



Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture

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

MONTHLY WFW STAFF NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2007

CONTENTS

National in Scope

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

Coming Events - Conferences & Meetings

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

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

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

- **TES**
- Watershed
- **Wildlife**

Training - Tools - Interesting Information

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

Regional Round Ups

- **Region 9**

Vacancies/Employment Opportunities

Federal job announcements can be found at:

http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency_search.asp

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

- **Life size whale in your browser**
- **Economics – funny!**
- **Inner Life of a Cell**

Submit your information

Disclaimer & Non-Discrimination Statement

National in Scope:

Editor Note: This month is bursting with award giving and receiving! To give proper focus on the awards and award winners, we are issuing a special edition "WFW Newsletter – Awards". It is posted with the March WFW Newsletter. You'll notice the first news item is an award – for Dick Holthausen. We kept it in because Holt is "WO family" and we are kind of sentimental.

GENERAL/CROSS AREAS

HOLTHAUSEN RECEIVES COVETED LLOYD SWIFT AWARD

Richard Holthausen, retired USFS National Wildlife Ecologist, received the Lloyd Swift award at the 72nd North American Wildlife and Natural Resource Conference in Portland, Oregon (March 21, 2007). This award is presented periodically to a current or past Forest Service employee in the field of wildlife, fisheries and rare plants, who exemplifies the characteristics, accomplishments and qualities of Lloyd W. Swift Sr., a wildlife biologist for the Forest Service (1928-1963). Winners of this award must have demonstrated a lifetime of dedication, commitment, and leadership in management of the wildlife and fisheries resources of the United States.



Caption: L to R; Jim Hughes (Acting Director, BLM); Dick Holthausen; Joel Holtrop, USFS, Deputy Chief, NFS.

Submitted By: David Pivorunas, USFS/WO/WFW

NEW! DIY ELECTRONIC REPORT GENERATOR

WFRP-MS based, electronic report generator works at any level - district, forest, region, national. You can create a report of WFRP projects easily in under a day (maybe in under 30 minutes), and you can post it Internet in a matter of minutes. These are high quality reports that we can create efficiently, economically, and creatively! Our partners need to know what we are doing with their time, money and labor. They knock themselves out for us and we need to reciprocate. It also can be used internally to communicate about the NatureWatch, TES, Fisheries and Wildlife conservation work we do. Users must use USFS computer system and have WFRP-MS data-entry access to be able to create reports.

<http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/WFWPartnerships.nsf/reportlist>

Published reports are available to all Internet users. Report URLs can be obtained for sharing at this published report site:

<http://wwwnotes.fs.fed.us:81/wo/wfrp/WFWPartnerships.nsf/reportlist>

Contacts: Don Virgovic at 503-808-2675
Jolyn Wiggins at 406-329-3629

Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

CONNECTING YOUTH WITH THE OUTDOORS – ATLANTA FORUM: SUMMARY

The Atlanta Forum – “Connecting Youth with the Outdoors” was hosted March 9, in Cobb County, Georgia. It was a rousing success! The Atlanta Recreation Forum focused on 3 main themes, using panel-style listening sessions and open discussion.

Outdoor Challenges – “How do we address the issues?”

Engage future generations/inspire our youth as public land caretakers.

Outdoor Projects – “What are we doing now?”

Showcasing exemplary programs in and around the Southeast.

Outdoor Access – “Where do we go from here?”

Facilitating access to local, state & federal land.

Key Messages:

- Over 150 in attendance; representation by federal, state and local agencies, private organizations, individuals, corporations, legislators, etc.
- Participants from Georgia, Alabama, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee
- Media including Channel 23, Atlanta; Anniston Star Newspaper, WildSouth Magazine, Discovering Alabama Television Show, National County Magazine
- Legislative staff from the offices of the Georgia Governor, Congressman Gingrey & Senator Sessions
- Increased new partnership, contacts and initiated projects through participation. Allowed formation of new coalitions, partnerships and collaborations.
- Provided showcase for current projects by participants. Allowed for submission of current or on-going projects for sharing with participants as examples, ways to get involved, and proposals for funding at national level.
- Participant feedback endorsed this forum, and requested an annual forum. Also requested a regional emailing list and blog on the recreationforums.info website.
- Notes and video as well as submission of ideas, suggestions and input will be provided at the national forum, April 30, 2007. White paper to be provided by American Recreation Coalition.

