

BEMRP and Jamaica?



Marilyn Headley (second from left), Conservator of Forests, Jamaican Forestry Department, asks questions about the role of research in the U.S. Forest Service. (Photo by Dana Roth)

Sharon Ritter, Research/Management Coordinator and ECO-Report Editor, BEMRP, RMRS, Stevensville, MT

While it wasn't quite as good as actually going to Jamaica, visiting with Jamaican forest managers on the Bitterroot was still fun. In late September 2007, the Northern Region hosted a visit from Marilyn Headley—Conservator of Forests, Keith Porter—Senior Director (both from the Forestry Department) and Lorna Jones-Lee from the Cabinet Office in Jamaica; Karyll Aitcheson, Coordinator for the joint USFS/ USAID Protected Areas and Rural Enterprise Project in Jamaica; Dana Roth, Caribbean Program Specialist for Forest Service International Programs; Kirsten Kaiser, Forest Planner on the Kootenai National Forest; and Tom Rhode, Regional Planner for the Northern Region.

In spring 2007, Kirsten and Tom visited Jamaica to help Forestry Department consultants and local forest management committees develop a land management plan and identify sustainable livelihood projects for one of their protected areas. This trip to the Northern Region was an opportunity for members of the Jamaican Forestry Department and government to learn how the Forest Service conducts its land management programs and coordinates with other entities.

Greg Jones and I represented BEMRP by taking them to the Lick Creek Demonstration/Research Forest. We talked about how and why RMRS established the BEMRP partnership and how researchers and managers work together. We emphasized the importance of research and in particular having the research and management branches as separate, independent entities

within the Forest Service (see Len Ruggiero's article in last year's ECO-Report at <http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/ecopartner/ecoreport.shtml>).

With the newly available Lick Creek autotour brochure and last year's ECO-Report in hand, we also talked about how we share research results with the public and resource managers. The visitors weren't shy about asking questions. Their warmth and openness made for an enjoyable morning.



Tour guests included: Kneeling: Tom Rhode. Standing left to right: Keith Porter, Kirsten Kaiser, Marilyn Headley, Dana Roth, Karyll Aitcheson, Lorna Jones-Lee. (Photo by Tim Love)

Wildfire, Research, Climate . . . (from page 5)

Musselman, RMRS Research Plant Physiologist, will help with installation on all RMRS sites. According to Bob, "Level II Critical Loads stations were initially established more than 20 years ago in Europe by the European Union International Cooperative Program as part of the Convention on Long-range Transport of Air Pollutants, of which most European countries and the United States and Canada are signatories. This is the first network of ICP Level II stations to be established in the United States as a coordinated effort by the U.S. Forest Service." We feel honored and lucky that Tenderfoot was selected as one of the locations and look forward to making use of the additional data it will provide.

