



Forests to Grassland

... and everything in between

The Arapaho and Roosevelt NF's and Pawnee National Grassland

Volume 2, Issue 2, Spring 2004

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A message from the Forest Supervisor

Welcome to the spring edition of the *Forest to Grassland* newsletter. There is a lot of news to share. First of all I am happy to announce we have selected Jackie Parks as our new Deputy Forest Supervisor, arriving June 5. The level of resource activity on this unit has always been high, but the effects of fire and drought, plus the continually expanding population base we serve, has kicked it up a few more levels in recent years. Jackie's talent and enthusiasm will help us do a better job of managing the challenges and serving your needs, so I'm delighted to have her here! Learn

more about Jackie on page 6.

Can you believe that summer is almost here? Most of our seasonal workforce and volunteers are on board or will be soon. You can read about some of the volunteer efforts we have on page 8

We expect a busy field season and hope to make even greater strides towards meeting our fuel hazard reduction goals. The Front Range Fuel Treatment Partnership article on page 2 and the prescribed fire season article on page 5 highlight some of our accomplishments in this area.

We have also made great

strides in setting the framework for the future of Berthoud Pass.

We greatly appreciate all those who have participated in this process and look forward to working with others to continue to work towards the vision that has been set forth for the area. More information about the *Berthoud Pass Assessment* is featured on page 3.

I wish you all an enjoyable and safe summer. I hope you have a chance to experience the wonders of the ARP.

See you out there!


Jim Bedwell,
Forest Supervisor

Editor, *Forests to Grassland*

Arapaho and Roosevelt N.F. & Pawnee N.G.

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Hot Topics

Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership

The Front Range Fuel Treatment Partnership (FRFTP) is an evolving partnership that is currently made up of the U.S. Forest Service, the Colorado State Forest Service, the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management. The Partnership is currently expanding to include many other organizations. The FRFTP is dedicated to restoring ecosystem health and improving community sustainability.

Collaboration with local communities and interests is key to the FRFTP's success. There have been many recent efforts in this regard. On Friday, March 26, a meeting was held with representatives from nine of the ten counties along the Front Range. Attendees included county commis-



Above: Fire personnel ignite 60 acres on the Sheep Creek Prescribed fire northwest of Fort Collins. The burn is designed to reduce hazardous fuels and improve wildlife habitat.

sioners, emergency services representatives and other county staff members. The meeting included brief presentations by FRFTP leadership and concluded with a question and answer session focusing on FRFTP projects underway, the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003, working together with local governments and communities for fuel treatments and community protection plans. As a follow-up to this meeting, FRFTP will continue to meet with individual counties and communities.

On May 14, a FRFTP Roundtable meeting was held with interest groups from state and federal governments, academic and scientific groups, industry and user groups, local community representatives, and conservation non-government groups. Five questions were posed to the group to consider:

1. How can the partnership best engage local communities planning for and implementing its objectives?
2. How can we encourage private landowners to assist federal and state agencies in reducing fuel loads on high-priority private lands?
3. What can we do to raise public awareness of fire and forest health issues?
4. How can we increase the use of management tools to restore and preserve ecosystem health in Front Range forests?
5. What is the appropriate role for a forum such as the Roundtable as forest health activities move forward along the Front Range?

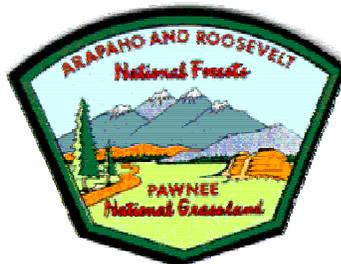
The next step is to gather a subgroup of the Roundtable together to develop a mission statement based on how the roundtable should interact with the FRFTP.

More information about the FRFTP can be obtained at <http://www.rockymountainwildlandfire.info/frftp.htm>.

Vision of Forests to Grassland Newsletter

"Our vision is to utilize this newsletter to create a channel for improving an ongoing dialog between the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest and Pawnee National Grassland and stakeholders.

We hope that it will provide new opportunities for the public to participate with processes, projects and partnerships throughout the Forests and Grassland."



