitat for bats. Bats' roosting habitats make them very vulnerable to disturbance and vandalism, and it is critical we learn which mines are being used and by what species. Old mines can also be real safety hazards for uninformed explorers.

From the information we gather, the Forest hopes to develop a management plan for all of our abandoned mines. The goal is to prioritize our resources to conserve bat populations, as well as provide for human safety. We may close some mines if we find bats do not utilize them, and on others we may install bat-friendly gates.

## Chic and Wally - Seasoned Volunteers

*by Marianne Baumberger, Gallatin National Forest*

The Bozeman Ranger District is indebted to the hard work of two local Backcountry Horsemen. For several years now Chic Hale and Wally Becker have loyally volunteered their time to reconstruct and repair trails on the district. In 2002 alone they each put in over 200 hours of volunteer time.

"These two are just full of hard work, colorful stories and character," according to Will Shoutis, district trails supervisor. "Chic and Wally are in their 70s, but do the work of 20 year olds! I can accomplish an awful lot of work with Chic and Wally's help."

Over the 2002 field season the duo faithfully showed up every Thursday last summer, accomplishing more than a dozen needed repairs to Forest Service trails. They spent the last month and a half working on the Hellroaring Trail in the Spanish Peaks Unit of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness.

When asked why they do it, the 75-year-old Chic said, "I do it



*Between snow falls Chic and Wally sneak in one more day to finish up a work assignment on the Hellroaring Trail.*

because I not only see the need, but also it is so good to get outdoors and do physical labor."

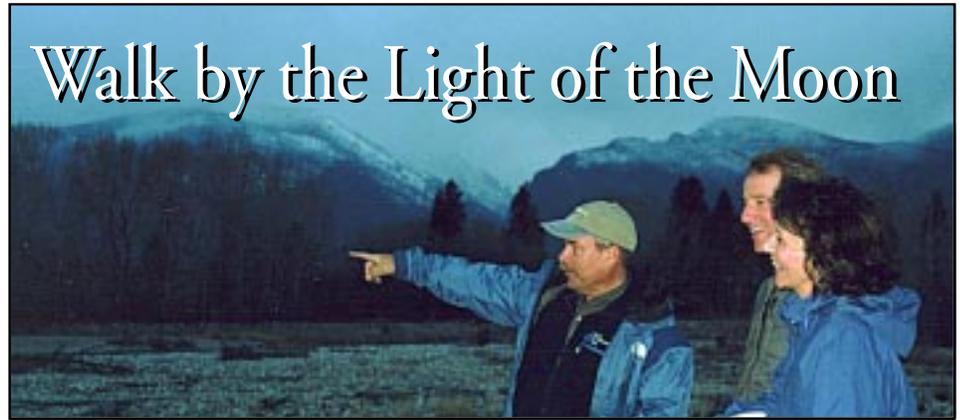
The Bozeman Ranger District recognized Chic and Wally for their efforts at the December meeting of the Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horseman.

By Ellen L. Davis, Bitterroot National Forest

From April through September 2002, more than 650 people gathered with anticipation and excitement under the magnificent light of the moon to learn more about the different ecosystems and local history of the Bitterroot Valley. With names like River Moon, Canyon Moon, Wolf Moon, Discovery Moon, Tammany Moon and Owl Moon, the interpretive walks spurred imaginations and prompted discussions about the natural world, exploring such topics as wolves, raptors, American Indians and local geology.

The program, sponsored by the Bitterroot National Forest, promotes discovery and learning in a different light—moonlight. It is based on Francis Hammerstrom's book titled, "Walk When the Moon is Full" about walks she and her children took each month under the full moon. "We have great discussions and interaction with the community, learn more about our surroundings and have fun all at the same time," said Julie Schreck, forest conservation education specialist.

Julie and forest civil engineer Traute Parrie created the moonwalks. Walks oc-



Hikers enjoying their "Walk by the Light of the Moon."

cur both on and off the forest. Each walk has its own signature enamel pin designed by local western artist Judy Morris. The pins, available for a small donation, are highly prized and help pay for speakers' fees and supplies.

With topics ranging from scientific, to artful to historic, Forest Service interpreters, local historians, artists, musicians, scientists, authors and many other partners have helped make the walks both enlightening and successful. "This was our first year and we are so pleased with the turnout and the positive comments we have received," said Julie.

The interpretive series continues in 2003 with the Moonbeams and Snowflakes in March at the Chief Joseph cross-country ski area; Traveler's Moon in April at the Traveler's Rest State Park; Migration Moon in May at the Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge; Trout Moon in June at River Park; Mission Moon in July at St. Mary's Mission; Fireweed Moon in August at the Blodgett Campground; the Indian Trees Moon at the Indian Trees Campground; and Community Moon in October, location to be announced.

For more information, contact Julie Schreck at (406) 375-2606.

## Still Gracing the Landscape: Eagle Guard Station

by Jodie Canfield, Helena National Forest

Other than a few displaced packrats, the world is glad that Eagle Guard Station got a facelift and not the drip torch. In January 2002, Eagle Guard Station on the Helena National Forest received formal placement on the National Register of Historic Places.

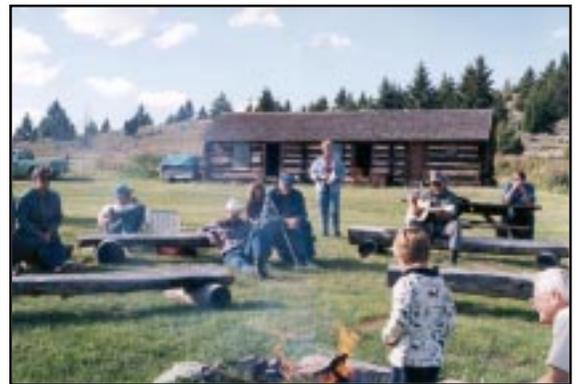
Since 1895 the cabin has graced a sunny slope in the foothills of the Elkhorn Mountains amidst sagebrush and fir – a testament to the rich and colorful historic past of the Elkhorn Mountains and surrounding valleys. Built by miners Dick Owen and Joe Wilson, the cabin sheltered cowboys, Forest Service rangers, fire patrols and trail crews over the years.

Now the station stands as testament to the collaborative efforts and synergy it took to restore an old run-down cabin. Described as "deplorable, an eyesore, a safety hazard," the cabin was slated in 1990 to be burned down. Luckily Barb Beck, the Townsend District Ranger at the

time, had a background in cultural resources, and with a little prodding by two retired businessmen, she set her staff in motion to develop a plan. Local businesses donated equipment and supplies, and volunteers accomplished most of the work. By 1993, the cabin had a new "floating" floor, sill logs and shingle roof – all designed to mimic the original construction style.

The station became available for public rental during the winter months in 1996. A visitor summed up people's feelings about the station in a journal entry: "We never cease to be stricken with awe and gratitude for this place. Only 20 bucks a night and all the solitude you can stand!"

In 1999, the station began offering a summer program featuring workshops and hikes.



People of all ages enjoying Eagle Guard Station.

What does the future hold for Eagle Station? The Townsend District is gearing up to accommodate more public use, including a summer rental season. Other plans include installing a well with a hand-pump and a "sweet-smelling" outhouse. Move aside packrats; Eagle Guard Station is here to stay.

# Facelifts for Historic Cabins

by Kyle McGuire, Flathead National Forest

Two historic cabins on the Flathead National Forest received a new lease on life this past summer—thanks to the combined efforts of forest personnel and volunteers.

Hahn Cabin, an administrative site located in the Young's Creek drainage in the southern Bob Marshall Wilderness, was built in 1927. Over the years, the building had deteriorated. Bill Crane, Spotted Bear District, organized a crew of forest personnel and volunteers to tackle the job. Retired Flathead employee Keith Granrude packed in supplies and materials from Monture Cabin on the Lolo.

Within two weeks, the crew replaced several wall-logs and floor joists, and installed a new roof, porch and stove. In order to prevent further damage to the building, it was lifted about four inches and placed on new footings.

All those involved came away with an appreciation for the amount of labor that went into constructing these buildings before cordless tools and chainsaws. Workers cut replacement logs on site with a two-



Ninko Cabin, Flathead NF.

man crosscut and transported them with log carriers, and performed notching and hewing with an ax and other hand tools.

The history of Ninko Cabin, located on the Hungry Horse/Glacier View district, is not very clear. It may have been built sometime in the early 1950s, but the reason why is uncertain. Whatever its history, it is now a popular cabin rental on the Hungry Horse District and was in need of some attention.

Again, volunteers and forest personnel took on the task, this time with the help of



Above: Volunteers last summer restoring the Hahn Cabin. L to R: Front row: John McCleod (retired Flathead NF) and Rich Rosso (Kalispell). Back row: Mike Beckes (regional archaeologist), Tim Light (Flathead NF archaeologist), Kyle McGuire (Flathead NF) and Bill Crane (Spotted Bear facilities)

the R1 Historic Preservation Team. The crew replaced several logs, poured new footers and piers, constructed a new chimney and replaced the porch deck. Unlike Hahn Cabin, this job operated as a modern job site with generators, power tools and chain saws.

Special thanks to Bob Keibler, Karl Anderson and Pete Gnauck of the Hungry Horse District for their efforts, and especially Karl's culinary talents.

