



## valuing you AN R6 UPDATE

June 2016

### who's on THE MOVE

- **Toya Bligen**, Education Specialist for the Office of Civil Rights (WO) to Acting Civil Rights Director for R6
- **K.C. Biggs**, District Fisheries Biologist for the Cle Elum RD on the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF to District Ranger for the Cottage Grove RD on the Umpqua NF
- **Diane Chung**, Superintendent for Katmai National Park and Preserve (King Salmon, AK) to Assistant Director of Recreation for R6
- **Steven Cooke**, Forestry Technician\AFEO for the Detroit RD on the Willamette NF to Engine Captain for the Santiam River Zone\ Willamette NF

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### horsing around WITH WILD MUSTANGS

By: **Matt Burks**, Public Affairs Specialist  
Wallowa-Whitman NF

What happens when inmates work together with the BLM and the Wallowa-Whitman NF? Good things; including the training and relocation of eleven wild horses from Nevada to Northeast Oregon. The mustangs came from the Nevada BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program in partnership with the Northern Nevada Correctional Center's Inmate Saddle Horse Training Program in Carson City, Nevada.

The mustangs reported for duty in Enterprise, Oregon this March and will spend the summer packing riders and supplies into Hells Canyon and the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Work will include routine trail maintenance, bringing in tools and equipment for volunteers and partners to set-up base camp and assisting with firefighting efforts in the wilderness.



Wallowa-Whitman NF

*"It was time to replenish our stock in order to keep our public lands open to everyone,"* said **John Hollenbeak**, the Recreation Technician responsible for bringing the horses back from Nevada. *"The partnership with the BLM made this a win-win for both agencies – they are now mustangs with jobs!"*

The BLM estimates that over 35,000 wild horses are currently on Nevada public land. The mustangs were transferred from the BLM into the care of the FS under the authority of the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act.



for the greatest good

## who's on THE MOVE

- **Anne Doolin**, Lead Grants and Agreements Specialist for R6 Acquisition Management on the Deschutes NF to Lead Grants and Agreements Specialist for R6 Acquisition Management on the Gifford Pinchot NF
- **Daniel Farmer** to Assistant Fire Engine Operator for the South Zone Fire on Umpqua NF
- **Brad Hardesty**, Assistant Engine Captain for the McKenzie River RD on the Willamette NF to Engine Captain for the McKenzie River RD on the Willamette NF
- **Terri Hubbs** to Supervisory HR Specialist for the Umpqua NF
- **Dave Johnson**, Engine Crew Supervisor for the Emigrant RD on the Malheur NF to Fire Operations Specialist for the Santiam River Zone on the Willamette NF
- **Beau Lee**, Apprentice for the Six Rivers NF (R5-CA) to Handcrew Lead for the North Zone Fire on the Umpqua NF
- **Kimberly Musrush**, Fire Engine Operator for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF to Initial Attack Dispatcher for the Willamette NF
- **Tere O'Rourke**, Area Manager for the Bureau of Reclamation (Klamath Falls, OR) to Recreation, Heritage, Lands and Minerals Staff Officer for the Willamette NF
- **Sarah Pangurn**, from the Klamath NF (R5-CA) to Assistant Fire Engine Operator for the South Zone Fire on the Umpqua NF

## from nevada to oregon MUSTANGS WITH JOBS

(continued from previous page)

*"Inmates started riding the mustangs at the Northern Nevada Correctional Center in Carson City, Nevada. This is where the Saddle Horse Program resides and trains about 100 horses per year for adoption to the public, said **Justin Pope**, Nevada Department of Corrections Farm Manager.*

Each horse has been trained for about 120 days according to **Alan Shepherd**, BLM Nevada's Wild Horse and Burro Program Lead. *"The inmates have given them enough foundation training to be ready for packing and riding; now they are working in some of the most rugged country in Oregon. Hells Canyon is known for being one of the deepest and widest gorges in the West."*

Getting to know these wild horses includes learning their names; there is **Bojangles** who has a little bit of fire but has been gentle and nice to be around. There's **Ringo** and **Heart**, named after the half of a heart shaped star on his head. Then some of the wilder ones: **Oden**, **Jed**, **Batman**, and **Gil**. There's also **Studley**, **Joe Kid**, **Spanky** and **Rupert** who's just a nice horse.

