



**Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Volunteers to Team with Forest Service to Reopen Rifle Range

(Columbia, SC) – The U.S. Forest Service will host a volunteer clean up and repair day at Twin Ponds rifle range on the Francis Marion National Forest, October 31, from 8 A.M. to 1 P.M.

The Forest Service closed the Twin Ponds range in September after a third incidence of vandalism in 12 months raised concerns for visitor safety at the range.

“We’ve had a great response from range users calling in and offering to volunteer,” reported Jannah DuPre, recreation manager for the Francis Marion National Forest. “Over 40 folks and a troop of cub scouts have already committed to helping out on the project.”

Interested volunteers will meet at the Twin Ponds rifle range at 8 AM on Saturday. Due to the enthusiastic response some volunteers will be sent to Boggy Head rifle range to participate in a similar clean up at that site.

After completion of the projects, volunteers are invited to enjoy lunch provided by volunteers and the Forest Service at Twin Ponds range.

Volunteers should wear sturdy shoes and bring work gloves and water. Tools and trash bags will be provided on site.

Thanks to the caring response of so many volunteers, the range is scheduled to reopen to the public on Sunday, November 1st.

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