



USDA Forest Service

WATERSHED – FISH – WILDLIFE – AIR – RARE PLANTS ::: WFW

MONTHLY WFW STAFF NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2006

CONTENTS

National in Scope

- HOT BREAKING NEWS
- Director's Discussion
- General/Cross Areas
- Air
- Appeals & Litigation
- Aquatic/Fish
- NatureWatch
- Planning
- Partnerships
- Soil
- TES
- Watershed
- Wildlife

Coming Events - Conferences & Meetings

- General/Cross Areas
- Air
- Appeals & Litigation
- Aquatic/Fish
- Planning
- Partnerships
- Soil
- TES
- Watershed
- Wildlife

Technical Information & Publications - New Technical Information that is broadly applicable

- General/Cross Areas
- Air
- Appeals & Litigation
- Aquatic/Fish
- Planning
- Partnerships
- Soil
- TES
- Watershed
- Wildlife

Training - Tools - Interesting Information

- General/Cross Areas
- Air
- Appeals & Litigation
- Aquatic/Fish
- Planning
- Partnerships

- Soil
- TES
- Watershed
- Wildlife

Regional Round Ups

- Air
- Appeals & Litigation
- Aquatic/Fish
- Planning
- Partnerships
- Soil
- TES
- Watershed
- Wildlife

Vacancies/Employment Opportunities

Federal job announcements can be found at:
http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency_search.asp

- General/Cross Area
- Air
- Appeals & Litigation
- Aquatic/Fish
- Planning
- Partnerships
- Soil
- TES
- Watershed
- Wildlife
- Other

Catch of the Day (critters, botanical finds, and bizarre occurrences in the news)

- General/Cross Areas
- Air
- Appeals & Litigation
- Aquatic/Fish
- Planning
- Partnerships
- Soil
- TES
- Watershed
- Wildlife

[Submit your information; Disclaimer & Non-Discrimination Statement](#)

National in Scope:

[CONTENTS](#)

- **GENERAL/CROSS AREAS**

Range - Invasive Species

Mike Ielmini is coordinating a national campaign expanding the outreach and education on invasive species prevention and control, through a new DVD media program (the 2nd DVD in the 5-part series). This is in partnership with the San Dimas Technology and Development Center, Region 9, and Region 1. The key target audiences for the 2nd DVD in the series are the wildlife and fisheries professional (private, state, and federal) and members of the hunting and angling community. The DVD and related products will help them understand their role in the invasive species problem and opportunities to help reduce the impacts from invasive species on native fish and wildlife and associated habitats.

Some of the non-federal partners which have joined this campaign so far include the Babe Winkleman Productions, Inc (Cable Television Hunting/Fishing personality), Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Wildlife Forever, Inc (www.wildlifeforever.org), Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, various State DNRs. Mike expects many more partners from public and private sectors to join them as the campaign broadens. In fact, some of our partners have discussions underway with the National Wild Turkey Federation, Ducks Unlimited, and Trout Unlimited. He wants to keep the FS coordinators for these various partners in the loop.

<http://www.winkelman.com/invasivespecies.php>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/invasivespecies/>

The media (DVD) project described above is a small part of a much larger campaign on invasive species, which includes many other audiences and markets. As the campaign expands into the other facets described in the documents above, Mike wants to keep the WFW program professionals across the agency informed and engaged.

If more information is needed on this campaign and partnership activity, or if you would like to participate on any of the facets, please call or contact Mike.

Mike Ielmini, National Invasive Species Program Coordinator

Ph: 202-205-1049 Fax: 202-205-1096 Email: mielmini@fs.fed.us

[CONTENTS](#)

- **SOIL**

Soil Scientists Awarded

The 2006 National Field Soil Scientist Award was presented on July 17, 2006 at the NFS Directors Team meeting in the Washington Office. **Stephanie Connolly**, Forest Soil Scientist on the Monongahela National Forest and **Dennis Law**, Forest Soil Scientist on the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests, received the award with their respective families. It was a great celebration of two outstanding soil scientists. The solicitation letter for nominations for the 2007 National Field Soil Scientist will be out this fall.



- **TES**

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Downlists Gila Trout from Endangered to Threatened - Southwestern Region

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that effective August 17th that Gila trout, a fish native to the clear, cold mountain streams of southern New Mexico and east-central Arizona, has improved from endangered to threatened status under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Included in this change is a special rule allowing the state fish and wildlife agencies to develop limited recreational fishing.