They will all receive additional training this spring and have the advantage of working alongside the existing stock on the Wallowa-Whitman NF this summer. Don't miss their exciting adventures this summer. Follow along at [www.facebook.com/WallowaWhitmanNF](http://www.facebook.com/WallowaWhitmanNF).



From left to right: John Hollenbeak and Curt Booher, Wallowa-Whitman NF



# floating together for BETTER RIVER MANAGEMENT

By: **Ben Watts**, River Ranger, Gold Beach RD, Rogue River-Siskiyou NF

Photo: **Lorelei Haukness**, Recreation Program Manager,

Gold Beach RD, Rogue River-Siskiyou NF

Oregon's Rogue River has rightfully earned a reputation as one of America's premier multi-day river trips. With a colorful and at times sordid history, the Rogue doesn't disappoint, and has something for everyone.

The Rogue is somewhat of a management anomaly when it comes to multi-day rivers because the upper 46.5 miles of the designated Wild and Scenic section are managed by the Medford District BLM, and the lower 37.5 miles are managed by the Rogue River-Siskiyou NF. This split in management can present a unique challenge for natural resource managers trying to meet Wild and Scenic River objectives for two different agencies. To help meet this challenge and create stronger alignments, a creative partnership was established so that River Rangers from each agency both float down and patrol the river together.

This shared vision for partnered management resulted in 14 partnered floats between Grave Creek and Foster Bar in 2015. FS and BLM River Rangers spent a total of 42 days and 28 nights on this popular section of the Rogue but the work didn't stop there. Together the River Managers have been tackling outfitter and private boat compliance, trail and river campsite monitoring and maintenance, safety guidelines, training standards and agency non-motorized watercraft operating protocols. Both agencies are striving for better communication and information sharing, both internally and externally, with the goal of reducing confusion for everyone involved.

Along its path to the Pacific, Rogue River managers experienced a unique opportunity to learn more about how to manage a river jointly to provide the greatest good for the resource and stellar experiences for those who choose to test its waters.



From left to right: Colby Hawkinson (BLM) and Benjamin Watts (FS)

## who's on THE MOVE

- **Chad Rowlan** to Squad Boss for the Wolf Creek Hotshots
- **Lance Sargent**, Recreation Technician for St. Joe RD on the Idaho Panhandle NF to Recreation Technician for the Tiller RD on the Umpqua NF
- **Ryan Sullivan**, Assistant Fire Manager for the McKenzie River RD on the Willamette NF to Fire Management Officer for the Crescent RD on the Deschutes NF
- **Luke Talcott**, from the Ochoco NF to Senior Firefighter for the Wolf Creek Hotshots
- **Mike Tapp**, from the University of Oregon to Dispatcher for the Willamette NF
- **Shalyn Whitson**, Dispatch Clerk for the Willamette NF to Initial Attack Dispatcher for the Willamette NF
- **Shane Williams**, from the North Umpqua RD on the Umpqua NF to Senior Firefighter for the Wolf Creek Hotshots

## who's MOVING OUT

- **Jamie Statezny**, Engineer for the Santiam River Zone on the Willamette NF to Engineer for the Pike and San Isabel NF (R2-CO)

## who's MOVING ON

- **Laurie Abernathy**, Supervisory Contract Specialist for the R6 Contracting West Acquisition Area
- **Greg Armstrong**, Forestry Technician for the Middle Fork RD on the Willamette NF
- **Susie Glasow**, Budget Analyst for the Umpqua NF
- **Sally Long**, Orchard Manager for the Dorena Genetic Resource Center
- **Gloria Perez**, Lead Grants and Agreements Specialist for Grants and Agreements North - Gifford Pinchot, Mt. Hood, and Olympic NF's and Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
- **Al Sossman**, Recreation Assistant for the North Umpqua RD on the Umpqua NF

## did you KNOW?

We helped develop the "lickless" stamp...

