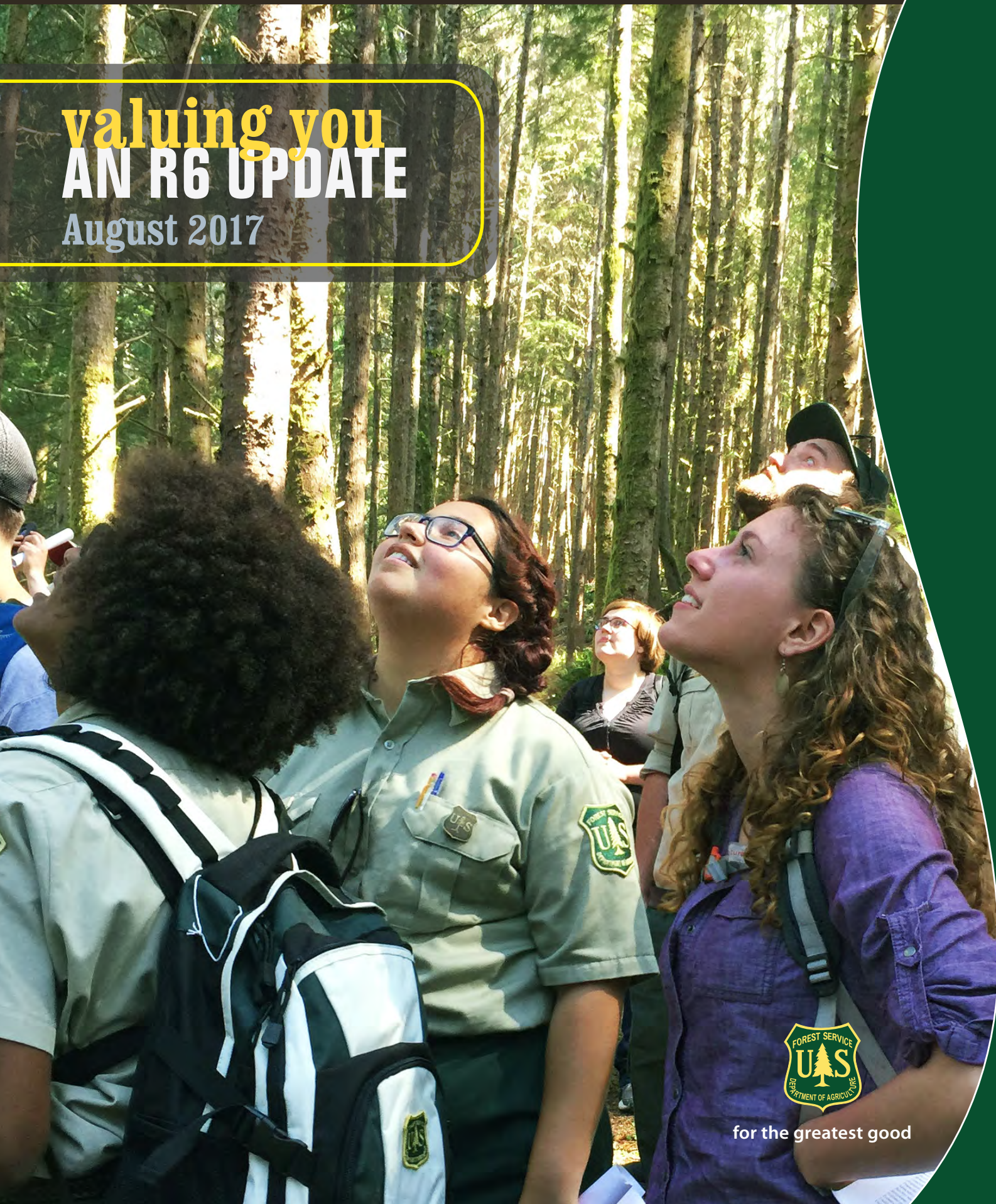




United States Department of Agriculture

valuing you AN R6 UPDATE

August 2017



for the greatest good

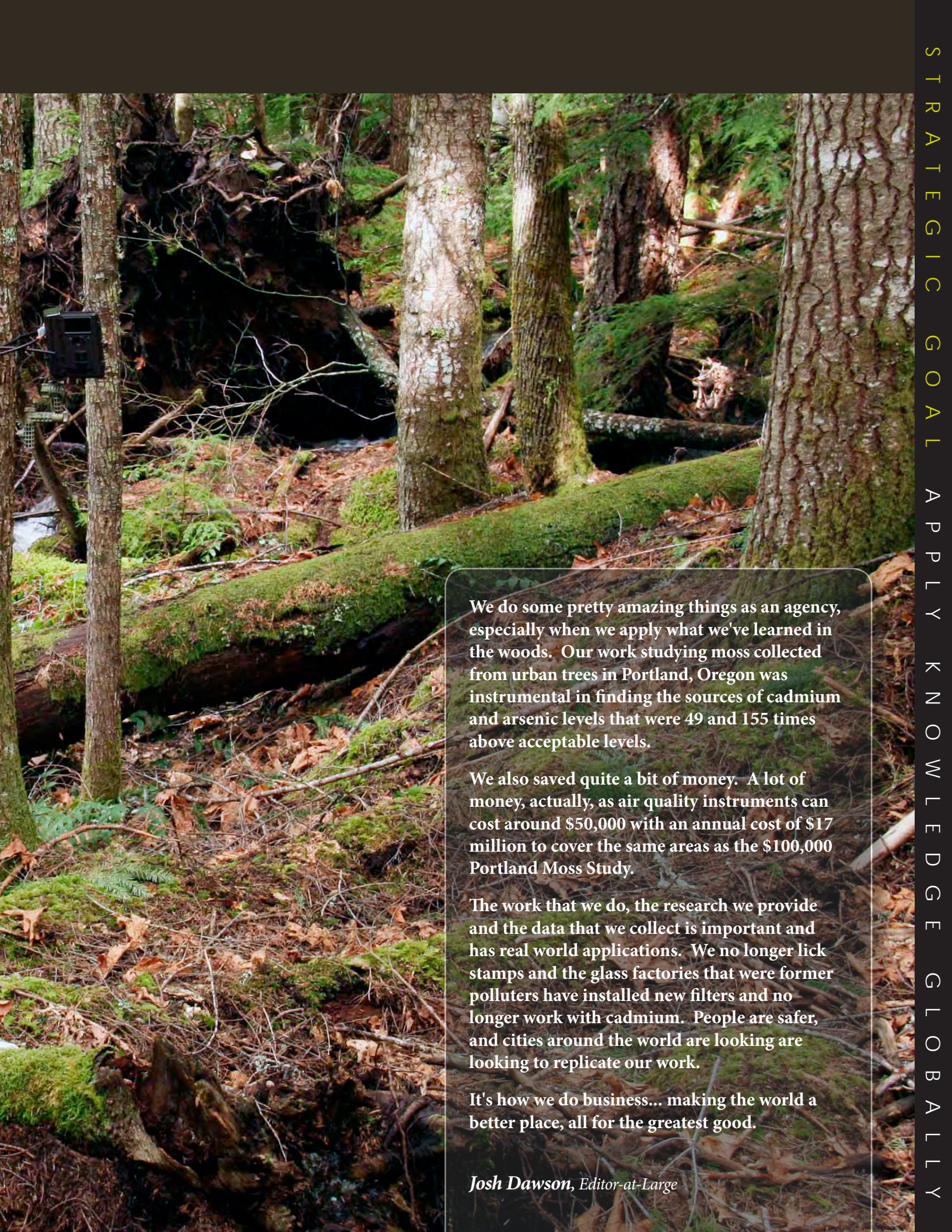
making the world A BETTER PLACE

Do you remember the last time you had to lick a stamp?

I'm not sure if I do. All of my stamps are like stickers, and have been for years. It's one of those little things that can be easy to take for granted, but it wasn't that long ago when licking a stamp was a requirement to send a letter.

