



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Willamette National Forest
McKenzie River Ranger District

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Date: April 28, 2016

Natural Resource and Conservation Education Program

The F5 Experience: Fur, Feathers, Fins, Flames and Flora: Connecting Youth to the Outdoors

To: Pre-school, Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle and High Schools, and Biology, Science, Geography Classrooms; Other Community Organizations with a focus on Natural History, Biology, Science, and Geography.

Dear Teachers, Instructors and Coordinators:

Again this year the Willamette National Forest will be offering conservation education talks and field trips. Programs are available for pre-school, kindergarten, elementary, middle and high schools and may be of particular interest to Biology, Science, Conservation Education, and Geography classes.

Our Visiting Wildlife Biologist for this year is Cedric Maforimbo from Zimbabwe, who will be coordinating and implementing much of the program. He is a conservation education practitioner who runs a rural schools-based biodiversity monitoring project for Dambari Wildlife Trust. Prior to this position, he taught high school Agriculture and Science. Cedric graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Animal Science and Rangeland Management from Lupane State University in Zimbabwe and also took a Field Course in Tropical Ecology and Conservation with the Tropical Biology Association in Tanzania.

Our Naturewatch program, **The F5 Experience**, emphasizes providing outdoor learning opportunities to youth through field trips and active restoration projects. The theme for 2016 is "Pollinators Forever!" This program includes a discussion about what bird takes the role of hummingbirds in Africa.

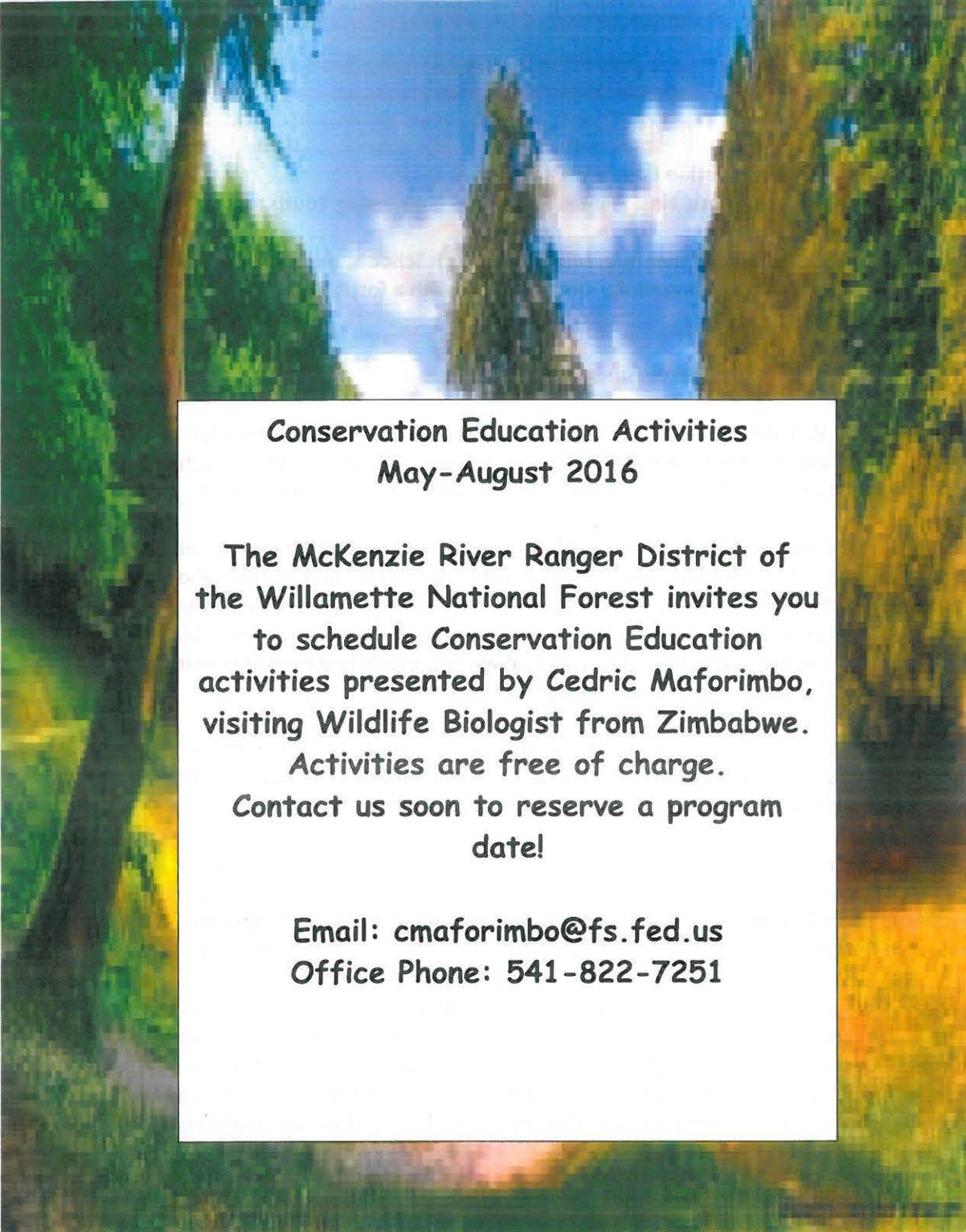
During the past nine years that we have been offering these education programs, many schools and organizations have taken advantage of them, including Baumans Tree Farm, Lane County Audubon Society, the McKenzie schools, Eugene 4J School District, Springfield School District, Jefferson, Camp Creek, Oakhill Schools, Lane Community College, University of Oregon, and Oregon State University.

