

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests NEWS RELEASE

Nez Perce National Forest

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 20, 2012

Selway-Bitterroot Frank Church Wilderness Foundation Hosts 6th Annual Gathering in Lewiston

Grangeville, ID--The Selway-Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation is sponsoring its sixth Annual Winter Gathering and Fundraiser Saturday, February 4, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Orchid Room, upstairs at Morgan's Alley, 301 Main St., Lewiston. The event is an open house, with wine, dessert, a speaker and a silent auction.

The speaker is Katherine Thompson, fisheries biologist for the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, who will talk about her work over a decade in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.

Music will be performed by Rob Ely of Moscow on the hammer dulcimer.

A silent auction and raffle will be conducted during the evening, offering fishing and float trips; framed photographs, carvings, handknits and weavings by local artists; rafting, stock, fishing and backpack gear; trout and steelhead flies; theater tickets; meals at local restaurants; cabin rentals and more.

The Selway-Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation serves as a partner with the Nez Perce-Clearwater, Bitterroot, Payette and Salmon-Challis National Forests building connections with citizens and communities to assist in stewardship of the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church wildernesses and surrounding wildlands. The foundation sponsors an intern program for college students committed to careers in wilderness management and leads volunteers in trail maintenance, inventory and monitoring, restoration, weed eradication, cabin hosting and other stewardship projects.

The foundation's work is supported through donations and grants from the National Forest Foundation, The Wilderness Society, the North Central Idaho and Ravalli County Resource Advisory Committees, DeVlieg Foundation, Backcountry Horsemen and others.

Those who want more information or to see the foundation's new winter newsletter, "The Wildest Place," may visit the foundation website at: <http://www.selwaybitterroot.org/>

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