## Habitat for Humanity: People Making a Difference

The Habitat for Humanity program in Missoula has recruited its share of Forest Service retirees and employees to build houses for low-income families. Since his retirement from the Northern Region in 1998, **John Drake** has been volunteering almost 6 days a week, 8 months a year with the Habitat program. In his former life as director of the region's Recreation, Minerals, Lands, Heritage & Wilderness program, John is now Habitat's construction supervisor. He recruits and organizes the crews and makes sure they're trained.

"The work has tremendous rewards, but I've had to learn a lot of patience in dealing with the large turnover in volunteers we get. Some people might show up for 4 hours or 4 days, and with this kind of situ-

ation you always have to be training people," John said.

John's contributions were recognized when the local Habitat for Humanity group presented him with their Volunteer of the Year award for 2002. It's the second time John has been so honored.

Since its inception, the project has constructed 23 units for needy families. John gives credit to other Forest Service retirees and employees who have donated time to Habitat projects.

"We really appreciate all those Forest Service employees who showed up to help out," John said. "I especially want to thank Oswaldo Mino, with the RO engineering staff, and Larry Blocker, with RO Recreation, who recruited employees for us this past year. We hope the Forest Service will



Missoula volunteers on Habitat for Humanity project 2002.

continue to stay involved and supportive."

If you wish to volunteer with the Missoula Habitat for Humanity program, please contact Lucas Zuckerman at 406-523-2748.



Crow Creek Falls.

by Jodie Canfield, Helena National Forest

This past September, the Helena National Forest embarked on a long awaited operation to remove debris and heavy equipment from the area surrounding Crow Creek Falls.

The project began with Ernie Nunn, former forest supervisor of the Helena National Forest, who recruited help from local businessman Mitch Godfrey and local resident and former regional forester Butch Marietta. Butch was on the board

by Steve Bull, Bitterroot National Forest

Access into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness is a little easier now thanks to Chuck and Diana Miller. Last summer, Chuck and Diana, members of the Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen, provided outstanding volunteer pack stock support to Bitterroot National Forest trail maintenance crews.

Often accompanied by Dennis Price, the team made seven trips into West Side Canyons, riding over 170 trail miles and freighting up to 300 pounds of gear, food and tools per trip. Their extraordinary efforts provided the trail crew with the support and flexibility needed to have an extremely productive season.

Heavy spring snows in 2002 resulted in an unusually heavy avalanche year, depositing hundreds of large trees across the trails in almost all the drainages of West Side Canyons. Without pack support from Chuck, Diana and Dennis, it would have been nearly impossible for the trail crew

# Reclaiming Crow Creek Falls

of American Land Conservancy, a non-profit specializing in creative conservation solutions to threatened land and water. The conservancy ultimately bought the Crow Creek Falls property with the intent of getting it into public ownership. Lynn Robson of Helena helped to keep the group organized and efficient.

The challenge was *how* to remove the debris that sat at the base of the falls for over 20 years. The access from the existing trail to the base of the falls was a drop of some 100 feet on a slope composed of slippery shale. Clean up was further complicated by the fact that the falls lay within the Elkhorn Wildlife Management Unit's Wilderness Study Area, where motorized access is restricted. The Crow Creek Falls Group was convinced they could overcome these obstacles.

The Montana Mining Association (MMA) became involved in the Crow Falls project to show that modern-day miners are concerned about the legacy past miners left behind. Working with mining company Graymont Western US Inc., several MMA members came up with a plan. Graymont, Montana Power and Equipment, Quarry Services and Broadwater County all donated equipment. Duane

Carter of Helena contributed time and mechanical expertise. Ernie and Carolyn Nunn provided great barbeque and Beth Ihle from the Forest Service spurred on the project with her endless energy and homemade peach pie.

Hats off to Elton Chorney, Graymont manager; Dick Juntunen, private consultant who specializes in mining reclamation; Steve Heitschmidt, heavy equipment operator; and John Hinthier, Graymont maintenance supervisor. In two weeks the base of Crow Creek Falls was transformed from a junkyard to a site for future picnics and family photographs.



Volunteers removing old mining equipment from Crow Creek Falls.

# Extraordinary Efforts

to clear the wilderness trails by hand with axes and crosscut saws. Chuck and Diana used their highly trained mules to move food and gear into the backcountry so the crew could get the job done. Without the Back Country Horsemen's support many trails would not have been cleared last summer and would be impassable to stock.

Chuck and Diana also participate annually in the West Fork Ranger District's "Stock Training Day." Chuck's study of veterinary care allows him to provide qualified information from which any stock user can learn and benefit.

Chuck and Diana's exceptional horsemanship and packing abilities are a tribute to furthering and maintaining the use of traditional pack stock skills. They are also exemplary in their use and dissemination of "Leave No Trace" stock ethics. Chuck, Diana, Dennis and the Back Country Horsemen provided a valuable service to the Forest Service, and in turn to the public at large. They deserve a pat on the back from all who use and care about our public lands.



L to R: Diana Miller, Chuck Miller, Dennis Price and other members of the Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen hauling supplies to trail crews last summer.



## Moving in

### Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

**Tom Osen**, a 22-year Forest Service veteran, has been chosen as the new Dillon district ranger, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

He began his career with the Forest Service in 1975 with the Gallatin National Forest as a tree planter before becoming a seasonal employee in the range program. In 1989, Tom went to the Lewis & Clark National Forest in Great Falls, where he worked as a recreation program manager and rangeland management specialist.

**Patti Johnston**, Tom's wife, also transferred to the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. Prior to the move, Patti was recreation program manager for the Rocky Mountain Ranger District, Lewis & Clark National Forest. She will head the recreation program at the Wisdom Ranger District.

Patti began working for the Forest Service at the Gila National Forest in the late 1970s. She moved to the Lewis & Clark National Forest in the fall of 1988. Johnston and Osen were married in 1998.

Tom and Patti took up their new job duties on February 9.

### Clearwater National Forest

**Kearstin Edwards** is the new wilderness ranger for the Powell District. Kearstin, who came on board last summer, worked as a wilderness ranger in the Boundary Waters Canoe Wilderness Area in northern Minnesota and as a trail crew supervisor and education specialist in R1's Bob Marshall Wilderness.

**Dave Glassford** has joined the North Idaho Personnel Zone as the employee and labor relations specialist for the three forests. He comes to the zone from the office of the Social Security Administration. Dave was trained as a paralegal through the Denver Paralegal Institute.

**Paula Navratil** joined the North Fork District last summer, assuming the duties of office automation assistant. Other jobs Paula held before coming to the Clearwater: accounting technician, Otawa National Forest; resource assistant, Chippewa National Forest; mailroom and filing clerk, Rio Grande National Forest.

### Gallatin National Forest

**Stan Benes**, former district ranger at West Yellowstone, Montana, on the Gallatin National Forest was selected as the deputy

forest supervisor on the Custer National Forest in Billings, Montana. Stan's reporting date was February 10.

Stan has 25 years of experience in leadership roles on six national forests in three regions. He was a line officer for 14 years in two regions, including 12 years in a dual staff officer/district ranger role. In addition, Stan has provided leadership as the acting deputy director of fire, air and aviation for the Northern Region, as the acting deputy forest supervisor for the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in Region 9 and as an incident commander.

Other jobs Stan held during his career: seasonal technician, Nez Perce and Clearwater NFs and the Fremont National Forest, R6; forester, Nez Perce and Lolo NFs; district ranger, Hiawatha NF, R9 and district ranger and staff officer, Gallatin NF.

### Helena National Forest

**Mike Cole** arrived last fall as the new ranger for the Townsend Ranger District of the Helena National Forest. Mike comes to the Helena from the Superior Ranger District, Lolo National Forest, where he served as the acting district ranger. Mike has worked for the agency in many states, including Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Arkansas and Montana. He is also a Fire Information Officer on one of the Western Montana Type II Incident Management teams.

### Idaho Panhandle National Forests

**Craig Bobzien**, district ranger for Darby and Sula on the Bitterroot National Forest, transferred in January to the Idaho Panhandle National Forest as the deputy forest supervisor in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Craig transferred to the Bitterroot Forest in June 1999.

### Nez Perce National Forest

The Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests welcome **Jennifer Armetta**. Jennifer is a zone employee for the Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forest Law Enforcement team. She is stationed at the Powell Ranger Station located on the Clearwater forest.

Jennifer began her career with the forest service in 1992 as an SCA volunteer working four seasons in fire management and two seasons in recreation. She started working in Region 3 on the Prescott National Forest and moved to the Coconino National Forest. Jennifer has also worked for the Park Service as a seasonal ranger.

### Custer National Forest

**Larry Timchak**, former deputy forest supervisor for the Custer National Forest, was recently selected as the new forest supervisor for the Ochoco National Forest in R6. Larry's 24-year career in federal service began in 1978, when he secured his first permanent job with the Forest Service as a forester with the Boulder Ranger District in R2. Other positions held include: supervisory forester, Lolo National Forest (1979-91); forest administrator, Judith Ranger District, Lewis & Clark National Forest (1991-95); supervisory land management specialist, Rocky Mountain Ranger District, Lewis & Clark National Forest (1995-96); Minerals EIS co-team leader, Custer National Forest, Supervisor's Office (1996-97); recreation forester, R1 Regional Office (1997-2000); executive coordinator, Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee, Yellowstone National Park, National Park Service (2000-01), and deputy forest supervisor, Custer National Forest (2001-02).