This Forum was made possible through the efforts of the Cobb County Commissioners, East Cobb Senior Center, Ross King (President, Association County Commissioners of Georgia), Pete Conroy (Director, Jacksonville State University EPIC & Field Schools), Bill Hardman (Director, Southeast Tourism Association), Rhonda Stewart (Watershed-Fish-Wildlife Staff, WO, USFS). **Special Thanks** to Jim Fenwood (Director, R8 Bio-Physical Resources, USFS), Ann Christensen (Director, R8 Recreation), Dennis Krusac (Regional TES & Naturewatch Coordinator, USFS), Rex Ennis (Regional Wildlife Biologist, USFS), Rose Rowe (R8 Recreation Staff, USFS), Caroline Mitchell (Ouachita National Forest, Recreation, USFS), Melissa Twaroski (R8 Recreation Staff, USFS), Cheryl Chatham (R8 Public Affairs Staff, USFS), and Stephanie Johnson (R8 Public Affairs Staff, USFS).

There were 5 Regional Forums. Visit the website for details: www.recreationforums.info

Submitted By: Rhonda Stewart, USFS/WO/WFW

NATIONAL RECREATION FORUM SET IN DC, APRIL 30TH

The National Forum is April 30, 2007 in Washington DC. There will be four breakout sessions in the morning (Partners, Tourism, Access, Youth Organizations), and a general session in the afternoon. Find more National Forum information:

www.funoutdoors.com/recreationforums

www.recreationforums.info

[Forum details -- 28.1 KB PDF](#)

Contacts:

Derrick Crandall, President, American Recreation Coalition, 202-682-9530.

Floyd Thompson, USFS, Recreation, ftompson02@fs.fed.us or 202-205-1423

Submitted By: Rhonda Stewart, USFS/WO/WFW

GEEKS IN THE WOODS – SMART INSIGHTS FROM KIDS

Good-lookin' Environmentally Educated Kids tell you how it is – and entertain you too.

<http://www.geeksinthewoods.org/id6.html>

Feedback & advice comes from the people with whom we are trying to connect.

Submitted By: Rhonda Stewart, USFS/WO/WFW

255 PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO 'MORE KIDS IN THE WOODS'

There were 255 proposals submitted for the **More Kids in the Woods** initiative. Some most certainly are duplicates. However, the majority are single submissions. The total amount available for distribution was \$500,000 and preferred distribution methods were for projects at least \$10,000 or more. Review of the project proposals starts Thursday, March 29. Projects will be officially awarded at a ceremony on May 22, in the Whitten Patio (Dept of Ag), with Richard Louv in attendance. Louv is the author of "[Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder](#)". Program managers of the projects receiving funding will be contacted prior to May 22, to allow attendance at the May 22 ceremony.

Submitted By: Rhonda Stewart, USFS/WO/WFW

USFS CONSERVATION EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY SURVEY

http://fsweb.dv.r5.fs.fed.us/webq/questionnaire.php?questionnaire_cn=94

Due Date: April 5, 2007

The national USFS Conservation Education program is conducting a survey on how the USFS currently uses technology in outreach efforts, and identifying ways to more effectively reach our publics and diverse audiences. A key component is understanding the technology capacity educators now have and use, and find out what tools and assistance is needed. The results will be used in developing a strategy for using technology in our future education and outreach efforts. Last year, through your efforts, the Forest Service worked with more than 600 partners and reached millions of children and their educators.

Every USFS employee that has experience or an interest in working with children -- regardless of job title or responsibility -- is invited to complete this survey. Outside partners are not able to access this intranet survey. The survey takes 10-15 minutes to complete and is available on-line at the URL:

http://fsweb.dv.r5.fs.fed.us/webq/questionnaire.php?questionnaire_cn=94

Results will be shared on the Conservation Education Web site, possibly by the end of April.

Contact: Sandy Frost at sfrost@fs.fed.us or 406-446-4585.

Submitted By: Rhonda Stewart, USFS/WO/WFW

APPROVED LEAVE RECIPIENT – WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

Laura Lowery, Wildlife Biologist, on the Lake George Ranger District, National Forest in Florida has been approved as a leave recipient. Laura had a bone marrow transplant for chronic myeloproliferative disorder and has exhausted all of her leave.