Presented with the problem of postage stamps gumming up recycling machines, Forest Service researchers helped develop a new pressure-sensitive adhesive that can be recycled without "gumming up the works".

## trail beetle heads to FOREST SERVICE MUSEUM

By: **Shilo Burton** Public Affairs Specialist, Malheur NF

On April 19, 2016 a rare and antique Trail Beetle Tractor departed Harney County, Oregon to be displayed at the National Museum of Forest Service History in Missoula, Montana. Donated by FS Retiree **Robert Wolfskill** of the Wolfskill Trust, the tractor was designed and developed by the Forest Service Equipment Laboratory in Portland, Oregon around 1945. Its purpose was to create fireline.

The original bid to Washington Gear Works was for 25 Trail Beetle Tractors but only 17 were produced. The very first tractor produced, serial number 101, was operated for a while before being disassembled so that parts could be checked for wear. This was done to determine the potential longevity and to predict maintenance costs. The last tractor, unit number 117, was used extensively and eventually required a second set of tracks that were taken from unit 101.



Designed to pull a fire-line plow, unit 117 was also equipped with a hydraulic controlled dozer used to push lightweight debris out its path.

*"The idea for the machine was great, the design and workability was great, the potential value to the firefighting effort was great, but what actually took place was a misadventure," said Wolfskill. "Instead of using the fire-line plow, most operator pictured themselves as a skilled 'cat-skinner' and tried to construct fire-line with the angle dozer, which it was not intended or designed for."*

Wolfskill noted that while this could be done, sooner or later many operators would crawl the machine upon rocks or logs and become airborne, taking the tracks past their balance point which would slam the tractor into the ground and launch the operator into the air from the seat, which was extended beyond the tracks. *"The tractor quickly became known as the 'Catapult' rather than the Trail Beetle!"*

After a short time on the fire-line the machine was determined too hazardous for further use. A number of the machines were surplused while others were retained for trail maintenance where they were used to pull small, hand-fed rock crushers. This Trail Beetle's future lies in a history museum in Missoula, so make sure to check it out when you're in the area.

For more information: [www.forestservicemuseum.org](http://www.forestservicemuseum.org)



# making connections TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

By: **Yewah Lau**, Business and Planning Staff Officer, Deschutes and Ochoco NF & Crooked River National Grassland

**A**dministrative Officers from all over the Region gathered in Portland to build internal relationships and identify opportunities to work together to improve administrative processes. Many of the Region's Administrative Officers are relatively new in their positions, so this meeting created to create opportunities to connect with peers on other Forests and the Regional Office. With the centralization of many functions at the Albuquerque Service Center and the Regional Office, the role of the Administrative Officer has evolved. However, administrative duties still span an incredibly wide range of roles and responsibilities.

**Charles Hill**, Director of Acquisition Management, said, *"This time together provided an opportunity for enhanced understanding and thorough discussions about administrative processes and new initiatives managed in partnership with the staff at ASC, the RO and Administrative Officers. We haven't met face to face in many years. We were energized by what we learned and dialogued about together."*

At the meeting, areas for future work were identified, including quarters management, hosted employee space management and strategy, on-boarding/off-boarding processes and succession planning in the administrative fields.



*Top row (left to right): Miki Fujikawa, Michael Lang, Jake Benes, Dianne Guidry, JoLynn Anderson*  
*Middle row: Jennifer Knutson, David Hatfield, Judy Morgan, Erick Stemmerman, Yewah Lau, Jeff Wuethrich*  
*Bottom row: Charles Hill, Cici Chitwood, Phil Barricklow, Seana Lammers*

## field trip to the FEDERAL RECORDS CENTER

By: **Michael Mouzong**, Program Specialist, Directives and Forms, Regional Office

**O**ver the last 2 years, **JoLynn Anderson** and **Michael Mouzong** of the R6 Records Group have assisted most of the NF Units in their efforts to help clean up stored Federal Records at their warehouses and other facilities. In March 2016, the R6 Records Group traveled first to the Umpqua, Siuslaw and Willamette NF's and then on to the Federal Records Center in Seattle with 200 plus boxes from the field units.

