



USDA Forest Service

Southwestern Region - Partnerships

Southwestern Regional Collaboration Newsletter

February 2005

Southwest Partnership Website

Take a look at the new SW Partnership website <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/partnerships/> designed for both partners and employees. You can also get to the site from the Forest Service R-3 homepage at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/>

The site contains tools to develop partnerships, contacts for various partners, SW forest partnership coordinators, a link to the national partnership site, and much, much more. Take a look and share it with partners and potential partners.

Southwest Partnership Strategy

How do we support, encourage, and advance the Region's already-strong partnerships and accomplishments, but also resolve some of the challenges to partnerships? Take a look at the SW Partnership Strategy at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/partnerships/strategy.html>

The Strategy describes what we plan to improve upon the partnerships we have and continue to enlist partners to help us meet common goals.

National Riparian Service Team available

The Southwestern Region of the Forest Service is working with the National Riparian Service Team <http://www.or.blm.gov/nrst/> to implement the interagency initiative, *Creeks and Communities*. They provide tools to individuals and groups of diverse interests and backgrounds to develop collaborative solutions for management issues. Two state cadres composed of primarily of federal representatives provide education about riparian function, and workshops and service trips for problem-solving to restore riparian ecosystem conditions. Contact Debby Potter at dapotter@fs.fed.us or call (505) 842-3143.

Biomass Grants Available

The U.S. D.A. and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) have up to \$15 million to develop renewable energy and expand the economic prospects and

environmental benefits of biomass. Eligible applicants include: State governments, County governments, Public and State controlled institutions of higher education, nonprofits, institutions of higher education, private institutions of higher education, and for profit organizations. The federal share of each grant is expected to range from \$250,000 to \$2 million. **Pre-applications must be submitted by Feb. 15, 2005. Go to:**

<http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/USDA/NRCS/2890/67-3A75-5-22/Grant.html>

Mark your calendars for April 5-7, 2005



-the first annual SW partnership event

Check the SW partnership website for upcoming details!

SW Community Wildfire Protection Plan Guide

A Southwest Strategy interagency team developed the "**Southwest Community Wildfire Protection Plan Guide**". Please share it with your local communities so they can develop a plan and receive fire protection funds. It's located on the Southwest Area Forest, Fire, and Community Assistance Grants website at: <http://www.southwestareagrants.org/> The Plan Guide will also be posted on the Southwest Strategy website in the future. Thanks to the team for an excellent product!

Also included:

1. **How many volunteers and volunteer hours were contributed** to the agency in FY 2004?
2. **Is your County interested in partnering?**
3. **Share your comments on the Burden Rate interim policy.**
4. **Get your partnership story on the website**
5. **Upcoming Training Opportunities**

Contact: Denise McCaig, R-3 Southwest Strategy & Partnerships Coordinator

505/ 842-3406

Is the County interested in partnering?

The "Secure Rural School and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000" provides that opportunity. Find out how this Act and Resource Advisory Committees have been working in a Boise State University, Environmental Science and Public Policy Research Institute report available at:

<http://espri.boisestate.edu/Reports/>

Counties who chose to use funds on National Forest System lands as well as those who opted out are interviewed.

For more information about the *Secure Rural School and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000* go to <http://www.forestco.tcde.tehama.k12.ca.us/>

Fiscal Year 2004
U.S. Forest Service
Volunteer Hours- 2,956,070
Total Number of Volunteers- 78,288

Comments welcome for Burden Rate ID review

The current Burden Rate interim directive (ID) found at FSH 1909.13, expires 10/07/05. The Burden Rate is the amount that partners pay to cover indirect costs associated with an agreement. A national team will review the current ID and make any proposed changes for final agency policy. **NOW is the time to provide your specific comments** regarding the current interim directive for the team's consideration. Please provide your specific comments or recommended ID changes to Denise McCaig at dmccaig@fs.fed.us.

Partnership Training in Albuquerque

Creating Effective Partnerships: Communication, Consultation, and Cooperation for Conservation and Community is offered by USDI on March 22 - 24, 2005 in Albuquerque. The fee for the course is \$300 for non- USDI employees.

The workshop teaches the skills for ensuring each partnership effort is productive and mutually satisfying. A 4-step model for building rapport, finding common ground, identifying opportunities for mutual gain, and creating effective partnerships will form the basis for the class. Students will learn a set of practical tools for ensuring partnership success.

To find out more go to:

<http://www.doiu.nbc.gov/viewevent.cfm?id=138143534> To register call Linda Romero, DOI registrar, at 346-2768 in Albuquerque.

Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution

"Pathways to Successful Environmental Conflict Resolution" the Fourth National Conference on Environmental Conflict Resolution, will be held at the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort in Tucson, Arizona from May 24-26, 2005.

This three-day session will provide cutting-edge training workshops, dynamic panel sessions, and interactive roundtable discussions. For more information and registration go to:

<http://www.mediusevents.com/ECR2005/>

Association of Partners for Public Lands

The Association of Partners for Public Land's (APPL) 2005 Annual Convention is in Portland, Oregon this March 6-10, 2005. The Association of Partners for Public Lands (APPL) convention provides ample opportunities to network with public lands agency representatives, nonprofit organization staff, board members and other volunteers who are engaged in efforts to connect people with our nation's parks, open spaces, forests, lakes, refuges, cultural and historic sites.

More than 45 educational sessions will focus along thematic paths that include: Partners and Friends; Executive Leadership; Volunteerism; Marketing; and Operations. Optional one-day intensive sessions offer opportunities to learn more about: Advocacy, Representation, Marketing on a Low Budget; and Outreach Programming to Diverse Audiences. For more information go to:

http://www.appl.org/Training_Conventions/2005/2005%20Convention_Main.htm

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