If you would like to make a donation to Laura, please [complete an AD-1043](#), Leave Transfer Program Donor Application to Janice Gaskin, USDA Forest Service, Lake George Ranger District, 17147 E. Highway 40, Silver Springs, FL 34488 or you may fax your donation to (352) 625-7556.

AQUATIC/FISH

AMY UNTHANK – THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK AS ACTING!

We sincerely appreciate Amy's efficient and timely tackling of daily issues, constant coordination with Regional program managers, representation with the NFHAP and other partners, and efforts to finalize the AFS interview with the Chief. Specifically, Amy developed the 2008 Fisheries Opportunities Report; finalized the RTTF Fisheries and Watershed Implementation Plan letter and assembled the RTTF awards nominations and review team; participated in the selection committees for the National Fish Program Lead and Assistant National Fish Program Lead positions; completed tasks associated with the National Fish Habitat Action Plan; assisted with the Fire Retardant EA review and Piscicide Rule; and developed/organized a task list for the incoming National Fish Program Lead.

Thank you, Amy, for sharing your knowledge, perspectives, skills and enthusiasm with the Washington Office fisheries, watershed and WFW staff.

Submitted By: Rick Henderson, USFS/WO/WFW

UNTHANK RECEIVES FISHERIES & HABITAT CONSERVATION AWARD

On March 1, Amy Unthank, Southwestern Regional Fisheries Program Manager, received a Fisheries and Habitat Conservation award from Region 2 of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Check out the special Awards edition WFW Newsletter for details.

Submitted By: Ron Dunlap, USFS/WO/WFW

TES

GRIZZLY BEAR – DISTINCT POPULATION DELISTING

The final rule to delist the Yellowstone grizzly bear distinct population segment (DPS) was signed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director, Dale Hall on March 20, 2007.

It was announced at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resource Conference in Portland Oregon on March 22, 2007. The document went on file at the Federal Register on March 23, 2007 and published on March 29, 2007. The final rule becomes effective 30 days after the Federal Register publication. The Forest Service has worked hard with its partners on the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee to make this delisting possible and much work will be needed in future years to keep the population recovered.

[Final Rule 3/29/07](#)

[FSM 2676 ID on grizzly bear is submitted for final approval by NFS.](#)

[News Release](#)

[Yellowstone grizzly bear population info](#)

Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

WOLF POPULATION DELISTING

Deputy Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett announced on January 29, 2007 that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is removing the Western Great Lakes population of gray wolf from the federal list of threatened and endangered species and proposing to remove the Northern Rocky Mountain population of gray wolf from the list. The two separate actions are being taken in recognition of the success of gray wolf recovery efforts under the Endangered Species Act.

[News Release](#)

[Questions and Answers](#)

[Federal Register Notice](#)

Submitted By: David Pivorunas, USFS/WO/WFW

Coming Events – Conferences & Meetings:

GENERAL/ACROSS AREAS

SEMINAR: RESTORATIVE BENEFITS OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

"Restorative Benefits of Outdoor Recreation" seminar - Wednesday, April 25, 1:30 - 2:30 pm at Roosevelt Room, Yates Bldg. (Forest Service), given by Dr. Chad Pierskalla at the WV University. CSREES, FS, CDC, HHS, DOI, and various agencies signed a MOU promoting public health and recreation. The seminar purpose is providing a background restorative environments studies over the last 30 years and helping chart a course for the future. Discussion questions will be integrated into the presentation to better engage the audience and stimulate additional ideas. Many of the discussion points will be based on Richard Louv's book, "Last Child in the Woods".

Submitted By: Rhonda Stewart, USFS/WO/WFW

AIR RESOURCE

NATIONAL AIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP/MEETING

The annual National Air Resource Management Workshop opens May 1-2, 2007, in Duluth, MN and continues May 3-4 near Grand Marais, MN. Targeted participants are full-time and part-time air resource managers and specialists working at all levels in the Forest Service. Others may also find the workshop valuable especially those responsible for smoke, water, and soil quality and forest health.

Contacts: Trent Wickman, 218-626-4372, twickman@fs.fed.us
Rich Fisher, 970-295-5981, rwwisher@fs.fed.us

Submitted By: Rich Fisher, USFS/WO/WFW

WILDLIFE

JOINT CONFERENCE BETWEEN ICOET & SCB

Date: May 20 – 25, 2007

Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) - North American Section/Chapter and International Conference on Ecology & Transportation is being jointly hosted May 20-25, 2007.