## Moving on

### Helena National Forest



George Weldon

**George Weldon**, former Lewis and Clark National Forest deputy forest supervisor, was promoted to forest supervisor on the Ashley National Forest in Utah. His reporting date for his new position was January 27.

George came to the Lewis and Clark National Forest in January 2000 from the Townsend Ranger District, Helena National Forest, where he served as district ranger for eight years. Prior to his stint on the Helena National Forest, George worked on the Sheridan Ranger District, Beaverhead National Forest, and the Beartooth Ranger District, Custer National Forest.





## Missoula Technology & Development Center

**Dave Fallis**, the R1's former district ranger in Dillon, is now MTDC's program leader for operations. Dave reported to his new job September 9.

**Maggie Pittman**, former assistant director for the Public and Governmental Relations unit in the Regional Office, is now the support operations leader at MTDC. She began her new job in September. In addition to heading an administrative team, Maggie will also provide public affairs expertise to the center staff.

## Retirements

**Bob Cleveland** spent his entire career with the Forest Service on the Clearwater National Forest. He began in 1971 doing stand exams for the Lochsa District, and at retirement, he was still working for the Lochsa District. Before coming to work for the Forest Service, Bob worked seven years in private industry.

This will be the first summer since 1989 that Bob will have the summer to himself. He was on a fire team that tied up his summers for the past 13 years. He is looking forward to getting himself into a fishing frenzy. There will be other things to do, but for now he is just planning to do a lot of fishing.

**Randy Doman** started his career with the Forest Service as a seasonal employee on the Sawtooth Inter-Regional Fire Crew in June 1968. He became the assistant foreman in 1971 and foreman in 1974. Other jobs include: fire management officer, Canyon Ranger District, Clearwater NF; fire management officer, North Fork Ranger District, Clearwater NF; wilderness fire planning, wild-life burning and prevention, Clearwater NF; fire use/fire planning specialist for the Clearwater/Nez Perce Fire Zone, Nez Perce NF; and deputy fire staff officer, Clearwater NF.

Up to his retirement, Randy was the acting fire staff officer for the Clearwater/Nez Perce Fire Zone. Randy has served on Incident Management Teams since 1980 in a variety of positions. He was involved in the Fire Use Program since 1979 when he helped write the Fire Management Plan for the Sawtooth Wilderness. He served as incident commander for the Northern Rockies FUMT for the past two seasons.

**Jon Foland** started as a seasonal fire control aide (smokechaser) on the Kootenai National Forest in 1967. Jon was a smokejumper from 1968 to 1988 at Missoula, West Yellowstone (Gallatin National Forest), La Grande (Wallowa-Whitman National Forest) and Redmond (Deschutes National Forest). He transferred to Grangeville Air Center, Nez Perce National Forest as smokejumper foreman in 1980. He became the Forest Aviation Officer 1986 to retirement. Foland's fondest memory: "Meeting my future wife while on a smokejumper detail in Silver City, New Mexico."

**Dean Geouge** retired in 2002 from the Clearwater NF as a civil engineer technician. Previously Dean was in the military 1958 - 1962 and worked in private industry for 24 years.

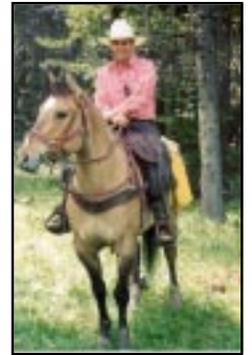
## Lewis and Clark National Forest

Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth selected **Rick Prausa**, Lewis and Clark Forest supervisor, as supervisory National Forest System (NFS) budget coordinator in the Washington Office. Rick reported to his new job January.

He was named forest supervisor of the Lewis and Clark National Forest in January 1999. Prausa moved to Montana from the Washington Office, where he served as the acting deputy director of forest management for ten years. Prior to his WO assignment, Rick worked for the Forest Service in New Mexico, Wisconsin and Idaho. He also worked for the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon.

**Rich Inman**, deputy forest supervisor on the Gallatin National Forest, retired on January 3, after 39 years of outstanding government service.

Rich began his career in the mid-60's as a seasonal employee on the Deerlodge National Forest. His first full-time appointment was with the Gallatin National Forest in 1966, where he served as a forester in Timber & Range Conservation for four years. Jobs that followed include: resource assistant, Deerlodge National Forest; resource assistant, Medora Ranger District, Custer National Forest; on the Range staff, Helena National Forest; Red River district ranger, Nez Perce National Forest; and Wisdom district ranger, Beaverhead National Forest. Rich spent the last 16 years of his career on the Gallatin as Resource/Planning staff officer, acting forest supervisor, and deputy forest supervisor. Some folks affectionately refer to him as "Mr. Gallatin."



*Rich Inman and Bits*

"We'll miss Rich a great deal," stated Forest Supervisor Becki Heath, "but are pleased that he has the opportunity to move on to this new chapter of his life. We are truly blessed by the significant difference that Rich has made in resource management and in our lives."

### Clearwater/Nez Perce

#### National Forest Retirees Mark Your Calendars!!

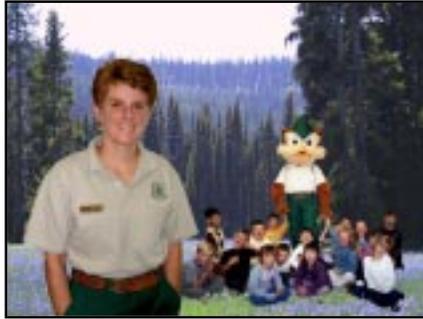
The 2003 gathering of Clearwater and Nez Perce National Forest retirees is scheduled for August 1 and 2 at the Wilderness Gateway Campground. Plans are for a social on Friday starting at about 4:30 p.m. with dinner later. Saturday we will enjoy breakfast together followed by information sharing by the forests. Tom Blunn is taking over the reins from Bob Rehfeld as Chief Wrangler.

This is a "heads up" for your calendars, more details and a RSVP request will come out late May/early June. We are updating the mailing list and would like to add e-mail addresses to facilitate future contact. Please send your information to Fred Trevey: [ftrevey@spro.net](mailto:ftrevey@spro.net) or (208)743-5465. Tom is at [stblunn@bigsky.net](mailto:stblunn@bigsky.net) or (406)721-6350. Make your plans now —we look forward to a big turnout.



# Awards

**Teresa Wenum** was selected as the **2002 Northern Region Interpreter of the Year**. Teresa is the program leader for the Flathead National Forest's conservation education program. Her award was presented at the National Association for Interpretation Workshop at Virginia Beach, VA, in November.



*Teresa Wenum -- and friends.*

Since her appointment in 1996, Teresa has expanded on an already successful forest education program that reaches out to children, adults and visitors. With her creativity and energy, Teresa successfully connects people with their environment. Her ability to work with partners has contributed to numerous successful interpretive projects, such as the annual Flathead Family Forestry Expo, which involves many forest employees and draws thousands of children and families. Her bus tours to the Moose Creek fire sites in 2001 were "sold out" public events that conveyed fire education messages in a very real and meaningful way. With her coordination of the summer naturalist programs at forest and resort sites, she continues to search for entertaining ways to convey important educational messages.

Teresa has built constructive partnerships with the local grade schools and high schools through an ongoing series of teacher workshops that provide background information on issue topics for the teachers as they plan for future classes. Teresa continues to embody the excellence and professionalism that has long described conservation education and interpretation on the Flathead National Forest.

**Mark Petroni**, district ranger at the Madison Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, received an award from the Ennis, Montana, school board naming him the **Outstanding Business Contributor of the Year for 2002**.

The school board cited the Madison District's support for the schools by providing science fair judges, classroom science mentors, helping sponsor Wall Creek Days (an environmental education outing for Ennis kids at the Wall Creek Game Range) and for many classroom talks and programs. The topics presented by a variety of district employees included: Leave No Trace, forest ecology, recycling and Woodsy Owl.



*L to R: Dave Clark and Jerry Welch, Ennis school board members; Janet Bean-Dochnahl, school board member and Beaverhead-Deerlodge forest planner; Mark Petroni, Madison District ranger; and Dave Schenk and Marc Glines, school board members.*

The Northern Region's Engineering unit selected **Beverly Young** to receive its **2002 Technical Engineer of the Year Award**. Bev has worked as an environmental engineer for the Regional Office for the past 13 years. During that time she has contributed her considerable talents and energy to address sensitive issues such as asbestos, radon and lead-based paint.



*Bev Young*

Bev organized the first national agency asbestos training, co-wrote agency guidelines on asbestos management as well as technical briefs for staff on lead-based paint. Her leadership in water, wastewater and indoor air quality has provided national and local results in providing the best water quality at our sites, good wastewater facilities and upgrades and strong involvement in resolving indoor air quality issues.

Bev also takes time to be a mentor, coaching students in math skills, creative thinking, and team-based problem solving. Bev is a role model for young women engineers and all employees not only for the quality of her work but also the approach she takes in all that she does for her agency and her community.

**Ralph Braden**, Clearwater National Forest transportation operations engineer, is **Region One's 2002 Engineering Technician of the Year**. Pete Minard, technical services staff officer for the Clearwater National Forest, presented him with the award. Minard says of Ralph, "He has a tremendous ability to get the right people, the proper equipment, and the necessary materials to all come together at the right time to complete a project in the most efficient manner possible."