Article Contributions

We would like article contributions for the various sections of this tri-annual newsletter. The next deadline is **August 2, 2004**. When submitting articles or photos, please provide your name, affiliation (if any), phone number and/or e-mail. Send the article, topic or photo via e-mail or hard copy. Articles should be no longer than 500 words and should identify the topic area the article is geared toward. Please note that there are additional guidelines for the Points Of View Section. You can find those on page 9.

Submissions can be sent to:
 Tammy Williams
 Forests to Grassland
 240 W. Prospect
 Fort Collins, CO 80526
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Stewardship contracting

The terminology used in fuels management projects and recent political initiatives and legislation can cause some confusion. Last edition we introduced categorical exclusions. In this edition, we have decided to make the idea of stewardship contracting a little clearer.

Stewardship contracting is a tool to achieve land management goals for National Forest System Lands and meeting local community needs. It is also a way to utilize collaboration, and to offset costs exchanging good for services. It is important to remember that stewardship contracting is an implementation tool tied to the forest plan.

Stewardship contracting allows the U.S. Forest Service to enter into contracts, under certain conditions, that may be up to 10 years in length. This can allow for larger-scale projects and the contract is awarded on a "best value" basis. This means past performance, experience, price and other factors can be considered. Benefits to local and rural communities may be considered when awarding the contract on a best value basis.

This long-term opportunity provides for a stability of supply. Having a sustained project could help give the few companies along the Front Range that do hazardous fuels reduction money to expand or give new individuals the opportunity to start this type of work.

Just because this tool allows for longer-range contracts and potentially larger projects, it does not mean other laws or rules regarding these projects get overlooked. All of the applicable environmental laws still apply to stewardship contracting and restoration is the primary objective.

One of the pilot programs of stewardship contracting has taken place on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland. The Winiger Ridge Project on the Boulder Ranger District is an example of stewardship contracting in effect.

It is hoped that stewardship contracting will provide the opportunity to get a greater amount of treatment done in a quicker manner using collaboration and varying approaches to fuels reduction and forest health.

40th anniversary of Wilderness Act

September 4, 2004, marks the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

The Wilderness Act established the National Wilderness Preservation System. Anniversary activities will be taking place all across Colorado in an effort to recognize these special public places.

Nationally there are 662 wilderness units, with ten of these on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP). These areas compile 25% of the ARP's total national forest land. Most recently designated on the ARP was the James Peak Wilderness, which is the 35th wilderness area in Colorado. Wilderness areas are managed by multiple agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Services, U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service.

Wilderness areas on the ARP each have a set of regulations that visitors must abide by in an effort to keep the area pristine and untrammelled by humankind. It is merely a place for humans to visit, but not remain. Many of these regulations are available at the ARP website www.fs.fed.us/arnf or by calling your local district office.

For anniversary activities near you, please check www.wilderness.net.

Berthoud Pass Assessment released

The *Berthoud Pass Assessment* has been completed. The purpose of the assessment was to determine the existing condition of various natural components in the Berthoud Pass area and provide recommendations for future resource management.

The assessment is not a decision-making document, but develops a management concept from which additional planning and analysis can be developed. The assessment recognizes that recreation use of Berthoud Pass has been very important in the past and will continue to be of critical importance in the future.

After numerous failed ski area permits during the past twenty years, the U.S. Forest Service is anxious to develop opportunities for services and facilities at Berthoud Pass that will be sustainable long into the future. There-

fore, the assessment makes the recommendation to remove the existing ski lodge, because the area no longer serves as a developed ski area, nor is it anticipated the area will serve as one in the future. Removal of all structures owned by the past permittee is also a requirement of the terminated Ski Area Permit.

The U.S. Forest Service has a vision for Berthoud Pass that responds, in a sustainable manner, to the strong attributes of the place, the resource-based recreation uses that occur there and the demanding environment of this high mountain pass. The vision also includes the potential for various partnerships involving both public and private entities.