Location: Little Rock, Arkansas. The topic of road ecology, which dominates the conference, is very pertinent to conservation biology. [SCB Global annual meeting is in Port Elizabeth](#), South Africa, July 1-5, 2007.

Symposium program: www.conbio.org/Sections/NAmerica/AgendaforICOET.pdf

Register for the conference: www.icoet.net/ICOET2007.asp

Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

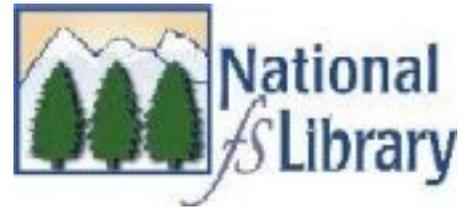
ZOO FEST 2007

DATE: April 27 - 28, 2007

The Smithsonian's Migratory Bird Center, and Friends of the National Zoo, kick-off IMBD this year on April 27th and 28th, 2007. Federal agencies and several non-profit organizations gather at the National Zoo to celebrate birds. With displays and activities for children (and adults), Zoo coordinators and partners promote bird conservation through the IMBD yearly theme. Thousands of Zoo visitors come to this event and the Forest Service will be there, as in past years, to help promote bird conservation. Visit <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/BirdFest/sponsors.cfm> for more information about Zoo Fest, 2007.

Submitted By: Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW

Technical Information & Publications: GENERAL/CROSS AREA



NEW JOURNAL – ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LETTERS

www.iop.org/EJ/erl

FREE! Launched at the end of October 2006 as a high-impact, open-access, electronic-only Letters journal, Environmental Research Letters (ERL) will provide a coherent and integrated approach including research articles, perspectives, news and editorials, as well as meeting notices and job listings for the environmental science community. Completely free to read online, ERL will be funded by an article publication charge.

Submitted By: Julie Blankenburg, USFS/FPL/National Forest Service Library

ECONTENTS AVAILABLE THROUGH NFSL

National Forest Service Library is providing access to eContents.

Delivering electronic table of contents for selected journals directly to your inbox. Easily order and receive articles via email. No cost to you – one of the many services offered to USFS personnel by USFS National Forest Service Library.

Register for this service at: <http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/library/econtents-service.htm>

[March 2007 Monthly and Surf Alerts are available online.](#)

Submitted By: Julie Blankenburg, USFS/FPL/National Forest Service Library

AQUATIC/FISH

2006 AQUATICS PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT - BIGHORN NF

The 2006 Bighorn NF Aquatics Program Accomplishments report includes air, geology/minerals, and watershed and fisheries. It is a good example of sharing accomplishments across multiple program areas, highlighting the wide range of work being done. This is a collaborative effort between Dan Scaife and Will Young. They welcome any feedback.

[PDF 1.52 MB](#)

Contact: Will Young, 307-674-2621 or wtyoung@fs.fed.us

Submitted By: Amy Unthank, USFS/R3/Aquatics Program; Jean Thomas, USFS/WO/WFW

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES RAPID RESPONSE INITIATIVE

Great Lakes Regional Collaboration – Aquatic Invasive Species Rapid Response Initiative is a 3 page PDF, and is accessible on the Internet (WWW). Proposed activities, contacts/experts, and proposed schedule are discussed. Join in the discussion about dealing with existing and new invasions.

[PDF Initiative](#)

Contact: James Schardt, US Environmental Protection Agency, Great Lakes National Program Office. 312-353-5085 or schardt.james@epa.gov

Submitted By: Nick Schmal, USFS/R9/Aquatic Program

PLANNING

FAO REPORT ON NORTH AMERICAN FORESTS

The FAO (Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) has published its 2007 "State of the World's Forests."

www.fao.org/docrep/009/a0773e/a0773e00.htm

World-wide forestry from the FAO perspective at www.fao.org/forestry/en/

Primary conclusion:

"With respect to most of the thematic elements, North America is making more progress than most other regions, especially those with a high proportion of developing countries or countries with economic transition. All the countries of the region are particularly concerned about forest health, and they have undertaken collaboration to address transboundary issues in this area. Working groups under the North American Forest Commission address fire, invasive species, and forest insects and disease at the regional level.

