

# N E W S



## Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area



USDA Forest Service, 902 Wasco Avenue, Suite 200, Hood River, Oregon 97031

Visit our website at [www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia)

### **For Immediate Release**

August 21, 2008

**Contact:** Stan Hinatsu (541) 308-1708

Greg Cox (541) 308-1732

## **Sandy River Delta Parking Lot Opening and Confluence Dedication on August 23, 2008**

**HOOD RIVER, August 21, 2008** – The USDA Forest Service, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area will open the new parking lot at the Sandy River Delta to the public in conjunction with the dedication of the Confluence Project's elliptical bird blind on August 23, 2008. The Confluence Dedication Ceremony is scheduled for 4:00 pm.

The Dedication Ceremony will include remarks from artist Maya Lin (designer of the bird blind), ice cream social and scavenger hunt. The Oregon Zoo Animal Presenters, Gorge Discovery Center raptors and Multi Users of the Delta animal friends will also be part of the celebration. For more information about the Confluence Project and Dedication Ceremony visit [www.confluenceproject.org](http://www.confluenceproject.org).

The Oregon National Guard 1249 Engineer Battalion completed their work on the Sandy River Delta parking lot last week. Much work still remains such as landscaping, installing wheel stops, etc. This work will occur through out the coming year. Oregon Department of Transportation's reconstruction of the I-84 Exit #18 deceleration lane is also completed. Landscaping of the construction area will be completed this fall.

“The Forest Service would like to thank the Confluence Project, Oregon National Guard, Oregon Department of Transportation, National Forest Foundation and many others for their tireless dedication, quality work and coordination of this wonderful project,” said Dan Harkenrider, Area Manager for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

For more information on the Sandy River Delta and Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area visit [www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia).

-###-