In an effort to be proactive in moving Berthoud Pass into the future, the U.S. Forest Service, with the support of

Colorado State Parks, has recently partnered with the Continental Divide Trail Alliance on a grant proposal. The grant would provide funding to move towards the completion of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail in Colorado. Included in the completion of the trail are the development of a major interpretive trailhead at Berthoud Pass, and the development of a day-use facility there to support the management of winter snow play and support other dispersed recreation activities. The facility could provide interpretation of the area's history, food service, supplies for the activities that occur there, respite from the weather and support for volunteer activities in the area.

For more information on this ongoing project, please contact Daniel Lovato, Clear Creek District Ranger, at 303-567-3000.

Lefthand Canyon restoration

The Lefthand OHV Restoration Project on the Boulder Ranger District (BRD) developed from the need to more closely manage the Lefthand Dispersed Use Area. This area has seen heavy use for decades, especially by the off-highway enthusiasts. One of the most noticeable outcomes of this heavy use is the severe soil erosion in an area called, "The Meadow."

In an effort to keep Lefthand open to OHV use, a local OHV club called Trail Ridge Runners procured a grant from the trails division of Colorado State Parks in the amount of \$250,000. Wildlands Restoration Volunteers (WRV) and Walsh Engineering joined this partnership providing technical expertise in the way of surveys, restoration techniques and volunteer coordination.

The objective of the project is to address the watershed by repairing damage to soils and habitat and to reduce erosion and sedimentation into James Creek and the surrounding riparian area.

FS Road 286 was post-and-cabled last fall in order to keep OHVs on the FS road, out of the restoration area and off user-created trails.

In early April, Americorp volunteers helped prepare the area for restoration by hauling logs and rocks to various staging areas. A variety of tools and 20,000 pounds of material were shuttled up to staging sites around the Meadow by OHV clubs, including the Trail Ridge Runners and the Pinzgauer Club the evening before the volunteer restoration day. OHV and Americorp volunteers helped load and unload the materials.

In mid-April, heavy equipment was used to restore the area to a more natural condition by contouring slopes and erosion gullies, repairing compacted soil, and spraying native seed to revegetate the eroded area.

On April 17, BRD employees joined 100 volunteers from environmental organizations and OHV enthusiasts' clubs to rake compacted soil and apply erosion matting where needed to help restore the 14-acre Meadow. Volunteers hand-planted native seed, applied mulch or erosion fabric, and constructed sediment trapping structures in a series of deep erosion gullies. The "WRV Day" at Lefthand was coordinated by Ed Self of WRV. WRV provided a hot lunch for volunteers and provided snacks and an acoustic blue grass band in afternoon.

"What made the project such a success was not just the restoration of forest, but the coming together of two communities that ordinarily do not agree on land use issues. The collaboration is unique and the educational value of such a collaboration stretches far beyond local boundaries," Melody Moyer, BRD Lefthand project coordinator, said.

Since WRV Day, agency employees having been working with Americorp volunteers to build more check dams, repair and post signs, mobilize materials, and secure new culverts that were installed to address watershed run-off.

We expect another 100 volunteers to participate in the collection and removal of spent shells, targets, and trash at

the 12th Annual Lefthand Canyon Clean-up on May 2. This event is coordinated by Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition, Northern Colorado Trail Ridge Runners, Rocky Mountain Enduro Circuit and Trail Ridge Runners 4WD Club.

The work in Lefthand seems endless, but with community partnerships, the area is coming back. The OHV community developed a "Greeter Program" where OHV enthusiasts greet one another on weekends to educate fellow enthusiasts on abuse issues and current regulations.

Management of the Lefthand Dispersed Use Area is ongoing. A large-scale plan for the area is forth-coming, but until then, the BRD will be working with the local communities and volunteers such as Americorp to keep the area clean, OHV use on designated trails, habitats safe and the watershed functional.



Above: Volunteers listen to a briefing about the restoration day.
Below: The Americorp volunteers unload straw



Prescribed fire season accomplishments

To date, the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland has burned 8002 acres this fiscal year, with plans to burn close to 1000 acres more, in an effort to reduce hazardous fuels and improve wildlife habitat. There has also been mechanical treatment on 165 acres.

Some of the recent burns include Winiger Ridge, west of Boulder; Sheep Creek 1, northwest of Fort Collins; and multiple units on the Pawnee National Grassland.