The attached program flyer provides more information about these programs. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require more details, or if you have any specific requests. We may be able to also offer programs about other topics such as fisheries, water, botany, archeology and forestry. These programs can be offered at your school or organization meeting place or as field trips on the Willamette National Forest. For more information please contact Cedric directly at 541-822-7251 email: cmaforimbo@fs.fed.us or Ruby Seitz ruseitz@fs.fed.us.

Terry Baker
District Ranger

Enclosures: Education activities offered through August 2016.





**Conservation Education Activities
May-August 2016**

**The McKenzie River Ranger District of
the Willamette National Forest invites you
to schedule Conservation Education
activities presented by Cedric Maforimbo,
visiting Wildlife Biologist from Zimbabwe.**

Activities are free of charge.

**Contact us soon to reserve a program
date!**

Email: cmaforimbo@fs.fed.us

Office Phone: 541-822-7251

Interview with Cedric the Woodpecker

Grades: Preschool- 2nd Grade

Time: 30-45 minutes depending on grade

Cedric is a human sized woodpecker that is available to be interviewed by your students! He will give a short talk and then field questions from the students. Students will learn about the life of this extraordinary bird.

Sally/Sammy the Snag

Grades: Preschool-3rd Grade

Time: 30-45 minutes depending on grade

Sally is a Douglas fir tree that has been hit by lightning and is now "just a snag" or standing dead tree. Students will learn through an interactive puppet show how snags are important to wildlife and how they help maintain a healthy forest. Program includes many wildlife puppets.

ALL GRADES (Talks listed below will take up to 45 Minutes)

A Day as a Biologist

Students will learn what it is like to be a biologist. They will explore different types of field work like managing habitats and researching wildlife. Students will also compare how this profession has changed over time.

Bird Migration

Amazing and big birds cross the continent flying every year! Kids will learn how this spectacular migration occurs, and all the challenges involved in raptor migration.

Skulls, Antlers, Horns and Fur

Valuable information can be learned about animals from their skulls. Students will learn natural history facts about several animals through actual skulls, antlers and horns in this exciting presentation. Program aligned with National Education Science Standards.

Forest Conservation

This is an exciting and interesting talk with fun games about forest conservation. What is forest conservation? Why is it important? And how can you get involved and help conserve your forest?



ZIMBABWE: The Faraway Land of Natural Wonders

Learn about the many natural attractions that are found in Zimbabwe which include Victoria Falls, the amazing big five and other wildlife in the Hwange National Park, the balancing rocks in the Matopos National Park and more!

Saving the African Rhinoceros

Zimbabwe is home to the fourth largest population of African rhinos in the world. But their world population is very low because of poaching for their horn, and they are fast nearing extinction. This presentation will tell you about the efforts that are being made in Zimbabwe to save rhinos and maybe will give you ideas of how you can help!

Pollinators; Hummingbirds in America and Sunbirds in Zimbabwe

What are pollinators and what is their role? Where could we find hummingbirds? Can we find them in Zimbabwe? If not, who takes their role there? Which other pollinators are there? This program will focus on the answers to all these questions and what you can do to protect them, including in your own garden at home.

Students who Monitor Nature

Children who attend rural secondary schools that border the Matopos National Park in Zimbabwe have been monitoring populations of birds, insects and trees for just over four years now, and have fun while learning. Find out more about their program and explore possible ways to connect with these students!

Fabulous Salmon Journey

Salmon accomplish one of the biggest journeys across the ocean, just once in their life to spawning. In this interesting talk students will learn how and why these fascinating fish migrate as part of their life cycle, and once they have reached their destination, how they nest.