There is an obvious inverse correlation between economic development and deforestation. It is not surprising that Mexico, with the lowest capita GDP in North America, is the only country in the region struggling with deforestation. At the other economic extreme, the United States of America is facing the problem of a declining forest industry, as indicated by weak employment and a rapidly increasing trade deficit in wood and paper products.

Sustainable forest management would seem to be an attainable goal in North America."

Submitted By: Wayne Owens, USFS/WO/WFW

TES

ARTICLE: PRAIRIE DOG SHOOTING = LEAD IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Pauli, Johathan N., and Buskirk, Steven W. Recreational Shooting of Prairie Dogs: A Portal for Lead Entering Wildlife Food Chains. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 71(1), 103-108. Research results from Thunder Basin NG on prairie dog shooting and lead contamination: "The amount of lead in a single prairie dog carcass shot with an expanding bullet is potentially sufficient to acutely poison scavengers or predators." Vast majority of prairie dog shooters use expanding bullets and rarely remove or bury carcasses. "Our results suggest that recreational shooting of prairie dogs contributes to the problem of lead intoxication in wildlife food chains that include prairie dogs. Indeed, some features of recreational shooting, including the killing of large numbers of animals, not removing carcasses from the field, and using expanding bullets, is in contrast to traditional forms of hunting and may present potentially dangerous amounts and particle sizes of metallic lead to scavengers and predators of prairie dogs. Recreational shooting of blacktailed prairie dogs occurs with minimal regulation, yet appears to provide a readily available source of lead to scavenging vertebrates."

Article Access: www.nal.usda.gov/digitop

Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW
John G. Sidle, USFS/Great Plains National Grasslands

WILDLIFE

RADAR 'SAVES BATS AT WIND FARMS'

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/scotland/north_east/6445963.stm

BBC News/UK/Scotland

Bats at risk of being killed by the growing number of wind farms could be saved with the use of radars.

Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

RAPTOR INFORMATION SYSTEM

<http://ris.wr.usgs.gov>

The Raptor Information System is a free, Internet-based catalog of over 38,000 references about the biology and management of birds of prey. The collection includes reprints of published papers and a significant amount of "gray literature" in the form of popular articles, theses, dissertations, unpublished government reports, progress reports. The System is provided by the US Geological Survey. Raptor Survey is conducting a user survey to gain insights from the user community and potential users of this library resource as we consider changes to the system. It important to understand how changes could affect library users and what services matter the most to them. Respond to the nine survey questions via the web link found at <http://ris.wr.usgs.gov>.

Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

ARTICLE: SNAG MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES POSTFIRE SALVAGE

Hutto, Richard L. 2006. Toward Meaningful Snag-Management Guidelines for Postfire Salvage Logging in North American Conifer Forests. *Conservation Biology*, 20 (4), 984–993. After numerous studies and years of research, Dr. R. Hutto summarizes conclusive evidence that birds in burned forests have very different snag-retention needs. Species such as Black-backed Woodpeckers are nearly restricted in habitat use to severely burned forests. He makes the case that existing guidelines for green-tree forests cannot be applied to postfire salvage sales, and there is a need to develop and apply appropriate snag-management guidelines for postfire timber harvest operations. Some strategic solutions are discussed, including the need to have decision makers and the public at large recognize the ecological significance of burned forests.

Article Access: www.nal.usda.gov/digitop

http://avianscience.dbs.umt.edu/research_pub.htm

(This URL includes other related articles)

Submitted By: Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW

ARTICLE: MERGING NATURAL HISTORY, LIFE HISTORY AND FIELD ECOLOGY

Bury, B. 2006. Natural history, field ecology, conservation biology and wildlife management: time to connect the dots. *Herpetological Conservation and Biology*, 1 (1): 56-61. In this thoughtful article, Dr. Bury discusses the need to merge information from natural history, life history and field ecology studies to help us address critical environmental issues. This article appears in the first issue of *Herpetological*

Conservation and Biology. Dr. Bruce Bury has authored over 150 publications, mostly on forest amphibians and desert reptiles of the western United States.