The Winiger Ridge Project is designed to reduce fuels, reintroduce fire disturbances into the ecosystem and improve wildlife habitat. It is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Forest Service and the Colorado State Forest Service. The project area is west of Gross Reservoir, approximately eight miles southwest of Boulder. So far this year 120 acres have been burned, with an additional 150 acres planned.

The Sheep Creek I Project is located approximately 36 miles northwest of Fort Collins. It is aimed at restoring forest health, reducing fuel load and improving wildlife habitat. Firefighters burned 60 acres of the area to date and have plans for more than 500 additional acres.

The Pawnee burn included 5500 acres on seven units. It was done in an effort to improve mountain plover nesting habitat through the use of prescribe fire and evaluate its effectiveness. It was also an opportunity to reintroduce fire into the short grass prairie ecosystem.

With each prescribed fire, ignition only occurs when

conditions are met. These include smoke dispersal conditions, weather, fuel moisture and resources available. Public and firefighter safety are always a top priority and personnel make every effort to minimize smoke impacts to surrounding areas.

Information on prescribed burns and wildfires on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland is available on our 24-hour recorded information line at 970-498-1030.



Above: Pawnee Prescribed fire for Plover habitat improvement

2004 fire season

Although we had several small fires early in the year it wasn't until The Picnic Rock Fire located approximately 10 mile northwest of Fort Collins started on March 29 that fire season really gained momentum. The Picnic rock fire was started by a local resident burning debris and burned a total of 8,908 acres, a garage and a home before it was controlled.

Thankfully moisture came into the area and lower elevations areas began to green-up. So what does this mean for 2004? The National Interagency Fire Center's Predictive Services Group identifies our potential for fires ranging from normal to above normal. For the latest information visit their website at http://www.nifc.gov/news/intell_predserv_forms/season_outlook.html.

To prepare for the fire season three types of fire refreshers were held on the forest and grassland: Firefighting personnel fire refreshers, media fire re-

resher, and a fire information refresher.

Every year all of the Forest and Grassland personnel involved in fire-fighting begin the season with an annual fire refresher. Fire refreshers are designed to kick-off the season by reviewing the key aspects of safety and lesson learned from past wildfires. Firefighters also practice using their fire shelters.

Canyon Lakes and Pawnee National Grassland Ranger Districts hosted a fire refresher for their local media outlets during the sheep creek prescribed fire. The media received a fire safety packet, practiced fire shelter deployment and watched crews ignited sixty acres north of the Cherokee Park Road to reduce hazardous fuels.

The Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP) and Larimer County Sheriff's Department also conducted a fire refreshers for information officers, reviewing procedures for obtaining and distributing information during an incident. The fire

refresher focused on ways to improve the accuracy and timeliness of information delivered to the public and media during a fire.

Most firefighters are now on board and ready for the season. You can prepare for the season by using extra caution with all fires and keeping yourself informed about fire restrictions, you can monitor fire restrictions state wide at <http://www.dola.state.co.us/oem/PublicInformation/firebans/firebans2004.htm>.

Thank You Picnic Rock Fire Information Volunteers

Many of the friendly voices you heard when you called the Picnic Rock Fire information lines were volunteers provided by FirstCall, First United Methodist Church in Fort Collins and Larimer County Sheriff's Department. Thank you all for your dedication, professionalism and enthusiasm.

Changing Places... Changing Faces

New Deputy Forest Supervisor selected

We are pleased to announce that Jackie Parks was selected as our new deputy forest supervisor. Jackie comes to us from the Nebraska National Forest in Chadron, where she was the administrative officer. As deputy forest supervisor, she will handle all management aspects of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland.

Jackie has a Masters of Education in Career and Vocational Guidance and a Bachelor of Science in Education. She enjoys hiking outdoors and is very excited to have the opportunity to work and live in Northern Colorado. Jackie's husband Mike

will be transferring to the U.S. Postal Service in Greeley when they move. Jackie has four grown children: Amber, Jeremy, Jennie, Mike and Philip.

