



United States Department of Agriculture

valuing you AN R6 UPDATE

July 2017



for the greatest good



contributing to a HIGHER QUALITY OF LIFE

There's a lot going on in this picture.

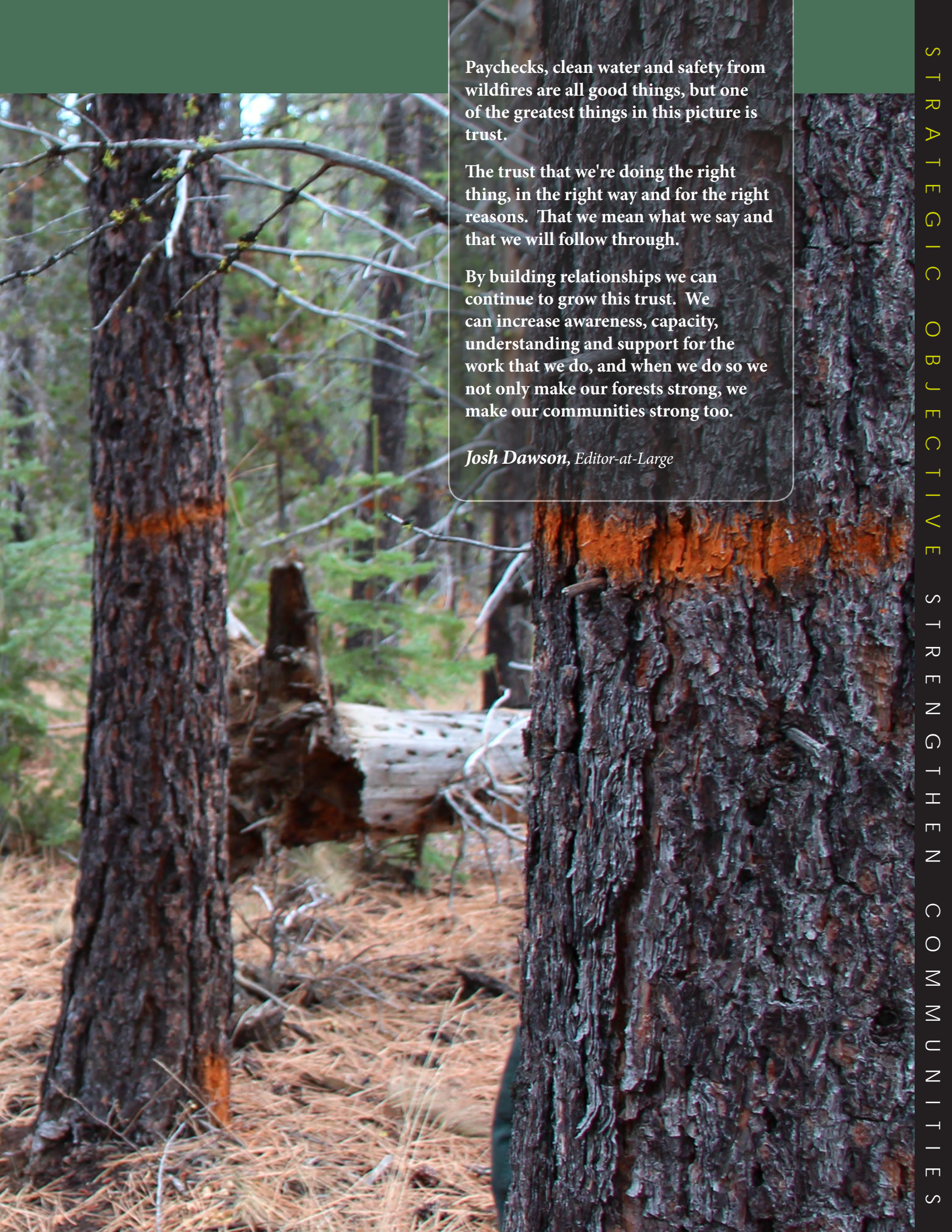
Sometimes we assume that everybody can see what we see, but that's not always the case. Not everyone can see the watershed that's being protected with the clean and clear water that sustains our communities and helps them to grow.

But it's in there.

Not everybody can see the subdivisions, villages, small towns and cities that are all going to be made safer in the event of a catastrophic wildfire. Safer when they're surrounded by a fire-adapted forest that's more resilient to insects and disease and safer when the fuel loads have been reduced.

That's in there too.

Some people will see a paycheck in this picture. Loggers, truck drivers and mill workers will make money that they take back to their local communities to spend at gas stations, grocery stores, restaurants and more. Those paychecks help sustain our communities. They help keep the street lights on, pay the bus driver who picks up our schoolchildren and contribute to the continued viability of our rural and urban communities.



Paychecks, clean water and safety from wildfires are all good things, but one of the greatest things in this picture is trust.

The trust that we're doing the right thing, in the right way and for the right reasons. That we mean what we say and that we will follow through.