Article Access: http://www.herpconbio.org/volume_1/issue_1/Bury_2006.pdf
www.nal.usda.gov/digitop

Submitted By: Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW

Training – Tools – Interesting Information:

Training

GENERAL/CROSS AREAS

DEVELOPING A BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT – NCTC/FWS

April 30 – May 1

May 2 – May 4

Course Code: ECS3152

The original course was developed in the Southwest by the FWS, BLM and another federal agency. That course was redesigned and developed by FWS, NOAA/F, BLM and Navy, and now is a NCTC course

This 2- day course covers some basic ESA section 7 topics, and then specifically the analysis the FWS and NOAA/F do when they receive a request for concurrence or initiation of formal consultation from a federal agency. Course primarily covers what information is needed from the federal agency by the FWS and NOAA/F in a section 7(a)(2) consultation. It applies to all T&E/CH effects analyses - it is not limited to preparation of the regulations, definition of a "Biological Assessment".

This would be an excellent course for those who have little, or even some, experience in ESA consultations, and will be doing ESA effects analysis.

Apply online through DOI LEARN <https://doilearn.doi.gov>

Contact: Frank Muth, Conservation Science and Policy Branch, NCTC; 304/876-7471 or frank_muth@fws.gov.

Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW

[CONTENTS](#)

Interesting Info

WATERSHED

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HYDROLOGY NEWSLETTER (SOH)

March 2007

<http://acwi.gov/hydrology/index.html>

The SOH Connections is a new newsletter from the subcommittee on hydrology. The SOH reports to the 'Advisory Committee on Water Information', which is part of the 'Water Information Coordination Program', US Department of Interior. The SOH desires to improve the availability and reliability of surface-water quantity information needed for hazard mitigation, water supply and demand management, and environmental protection.

Submitted By: Jean Thomas, USFS/WO/WFW

FS STOPS \$9M WYOMING CLOUD SEEDING PROJECT

The Forest Service has ordered the Wyoming Water Development Commission to halt work on its \$9 million cloud-seeding project because the commission has not completed a required environmental study for the work.

[Brodie Farquhar, Casper \[Wyo.\] Star-Tribune 3/16/07](#) (article not found at the Star-Tribune site)

[Cloud Seeding Hits Snag 3/16/07](#)

Submitted By: Jean Thomas, USFS/WO/WFW

WORLD'S TOP 10 AT-RISK RIVERS

The World Wildlife Fund reports on the world's top 10 rivers at risk.

www.worldwildlife.org/news/displayPR.cfm?prID=363

What are the sources of risk?

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Over-extraction | 2. Dams and infrastructure |
| 3. Invasive Species | 4. Climate change |
| 5. Over-fishing | 6. Pollution |

Submitted By: Wayne Owen, USFS/WO/WFW

Regional Round Up

Share the events or achievements going on in your Region.

Region 9:

[Region 9's: USFS Success Story Reporting System](#) on the FSWeb (FS internet)
open to all the USFS – submit your “Success Story”

Submitted By: Nick Schmal, USFS, R9, Fish/Aquatic Ecology Program
Edited for space and attention span limits.

AQUATIC ORGANISM PASSAGE PUBLICATIONS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In the past several years, the Eastern Region has been making strides in terms of Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) improvements. Read all about it.

If you hover over the picture of each publication, the website where it can be found is shown.

[PDF 553 KB](#)

STREAM RESTORATION IN SPRING CREEK WATERSHED

By: Charles Keeports R09_Allegheny **Posted:**
07/27/2006

<http://ssrs.r9.fs.fed.us/stories/regmap.php?pkey=2882>

The Allegheny National Forest begins stream restoration projects in Springs Creek watershed.

In 2006, Allegheny National Forest Fisheries Technician Nathan Welker coordinated a project, which completed two



stream restoration projects and rehabilitated over one-half mile of user-created horse trail in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

During this project, 200 feet of linear eroding stream bank were stabilized by Doug Turner from the Allegheny construction and maintenance crew. John Dzemyan from the PA Game Commission provided mulch and seed and hard work to get the job done. As part of the partnership agreement, the Allegheny also removed an old culvert on State Game Lands that was a fish passage barrier and a source of sediment to the stream.

This culvert was replaced with a stabilized ford for the horse trail. Nathan also worked with Joe Langanese, from recreation, to improve sections of the horse trail and reduce impacts to wetlands.

Road decommissioning projects and in-stream enhancement projects are planned within the Spring Creek watershed for future years

ALLEGHENY DECOMMISSIONS ROADS IN HIGH QUALITY WATERSHEDS

By: Charles Keeports R09_Allegheny Posted: 07/12/2006

<http://ssrs.r9.fs.fed.us/stories/regmap.php?pkey=2880>

The Forest decommissioned roads that were contributing to sedimentation and flooding in high quality watersheds.