Before being selected, Jackie was among three detailers who served as deputy forest supervisors on the ARP. Each brought new perspectives, energy and ideas to the Forest Leadership Team. Thanks to Larry Lucas (Recreation, Heritage and Wilderness Staff Officer) from the Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Louis Black, Jr. (USDA Liaison Officer to Tuskegee University) from Tuskegee, Alabama.



Above: Jackie Parks, New Deputy Forest Supervisor for the ARP

New building update

The new home for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland's Supervisor's Office and Canyon Lakes Ranger District is expected to be finished by the end of October. The building will house approximately 130 employees and is located on the Natural Resource Research Campus on Centre Drive in Fort Collins.



Above: Progress as of May 26, 2004

The lobby has been designed to bring the "outside in" by surrounding visitors with architectural elements reflecting the natural diversity of the for-

ests and grassland. A colorful mural and waterfall will draw visitors into the "welcome center," where more exhibits and information are available. Large west facing windows provide views of the Front Range. In the lobby, the 20 foot high "timberstrand" beams, natural rock pillars and the stream patterned into the floor will remind visitors that the U.S. Forest Service stands for nature. Exhibits offer key information about recreation opportunities and an emphasis on stewardship.

The exterior landscape was designed to conserve water and display native plants, including ponderosa pine, aspen and blue spruce. To provide a "semi-wild" appearance, native buffalo and blue gramma grass will replace lawn in many areas.

The building will also have other amenities to make the space inviting to visitors and employees alike. There will be bike racks, shade trees and a seating plaza.

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Capital City Coordinator

Ray Kingston recently filled the Colorado Capital City Coordinator position in Denver vacated last year by Kevin Riordan.

While Ray reports to the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland Supervisor Jim Bedwell, which is the lead Colorado national forest for the state, this position also coordinates with six other Colorado forest supervisors and staffs, as well as the Rocky Mountain Regional Forester and directors, on natural resource issues with the State of Colorado and Colorado Legislature.

He stays abreast of on-going projects and natural resource activities of all sorts, in particular areas that might be of interest to the state legislature. He also shares information on other nature resource issues generating interest elsewhere to the Colorado forests. His office is in the Department of Natural Resources Centennial Building next to the Capitol.

Ray came from the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest in central Arizona where he was a staff officer for recreation, lands, engineering, timber, minerals and archeology. Prior, he was

a district ranger in Paonia on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests and was in various positions 20 years.

He started his forest service career on the Gila National Forest. Prior to joining the forest service, Ray worked for the Soil Conservation Service and in the golf course industry as a greens superintendent. He received his Bachelor and Master of Science from the University of Arizona in agriculture chemistry and soils and soil and water science, as well as a Master of Public Administration from UC Denver.

Forest Service Highlights

Interpretation moves ahead

What do trailhead signs, the Jeffco Tanker Base, campground programs and the new forest headquarters all have in common? Each offers a unique opportunity for the forest and grassland and its partners to communicate and interpret important information to the public.

The Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP) contains a smorgasbord of resources and many opportunities to share why and how those resources are managed. This helps to increase visitor stewardship, appreciation and understanding of the land.

The amount of information available to

the public can be overwhelming. So, how do we decide what to communicate, where and how? The ARP has formed a team to create an interpretation and education (I/E) strategy for the forest.

The I/E strategy will identify characteristics of forest visitors, inventory forest resources, and assess existing interpretive materials and programs and recommend major themes and educational or interpretive media such as displays, programs or signs in recreation areas. A draft strategy will be available in October. Benefits from this effort are already being seen on the Mount Goliath and ARP new building interpretive efforts.

Smokey Bear turns 60

Help Smokey Bear celebrate sixty years of fire prevention by being extra careful with fire this year. Smokey Bear's official birthday is August 9th.



*Remember...
Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires*

Ptarmigan surveys



Above: Miles Miller (Recreation Planner, Sulphur RD) counts ptarmigan on Guanella Pass.

The Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland and the Pike San-Isabel National Forests have joined together to monitor ptarmigans before, during and after the Federal Highway Administration's reconstruction of the Guanella Pass Road.