By building relationships we can continue to grow this trust. We can increase awareness, capacity, understanding and support for the work that we do, and when we do so we not only make our forests strong, we make our communities strong too.

Josh Dawson, Editor-at-Large

facetime with frontliners IN OREGON AND WASHINGTON



Enjoying a rare chance to step away from the front desk, frontliners from across the region were invited to two different engagement sessions in Oregon and Washington to be able to meet in person to learn new ideas and to improve their public service skills.

The first session took place in Bend, Oregon where employees from multiple natural resource agencies got together with our tourism partners for the 11th Annual Interagency Frontliner Conference. With an 80 person thumb wrestling match, keynote speaker Dr. Johnny Lake explored the nuances of cross cultural communication where the winners were those who could work together to accurately follow directions. Other session topics included Cascade Ecology, Diversity in Learning Styles, Solar Eclipse planning, Earthquake Response training, Valuing People and Places and New Conversations.





The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF hosted a second regional engagement session in Everett, Washington where 30 frontliners were given the opportunity to meet face-to-face for two days of training and relationship building.

In addition to a motivating speech from guest speaker Jake French, there was a mix of open dialogue and presentations covering topics as diverse as Valuing People and Places, New Conversations, Active Shooter Training, pamphlet and brochure design, Civil Rights regulations and all things POSS.(Point of Sale System)

"It was great meeting everybody and getting to spend a couple of days together at the conference," said Bill Mitchell, the R6 Recreation Fee Program Assistant who was on-hand to answer questions and talk about POSS.

"I didn't plan on going there to learn so much... but I did!"

*Special Thanks to **Jude McHugh**,
Public Affairs Officer, Willamette NF*

helping kids find their way with DATA RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



When Data Resource Management employees gathered together to talk to some 6th graders earlier this spring about geospatial work they brought one of the world's experts at finding his way in the woods: **Smokey Bear**.

Three geocaching courses over two days provided the 180 kids attending Camp Tadmor's Outdoor School the opportunity to run through the woods looking for a cache where a Smokey Bear water bottle was hidden. The groups were kept small and every student was able to have some hands-on experience with a GPS unit while DRM employees provided guidance.

Matt Wilson, GIS Services Program Manager, DRM-R6



the rainbow family COMES TO OREGON



The Rainbow Family of Living Light has chosen to hold their 2017 annual gathering on the Malheur NF outside the towns of John Day and Seneca, Oregon.

A loose-knit group without leadership or organization, The Rainbow Family has held a national gathering on a different National Forest every year since 1972. Attendees come from across the country during the two week period surrounding the Fourth of July holiday, and 10,000-30,000 people are expected to arrive this year at Flagtail Meadow on the Blue Mountain RD.

"We are actively working with our community partners to minimize impacts to the citizens of Grant and Harney counties," said **Ryan Nehl**, Deputy Forest Supervisor for the Malheur NF and Agency Administrator for the 2017 event. "Ensuring public safety, minimizing impacts to local communities and protecting natural resources will be the top priorities."

Ethan Ready, Public Affairs Officer, Green Mountain & Finger Lakes NF

olympic employees show up for SHOW US YOUR WORK EVENT



Olympic NF employees attended the "Show Us Your Work" event in Quilcene, Washington to talk with kids about a potential career with the U.S. Forest Service.

The event, organized by the Quilcene School District, encouraged K-12 students to think of their futures with 40 local business and student exhibits. Speaking to nearly 100 students, the Olympic NF featured firefighters and biologists as specific examples of possible jobs.

Also on hand was the Pacific NW Trails Association, with a crew leader who was recruiting for the Quilcene Ranger Corps. By spending the summer maintaining trails on the Olympic NF, the summer crew of 13-16 year old students is given an amazing opportunity to learn outdoor skills, responsibility, discipline, and teamwork.

Alexa Pengally, Web Support Specialist, Olympic NF



improving trail access FOR ALL USERS



The Middle Fork RD on the Willamette NF was recently recognized by the Coalition for Recreational Trails with the [2017 Multiple-Use Management and Corridor Sharing Award](#) for their improvements to the Middle Fork National Recreation Trail.

Working hard to improve trails for all users, a partnership made up of Backcountry Horsemen, Disciples of Dirt, Greater Oakridge Trail Stewards and the Northwest Youth Corps brought bikers, hikers and horseback riders together for the greater good of improving trail access. Three trail bridges were replaced using innovative designs to help minimize impacts to aquatic habitat. Nearly 1,500 feet of trail was re-routed to resolve seasonal trail flooding and 45 feet of raised platforms were constructed through sensitive wetlands and marshy areas.

"We used both horses and bikes at one work party," said **Kevin Rowell**, Trails Manager for the Middle Fork RD. "Bikes were used to go long distances in a short time and horses were used to carry decking and yard out segments of rotten puncheon. We work really hard to share nicely with all user types."