During the summer of 2006, Civil Engineer Rick Hiemenz and Hydrologist Chuck Keeports worked together to decommission one mile of Forest Service system roads and two miles of non-system roads on the Allegheny National Forest.



These roads were negatively affecting high quality watersheds by diverting water into ditch-lines and causing erosion by disrupting the natural water flow. Also, the compacted soil surface was preventing the establishment of trees and shrubs.

These roads were blocked, obliterated and restored to blend in with the surroundings, allowing recruitment of native vegetation. Rocks and trees were pulled onto the restored slope.

One of these road decommissioning projects also included stream restoration to reduce flooding and to allow for fish passage during the removal of a culvert on Deer Lick Run. At this stream crossing, rock structures were placed in the stream to create fish habitat.

The Youth Conservation Corps also helped with the soil stabilization after the project was completed. The YCC crew mulched and seeded the re-contoured road bed.

Projects such as these reflect the Eastern Region's Courageous Conservation vision goal of Protecting Ecosystems Across Boundaries.

KESTREL HAVEN – MORE THAN 2000 VOLUNTEER HOURS ON FINGER LAKE NF

By: Kari Lusk R09_Green_Mtn-Finger_Lakes Posted: 02/26/2007

Volunteers donate time on odonate identification - damselflies and dragonflies on FLNF. Kestrel Haven Aviation Migration Observatory is a 60-acre hemlock wetland and wildlife sanctuary, run by Sue and John Gregoire. It lies a few miles south of the Finger Lakes National Forest, but to the Gregoires, the Finger Lakes National Forest is simply another parcel of land to be surveyed and explored as they document the unique forms of winged life in the Finger Lakes Region.

Kestrel Haven, as it is known locally, is the only full-time, non-profit avian research banding station in New York State. As of January 2007, more than 70,000 birds of 136 different species have been banded since the sanctuary was established. It's quite a busy place, and yet the Gregoires still manage to find time to volunteer their time in other areas and in other places.

This past year, the Gregoires have volunteered over 300 hours identifying odonates (damselflies and dragonflies) occurring the Finger Lakes National Forest. They provide a list of 64 different species on their website. The Gregoires have generously provided much of their data, in the form of species lists organized by pond and GPS locations, to the Forest for use in management decisions that may have an effect of the life cycle of these insect species.



Their ongoing volunteer field project, a pond-by-pond inventory that began in 2001, is the result of work done primarily by Sue and John Gregoire themselves, as well as Fred Sibley. One of the enjoyable and rewarding aspects of their work is finding those long forgotten and overgrown ponds and identifying the odonates that occur there. Their work has found that each pond needs to be inventoried numerous times throughout the year as different species utilize habitats at different times of the year.

So how do they identify all these different species? They capture live adults, using nets, identify and record information and then release them, photographing all unusual specimens. At times, species can be identified on the wing, but the Gregoires also perform the difficult and tedious task of collecting shed exuviae for identification and confirmation in their lab. The Gregoires have spent at least 2000 hours surveying, identifying and cataloging odonates on the FLNF, over the last five years!

As with any field work, the Gregoires feel that bugs, heat, leeches, etc., tend to be the most bothersome, but feel all that is part of the enjoyment as well. Spending that much time on the forest, the Gregoires have also done a considerable amount of other service work benefiting the FLNF.

They have cleaned up discarded bottles, put out smoldering campfires, and generally been additional set of eyes on the ground, by sharing information and reporting any activities they feel may be illegal.

Vacancies/Outreach Notice

Federal job announcements can be found at:

http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency_search.asp

AIR PROGRAM LEADER – Outreach Notice

USDA Forest Service, WO, Watershed, Fish, Wildlife, Air and Rare Plants staff.

Air Program Leader, Int-GS-401/819/1301-13/14

The incumbent has the responsibility for formulation and implementation of policies, standards, and methods for the conservation, environmental protection, and use of the watershed, soil and air resources managed by the Forest Service.