Ptarmigans are a bird that were recently listed as a sensitive species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Ptarmigans are

only found in alpine habitats. Three surveys have been completed so far by a combinations of the U.S. Forest Service, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the USFWS and volunteers.

Ptarmigan populations will be monitored to see what affect the construction may have on the populations and verify assumptions made about the ptarmigans during the road's planning process.

Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) workshop

The Sulphur Ranger District will be hosting the fourth annual State of Colorado off-highway vehicle (OHV) management workshop on July 7 through July 10 in the area around Grand Lake, Colo.

The workshop is for land managers and OHV enthusiasts alike. It is sponsored by the Colorado State Parks – OHV Program, Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition, U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. The purpose of this event is to provide a forum where interagency personnel in collaboration with OHV enthusiasts can have open discussions and ex-

change ideas pertaining to OHV management on public lands.

Additionally, it is a great opportunity to obtain trail maintenance related training and ATV, 4WD and motorcycle certifications.

It is hoped that working relationships between OHV enthusiasts and land managers will be established and strengthened through this workshop. The sessions will center on agency needs as well as OHV recreational needs.

Successfully implemented strategies will be discussed and training for trail crews will be included. Training will

be supported utilizing U.S. Forest Service trail crews funded by the state OHV registration program. Certification for specialized equipment will be available on the first day of the event.

Other types of training, outside of trail maintenance and design, will also be offered. These include GPS/map reading, quick trail fixes, sound and spark arrestor testing, basic chainsaw use, buck-n-rail fence construction, and ATV and dirt bike maintenance.

For more information or if you are interested in attending, please contact Corey Corbett at 303-809-6628 or Miles Miller at 970-887-4126.

Volunteer Spotlights

Poudre Wilderness Volunteers receive grant

The Poudre Wilderness Volunteers (PWV) received a \$1500 grant from Larimer County Open Space on March 18. The grant will be used to fund the training that takes place this spring for the volunteers, as well as additional educational programs.

The spring training included approximately 60 new recruits and many veteran volunteers. The format of this weekend training includes hikes, presentations, workshops and guest speakers. The workshops cover topics such as map and compass, first aid, and new hiking and safety

equipment. The training is being held the fourth weekend in May.

Another exciting accomplishment for PWV is the publication of their field guide in an edited down version for the general public. The *PWV Field & Trail Guide – Roosevelt National Forest* is a 124 page paperback full of trail descriptions and basic information about the area. It is currently available at participating Red Feather Lakes merchants and the group hopes to make it available at additional locations in the near future.

Volunteers ramp up for summer

Volunteers often give projects the boost they need to get started and accomplished. This is definitely the case on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP). There is an abundance of involvement opportunities on each of our five ranger districts, and identifying all of them would fill this newsletter. Here are a few of the opportunities available this summer.

The Sulphur Ranger District has the Grand County Wilderness group whose mission is to assist the forest service in the preservation, protection, improvement and public understanding of the wilderness areas in Grand County. This group has given much of their time to the district's wilderness area. During the summer they trail host, staff two wilderness cabins twice a week, maintain an adopted trail in the

Indian Peak Wilderness, maintain nine registration boxes at the trailheads, do a noxious weed eradication project, maintain public education bulletin boards, and this year they are involved in planning an event in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Last year this amazing group of 99 individuals gave 2,806 hours to the U. S. Forest Service and the wilderness areas in Grand County. If anyone is interested in becoming a member, please contact the Wilderness Group at 970-726-4626.

The Canyon Lakes Ranger District also has a plethora of groups that support its mission in the Larimer County area. The district is supported by many groups in the summer, including the Diamond Peaks Mountain Bike Patrol and the Northern Colorado Mounted Patrol. The district is also looking for volunteers to staff an Estes Park Visitor's Center during the summer months and individuals interested in supporting the district's volunteer website. Please contact Kristy Wumkes, volunteer coordinator, at 970-498-2733, if you are interested in any of these groups or opportunities.