The Service's final rule reclassifies Gila trout as threatened and allows the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the Arizona Game and Fish Department to promulgate regulations with the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service to allow opportunities for recreational fishing of Gila trout in areas that will not hurt recovery of the species. Recreational fishing opportunities will likely occur primarily on National Forest System lands.

Through recovery efforts that involved partnerships between the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Arizona Game and Fish Department, and New Mexico State University, population numbers of Gila trout have increased from four populations at the time of listing to twelve populations today. The fish was first declared endangered in 1966 under the

predecessor to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and came under the protection of the ESA when it was passed in 1973. Populations occur primarily on the Gila National Forest of New Mexico, with populations also occurring on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests and Tonto National Forest of Arizona. Additional efforts include establishing populations on the Coconino and Coronado National Forest of Arizona in addition to increasing the range on Forests that currently have populations. Forest Service biologists and support personnel have been instrumental in efforts to recover the Gila trout. Their efforts will continue to contribute to the eventual delisting of the Gila trout.

<http://news.fws.gov/NewsReleases/showNews.cfm?newsId=83E15F14-DABE-4549-0281A90B6E22AE8C>

Rule:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/06-6215.pdf>

- **WILDLIFE**

Melanie Woolever to receive Ron Ball Memorial Award

(Excerpts from the letter written to Melanie Woolever and the Rocky Mountain Region, USFS)

“...On behalf of the Wyoming Chapter of the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (WY-FNAWS), I would like to write this letter of thanks to, and commendation for, one of your employees, Ms. Melanie Woolever of your Region II office in Golden, Colorado.

For many years, Ms. Woolever has been deeply involved in bighorn sheep habitat management issues in Wyoming, from forest planning to energy development, and from domestic sheep/bighorn sheep interaction to public outreach and education about bighorn sheep and their habitats. Ms. Woolever represents your agency well in issues on management, discussions, and negotiations, and also stands up for the wildlife resource that organizations, such as ours, are focused on. It’s probably not too often that top agency administrators receive positive feedback about one of their employees; in this case, we sincerely want to acknowledge Ms. Woolever’s contributions to the well-being and future of bighorn sheep in Wyoming.

In our 22 year existence, we have only presented our foremost award (the Ron Ball Memorial Award, named for one of our founding members and long-time organization president) three times. Past recipients include Wyoming Game and Fish department wildlife/bighorn sheep biologist Kevin Hurley, Wyoming FNAWS Past-President Jim Collins, and current Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal. It is our pleasure and privilege to let you and your staff know that for career efforts on the behalf of bighorn sheep and other wildlife, our Ron Ball Memorial Award will be presented in 2006 to Ms. Melanie Woolever. We hope in our small way to thank her for her commitment to, and efforts for, Wyoming’s wild sheep. Thanks goes to the efforts of the U.S. Forest Service in managing so much wild sheep habitat in the western United States.

Sincerely,

Cole Benton, President

Wyoming Chapter, FNAWS”.

CONTENTS

Coming Events – Conferences & Meetings:

- **GENERAL/CROSS AREA**

Managing Vertebrate Invasive Species – International Symposium. **Call for Papers/Posters – Abstracts due January 2007**. Sponsored by the National Wildlife Research Center, APHIS/USDA

Location: Hilton Hotel, Fort Collins, CO

Date: August 7-9, 2007

Abstracts Due Date: **January 15, 2007**

Contact: Dr. Kathleen A. Fagerstone, WS National Wildlife Research Center

Email: kathleen.a.fagerstone@aphis.usda.gov

Web: www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/news/calendar.php
icwdm.org/news/meetings.asp

ITAP Planning Retreat – Invitation Letter

Federal Interagency Committee on Invasive Terrestrial Animals and Pathogens

Location: National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV

Date: September 25-28, 2006

Contact: Barbara Zapp at (301) 504-4701

Email: Barbara.Zapp@ars.usda.gov

See WFW Newsletter (August) online for downloadable “Invitation Letter”.

Word DOC 370 KB

33rd Annual Conference on Ecosystems Restoration and Creation

The conference sponsored by Hillsborough Community College, Environmental & Technical Programs, will be held November 2 – 3, 2006 in Plant City, Florida at the Trinkle Building located on the Plant City Campus of Hillsborough Community College.

This Annual Conference provides a forum for the nationwide exchange of results of the latest scientific research on restoration, creation, and management of not only freshwater and coastal wetland systems but total ecosystems including upland and transitional areas.

Please visit our web site to see the agenda and find out how to register at www.hccfl.edu/depts/detp/ecoconf.html or by calling (813) 253-7523. Early registration is encouraged.