Beginning in the 1990's the United States Postal Service turned to the Forest Service for help in developing the adhesives found on today's postage stamps. The older adhesives were gumming up the machines used to recycle paper, but thanks to the hard work and ingenuity of Forest Service employees we now have stamps with adhesives derived from renewable and sustainable resources. Stamps that can now be recycled; saving over 20 million tons of waste paper annually.





We do some pretty amazing things as an agency, especially when we apply what we've learned in the woods. Our work studying moss collected from urban trees in Portland, Oregon was instrumental in finding the sources of cadmium and arsenic levels that were 49 and 155 times above acceptable levels.

We also saved quite a bit of money. A lot of money, actually, as air quality instruments can cost around \$50,000 with an annual cost of \$17 million to cover the same areas as the \$100,000 Portland Moss Study.

The work that we do, the research we provide and the data that we collect is important and has real world applications. We no longer lick stamps and the glass factories that were former polluters have installed new filters and no longer work with cadmium. People are safer, and cities around the world are looking to replicate our work.

It's how we do business... making the world a better place, all for the greatest good.

Josh Dawson, Editor-at-Large

training the next generation OF SIUSLAW FIELD RANGERS



Have you ever been on a ranger program and wondered "How do they know all of this cool stuff?" The answer involves a lot of training, studying and practice.

For the Siuslaw NF Field Ranger training involves learning all about Cape Perpetua and the Oregon Dunes. The new seasonal Field Rangers got to meet botanists, biologists, recreation technicians and more. They visited the popular recreation sites in the area and were immersed in the very resources that they themselves will be sharing with the public this summer. They met with partners, volunteers and community members, and were inspired by several District Rangers and the Forest Supervisor.

Gifford Pinchot, the first Chief of the Forest Service and currently 152 years old, was also on hand and he personally issued their ranger badges and swore them in as official Forest Service Field Rangers.

Darrah Isaacson, Web Manager, Siuslaw & Willamette NF's





central oregon fire staff receives JAMBOREE PATCH FROM EAGLE SCOUTS



Central Oregon Fire Management Staff were honored to receive a series of fire suppression patches from Eagle Scout and National Jamboree staff member James Verheyden.

The patch set recognizes the hard work and efforts of wildland firefighters from the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests, the Crooked River National Grassland and the Prineville District of the Bureau of Land Management by showing firefighters in action using ground and aerial equipment. Each patch contains a microchip that also links users to a series of webpages that provide more information about wildland fire suppression.

Supported by adult advisor Mike Goswick, James designed the unique patch set that accompanied the Crater Lake Council of the Boy Scouts of America to the National Jamboree, and we're honored by the way that the 4,500 youth and 2,700 adult volunteers of the Crater Lake Council continue to help tell our story.

Kassidy Kern, Public Affairs Specialist, Deschutes NF



teeing off for a good cause AT THE HACKER GOLF SCRAMBLE



Employees from the Umatilla, Malheur and Wallowa-Whitman NFs recently spent some time golfing for a good cause at the 9th Annual Hacker Golf Scramble in Union, Oregon.

What started as an idea to help an employee with medical issues has bloomed into an effort that supports Forest Service employees, community members in need and the Wildland Firefighter Foundation. This year's event was hosted by the Buffalo Peak Golf Course, and the 52 participants were able to raise \$2,700 that went to help three families in need.

"We're extremely thankful to the community which has helped by sponsoring the holes and giving us about 20-30 door prizes and awards," said Mark Gomez, District Road Manager for the La Grande RD on the Wallowa-Whitman NF

The La Grande RD and the firefighters of the La Grande and Union Hotshots have been the major supports of the event, and throughout years the group has raised over \$18,000 in order to help those who might need it the most.

Chris Bentley, Digital Media Specialist, R6



willamette archaeologist earns KEEPERS OF THE GATE AWARD

Tony Farque, archaeologist for the Sweet Home RD on the Willamette NF, was the recipient of the national "Keepers of the Gate" award for his stewardship work with Cascade Timber Consulting and the Cascadia Cave.