**Rolene Mesa, Josey Elefritz, Marlee Stubblefield, Cho Hyung and Bill Lewis** participated in the trip to the Federal Records Center where they witnessed the receiving process, met the Records Center staff and learned about the history of the 900,000 square foot facility.

Overall it was a great experience for all travelers. **Josey Elefritz** said, *"This trip was a career highlight for me!"*



## regional safety AWARD HIGHLIGHTS

Regional Forester's Safety Committee of the Year:

**Data Resource Management at the RO**

Runner-Up: **Cowlitz Valley Ranger District**

Regional Forester's Team Award for Excellence in Safety and Health: Employees of the Siuslaw NF

Regional Forester's Wildland Fire Team Safety Award for Excellence:

**Melvin (Mel) Durrant, Sean Ferrell and Zebron (Zeb) Watts**  
from the Deschutes NF

Regional Forester's Wildland Firefighter Safety Award for Excellence: **Bobbi Scopa** from the RO

Regional Forester's Individual Award for Excellence in Safety and Health:

**Cheryl Sonnabend** from the Mt. Hood NF

Runner-Ups: **Amber Deming** from the Methow Valley RD on the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF  
**Seth Greenfield** from the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF

Region 6 Forest Safety Manager of the Year Award: **Don Andreasen** from the Siuslaw NF

Regional Safety Manager's Special Recognition Safety Award:

**Tom Dombrowski** and **Carson Watson** from the CIO and located on the Umpqua NF  
Runner-Up: **Kajetan "Kia" Bauer** from the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF



## volunteer firefighter OF THE YEAR

**Dylan Hokanson**, Civil Engineer for the Umpqua NF, was honored by the Glide Rural Fire Protection District as Volunteer Firefighter of the Year. He responded to 185 calls in 2015 which is 42% of the department's emergency calls for the entire year.

Dylan's day job as a Civil Engineer on the Umpqua NF started in 2011. He joined the Glide fire department and updated his training to NFPA Firefighter 1 and Pumper Operator. In 2012, he obtained his Emergency Medical Technician license from Umpqua Community College and in 2014 he was promoted to lieutenant. The Glide District provides emergency medical service and fire suppression to Glide, Idleld Park and enough surrounding area to cover 25 square miles in Oregon.





# silver smokey BEAR AWARD

**Jimmye Turner**, Fire Prevention Technician for the Walla Walla RD on the Umatilla NF earned a 2016 Silver Smokey Bear Award for his excellence in wildfire prevention education. The award was presented during the Umatilla NF's "All-Employee Day" on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in Pendleton, Oregon.

This prestigious national award program recognizes organizations and/or individuals for outstanding service in wildfire prevention programs through a partnership between the Forest Service, the Ad Council and the National Association of State Foresters. Honorees must exceed the expectations of their jobs and demonstrate innovation, creativity, commitment and passion for fire prevention. The Silver Award is the highest honor given for wildfire prevention service that is regional in scope over a minimum two-year period.

The methods Jimmye uses during his many presentations across the geographic area are extremely engaging, effective and unique. Using an array of original cartoon characters drawn on site during his presentations, Jimmye depicts both the impacts of unwanted wildfire and the importance of preventing them. He always relates the animals he draws to Smokey Bear, Smokey's Friends and a fire prevention message to tie the interaction together, often with the children's favorite animals as the subject. As the result of the many school, outdoor education and state and county fair presentations that Jimmye has given, the number of children that have been positively impacted through these extraordinary efforts is literally in the thousands.

In 2015, as part of his work with the Pacific Northwest Fire Prevention and Education Team, Jimmye was asked to produce original artwork depicting animals and key wildlife species in habitats traditionally threatened by human-caused wildfires under the common theme "Protect Habitat, Prevent Wildfires". Trading cards were produced with a fire prevention tip on each animal card along with a fun fact about each animal. Jimmye also created illustrations for a coloring book depicting these animals and others to further support the fire prevention and animal habitat theme. This initial project was expanded and continued to grow into a suite of products and themes for interagency and inter-state application.