*Ralph Braden*

**Steve Prieve**, supervisory information technology specialist on the Kootenai National Forest, received the forest's **Human Resource Council Award for 2002**. The award was in recognition of Steve's superior actions as a supervisor.

Paras Kinariwala, a student from the University of South Carolina, worked for Steve last summer as part of the Student Career Experience Program. When Paras first arrived on the Kootenai in June, Steve personally provided Paras with transportation to and from work everyday and arranged transportation when he was unavailable to bring him in. He made sure Paras had lodging and introduced him to members of the community. He also accompanied Paras to the week-long R1 trainee workshop last year. Steve and his shop provided the student with an excellent training, mentoring and support system.

Paras responded by doing a great job for the Kootenai. He went back to school in the fall, but returned to the Kootenai March 10 and, with Steve's help, is back on the job.



*L to R: Kootenai Forest Supervisor Bob Castaneda, Paras Kinariwala, Steve Prieve.*



Crews install a "packable bridge" in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness, Nez Perce NF.

During the annual Wilderness Meeting held January 13-15 in Missoula, Regional Forester Brad Powell presented **John Kattell** of the Regional Office and **Bill Fowler** from the Nez Perce National Forest with the **2002 Traditional Skills and Minimum Tool Leadership Award**. John and Bill received this award for designing "packable bridges."

The pair developed the program in 1999 to replace three bridges in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness. John and Bill finalized the design with the help of David Scovell, regional office structural engineer, and the input of several interest groups.

In keeping the integrity of the wilderness, the bridge design used stringers that could be packed in with stock to minimize the use of aircraft. According to John and Bill's specifications, the materials for the new bridges arrived on the forest in September 2001 already assembled. The ground crew designed a marking system where each

stringer could be reassembled the way it came apart. About 46,000 pounds of bridge materials were flown to Shearer. From there, it took 134 mule loads to get the materials to each respective bridge site.

Because of John and Bill's dedication and hard work, the bridges were completed in a timely and safe manner while preserving the wilderness's values and solitude.

Also at the wilderness meeting was the presentation of the **Aldo Leopold Award for Overall Wilderness Management** to the **Spotted Bear Ranger District, Flathead National Forest**.

The district is responsible for managing about 800,000 acres of wilderness in the Bob Marshall and Great Bear wildernesses, a task personnel perform with a sense of pride and responsibility. As a major player in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex managers' group, the district takes the lead in resource inventory and monitoring and using this information to best provide quality wilderness experiences and resource protection. The unit remains proactive and creative in completing monitoring tasks and maintaining a presence within the wilderness.

Others receiving awards include Erin Law, Nez Perce National Forest, for contributions to the Chief's Wilderness Advisory Group and Marty Almquist, Bitterroot National Forest, for outstanding leadership in the Regional and National Wilderness fire and education program.

Mark Parlet of Alternative Youth Adventures (AYA) of Montana, formally thanked the **Dillon Ranger District**, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, for their many years of cooperation. AYA, under contract with the Montana Department of Corrections, takes court-adjudicated and at-risk youth into the backcountry on 60-day programs aimed at improving self-esteem and curbing anti-social behavior. AYA has been operating on the district since 1996, contributing over 3,500 hours of labor to projects such as trail construction and maintenance, slash piling and fence construction in aspen regeneration areas, fence removal and amphibian surveys.



L to R: Accepting the AYA award for the Dillon RD: Elizabeth Brann, Katie Bump, George Johnson, and Pete Smith.



L to R: Carol Hennessey; Sherry Espy Nygaard of Lochsa River Outfitters, Kooskia; and Barb Opdahl of Triple "O" Outfitters, Pierce, ID.

**Carol Hennessey**, who works on the Lochsa Ranger District, Clearwater National Forest, received the **Resource Manager of the Year** award from the **Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association (IOGA)** last December. Carol was nominated by outfitters Sherry Espy Nygaard and Barb and Harlan Opdahl.

The Opdahls describe Carol as hard working, "dedicated to her job and her employer, patient and upbeat." They also mention that she is "in the trenches, clearing trails, picking up garbage, cleaning toilets, building cabins and cooling flared tempers."

Nygaard credits Carol with figuring out how to get funds to refurbish the historic Gold Meadows Cabin. The Gold Meadows area in the Lochsa River drainage is where the Espy-Nygaard family has run their outfitter business for 70 years. Nygaard agrees that Carol is hard-working and dedicated. She adds, "Carol gets the job done."

Carol is the third Clearwater National Forest recipient of the IOGA Resource Manager of the Year Award, which was first presented in 1988.



The Jensens and the Beaverhead - Deerlodge NF contracting and engineering support staff (L to R): Cathy Speich, Lisa Rakich, Butch Jensen, Sally Jensen, Kathy Smith, Karen Weidenbaugh, and Kim Lange.

Last spring, the **Sally Jensen Company**, a construction firm in Divide, Montana, won the **Forest Service's Woman-Owned Business Contractor of the Year** award.

Originally nominated by the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, the two-person Sally Jensen Company was cited for its work installing signs, installing bat gates on caves and old mines, reclaiming abandoned roads and safely closing old mine shafts.

On November 15, 2002, Forest Supervisor Tom Reilly presented Sally Jensen and her husband Butch with the Chief's plaque at a ceremony held at the Forest Service office in Butte.



## Awards

**Jodie Canfield**, wildlife biologist on the Helena National Forest, was selected as the recipient of the first-ever *Elk Country Award for Individual Achievement*, jointly sponsored by the *Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation* and the *Forest Service*. The national award was created to recognize outstanding land stewardship.

Jodie coordinates the Elkhorn Wildlife Management Area, a unique designation in the National Forest System. The unit is located on the Helena and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests and is part of a larger area that includes State lands and lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

More than 27,000 acres of wildlife habitat have been improved through Jodie's energetic management. Jodie has successfully worked with a variety of partners during the past ten years to raise over \$300,000 for wildlife and fish habitat improvements. And most recently, Jodie has been instrumental in the formation of the Elkhorns Working Group, composed of local citizens, to collaboratively address elk and grazing conflicts in the Elkhorns and on adjacent private lands.

Management of the Elkhorns has presented challenges due to conflicting expectations from the public. Jodie's coordination has resulted in comprehensive management across an entire landscape that reaches across fencelines and philosophical boundaries.



*Jodie Canfield*

On November 6, 2002, Region One employees, **Betty Kuropat** and **Jim McCormack**, received the *Forest Products Employee of the Year Award* at the National Products Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina.

**Betty Kuropat**, operations forester on the Hungry Horse/Glacier View ranger districts, Flathead National Forest, has excelled in both the special forest products area and in her leadership with stewardship contracting. Betty, along with forest botanist Maria Mantas, developed the forest's Products Permit Guidelines that help collectors/harvesters understand what products can be collected and the permits required. Betty is leading the effort to implement the Forest Products plans into the Timber Information Management system (TIM). She was also recognized for her leadership role in stewardship contracting. Betty volunteers her time to meet with the Flathead Forestry group—a pioneer in developing collaborative forestry projects, including several successful stewardship projects on state, private and national forest lands. Betty's contracting knowledge, skills in working with partners and her creativity have been essential to the success of these projects.

As a forester for the Darby Ranger District, Bitterroot National Forest, **Jim McCormack** has made a very positive difference in the forest's timber and forest products program since the fires of 2000. Jim played an active role in the Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) that put the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision together for treating burned areas. He then became the contracting officer of a team charged with implementing burned area, hazardous fuels reduction projects. These projects are very controversial, and Jim has developed a process with the sale administration team to assure that all contract and NEPA requirements are fully documented, and coordinated with the IDT and Monitoring Teams at a level over and above what is normally required. Jim's attention to detail and his knowledge of project planning and sale administration have made a difference on the Bitterroot National Forest!



*Betty Kuropat*



*Jim McCormack*

## Enthusiasm is the Key

*By Lorette Ray, Gallatin National Forest*



**C**arl Ronneberg has spent his entire career (38 years!) on the Big Timber Ranger District, Gallatin National Forest. In spite of his many years with the forest, Carl remains enthused about the work he does in range management, noxious weeds and the cabin rental program.

"Carl's extremely dedicated and quietly passionate about the resources he manages" said Big Timber District Ranger Bill Avey. He's respected by co-workers, the community and permittees, and he's basically a one-person renovation/preservation team."

Carl is responsible for four of the Gallatin's 24 rental cabins,

which have seen a significant increase in use since the program began in 1993. He recently painted the inside of the West Boulder Cabin and refinished its floors. He also put a new roof on the Deer Creek Cabin, which involved flying the materials in by helicopter. While Carl is interested in updating the cabins, he is also concerned with preserving their historical integrity. He frequently calls upon specialists like forest archeologist Walt Allen, and Bill Harris and Dale Swee of the Region 1 Historic Preservation Team for advice.

The Gallatin's cabin rental program is a recreation fee demonstration project. Carl feels the revenue generated by the program has made the difference. "Without these fees coming back to the unit, we wouldn't have the funding to do this important restoration work."

## RCA to the Rescue

by Jack de Golia, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Sometimes a community can receive a big boost by a seemingly small thing. In the case of Deer Lodge, Montana, the old Rialto Theater brings life and vitality to the downtown area.

But, lurking within the refurbished and lovely walls of the Rialto was a problem: the men's room had missed out on the facelift. With ceiling plaster coming down and plumbing awry, the beauty of the revived theater lost a lot of luster for the male patrons.