42nd American Water Resources Association Conference

This conference is scheduled on November 6 – 9, 2006, at the Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland. Over 240 technical and poster presentations, panel discussions will be presented within the 68 concurrent sessions. The conference committee selected a wide array of current and interesting water resources topics to better inform and prepare participants to be more aware and more passionate for the region's and the nation's water resources issues. See the website for registration www.awra.org/meetings/Baltimore2006

Technical Information & Publications:

- **GENERAL/CROSS AREA**

Range – Invasive Species

Mike Ielmini, National Invasive Species Program Coordinator, is sharing the following information. You can contact him directly for copies or download them from the online August WFW Newsletter.

1. *The Invasive Species Threat to Hunting and Fishing in America*

www.fs.fed.us/invasivespecies/prevention/huntersanglers.shtml

2. NFS Invasive Species Program, Briefing Paper: *USDA Forest Service completes the invasive plant prevention best management practices video for road maintenance professionals.*

PDF 136 KB

3. *Turning the Tide on the Invasive Species Threat: Our Role in the Great Outdoors Wildlife Forever and Forest Service Action Plan – Key Messages; Target Audiences; Markets/Formats/Venues; Potential Partners and Participants*

PDF 160 KB

Mike Ielmini, National Invasive Species Program Coordinator
USDA Forest Service, Range

Ph: 202-205-1049 Fax: 202-205-1096 Email: mielmini@fs.fed.us

- **AQUATIC/FISH**

Technical Guide Now available.

Vesely, D.; McComb, B.C.; Vojta, C.D.; Suring, L.H.; Halaj, J.; Holthausen, R.S.; Zuckerberg, B.; Manley, P.M. 2006. ***Development of Protocols To Inventory or Monitor Wildlife, Fish, or Rare Plants.*** Gen. Tech. Rep. WO-72. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

The primary purpose of this Technical Guide is to provide guidelines to USDA Forest Service personnel and their cooperators for developing inventory and monitoring (I&M) protocols for wildlife, fish, and rare plants. In particular, we anticipate this publication will:

- Facilitate the development of I&M protocols for species and groups of species
- Set standards for documenting I&M protocols in Forest Service technical guide format.
- Provide technical information on sampling designs, measure selection, and analysis tools that will aid in designing specific I&M protocols.

Although this Technical Guide was developed for the Forest Service, we anticipate its utility for agencies or organizations developing and applying inventorying or monitoring protocols for wildlife, fish, or rare plants.

An electronic version in PDF format is available at

www.fs.fed.us/wildecology/SpProtocolTechGuide.pdf. For a hard copy, please contact Lowell Suring at lsuring@fs.fed.us.

CONTENTS

Training – Tools – Interesting Information:

- **GENERAL/CROSS AREAS**

Advanced Technical Seminar II: Dam Failure Analysis

This four-day national Advanced Technical Seminar will be held Tuesday through Friday, October 24-27 at the Marriott City Center in Portland, Oregon. The objective of this advanced course is to present the governing principles for simulating the development of a dam breach flood and its progression through the downstream river valley, using the computer programs: FLDWAV, HEC-RAS, BREACH, and SMPDBK.

Instructors: Danny L. Fread, Ph.D., (lead instructor) recently retired after 29 years with the National Weather Service; D. Michael Gee, Ph.D., a Senior Hydraulic Engineer has over 25 years experience with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC); and Wayne J. Graham, P.E., is a Hydraulic Engineer with the River Hydraulics Group, Technical Service Center, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Fees prior to October 13 are \$500 for ASDSO members, and \$600 for non-members. Registration information is available at their website, www.damsafety.org/, or call Susan Sorrell, ASDSO, at (859) 257-5146.

[CONTENTS](#)

WFW Newsletter Contact Information: Disclaimer – Non Discrimination Statement

WFW Newsletter is a monthly newsletter without a clever name and is provided by the National Forest System Watershed-Fish-Wildlife-Air-Rare Plants staff (including Soils) of the USDA Forest Service. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted to Netta Grant at agrant@fs.fed.us or your favorite Program Leader no later than the 20th of each month. We reserve the right to edit contributions for clarity and brevity. Emphasis on brevity. Links to detailed URLs or documents are great – include them in your information contribution. If brevity and clarity are a struggle for you, we recommend the "[Plain & Simple! Document Writing](#)" workshop instructed by Dr. Jud Monroe. If photos are included in your submission please provide alternative text with each photo. Alternative text should not repeat captions but describe the scene shown in the photo.

Positions listed are for outreach purposes only and are not full announcements. Interested individuals should contact the forests referenced or consult the [USAJOBS website](#).

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[CONTENTS](#)