Congratulations, Jimmye! We are proud of your good work.





## **national managerial ENGINEER OF THE YEAR**

**Peggy Fisher** is the Engineering, Minerals and Fleet Staff Officer on the Deschutes and Ochoco NF's and the Crooked River National Grassland. She oversees a number of programs including transportation planning and implementation, facilities management, timber program support, forest restoration and aquatic passage support, geology and minerals, fleet management, and supervises about 35 employees.

Peggy understands the importance of collaboration and partnerships, something clearly seen in the accountability she holds for herself and her staff to be active employees, internally and externally.

Peggy has been active also at the regional level participating in various BAER teams, the Region 6/10 cadre for Public Works Contract Administration Class, R6 Recruitment and Retention team, and the ongoing communication study to improve dialog across the region between engineering and line officers. Her latest endeavor is to become a certified instructor for Crucial Conversations to refine her personal communication skills and to teach others.

Peggy received a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Oregon State University (OS) in 1987 and a Master's of Science (Geotechnical Engineering) from OS in 1988. She is a licensed professional engineer in the State of Oregon. Peggy started her career in 1988 on the Willamette NF, moving to the Ochoco NF in 1992 and then to the Deschutes NF in 2000. In 2001, she became the Transportation Program Manager for both forests, combining the two engineering departments across forest boundaries.



## **national engineering TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR**



**Josh Latham** has been a Project Engineer on the Siuslaw NF, part of the R6 Sub-Regional Engineering Organization for the past seven years. In that time he has designed and administered contracts for subgrade repairs, culvert improvements, aggregate surface placement, asphalt repairs, waste water system construction and recreation enhancement projects as both a Public Works Contracting Officer's Representative and a Timber Sale Engineering Representative. He has a particular passion for engineering large scale Aquatic Organism Passage structures in prime salmon and steelhead systems along the Oregon Coast.

Josh was raised in Southwest Wyoming in the small town of Reliance, just outside of Rock Springs. He spent many days of his youth in the Wind River Range while staying in his Grandparent's cabin in Atlantic City. This is where his love for the outdoors began. During these trips and as a young adult he frequented the Shoshone and Bridger-Teton NF's hunting, fishing, hiking and camping.

His FS career began in the summer of 2000 with the Tongass NF on Prince of Wales Island in Alaska. From there he moved to the Willamette NF in early 2007 before making it to the Siuslaw NF in 2009.

In his free time Josh enjoys spending time with his partner Lisa, her son Bennett and his children Justin, ReAnna and Tiffany. He also enjoys spending time in the outdoors riding ATV's on the Oregon Dunes, photography, hiking, exploring and strolling the beach around sunset.



# national technology applications

## PERSON OF THE YEAR

**John Beagle** is the Assistant Forest Engineer for the Facilities, Fleet and Bridge Programs on the Umpqua NF. He began his FS career in 2008; previously he had worked in the private sector as an engineering consultant.

Some of John's recent accomplishments include developing a procedure to predict asbestos in all FS facilities nationwide as required by the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board. This procedure was independently audited and has become the adopted method for predicting national asbestos abatement costs for the agency. The procedure that John wrote allowed the calculation to be done at the WO and prevented a nationwide data call.

On the Umpqua NF John continues to innovate and develop elegant solutions to infrastructure challenges. One example includes reducing costs associated with sludge disposal at Wolf Creek Job Corps through the use of geotextile filtration bags. John also has begun designing Variable Frequency Drives into new and existing pump systems on the Umpqua NF. These drives use less energy, prolong the life of the pumps and are relatively easy for the end user to operate. These are just a few examples of how John continues to innovate creative solutions to sustaining our infrastructure.

John attributes these successes to the professional, resourceful and hardworking employees within the Umpqua engineering staff and the forest as a whole, which has a collaborative and cooperative environment that fosters innovation.