Enter the Rural Community Assistance Grant program administered by the Forest Service. A FY02 \$14,070 match for a \$25,101 project helped take the men's room from "falling apart" to "all together." Now, where there was decay, there's sparkling new tile, sinks, and toilets! Better yet, a visitor to the Rialto sees only the energy of a revived theater in a revived community.



The Rialto Theater in Deer Lodge, Montana.

## Surviving Cardiac Arrest

by Erica Wilsey, Nez Perce National Forest

The Nez Perce National Forest has a new addition to its First Aid equipment list – an automatic external defibrillator (AED). Carolyn Wren, forest First Aid coordinator, has implemented the new program and will oversee the installation and maintenance of the unit.

AEDs have evolved to the point where staff and public can be trained to use them and give care to a cardiac victim before EMTs arrive at the scene.

Sudden cardiac arrest kills approximately 225,000 people in the U.S. alone each year. According to the American Heart Association, the only definitive treatment for sudden cardiac arrest is a defibrillation shock: an electrical pulse through the heart, which restores a normal heart rhythm. The chance of a sudden cardiac arrest victim's survival decreases by up to 10 percent for every minute that passes.

These AEDs are portable and user friendly. Essentially once turned on, they will talk the trained and certified caregiver through the necessary steps providing defibrillation to the cardiac victim. Nez Perce Forest personnel are currently receiving training in how to use the AED.



Clearwater Ranger District Fire Apprentice David Carr demonstrates the use of the AED on the First Aid manikin.

## Retirees Meet in Post Falls

There will be a luncheon meeting of Forest Service retirees at Templins Resort in Post Falls May 13 at 12:00. All are welcome to attend.

## Missing Out on Jobs?

By Barbara Long, Flathead National Forest

Many Forest Service employees are under the misconception that they are able to view all Forest Service vacancy announcements by going to the USAJOBS web page. The USAJOBS web page is an internet site for federal government jobs where temporary, demo and government-wide vacancy announcements can be seen by the public and all government employees. The web address for this site is: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>. A nice advantage of this website is that you are able to request "Jobs by Email." Users of this service will be notified by email of new job listings posted to the USAJOBS web site that meet their search criteria. Again, please be aware that these are jobs that the public and/or other government employees may apply to; it does *not* mail you announcements that are limited to Forest Service employees.

There is another website that Forest Service employees may be unaware that exists. It is located on USAJOBS, but this is an *intranet* site visible only to Forest Service employees and accessed only through Forest Service computers. Vacancy announcements are open only to Forest Service employees. To view these announcements, please follow the instructions below.

Enter the website address <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/a9ag.htm>, then: select "USDA, Forest Service" in the *list-of-agencies*; click "Yes" in the *Status* block; then click "submit." Vacancy announcements are listed alphabetically by job title, and when you find one you want to view, click on the title and it will be displayed.

Links to these web sites may also be found on your local Human Resources web page.



Sally Collins

## Safety is Our Ethic

The Forest Service Safety Conference, hosted by Region One at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, March 11 - 13, was a rousing success, attracting over 350 employees from around the country.

The theme of the conference was "Building a Culture in which Safety is our Ethic." Keynote speakers were Forest Service Associate Chief Sally Collins and Deputy Chief Tom Mills, who is also Designated Safety and Health Official for the agency. Presentations were also made by Regional Foresters Brad Powell (R1), Rick Cables (R2), and Lucia Turner (acting regional forester, R3). R1 Deputy Regional Forester Lynn Roberts, who is the National Safety Council Chair, presented the Chief's action items to implement the agency's Safety and Health Strategic Plan.

R1 Safety Officer Ann Baker who coordinated the conference, thanked all Forest Service employees who, through their participation, continue to enhance and improve the National Safety Program.

# Personnel Actions

## BEAVERHEAD-DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

BROWN, DREW, forestry tech, Wisdom RD; lead forestry tech, promotion, Wisdom RD  
 FREY, CATHERINE, resource specialist, SO, performance award  
 FURNANDIZ, MARVIN, forestry tech, Wisdom RD; civil engineering tech, promotion, SO  
 GOODY, JANICE, information receptionist, Wise River, quality step increase  
 HAMMER, JULIAN, forestry tech, Jefferson RD, performance award  
 HANSON, DANIEL, forestry tech, career promotion, Jefferson RD  
 HOLLAMON, JOYCE, information receptionist, Jefferson RD, performance award  
 JOHNS, ROBERT, forestry tech, Butte RD, performance award  
 KUJALA, STEVEN, fish biologist, career promotion, SO  
 KUSKA, HEIDI, supply clerk, career promotion, SO  
 MC LAUGHLIN, DOREEN, budget & accounting officer, SO; financial management officer, promotion, SO  
 OSEN, TOM, range management specialist, Lewis & Clark NF, promotion, district ranger, Dillon RD  
 PRICE, DANIELLE, grants and agreements specialist, SO, performance award  
 SCHOTT, LINDA, support services supervisor, Madison RD, QSI  
 TREJO, JEFFREY, forester, Wise River RD, performance award  
 WEIDENBAUGH, KAREN, supervisory contract specialist, SO, QSI

### Reassignments & Transfers

CLARK, TAMMY, forestry technician, Helena NF; forestry technician (fuels management), SO  
 JOHNSON, DALE, supervisory forestry tech, Nez Perce NF; supervisory forestry tech, Wisdom RD  
 JOHNSTON, PATRICIA, recreation and wilderness specialist, Lewis & Clark NF, natural resource specialist (recreation), Wisdom RD

### New Employees

CARMODY, JAMES, forestry tech, career-conditional appointment, Butte RD  
 HANSON, DANIEL, forestry tech, career-conditional appointment, Jefferson RD  
 KLARE, JOSH, forestry tech, career-conditional appointment, Madison RD  
 SCHUTTY, MATTHEW, lead forestry tech, career conditional appointment, Madison RD  
 SNELLMAN, JASON, forestry tech, career-conditional appointment, Jefferson RD

### Retirements & Resignations

DONOHUE, EDWARD, forester, SO, December 2002  
 HOWERY, JACQUELINE, support services specialist, Dillon RD, January 2003  
 SCHULTE, DARRELL, forester, SO, January 2003  
 WOODS, MARK, supervisory forestry technician, SO, March 2003

## BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

BECKER, DEBRA, forestry tech, QSI, Darby RD  
 BRASSFIELD, ROBERT, fish biologist, QSI, Stevensville RD  
 BRITTING, JOHN, forestry tech, performance award, Darby RD  
 CASE, WILLIAM, center director, performance award, Anaconda, JCC  
 DICKINSON, KELLY, forestry tech, SO, promotion, forestry technician  
 EVERS, BONNIE, information receptionist, QSI, Darby RD  
 HALLMARK, BRENDA, supervisory forestry tech, Sula RD, promotion, supervisory forestry tech  
 HEAPHY, LAURANCE, guidance counselor, Anaconda JCC, promotion, guidance counselor  
 HOAG, BARBARA, operations support clerk, QSI, Trapper Creek JCC  
 KAMPS, AMBERDAWN, forester, QSI, Sula RD  
 LAWS, MARY, biological scientist, QSI, Darby RD  
 LEWIS, AMBER, civil engineer, QSI, SO  
 LOVEJOY, STUART, supervisory biological scientist, performance award, Sula RD  
 MARVIN, ELEANOR, personnel management specialist, performance award, SO  
 MCCORMACK, JAMES, forester, performance award, Darby RD  
 MOORE, MARSHA, forester, SO, time limited promotion, supervisory biological scientist  
 PANEK, GEORGE, forester, performance award, Darby RD  
 PARRIE, TRAUTE, supervisory civil engineer, performance award, SO  
 PAULSEN, TAMI, writer editor, SO, time limited promotion, public affairs specialist  
 PRICE, JEANETTE, center director, performance award, Trapper Creek JCC  
 RUSSELL, LARRY, supervisory forestry tech, QSI, Darby RD  
 TESDAL, MARTIN, telecommunications specialist, performance award, SO  
 THRILKILL, MARK, telecommunications specialist, performance award, SO  
 WETZSTEON, SUSAN, business management assistant, QSI, Sula RD  
 WINDHORST, BRUCE, supervisory forestry tech, QSI, Stevensville RD

### Reassignments & Transfers

FEARS, JAMES, computer specialist, SO, reassignment, resource information specialist, SO  
 FERUZZI, ELIA, forestry technician, Jemez RD, reassignment, lead forestry tech, Darby RD  
 FOGLIA, LOUIS, human resources officer, Civilian USAF, transfer, human resources officer, SO  
 HAYES, ED, forestry technician, Darby RD, reassignment, forestry tech, Darby RD

LEWIS, RUTH, computer specialist, SO, reassignment, forestry tech, SO  
 MUIR, DANIEL, lead forestry technician, Beartooth RD, reassignment supervisory forestry tech, Darby RD  
 ROSE, SUSAN, computer specialist, SO, reassignment, information technology specialist, SO  
 SAVOCHKA, EVELYN, computer specialist, Sula RD, reassignment, forestry tech, Sula RD  
 THRILKILL, MARK, telecommunications specialist, SO, reassignment, telecommunication specialist, SO