Presented by the American Rock Art Research Association, Farque was recognized for his 22+ years of continued education and preservation efforts at this important Native American rock art site.

Used by the Molala and Santiam Kalapuya peoples, the cave is a spiritual site, a place of Bear Power, which is important when fishing for salmon. Dozens of petroglyphs adorn the walls, and archaeological research and artifacts indicate that the cave has supported human activity for at least 7,900 years.

Currently sitting on land owned by the Louis W. Hill family of Minnesota, the site is managed by Cascade Timber Consulting and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1990. Working together with Cascade Timber Consulting, the Hill family and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Tony has been able to conduct guided educational tours with the next one scheduled in September.

For more information: <https://go.usa.gov/xRUMC>

Stefanie Gatchell, Public Affairs Specialist, Willamette NF



throwing a spotlight on THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE



Reforestation specialist Randy Charon was recently recognized for an outstanding career with over 30 years of service on the Umpqua NF. Randy is a second-generation native of Roseburg, Oregon where he finished his Young Adult Conservation Corps training on the North Umpqua RD in 1980.

In 1981 he was hired by the Steamboat RD to work on a 20 person brush disposal crew, and after completing the burn project Randy was offered a silviculture position on the Diamond Lake RD working out of Toketee, Oregon.

After working a variety of positions on the forest, Randy enlisted with the U.S. Army. In 1988 he was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado with the 4th Infantry Division in Armor/Tank Battalion, and in 1991 he was stationed in Schweinfurt, Germany during Operation Desert Storm.

After the war ended Randy returned home and resumed his Forest Service career where to this day you can find him active in District events and always willing to lend a hand.

Heidi Steward, Visitor Information Assistant, Umpqua NF

paisley ranger district earns HONORED INSTITUTION AWARD



An Oregon town known for its archeological sites is no stranger to history, and with 50 years of weather observations the Paisley Ranger District on the Fremont-Winema NF was recognized for making some recent history of their own.

The National Weather Service* presented Doug McKay, District Ranger of the Winter Zone, with the Honored Institution Award for the half century of cooperation, and meteorologists from Medford, Oregon were on hand to celebrate the occasion.

**The National Weather Service is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration which is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce.*

Clark Heglar, Information Receptionist, Fremont-Winema NF

eclipse photo contest IS A PRETTY BIG DEAL

The upcoming solar eclipse on August 21st is bound to offer some incredible photo opportunities, and we want to see them!

Submit any amazing before, during and after photos to R6Update@fs.fed.us and the best pictures will be featured in the next issue of the R6Update with the winner receiving a VERY special "I'm kind of a big deal in the Forest Service" t-shirt.

How special? Special enough to be autographed by members of the Regional Leadership Team and special enough to be signed by Regional Forester Jim Peña himself.

So get the proof that you know you've been waiting for and have fun during the eclipse. You're all kind of a big deal, so make sure you're being safe when taking your pictures and good luck!



digger BEAR



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

where in the region ANSWER



Last month's Where in the Region photo was of Northeast Oregon's **Strawberry Mountains**, taken from State Highway 395 on the Malheur NF. With elevations ranging from 4,000 to 9,038 feet the area is home to an amazingly diverse landscape.

The complex geological history of this landscape began millions of years ago with the buckling of an ancient sea floor beneath the western portion of the mountain range. Later volcanic ash and lava formed the eastern part of the range and more recently glacial ice carved out the valleys and hollowed out the rock beds that hold the seven alpine lakes of the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness... Rare pleasures in an otherwise arid wilderness experience.

For more information: <https://go.usa.gov/xRUBG>

r6update STAFF

Director of Communications and Community Engagement
Shoshona Pilip-Florea
smpilipflorea@fs.fed.us, 503.808.2240

Managing Editor, Margaret Petersen
mpetersen02@fs.fed.us, 503.808.2414

Editor-at-Large, Josh Dawson
jdawson@fs.fed.us, 503.808.2241



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.

Looking down below,
at a saint of a mountain
in Washington state.