

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
SHASTA COUNTY RESOURCE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE



## TAKING STEWARDSHIP OF OUR LANDS AND FORESTS



### Bob and Ted's Excellent Adventure

The Shasta and Lassen County RAC's held a joint field trip to the Day Bench Fuel Reduction Project. The community of Day (Day-Bench) is located in Lassen, Shasta, and Modoc counties. All three county RAC's have established an interest in funding fuel reduction projects.

The Day/Lassen Bench Fire Safe Council (DLBFSC) has been actively engaged in this broad scale fuels reduction project for the past two seasons. The current phase of this project is to treat some 1,000 acres of small privately-owned parcels over a three-year period. A large part of this effort is paying attention to individual landowners' requests, while meeting the requirements to create an effective fuel break. The council is working closely with the USFS, BLM, and CDF. The Hat Creek Ranger District has begun a project for treatment of fuels on adjacent Forest Service lands, and has already treated a number of acres. To date, the DLBFSC has completed treatment of some 400 acres. Treatment is partially completed on an additional 100 acres but has been temporarily halted for the remainder of the winter due to wet soil conditions.

The field trip participants visited several sites in the Day-Bench area to view the variety of fuels and issues they area dealing with. Four participants were provided an up-close look at treatments in progress and the stark contrast between treated and untreated lands. Additionally they were able to meet and engage a number of stakeholders in this cooperative project. Participants included Ray Nielsen (Chair of the DLBFSC), Dorine Beckman (Chair of the Lassen County FSC), Deb Romberger (District Ranger-Hat Creek Ranger District), Steve Bello (Project Administrator from the Hat Creek Ranger District), Tim Weaver (Fall River RCD), Doug Lindgren from Tu-Bit Enterprises (prime contractor), as well as representatives of BLM and CDF.

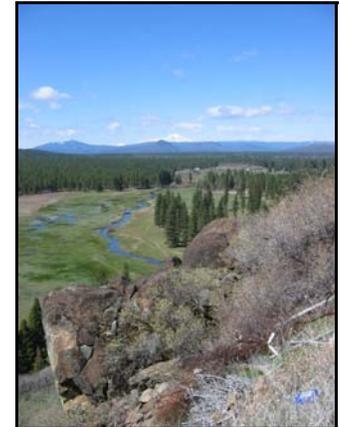
Everyone agreed that the work being done as a result of this project will prove invaluable to residents living in this rural community and applauded the efforts of those making it possible.



Treated Vegetation



Untreated Vegetation



### Beauty and the Eyesore

It is a lovely spring day and you are on a Sunday drive. The beauty of the mountains and meadows abound! Spring flowers are all in bloom, creeks are flowing, and the chirping of birds are around you. And, amongst all this beauty—there it is—the unsightly washing machine, refrigerator, sofa, or tires!

Shasta County Environmental Health Division and Hat Creek Ranger District are teaming up to remove illegal dumpsites on National Forest Lands. These wastes pose a threat to human health, safety, and the environment, as well as being a visual nuisance.

At this beautiful site alone there are at least ten cubic yards of trash strewn over the hillside where Hat Creek flows. Shasta County RAC has awarded \$8,000 in the 2005/2006 proposal cycle to help clean up this unsightly mess. 🗑️



## Youths Learn About Stewardship

### Connecting Kids to the Land



#### Project Goals and Objectives:

To promote and motivate children by generating an interest in the stewardship of natural resources.

#### Project Description:

Woodsy Owl and Frank & Francis Fish continue to spread their message on conservation at local schools, fairs, and various events (see *RAC-Tivity* Issue 4).

Operation Christmas Tree takes at-risk and underprivileged youth into the forest to cut their own Christmas tree. While cutting their tree, youths also learn about public lands and the importance of recycling, limiting pollution, and understanding forest ecosystems and fish and wildlife habitats.

#### RAC Award Provides:

**\$5,000.00** for Woodsy's educational materials and bus transportation to Operation Christmas tree. Other contributors include: Safeway/Cypress Ave., Raley's/Lake Blvd., Marie Callenders, Winchell's Donuts, United States Marines, City of Redding Police Department, and Shasta College.



### Shasta County Youth Conservation Project



#### Project Goals and Objectives:

To educate young people about their responsibilities as citizens and their use and care of the natural environment.

#### Project Description:

Students will help to restore vegetation in the Jones Valley area where the Bear Fire burned in August 2004 (see *RAC-Tivity* Issue 3). Students will plant 3,000 to 6,000 seedling trees and reduce weeds in the planting area. Students will also learn about fire prevention, fire suppression, and reforestation of burned areas.

#### RAC Award Provides:

**\$2,000.00** in funding will purchase equipment and materials such as planting bars, trowels, and hoedads for 300 participants. Equipment will be stored for future projects. Other contributors include the Scouting Program Supporters and the Society of American Foresters, Northern California Society.



### Jones Valley Fish Habitat Improvement



#### Project Goals and Objectives:

To improve cover for young bass and sunfish, while educating students about fish ecology and the food chain.