### New Employees

VETTER, JANA, forestry tech, career conditional, Stevensville RD

### Resignations & Retirements

AMOS, JEFFERY, supervisory biological scientist, SO, retirement  
 GRANT, ROY, supervisory civil engineer, SO, retirement  
 GRENFELL, DONALD, engineering equipment operator, SO, retirement  
 PRICE, JEANETTE, center director, Trapper Creek JCC, retirement  
 WELTZ, REX, supervisory forestry tech, West Fork RD, resignation

## CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

ANDERSON, BABETE, secretary, SO, performance award  
 KEMBEL, KIM, information technology specialist, Supervisor's Office, QSI  
 MILLET, DEAN, forester, Ashland RD, performance award  
 PIERSON, MARK, geologist, SO, performance award  
 PUCKETT, DAVE, forestry tech, Sioux RD, performance award  
 ROGGE, SHAY, supervisory forestry tech, Ashland RD, performance award

### Reassignments & Transfers

BENES, STAN, district ranger, Hebgen Lake RD, reassignment, deputy forest supervisor, Custer NF, SO  
 PENDERGRASS, MIKE, telecommunications specialist, Kootenai NF, reassignment, telecommunications specialist, SO  
 SCHOPP, CHAD, geologist, Lolo NF, reassignment, geologist, SO  
 STEPHENS, GARY, contract specialist, Lolo NF, reassignment, contract specialist, SO  
 STRAW, JUDY, secretary, Grand Teton NP, transfer in, information assistant, Beartooth RD

### New Employees

FRAISER, KIMBERLY, business management assistant, career conditional appointment, Ashland RD  
 HELLESON, KATRINA, forestry tech, career conditional appointment, Red Lodge RD

## DAKOTA PRAIRIE GRASSLANDS

### Awards & Promotions

BUCHA-GENTRY, CHARLENE, biological scientist, SO, promotion, NEPA program manager, SO  
 KNUTSON, JESS ANNE, range tech, McKenzie RD, promotion, realty specialist, McKenzie RD  
 WALSH, CATHY, resource assistant, Medora RD, promotion, forestry tech, Medora RD

### Reassignments & Transfers

VALENZUELA, DAVID, mineral management specialist, BLM, Wyoming, transfer, geologist, McKenzie RD

### New Employees

DEKKER, JASON, oil development area manager, career-conditional, Medora RD  
 GROTT, KIM, forestry tech, career-conditional, McKenzie RD

## FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

BASKO, WILLIAM, soil scientist, SO, promotion  
 BIENHOLD, CAROL, supervisory forestry tech, Gila NF, forestry tech, SO, promotion  
 CRANE, WILLIAM, forestry tech, Glacier View RD, promotion, civil engineering tech, Spotted Bear RD  
 DONNER, BRYAN, planning team leader, Tally Lake RD, QSI  
 FLINT, JAMES, forestry tech, Hungry Horse RD, promotion, lead forestry tech  
 GANIERE, JOHN, civil engineering tech, SO, promotion  
 JONES, DENNIS, forestry tech, SO, promotion  
 LENTZ, JAMIE, grants & agreements assistant, SO, promotion, grants & agreements specialist  
 OTTO, SHAWN, student trainee forestry tech, Hungry Horse RD, conversion to career conditional appointment, forestry tech  
 PANEK, GEORGE, forester, Swan Lake RD, performance award  
 SIEVERS, RICHARD, maintenance worker, Spotted Bear RD, conversion to career conditional appointment, maintenance worker  
 SMITH POWELL, BECKY, forester, Tally Lake RD, promotion  
 TEBAY, SUSAN, writer editor, Swan Lake RD, quality increase  
 TRIPP, JAMIE, forester, Tally Lake RD, promotion

WEBER, EDWARD, forester, Hells Canyon Natural Recreation Area, promotion, forester, SO  
WILLITS, JANICE, investigative assistant, NW Montana Zone, QSI

#### Reassignments & Transfers

DARDIS, MICHAEL, forester, Wapiti RD, supervisory forester, Hungry Horse RD, reassignment  
KENDALL, CRAIG, interdisciplinary, Willowa-Whitman NF, hydrologist, SO, reassignment  
PANEK, GEORGE, forester, Darby RD, Swan Lake RD, reassignment  
SENNER, VIENNA, resource assistant, SO, human resources assistant, SO, reassignment

#### New Employees

GASSMANN, NATHAN, student trainee forestry, Spotted Bear RD, conversion to excepted appointment

#### Retirements & Resignations

HARRELL, MERTON, supervisory civil engineering tech, SO, retirement  
MANTAS, MARIA, botanist, SO, resignation  
RICHARDSON, TED, supervisory forestry tech, Swan Lake RD, retirement

### GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

#### Awards & Promotions

BALAZ, DEB, resource clerk, Bozeman RD, performance award  
BARTA, VICKI, resource clerk, Hebgen Lake RD, performance award  
BECKEN, PETER, forestry tech, Big Timber RD, performance award  
BOOK, TRAVIS, forestry tech prevention/reserve law enforcement officer, promotion, Bozeman RD  
DIXON, BEV, wildlife biologist, promotion, Bozeman RD  
EHERNBERGER, FRANK, civil engineer, promotion, civil engineer, SO  
HAAS, KARI, support services supervisor, Bozeman RD, performance award  
HUTCHINSON, JUDY, purchasing agent, NRCS, promotion, purchasing agent, SO  
MARCHWICK, DONNA, civilian pay tech, promotion, SO  
OAKS, HANS, forestry tech, promotion, lead forestry tech, Bozeman RD  
ROY, DAN, information assistant, Bozeman RD, performance award  
SIMON, JENNIFER, office automation clerk, promotion, business management assistant, Bozeman RD  
SIMON, JENNIFER, business management assistant, Bozeman RD, performance award  
TYERS, DAN, wildlife biologist, promotion, Gardiner RD  
VANNICE, KARI, fire conservation education coordinator, promotion, Livingston RD

#### Reassignments & Transfers

HELMUTH, VON, district ranger, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, reassignment, forester (lands), SO  
PARKER, JOHN, lead forestry tech, Bridger-Teton NF, reassignment, forestry tech, smokejumper, West Yellowstone Interagency Fire Center

#### New Employees

ROCK III, NORMAN, forestry tech, career conditional appointment, Big Timber RD

### HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

#### Awards & Promotions

MENARD, LINDA, resource assistant, Lincoln RD, performance award  
MILBURN, DEBBIE, law enforcement assistant, S.O., performance award

#### Reassignments & Transfers

BAMBE, DAINA, district ranger, Lincoln RD, transfer, district ranger, Mt. Hood NF  
JOHNSON, SEAN, forestry tech, Lincoln RD, transfer, assistant fire management officer, Wind River RD  
LAMOURE, TEDDI, computer specialist, SO, transfer, National Interagency Fire Center, WO Fire & Aviation Management, Boise  
STEVENS, BRIAN, hotshot crew squad leader, Helena RD, reassignment, assistant engine foreman, Gunnison

#### New Employees

SHENKLE, ANGIE, information receptionist, career-conditional, SO

### IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

#### Awards & Promotions

ATENCIO, DEBORAH, performance award, SO  
AVERY, CLIFFORD, performance award, St. Joe RD  
BEHRENS, PATRICK, QSI, Bonners Ferry RD  
BOBZIEN, CRAIG, district ranger, darby RD, Bitterroot NF, promotion, deputy forest supervisor, SO  
BOYD, GARY, performance award, SO  
BRIGGS, BRENT, QSI, St. Joe RD  
BUTLER, MATTHEW, supervisory forestry tech, Priest Lake RD, promotion, forestry tech (fuels)  
CARLSON, JOHN, performance award, SO  
CARY, CAMILLA, forestry tech, Priest Lake RD, promotion, computer assistant  
COOK, CAROL, performance award, SO  
CROUSE, NIALL, forestry tech, SO promotion

DAVIS, MATTHEW, performance award, Sandpoint RD  
DOCHERTY, RACHEL, QSI, Sandpoint RD  
DOUGHERTY, WENDY, performance award, SO  
ESTES, SALLY, forestry tech, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, promotion, forestry tech, SO  
FAULKNER, DAVID, performance award, SO  
FISCHER, FRED, QSI, SO  
GRANT, MARK, performance award, SO  
GROTH, ROBIN, office automation clerk, SO, promotion, resource assistant  
HALL, KELLY, forestry tech, SO, promotion, forestry tech  
HECKENAIBLE, JOSEPH, civil engineer tech, St. Joe RD, promotion  
HERRIN, MICHEAL, district ranger, Belt Creek RD, Lewis & Clark NF, promotion, district ranger, Bonners Ferry RD  
HOOPER, SHIRLEY, information receptionist, SO, promotion, business management assistant, Sandpoint RD  
JEROME, SARAH, performance award, Coeur d' Alene River RD  
JOHNSON, KIMBERLY, performance award, St. Joe RD  
JOHNSON, STEVE, performance award, SO  
KAUFMAN, KENNETH, performance award, SO  
KAYNE, BOBBI, performance award, SO  
LOPER, RITA, contract specialist trainee, SO, promotion  
MITCHELL, ROSE, performance award, St. Joe RD  
MONTGOMERY, BARBARA, performance award, St. Joe RD  
MOTTERN, BERTA LEE, QSI, SO  
NAFFIN, KEVIN, QSI, Sandpoint RD  
NIPP, HENRY, performance award, Coeur d' Alene River RD  
PARKER, WILLISON, QSI, Bonners Ferry RD  
PAYNE, HAROLD, performance award, St. Joe RD  
PEARSON, SHAWN, supervisory forestry tech, Coeur d' Alene River RD, promotion  
POLICHIO, PEGGY, performance award, SO  
QUALMANN, GARY, performance award, St. Joe RD  
RAINIA, TANA, supervisory budget & accounting analyst, SO, promotion  
RAINIO, TANA, performance award, SO  
RATCLIFFE, PETER, performance award, St. Joe RD  
RUSSELL, SALLY, contract specialist trainee, SO, promotion  
RYBERG, GREGORY, performance award, Sandpoint RD  
SCHAIBLE, FELICIANA, performance award, SO  
SHELBY, ROY, performance award, St. Joe RD  
SMITH, KRISTIN, information technician specialist, Nursery, promotion  
STEPHENSON, WENDY, purchasing agent, SO, promotion  
TALBOT, ANTHONY, performance award, SO  
THOMSON, BONNIE, lead forestry tech, Sandpoint RD, promotion, forestry tech, Coeur d' Alene River RD  
WHITE, KENNETH, civil engineering tech, promotion, Coeur d' Alene River RD  
WRATNI, FRANCIS, performance award, Sandpoint RD  
YORK, JUDITH, QSI, Sandpoint RD