On the Boulder Ranger District (BRD), the Indian Peaks Wilderness (IWP) Alliance backcountry hosts hike trails in the IPW and make contacts with visitors, educating them on "Leave No Trace," proper etiquette, regulations and other backcountry issues. They take down information about wilderness visitors, which helps us to

make management decisions. Training is being held to initiate new volunteers on June 5 from 8 am to 4:30 pm. People need to sign up in advance for the training. Jeff Charlebois, president, can be reached at 303-443-4543 or you can find additional information at www.indianpeakswilderness.org.

Also on BRD, the Wildlands Restoration Volunteers is a non-profit organization that performs ecological restoration activities on public lands primarily in Boulder County. Recently they hosted over 100 volunteers at a restoration project in the Lefthand Canyon off-highway vehicle area, restoring a meadow damaged by years of off-road use. Ed Self is the group's leader and can be contacted at 303-543-1411, edself@ecomail.org, or for more information on other upcoming events log on to www.wlrv.org. The Trailridge Runners 4WD club has adopted several roads on the district and run them in early spring to clear them for opening. The group recently sponsored an annual cleanup in the Lefthand off-highway vehicle area. They also have a list of other volunteer projects they organize. Please check www.trr4wd.com for more information.

You can find out more about volunteer opportunities on the forests and grassland by logging on to our website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/arnf/volunteering/>. For all of those who have dedicated their service to the ARP, we thank you.



Above: A volunteer learns about edible plants at the PWV training.

Stakeholder/partners Highlights

ARP Foundation rollouts

The ARP Foundation is happy to welcome Howard Alden back after some serious surgery. Howard is back working with the foundation and, despite some pretty fierce rehabilitation, is doing great.

May has been the primary rollout month for the foundation. The goal of the rollouts is to introduce community members in each of the forest's five districts to the ARP Foundation, its members, its purpose and identify appropriate partnering activities with involvement from the public, the foundation and each district. Rollouts have already been held in Granby, Greeley and Fort Collins. Upcoming Rollouts are scheduled for Boulder on May 26 and Denver on June 2. Look for more details when invitations are mailed.

The ARP Foundation sponsored a rollout for the media

and elected officials in March. Despite the Picnic Rock Fire's effects to media attendance, the rollout was successful. It generated questions and support from many of the attendees. It also generated promises of future media coverage from media that was unable to attend.

The ARP Foundation is sending participants to the interpretive training with a grant from the National Forest Foundation.

Projects for the near future will be developed from the rollout meetings that are currently being held. This will then require the ARP Foundation representatives and district rangers to fine tune opportunities.

For more information about the ARP Foundation or if you are interested in getting involved, please contact Howard Alden at 970-482-0983 or hald22234@aol.com.

Points of View—new board announced

The first term of our Points of View Board (POV) has ended. Our thanks go to Marilee Long, Deni La Rue and Jason Maziarz. We appreciate all their time and effort in gathering views from our stakeholders.

We are please to announce the members of our new POV board : Mike Hooker, Deann McBride and Jamie Switzer.

Mike has worked as a reporter for Channel 4 News since 1994. He joined the Northern Bureau of Channel 4 in 1998 and moved to Fort Collins, where he lives in with his wife Debra and two daughters, Erin and Claire.

Mike has a vast range of experience in the media field, which include reporting for various TV stations in Tennessee and moonlighting as an adjunct instructor in the journalism department at Colorado State University. Mike holds a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from the University of Colorado.

Mike grew up in Colorado and his family enjoys hiking and camping throughout the state.

Deann McBride is a reporter for the *Clear Creek Courant* newspaper in Idaho Springs. She has a Bachelor of Art in Journalism with an emphasis in photojournalism from Metro State.

Jamie Switzer is an Assistant Professor in Journalism and Technical Communication at Colorado State University. She has a Bachelor of Science in Broadcast Journalism from Texas Christian University and a Master of Science in Technical Communication from Colorado State University and a doctorate in education technology from Pepperdine University.

Jamie specializes in teaching computer mediated communication, communication in virtual organizations, new communication technologies, television production and visual communication.

In the past, Jamie has worked for both radio and television stations in Colorado and Texas.

Jamie's husband Ralph is also a professor at Colorado State University . They have two grown children, Vince and Lois.

We are very excited about working with the new board. The first issue they will be involved in will come out in September. All board members will serve a two-year term.

