



## *News Release*

# TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Feds, Farmers and Friends Feed Families in Sitka We CAN do it!**

SITKA, Alaska—Forest Service employees on the Sitka Ranger District are once again participating in the government-wide “Feds, Farmers and Friends Feed Families” summer-long food drive by federal employees.

“We started in June and have donated 66 pounds of non-perishable food to the Salvation Army, one of Sitka’s local foodbanks,” reports Michelle Putz, writer/editor on the Tongass National Forest and organizer of the food drive at the Sitka office. “We have been ramping up our donations each month, so we hope to do even better in August.”

The employees of the Forest Service Sitka office participated in the annual food drive last year, dropping off over 180 pounds of food at the Salvation Army’s food bank in 2010. Tongass employees collected non-perishable food items, especially fruits, vegetables, and meats, to support the food drive.

Last year, federal employees across the country collected and donated one million pounds of food to our nation’s emergency food assistance agencies. This year government employees, cooperators, and friends aim to donate two million pounds.

The food drive runs through the end of August, so there is still time to get involved this year whether you are a government employee or a member of the public! Everyone is welcome to bring non-perishable food items to the Sitka Forest Service office on Siginaka Way, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

While you are there, stay to learn a little more about your National Forests! Contact Michelle Putz at 747-4278 or mputz@fs.fed.us for more information.

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