[Outreach Notice](#)

Contact: Ron Dunlap, Assistant Director, Water-Fish-Air, 202-205-1790

or rldunlap@fs.fed.us

WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST – Vacancy Announcement

USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area, State & Private Forestry

ADS07-NAAEC-049DT

Apply By: April 18, 2007

Term GS-486-5/7/9 Wildlife Biologist Position at Fort Drum, New York (not Syracuse NY as listed) is now open. Experience or training in bat biology and threatened and endangered species. Vacancy Announcement: www.usajobs.opm.gov or

jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov

Apply: AVUE www.avuedigitalservices.com

DISTRICT RANGER – Outreach Notice

USDA Forest Service, High Cascade Ranger District, Prospect OR

GS-340-12/13

The Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest will advertise a permanent, full-time District Ranger GS-0340-12/13. Avue Digital Services Open-Continuous Register, announcement number **ADS06-WOJOBS-0001G**

Apply: AVUE www.avuedigitalservices.com go to "Job Search"; search by announcement number ADS06-WOJOBS-0001G.

Contact: Scott Conroy, Forest Supervisor, (541) 858-2200 or
Cassius Cash, Deputy Forest Supervisor

PARTNERSHIP SPECIALIST – Outreach Notice

USDA Forest Service, Plumas National Forest, Quincy CA

GS-0301-11/12; Permanent, full time employment

Contact: Jim Peana or Sam Wilbanks, 530-283-7810

FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM MANAGER – Outreach Notice

USDA Forest Service, Cooperative Forestry Unit, Atlanta GA

GS-12/13 Forest Legacy Program Manager position located in the Cooperative Forestry Unit, State & Private Forestry, the Regional 8 Office. The Forester serves as Natural Resources Program Manager for the Forest Legacy Program, providing leadership and program direction throughout the thirteen-state FS Region 8. Announcement at:

www.usajobs.opm.gov.

Contact: Tom L. Darden/404-347-7200 or tdarden@fs.fed.us

DIRECTIVES & REGULATIONS ANALYST – Vacancy Announcement

Apply By: April 18, 2007

GS-11/12/13 Management & Program Analyst

USDA Forest Service, Directives and Regulations Analyst for the Office of Regulatory and Management Services (ORMS), located in Washington DC. Vacancy announcement number is ADS07-WO-ORMS-0423G.

<http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/ftva.asp?seeker=1&JobID=55190307>

LEAD WRITER-EDITOR – Vancancy Announcement

Apply By: April 13, 2007

GS-13 Lead Writer Editor position for the USFS Correspondence and Records Management branch for the Office of Regulatory and Management Services (ORMS), located in Washington DC.

Vacancy announcement number is ADS07-WO-ORMS-0304G.

<http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/ftva.asp?seeker=1&JobID=55046238>

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, CRM – Detail/Outreach Opportunity

Apply By: March 30, 2007

This position is located in the Office of Regulatory and Management Services (ORMS), Business Operations, in the Forest Service. The duration of the detail or temporary promotion is NTE 90 days.

Contact: Donna Williams, dawilliams@fs.fed.us

Catch of the Day

A WHALE. LIFE SIZE. IN YOUR BROWSER WINDOW. ALL OF IT.

www.wdcs.co.uk/media/flash/whalebanner/content_pub_en.html

Imagination & creativity sparker. Can use the smaller image/red square to navigate. Or simply grab the main image with the cursor “hand” and drag it. Dennis’s suggestion, “What about using the technology with a fallen giant? Sequoia? Douglas Fir? Aspen? Maple? The bark, branches, lichen, needles, etc., all in fine detail.”

Shared By: Dennis Lapcewich, USFS/PNW/DRM

ECONOMICS – BIT SIZED & ONLINE

If you understand the jokes, you understand economics and probably have a good grasp of “ecological services”. If you do not get the jokes you need to register for [“Natural Resource Policy, Values & Economics”](#) offered in FY08.

Note: can’t be viewed on Federal computer systems due to security blocks. Produced by UCDavis.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVp8UGjECt4

INNER LIFE OF A CELL -- ANIMATION SHOWS THE BEAUTY

If cell biology in college had you nodding off just a bit, this animation will wake you up; possibly ignite a long dormant passion for cell biology. Or maybe just entertain you for 8 minutes. Music version: www.studiodaily.com/main/technique/tprojects/6850.html

Instructional version: <http://multimedia.mcb.harvard.edu/media.html>

Submitted By: Wayne Owen, USFS/WO/WFW

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 and Meteorology) 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 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.

If brevity and clarity are a struggle for you, we recommend the “[Plain & Simple! Document Writing](#)” workshop instructed by Dr. Jud Monroe.

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

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

[CONTENTS](#)