#### Reassignments & Transfers

ANDERSON, KATHLEEN, supervisory forestry tech, St. Joe RD, reassignment, forestry tech, Coeur d' Alene River RD  
DAVIS, MATTHEW, fish biologist, Sandpoint RD, reassignment, Coeur d' Alene River RD  
GORE, SANDRA, forestry tech, St. Joe RD, reassignment, Sandpoint RD  
HEISEL, JOSEPH, forestry tech, Sandpoint RD, reassignment  
HIXSON, LUKE, forestry tech, Sandpoint RD, reassignment  
LEMIEUX, LARA, forestry tech, MT Baker RD, MT Baker-Snoqualmie NF, reassignment, Priest Lake RD  
McNEARNEY, LORNA, office automation clerk, Sandpoint RD, reassignment, information receptionist  
PEARCE, MARY ELLEN, computer specialist, reassignment, SO, information tech specialist  
TENSMEYER, GREGORY, computer specialist, reassignment, SO, information tech specialist

#### New Employees

DAVIS, ERIC, biological science tech, career conditional, Coeur d' Alene River RD  
ENGLAND, BONNIE, botanist, term, River Coeur d' Alene River RD  
FULLER, DOUG, forestry tech, term, Coeur d' Alene River RD  
LYNDAKER, BRETT, wildlife biologist, career conditional, Bonners Ferry RD  
MADISON, JOSEPH, wildlife biologist, career conditional, Sandpoint RD  
SILVIS, ROSE, forestry tech, career conditional, St. Joe RD  
WRIGHT, JOHN, forestry tech, term, Coeur d' Alene River R

#### Retirements & Resignations

JACOBS, RONALD, engine equipment operator, St. Joe RD, resignation  
MASONER, JEROME, forestry tech, Priest Lake RD, resignation  
NORTHROP, JIMMIE, civil engineer, SO, retirement  
SANDOVAL, ORLANDO, forestry tech, Coeur d' Alene River RD, resignation  
STUTZ, ROBERT, forester, SO, retirement  
STROH, SHELLY, biological science aid, Nursery, resignation  
SUMMER, MARTHA, biological science tech, Nursery, retirement  
VORE, MARY LYNN, budget analyst, SO, resignation

# Personnel Actions

## KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

BECK, DENISE, biological scientist, Libby RD, promotion, biological scientist  
 BILLS, MIKE, contract specialist, SO, promotion, contract specialist  
 BRAUN, SHEILA, forester, Rexford RD, QSI  
 CRAIG, JOHN, forestry tech, Cabinet RD, promotion, forestry tech, SO  
 EDGMON, BARBARA, secretary, SO, promotion, secretary  
 FOX, CHRISTOPHER, editorial assistant, Rexford RD, promotion, writer-editor  
 FRAMENT, ELLEN, operation research analyst, SO, QSI  
 GIDLEY, ZACHARY, forestry tech, Three Rivers RD, promotion, forestry tech  
 JAMES, KENNETH, forestry tech, Cabinet RD, promotion, forestry tech  
 KAISER, KIRSTEN, environmental coordinator, SO, promotion, environmental coordinator  
 MEYER, LINDA, forestry tech, Three Rivers RD, QSI  
 MONNIG, ED, ranger, Fortine RD, QSI  
 MONROE, REBECCA, budget and accounting analyst, SO, promotion, resource specialist, R5 Enterprise Team  
 NEESVIG, CRAIG, hydrologist, Cabinet RD, promotion, hydrologist  
 PETERSEN, MARK, resource clerk, Libby RD, promotion forestry tech  
 RIGHTER, MARY, accounting tech, SO, promotion, financial tech  
 ROBERTSON, JEANNE, contract specialist, SO, promotion, contract specialist  
 SMITH, DALE, information analyst, SO, promotion, biological scientist  
 TINCHER, DON, computer specialist, Fortine RD, promotion, information technology specialist, SO

### Reassignments & Transfers

BRAS, JAMIE, accounting tech, Custer NF, reassignment, financial tech, SO  
 BREDESON, GLENN, computer specialist, SO, reassignment, information technology specialist  
 BUTTS, MARCY, forester, Fortine RD, reassignment, forester  
 CAIN, LYNN, computer specialist, SO, reassignment, information technology specialist  
 CAMM, TODD, forestry tech, Fortine RD, reassignment, forestry tech  
 CHARNON, TIMOTHY, nepa coordinator, Libby RD, reassignment, supervisory natural resource specialist, R10, Chugach NF, Glacier RD  
 DONALD, MIKE, biological scientist, Three Rivers RD, reassignment, regional environmental advisor, International Institute of Tropical Forest  
 ERLICH, JAMES, computer specialist, SO, reassignment, information technology specialist  
 JOHNSON, KENT, computer specialist, SO, reassignment, information technology specialist  
 KELSEY, JUDY, computer specialist, SO, reassignment, information technology specialist  
 LAMPTON, LINDA, computer specialist, Libby RD, reassignment, geographic information specialist  
 NELSON, JENNIFER, forester, Nez Perce NF, reassignment/term, forester, SO  
 PENDERGRASS, MIKE, telecommunication specialist, SO, reassignment, telecommunication specialist, Custer NF

### New Employees

CHAPEL, JERI ANN, civilian pay tech, career conditional, SO  
 FOSS, JUDY, procurement tech, career conditional, SO  
 KMONK, NANCY, forestry tech, career conditional, SO

### Retirements & Resignations

SMITH, GARY, support services supervisor, SO, retired  
 NESBITT, DAVID, forester, Fortine RD, retired  
 PETERSON, RICHARD, forestry tech, Cabinet RD, retired  
 WIDRIG, WILLIAM, forestry tech, SO, retired

## LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

BILLETER, TERRI, financial assistant, SO, promotion, budget analyst, SO  
 HECKER, RON, range management specialist, Judith RD, promotion, range management specialist, Rocky Mountain RD

### Reassignments & Transfers

HAGENGRUBER, JOHN, outdoor recreation planner, Belt Creek RD, reassignment, biological scientist/recreation planner, Bighorn NF  
 JOHNSTON, PATTI, recreation & wilderness specialist, Rocky Mountain RD, reassignment, natural resource specialist (recreation), Beaverhead Bitterroot NF  
 OSEN, THOMAS, range management specialist, SO, transfer, district ranger, Dillon RD

### Retirements & Resignations

WILLIS, HUEL, interp assistant, Lewis & Clark Interp Center, retirement

## NEZ PERCE NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

ARMETTA, JENNIFER, law enforcement officer, SO, promotion  
 BEESON, JEREMY, forestry tech, Red River RD, promotion  
 DEFORD, LORI, law enforcement officer, SO, performance award  
 GORMLEY, RALPH, maintenance worker, Red River RD, promotion, maintenance mechanic  
 SMITH, LAURA, public affairs specialist, SO, promotion

WARDEN, JOSHUA, forestry tech, Red River RD, promotion, supervisory forestry tech

### Reassignments & Transfers

ARTLEY, RICHARD, forester, SO, reassignment, planning specialist,  
 KONCERAK, WILLIAM, resource information specialist, Red River RD, transfer, USDI Wind Cave NP

### New Employees

MYERS, MATT, forestry tech, career conditional, Salmon River RD  
 Retirements & Resignations  
 DOMAN, RANDY, supervisory forestry tech, SO, retirement  
 FOLAND, JON, aviation operations officer, SO, retirement  
 GEOUGE, DEAN, civil engineer technician, SO, retirement  
 KONCERAK, BETSY, fish biologist, Red River RD, resignation