# national technical

## ENGINEER OF THE YEAR



**Rod Dell'Andrea** began his federal career in November 2003 when he reported for work as the Regional Structural Engineer in the Alaska Region. His assigned bridge management duties involve coordinating and directing bridge design development and the Regional bridge inspection team. Other duties include structural design development and reviews for administrative and recreation facilities.

With almost 40 years of experience in civil\structural engineering obtained mostly in the private sector he has spent most of his career providing design and construction administration services on major infrastructure projects.

From 2008-2010 Rod supervised the structures group in the Pacific Northwest Region, covering the Regional Bridge Engineer duties in Oregon, Washington and Alaska. He served as the principle reviewer for the design of the 280 foot span Placer River Trail Bridge which was constructed in 2013. While working

with the FS Small Unmanned Aerial System Users Group in 2015 he collaborated with the University of Alaska and George Mason University to successfully demonstrate that a "drone" outfitted with high-definition cameras would be a useful tool when conducting bridge inspections. Mission results will also help inform and develop FS policy on their future use.

Rod and his wife Claudia make their home in the Mendenhall Valley in Juneau, Alaska and both enjoy the lengthy summertime days in Alaska to walk their dogs along the scenic trails near Mendenhall Glacier.



# rise to the FUTURE AWARD



From left to right: M. L. Smith, Tom DeMeo, Dennis Motsinger, James Capurso, Anne Poopatanapong, Caty Clifton

Congratulations to **Dennis Motsinger**, Lead Grants and Agreements Specialist for R6, for his achievement as this year's 2015 Rise to the Future Award winner for the Pacific Northwest Region. The Watershed and Aquatics Program awarded Dennis with the "Friend of the Fish\Watershed Award" in recognition of his wise advice and support to Fisheries and Watershed in pursuit of grants and agreements.

*"It is important that folks realize Dennis was selected for this award by the people he serves, both at the Forest and Regional levels. This is a testament to the great service Dennis provides,"* said **James Capurso**, Regional Fisheries Program Leader. *"He's always been our patient, knowledgeable and wise Yoda figure in Grants and Agreements."*

*"Dennis is a really great public servant providing assurance and complete work - every time,"* said **Charles Hill**, Director of Acquisition Management for Region 6.

There is no greater recognition than that which comes from those we serve. Thanks for your outstanding service Dennis!

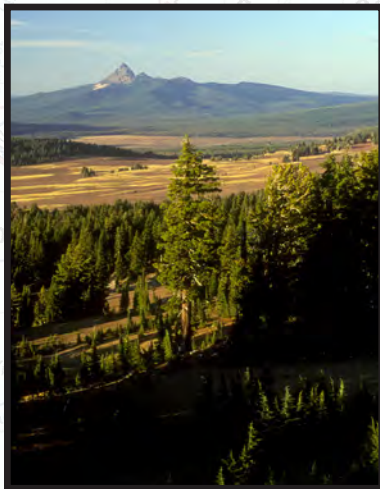


# digger BEAR



As always, thanks to Jimmie Turner, Walla Walla RD

## where in the region ANSWER



Last month's **Where in the Region** photo is of Oregon's Mt. Theilsen located on the Umpqua and Fremont-Winema National Forests.

The spire-like shape of the summit attracts lighting strikes and creates Lechatelierite, an unusual mineral and type of fulgurite sometimes known as "petrified lightning" that is formed when lightning with a temperature of at least 3,270 °F strikes and melts the ground below.

The Lathrop Glacier, discovered in 1966 on the steep northeast slope, currently holds the title of the southernmost glacier in Oregon after the glacier on Mount McLoughlin melted in 1939.

For more information: <http://go.usa.gov/cSc2k>

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# where IN THE REGION

Win a prize for the most correct answers this quarter!

Using the following haiku hints,  
try to figure out the location of the photo.

Send your guess to [r6update@fs.fed.us](mailto:r6update@fs.fed.us).

Awaiting machines  
that were lost when the boat sank  
in this remote gorge