

Magee Ranger Station

Site History

This National Register of Historic Places listed Ranger Station was named for the first homesteader, Charles Magee, who settled here around the turn of the 20th Century. It has been the site of a Forest Service Ranger Station for one hundred years, having been withdrawn for use in 1908. The first ranger's cabin was built by Magee, however, it no longer exists. Forest Service personnel opened up the site once the snow melted during the spring, fought fire, built roads and trails, supervised timber sales, and generally looked after the forest until the snows fell in the autumn, then moved back into town. This was the general pattern of life at Magee until 1973, when the site was used to house work crews. Today it is a cabin rental for the public (see website link below for more information).



Ranger's cabin and woodshed.

Also in the area was a Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) camp and a WW II emergency landing strip. During the 1930s the CCC camp was established in the Teepee Creek-Trail Creek area several hundred yards south of the Ranger Station. The camp had about 400 men in it. The enrollees mostly removed gooseberry bushes in an effort to eradicate white pine blister rust. In 1942 or 1943 the Army Corp of Engineers constructed an emergency landing strip for fighter aircraft, that was never actually used to land a military airplane.

Building Descriptions



Office/Kitchen and Warehouse.

The majority of the buildings were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s. The Ranger's House was originally constructed in 1922 of hewn logs. The Office/Kitchen building was also constructed of logs sometime between 1923 and 1935. The Warehouse is of frame construction and was built before 1930. All three buildings were covered with simulated log siding sometime in the 1930s. The Barn was constructed between 1922 and 1935 to shelter horses and mules.

How to Get There

From Interstate Highway 90 use Exit 43 (Kingston). Drive 24 miles north on Forest Highway 9 to Prichard junction.

Continue on Forest Road 208 for 28 miles to the end of the pavement and the start of Forest Road number 6310. Road 6310 is a graveled one and one-half lane road with car turn outs. Go seven miles on Road 6310 to the Magee Administrative site and the Ranger Cabin. Travel time from Coeur d'Alene is approximately two hours.



Barn detail.

Contact Information

Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District
2502 E. Sherman Ave.
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 93914
(208) 664-2318 and <http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/rec/yourplace/rentalguide/mageers.html>