We need your help to continue to help the POV section grow. Help us continue a dialog by submitting an article or idea for the next issue.

The deadline for submission is Monday August 2. Please see the guidelines to the right for more information.

Points of View (POV) Guidelines:

Submissions must be factual and geared towards starting a dialog rather than stating a position or criticizing another individual or organization. We would like to hear what you are interested in, your likes, dislikes, major concerns and hopes for the ARP. Contributions will only be accepted if the contributors provide their name, affiliation (if any), phone number and/or e-mail address so the board may contact them about their submission.

Submissions must be no longer than 300 words and can only be submitted electronically or in hard copy form (no disks) to:

**Points of View Board:
Arapaho & Roosevelt NF
& Pawnee NG
240 West Prospect Street
Fort Collins , CO 80526
or e-mail: tjwilliams@fs.fed.us**

The non-Forest Service, POV board will ensure items submitted meet guidelines for the section, will edit for grammar and spelling, and work with the person(s) submitting articles if the articles need to be shortened.

Spotlights

Ranger District Spotlights

- ◆ Mount Evans Road (Colorado State Highway 5) opened May 28 on the Clear Creek Ranger District. The recreation fee remains \$10 and an annual pass can be purchased for \$25. Any of the Golden Passports can be used for access. The passports can be purchased at the district and 80% of the revenue stays there.
- ◆ The U.S. Forest Service is preparing to celebrate its centennial in 2005. To find out more, visit the New Century of Service website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/newcentury/>. Details about local events will be coming out soon. The U.S. Forest Service was created July 1, 1905.
- ◆ As noted in earlier editions, the Canyon Lakes Ranger District and ARP Supervisor's Office phone numbers were left out of the last edition of the Fort Collins phone book. For those trying to contact the Canyon Lakes Ranger District, the visitor information number is 970-498-2770. The Supervisor's Office number is 970-498-1100.
- ◆ The Boulder Ranger District has begun the planning process for the Brainard Lake Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will look at possible changes in parking, camping, trails and a new visitor center. For more information, please contact Glen Cook at 303-541-2521.
- ◆ Canyon Lakes Ranger District Volunteer Ed Seely has been selected as the 2004 American Hiking Society's "Volunteer of the Year" for Colorado. Ed will receive his award on National Trails Day on June 5.

Event Spotlights

June

- ◆ Thursday's in June @ 1:30 p.m., Raptors, Rivers and Reservoirs Interpretation program meets at the spillway park at Shadow Mountain Lake, Sulphur Ranger District
- ◆ 5th @ 8 a.m.—Greyrock Trail Maintenance Day, Canyon Lakes Ranger District
- ◆ 6th—Hill Climb Kick-off Mountain Bike Event, Sulphur Ranger District
- ◆ 7th—Grand County Library Forest Service Summer Environmental Education program, Sulphur Ranger District
- ◆ 8th—Grand County Library Forest Service Summer Environmental Education program, Sulphur Ranger District
- ◆ 26th-27th—American Red Cross Fat Tire Classic, Sulphur Ranger District

July

- ◆ 7th-10th—Fourth Annual OHV Management Workshop, Sulphur Ranger District (see page 7)
- ◆ 17th-18th—Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado Trail Project on Sough Boulder Creek Trail, Boulder Ranger District
- ◆ 27th-28th—Wildlands Restoration Volunteers* Youth Project, Boulder Ranger District
- ◆ 30th-31st—Wildlands Restoration Volunteers* Isabelle Trail Project, Boulder Ranger District

August

- ◆ 1st—Wildlands Restoration Volunteers* Isabelle Trail Project, Boulder Ranger District
- ◆ 7th—Boulder Off-road Alliance Sourdough Trail Project, Boulder Ranger District
- ◆ 12th-13th—Wildlands Restoration Volunteers* Mitchell Lake Trail Project, Boulder Ranger District
- ◆ 28th—Wildlands Restoration Volunteers* and Colorado Mountain Club Forest Lakes Trail Project, Boulder Ranger District

*More information about Wildlands Restoration Volunteers' projects is available at www.wlrv.org.

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