#### Project Description:

4th grade students from Bella Vista School will seed and mulch a 3-acre area within Jones Valley Cove at Shasta Lake. An annual cereal grain will be applied by the students, and rice straw will be used as mulch. The use of rice straw prevents the spread of noxious weeds. Cereal grains will provide cover for 80 days to young fish. Students will learn about fish life history, the need for cover, and the role of fish in the lake's food web.

#### RAC Award Provides:

**\$1,920.00** in funding to purchase cereal grains and rice straw to be used for habitat. Other contributors include Bella Vista Elementary School.

## 2005/2006 Projects

Project Name	Submitted by	Type	Recommended Funds
<b>2006 Forestry Institute for Teachers</b>	Society of American Foresters	Education/Outreach	\$20,000
<b>Connecting Kids to the Land</b>	USFS Shasta-Trinity	Stewardship Education	\$5,000
<b>Shasta County Forest Tour</b>	Shasta County Office of Education	Education/Outreach	\$5,450
<b>Day Lassen Bench Fuels Reduction</b>	Day/Lassen Bench Fire Safe Council	Fuels Management	\$60,000
<b>Shingletown Fire Safe Program</b>	Western Shasta RCD	Fuels Management	\$15,934
<b>Fenders Ferry Road Rehabilitation</b>	Shasta-Trinity Nat. Forest	Road Maintenance	\$100,000
<b>Pacific Crest Trail Opening</b>	Backcountry Horseman—Top of State Unit	Trail Maintenance	\$5,000
<b>Pacific Crest Trail Maintenance</b>	USFS Shasta –Trinity	Trail Maintenance	\$20,000
<b>Dumpsite Cleanup</b>	Shasta County Environmental Health	Watershed Restoration	\$8,000
<b>Youth Conservation Project</b>	USFS Shasta-Trinity	Watershed Restoration	\$2,000
<b>Shasta Lake Fish Habitat</b>	USFS Shasta-Trinity	Wildlife Habitat Restoration	\$26,520
<b>Jones Valley Fish Habitat</b>	USFS Shasta-Trinity	Wildlife Habitat Restoration	\$1,920
<b>TOTAL 2005-2006 PROJECTS</b>			<b>\$269,824</b>

### Need Help on a Proposal?

The Shasta-Trinity National Forest will conduct workshops on RAC proposals. Workshops are tentatively scheduled for February 28, 2006

Proponents MUST USE the 2006 form available on the forest service website.

The workshop will take proponents from the project idea, implementing projects, and project reporting. There will be a question and answer period.

Key topics areas will include:

- ✓ Legislation
- ✓ Available Funding
- ✓ Potential Projects
- ✓ Contacts
- ✓ Filling out the project proposal form
- ✓ Finances
- ✓ NEPA/CEQA
- ✓ Proposal Timeline
- ✓ Reporting

For more information go to the Shasta-Trinity website at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/home-page/rac.shtml>

### Shasta County Resource Advisory Committee Video Project



The Shasta County RAC Video Project is a product of a 2004/2005 RAC Grant. The intent of this video is to improve the knowledge and understanding of the purpose and history of the Secure Rural Schools Act.

The video is a tool that can be used for community outreach and education. If your organization or agency is interested in receiving a presentation, contact:

Mike Odle at 530-226-2494 or  
Email: [modle@fs.fed.us](mailto:modle@fs.fed.us)

**Shasta County Resource  
Advisory Committee Contacts**

## Address:

USDA Service Center  
Shasta-Trinity National Forest  
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Website:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/home-page/rac.shtml>

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Editor: Sue Crowe

**COOL LINKS**

Operation Christmas tree  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/>

**How do I apply for a RAC grant?****Forms are available on line at:**

<http://www.fs.fed.us/projects> — Select the payment to states link and select Title II Propose a Project.

If you do not have internet access, please contact Mike Odle at 530-226-2494 and an application will be sent to you.

**Grant Requirements:**

- Projects must be within the Shasta County boundary.
- Projects must provide a benefit to National Forest Lands.
- Environmental studies and federal laws must be followed.
- Projects are limited to:
  - Road, trail, and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration
  - Soil productivity improvement
  - Improvements in forest ecosystem health
  - Watershed restoration and maintenance
  - Restoration, maintenance, and improvement of wild-life and fish habitat
  - Control of noxious and exotic weeds
  - Re-establishment of native species
  - Recreation and National Resource Education
- 50% of projects may be for road maintenance/obliteration or watershed improvement/restoration.
- Preference will be given to projects with matching funds.

**Shasta County RAC****Members**

Bob Allen  
Emmett Burroughs-*Chair*  
Trish Clarke  
Glenn Hawes  
Brenda Haynes  
Ted James- *Vice Chair*  
Wendy Johnston  
Stan Leach  
Sylvia Milligan  
Gary Nakamura  
Carol Perea  
Sharol Schaefer  
Gennie Seely  
Rose Sloan  
James Taylor  
Terry Thomas  
Carol Whitmer

**Forest Service Representatives**

Kristy Cottini  
Mike Odle

**Shasta County Dept. of Public  
Works Representatives**

Dan Kovacich  
Sue Crowe

**RAC-TIVITY**

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