Darrah Isaacson, Webmaster, Willamette and Siuslaw NF's



gifford pinchot headquarters receives HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD



The Fort Vancouver National Historic Site (NHS) and Gifford Pinchot NF were honored to receive a 2017 Valerie Sivinski Award for Outstanding Historic Building Rehabilitation for their work on Barracks Building 987.

The award, one of three given annually by the State Historic Preservation Office of Washington, highlights the successful rehabilitation project of the Gifford Pinchot NF's new headquarters in Building 987.

Located along iconic "Barracks Row" on the southern edge of the Parade Ground, Building 987 was originally constructed over a century ago as a double infantry barracks building.

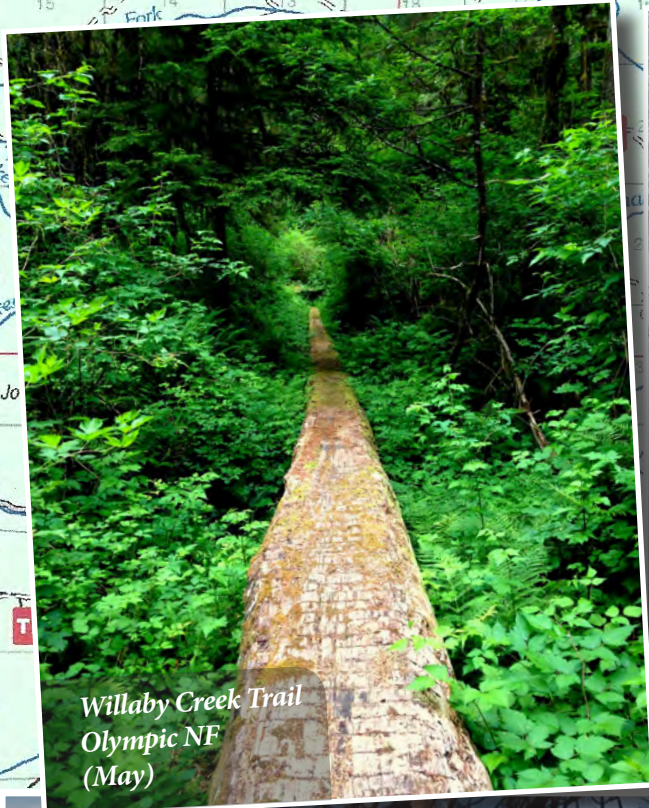
"This project breathed new life into this historic building and is a strong first step in the rehabilitation of the East and South Vancouver Barracks," said Fort Vancouver NHS Superintendent **Tracy Fortmann**. "It also serves as a local, regional and national model for Federal Government agencies working together to protect, preserve and reuse historic structures, to recognize all cultural resources and to encourage partnerships serving the public."

"We are proud to be part of the rehabilitation of this historic structure and partnership," said **Gina Owens**, Forest Supervisor for the Gifford Pinchot NF. "It's an honor to call this building our home and to be part of the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site campus and community."

Sue Ripp Public Affairs Officer, Gifford Pinchot NF

where in the region

PAST ANSWERS



Willaby Creek Trail
Olympic NF
(May)



Salt Creek Falls
Willamette NF
(April)



Mt. Jefferson
from the Deschutes NF
(June)

While there's no lack of beautiful scenery across the Pacific Northwest Region, some of the photos from this quarter's Where in the Region contest proved to be a little trickier than in the past.

Please join us in congratulating the winners of our quarterly **Where in the Region** photo contest.

1st Place:

Brett Carré, Columbia River Gorge NSA
Jerry Messinger, R6 - Redmond Air Center

2nd Place:

Danielle Cochran, Deschutes NF
Patricia Johnson, Wallowa-Whitman NF
Todd Reinwald, Mt. Hood NF
Barton Wills, Deschutes NF



A very special thanks to **Jimmye Turner**, Fire Prevention Specialist, Walla Walla RD, Umatilla NF

where in the region ANSWER



Last issue's Where in the Region photo was of **Mt. Jefferson**, taken from a vantage point in the Deschutes NF. The mountain straddles the Warm Springs Indian Reservation along with the Deschutes and Willamette National Forests.

The peak Native Americans called Seekseekqua was first spotted by the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1806. Named in honor of President **Thomas Jefferson**, the 10,497 ft. mountain currently lies within the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness and is home to five glaciers. Surrounded by rugged topography, Mt. Jefferson may not be the easiest to reach, but Forest Road 2243 will get you within 4 miles of the summit.

For more information: <https://go.usa.gov/xNGEZ> (Willamette NF)
<https://go.usa.gov/xNGEB> (Deschutes NF)

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where IN THE REGION

Win a prize for the most correct answers this quarter!
Using the following haiku,
try to figure out the location of the photo.

Send your guess to r6update@fs.fed.us.

East of the Cascades
lies a peak named for berries
in Oregon's Blues.