## REGIONAL OFFICE

### Awards and Promotions

ALLENDFORF, JOHN, supervisory law enforcement officer, LEI, QSI  
 ANDERSON, CAROL, contract specialist, AQM, performance  
 ANDERSON, LESLIE, equipment specialist, MTDC, QSI  
 BRANDEBERRY, DALE, supervisory law enforcement officer, LEI, QSI  
 CAMERON, MARGIE, forestry tech, FR, performance  
 DAVIS, MARY ANN, mechanical engineer, MTDC, QSI  
 DAWSON, LARRY, forest supervisor, CLEARWATER NF, performance  
 DENITTO, GREG, entomologist, S & PF, performance  
 FOSS, JOHN, Indian affairs specialist, S & PF, performance  
 GRAY, TIM, computer scientist, IS, performance  
 HAMERS, LAURIE, contract specialist, AQM, QSI  
 HERGETT, HARVEY, civil engineer, ENGR, performance  
 IRVINE, MARGIE, equal opportunity specialist, CR, promotion  
 JESKE, BRUCE, IT specialist, IS, performance  
 KATTELL, JOHN, structural engineer, ENGR, performance  
 KIRCHHOFF, BILL, resource information specialist, ENGR, promotion  
 KIRKPATRICK, ROBERT, environmental engineer, ENGR, performance  
 KOVALICKY, JOHN, supervisory forestry tech (smokejumper), AFD, promotion  
 LESTER, CAROLE, personnel assistant, HR, QSI  
 LUCAS, MICHAEL, office automation assistant, AS, performance award  
 LY, KALEE, student trainee/budget and finance, FAA, promotion  
 LYNCH, TIM, equipment specialist, MTDC, promotion  
 MORRISON, JAMES, biological scientist, RFO, QSI  
 MUCCI, DEBORAH, mechanical engineer tech, MTDC, QSI  
 OESTREICH, JANET, office automation clerk, AS, performance award  
 OLIVER, JAN, web information specialist, AS, QSI  
 ORAVETZ, STEVE, civil engineer, ENGR, performance  
 PATERNI, MICHAEL, budget officer, performance, RFO  
 PETRILLI, ANTHONY, equipment specialist, MTDC, QSI  
 PRAUSA, RICHARD, forest supervisor, LEWIS & CLARK NF, performance  
 PRENTISS, SUSAN, contract specialist, AQM, performance  
 MCNAIR, RANOTTA, forest supervisor, IPNF, performance  
 MILLER, WILLIAM, forestry tech, AFD, performance  
 RUSHO, NANCY, geologist, RMLHW, QSI  
 SANDVICK, LOIS, budget analyst, RFO, performance  
 SCHAFER, MARGE, contract specialist, AQM, promotion  
 SCHRENK, ROBERT, supervisory forester, FR performance  
 SCOTT, GLENDA, forester, FR, performance  
 SCOVELL, DAVID, structural engineer, ENGR, performance  
 STENSURUD, REBECCA, executive assistant, RFO, promotion  
 SUE SEBBAS, program assistant, AS, promotion  
 SUK, SALLY, information technology specialist, IS, promotion  
 TSUNEMORI, ADELE, archeologist, ENGR, performance  
 YANG, NA, office automation assistant, student trainee, AS, performance award

### New Employees

ARRINGTON, BRENDA LEE, office automation assistant, AS  
 BEAVER, CHRISTI, human resource specialist, HR  
 PLATTES, MICHAEL, geographic area coordination manager, AFD  
 ROMERO, STEPHEN, civil engineer, ENGR

### Retirements and Resignations

HATCH, ELDON, airplane pilot, retirement  
 WAHL, RICHARD, duplicating tech, retirement

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## IN MEMORIAM

**Richard M. Bradshaw**, 59, of Havre, MT, died November 6, 2002. Richard was born and raised in Roswell, New Mexico, and served in the Army Medical Corps in Viet Nam. He spent many summers working as a firefighter with the Forest Service, including three seasons as a smokejumper based out of McCall, Idaho.

Richard is survived by his daughter Erin and sons Robert, Preston and Andrew.

**John "Jack" Dollan**, 69, of Whitefish, MT, died December 13, 2002. Born in Helena, Jack began his 38 years as a federal employee with the Forest Service as the Big Prairie district ranger on the Flathead National Forest. He later transferred within the same forest to become the Condon district ranger. In 1975 Jack left the agency for the National Park Service, where he worked in trails and restoration until his retirement.

Jack is survived by his wife Helen, daughter Lauri Akins and sons Commander Jon Dollan and John "Jody" Dollan II.

**William F. "Bill" Harrell, Jr.**, 85, passed away March 1 at the Village Health Care Center in Missoula, after a long battle with lung cancer. Bill was born in Honolulu, HI, August 17, 1917. He served in the U.S. Army from 1938-1945 and was a part of the European Middle Eastern Campaign from 1942-44. Bill was employed in the mailroom at the Regional Office from 1974 until his retirement in 1988. He returned to the RO in 1990 as an employee of the Senior Employment Community Service Program and worked for an additional 10 years. For the past 3 years Bill was a Forest Service volunteer who generously gave of his time to help on projects in the RO when needed.

Bill is survived by his wife Nina.

**Alvina M. Kramlich**, 88, of Great Falls, MT, passed away January 13, 2003. A legend in Region One, Alvina worked for the Forest Service in budget and finance from August 1948 until two months before she passed away. The first eight years she worked at the Beaverhead National Forest, followed by 36 years at the Lewis and Clark National Forest. In 1992, after 44 years of service, Alvina received a special letter of appreciation from President Bill Clinton and letter of thanks from Chief Dale Robertson.

After retiring in 1992, Alvina continued to volunteer full-time and share her knowledge for 10 more years.

**Dean A. Lundberg**, 68, of Hamilton, MT, died December 27, 2002. Born in Lemmon, South Dakota, Dean served in the Army from 1956-1958. He began his Forest Service career working at lookouts, then went on to start the first hot shot crew at Trapper Creek. He then worked as a fire control officer on the Bitterroot NF, Darby, MT at Magruder Ranger Station before moving on to West Fork, where he worked until his retirement.

Dean is survived by his wife Andrea, daughters Julie Rowles, Lori Martin and Audrey Needles.

**Cloycie E. Mann**, 84, of Missoula, MT, died November 11, 2002. Cloycie began his 30-year career with the Forest Service in 1949, when he went to work as a packer on the Mann Gulch Fire near Canyon Ferry Ranger District, Helena NF. From there he became a maintenance foreman, a position he kept until his retirement in 1980.

Cloycie is survived by his wife Jane and sons Wayne, Art and Gary.

**Richard R. Seitz**, 58, of Missoula, MT, passed away December 1, 2002. Born and raised in Missoula, MT, Rich served with the U.S. Air Force from 1963 to 1968. He began working for the R1 Regional Office in the 1970s. In 1979, he transferred to the Lolo National Forest Supervisor's Office where he worked as the financial management officer until his retirement in 2001.

He is survived by his wife Carol, daughters Cynthia Coleman and Rebecca Seitz.

**Michael T. Stewart**, 52, of Hamilton, MT, died November 12, 2002. He was born and raised in Missoula. Michael's first job with the Forest Service was on the Lolo National Forest in Superior and Ninemile. In the early 1990s, he transferred to the Darby Ranger District, Bitterroot National Forest and worked in recreation. Of special importance was his work restoring the Como Lake Dam.

Michael is survived by his mother Sylvia.

**Clarence Edmund Stilwell**, 92, of Sandpoint, ID, passed away January 3, 2003. Clarence was born and raised on the family farm near Granger, WA. He worked for 35 years with the Forest Service, stationed on the Bitterroot, Flathead, Helena, St. Joe, Coeur d' Alene and Kanisku national forests. In 1948, he was appointed Kingston District Ranger. He spent the final years of his career working as head of timber management for the Sandpoint Ranger District, IPNF.

Clarence is survived by his wife Mabel, son Joseph and daughters Olive Harris, Jenise Eskridge, Susan Puckett and Karla Sheffler.

**Joseph S. Swan**, 89, of Missoula, MT died January 25, 2003. Joseph was born in Lewiston, ID and raised in Missoula. He worked summers with the Forest Service while in high school. Upon graduation he served in the Army Air Corps during World War II. Joseph returned to Montana, where he worked full time in various capacities with the Forest Service (locations unknown) until his retirement.

Joseph is survived by his wife Margaret, son Mac and daughters Mary, Libby Starks and Carol Conn.

**Arthur E. VanHorn**, 70, of Eureka, MT, passed away November 7, 2002. Born and raised in Eureka, Arthur remained in the area during his longtime career working for the Kootenai National Forest.

He is survived by his wife Leneta.



*Kyle and his coach Smokey.*

## He's Quite a Bear

*by Dixie L. Dies, Bitterroot National Forest*

**S**mokey Bear, sometimes erroneously referred to as Smokey *the* Bear, has kind of had a rough go of it the last few years. What is his message, did it change, and just what does “Reddy Squirrel” have to do with him, anyway? At the Bitterroot Winter Special Olympics the impact of our infamous spokesbear became crystal clear.

One of the athletes, Kyle, is probably the biggest fan of Smokey. He even had a Smokey patch sewed on his stocking cap. When I saw Kyle at the Olympics, he asked me many questions about Smokey: “When will he be here? Will he ride in the snowmobile with me? Can I have my picture taken with him?”

Smokey’s entrance at the Lost Trail Lodge was met with hearty laughter and joy, and true to my word, Smokey and Kyle had a Polaroid picture taken for Kyle to keep.

Kyle’s event was cross-country skiing. He began at the starting line, with two other athletes that soon pulled ahead. Kyle was struggling to get his stride, but was giving it his all. Then, he saw Smokey, standing there next to the track, giving Kyle a “you can do it” thumbs up. Seeing Smokey seemed to give him that extra incentive and Kyle dug in, making his way to the finish line.

Smokey Bear reaches far past the fire message. He reaches into the hearts and spirits of people and, in this case, a very special athlete.

