your forests
AT A GLANCE
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Welcome to the Pacific Northwest Region

The Pacific Northwest Region’s wide range of dramatic landscapes, its vast array of special places, and its people distinguish it from other areas of the United States.

Introduction

The Pacific Northwest, perhaps more than any other region in the United States, is defined by its public lands. More than 30 percent of Washington and 53 percent of Oregon, are managed by the Federal government. These lands provide the people and communities of the Pacific Northwest their livelihood, recreation, visual backdrop, and identity.

The Pacific Northwest Region consists of 16 National Forests, 59 District Offices, a National Scenic Area, and a National Grassland; comprising an area 24.7 million acres in size. There are approximately 3,500 Forest Service employees living in the local communities, and working tirelessly to manage these lands.

Diverse Landscapes

The Pacific Northwest Region includes the rugged-mystical Pacific Coast, temperate Coastal Mountain rainforests, emerald green river valleys, imposing volcanic snow-capped mountains, and an expansive, arid, and sunbathed high desert.

The Pacific Northwest is also characterized by an abundance of mountain ranges, including the Coast Mountains, the Cascades Range, and the Blue Mountains. Most of the National Forests in the Region blanket these mountains, providing a stunning backdrop for nearby communities. Fifty-seven mountains rise above 8,000 feet in elevation.

Cascade Mountains

The dramatic snow-capped Cascade Range runs north and south. The northern portion of the range is increasingly rugged and more influenced by glaciation. The upper mountain elevations receive the highest amount of snow in the continental United States.

The drier east-slope vegetation includes ponderosa pine, red fir, white fir, and lodgepole pine. Forest health has been adversely affected by the lack of fire disturbance. The Northwest Forest Plan applies to this area.
COASTAL RANGE
The Coastal Range consists of relatively low, steep mountains running parallel to the coastline. The mountains receive high rainfall, which supports moist forests of western hemlock. Along the coast, fog drip is also a factor. Here the forests are characterized by Sitka spruce. Extensive logging influenced this landscape too. Management of TE&S species, e.g., northern spotted owl, and marbled murelet remains high priority for today’s managers.

BLUE MOUNTAINS
This area is marked by wide, uplifted plateau, dissected by landslide and fluvial processes. Mesas and buttes are common. Vegetation patterns are complex with grand fir/Douglas-fir forests, followed by ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, and western juniper. Fire, and insect outbreaks are major concerns for land management.

COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE
Dramatic basalt headwalls, a vast river, cascading waterfalls, roaring winds, and spectacular vistas part the Cascade Mountains at the doorstep of the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area. The climate is dry to the east with sagebrush steppe vegetation and moist to the west with Douglas fir forests.

HIGH DESERT
The High Desert extends from the Cascades to the Rockies. The climate is dry, with sagebrush steppe as the characteristic vegetation, but also includes fescues. Dry-land and irrigation agriculture dominate.
**WATER RESOURCES**

Almost every river, stream, and tributary in the Pacific Northwest drains into the Columbia River, save for the few that empty into the Pacific Ocean, Puget Sound, or Fraser River in Canada. These waters provide habitat for native fish, water for nearby communities, and world-class recreation for visitors. Rivers in the Pacific Northwest contain several species of salmon: Chinook, coho, sockeye, chum, and pink, along with two species of sea-run trout (steelhead and coastal cutthroat).

**SPECIAL PLACES**

There are 111 congressionally designated areas in the National Forest System in Oregon and Washington. 64 Wildernesses (approximately 5 million acres), 51 Wild and Scenic Rivers (about 25% of the rivers in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System), and 13 other areas (such as National Recreation Areas, National Volcanic Monuments, and National Scenic Areas) add to the character of the Pacific Northwest.

**PEOPLE**

The Pacific Northwest, with its stunning beauty and vibrant diversity, is the perfect setting for those who call Washington and Oregon home.

The total population of the two states is over 11 million people, and continues to grow. Much of that population lies in the heavily forested valleys west of the Cascade Mountains, primarily in the Seattle/Tacoma corridor in Washington, and the Portland-Metro area in Oregon. When the citizens of these and other cities in the Pacific Northwest wish to recreate, they often look to the National Forests surrounding them. Pacific Northwesterners are defined by their outdoor pursuits: from kayaking and windsurfing, to skiing and snowshoeing.

There are currently 42 Federally recognized Tribes with their traditional homelands in the two-state Pacific Northwest Region. Most of the Tribes in the Pacific Northwest Region are actively involved with the National Forests.
Pacific Northwest Region
The National Forests of the Pacific Northwest
A GREAT REGION TO LIVE AND WORK

Located in downtown Portland, the Regional Office oversees the National Forests in Oregon and Washington, including some land in California and Idaho. Employees in the Regional Office support 16 National Forests, a National Scenic Area, a National Grassland, and two National Volcanic Monuments, which total 13 percent of the nation’s total National Forest System acreage.

This Region has a rich, controversial, and progressive history, often a microcosm of the nation’s changing environmental tastes and growing pains. Management of the forests in this region has transitioned from “custodial” in the early 20th century, to focus on robust timber production mid-century, to management under the Northwest Forest Plan, and increasing concern over fire, climate change, water quantity and quality, and the role of the Federal workforce.

The Forests in Oregon and Washington have always been important to the people who live in the Pacific Northwest. Nearly 10 million individuals rely on the collective wisdom and management of the Region’s employees. It is a humbling privilege to live, work, and serve in this stunning part of the world.

PARTNERSHIPS: A CRITICAL PART OF THE REGION’S SUCCESS

Partnerships are to the Pacific Northwest Region as rain is to a rainforest ecosystem: critical for survival, and a source of fertility, creativity, and productivity. In 2015 the region invested in more than 1,150 partnerships, worth over $72 million. More than 14,500 people volunteered in the Region’s forests and offices, contributing more than 664,000 hours and $15.3 million in service. Eighteen percent of the volunteers were youth and young adults under the age of 25. The intangible benefits of these partnerships—educating youth, supporting local economies, and raising appreciation and awareness of the Forest Service’s mission—are invaluable to Region 6 and we will continue to connect with communities and conserve our national treasures.

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DID YOU KNOW?

According to the U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest, Edward T. Allen was the first “District Forester” for what was then known as “District 6”. In 1898, Gifford Pinchot met Allen—who was working as a reporter for a Tacoma, Washington newspaper—and convinced him to join the Division of Forestry. In 1908, Allen became District Forester. During his one-year tenure, he upgraded the status of field personnel and worked with lumbermen and state officials to fight fire.

REGION FACTS

11 DIRECTOR AREAS
~3,550 FULL-TIME REGIONAL EMPLOYEES
~183 EMPLOYEES IN THE REGIONAL OFFICE
16 FOREST SUPERVISORS
1 AREA MANAGER
24.7+ MILLION ACRES OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS
Colville

A forest on the cutting edge

Today’s 1.1 million acre Forest, is located in northeastern Washington, and was first carved out over 10,000 years ago by Ice Age glaciers.

Three waves of mountains run from north to south, separated by the troughs of valleys. These ranges – the Okanogan, Kettle River, and Selkirk – once considered foothills of the Rocky Mountains.

The Forest has a great variety of ecotypes, from open ponderosa pine with moist sites containing western red-cedar and hemlock, to sub-alpine fir just below the open peaks.

With a great variety in natural resources, the Colville serves as an excellent proving ground for many national and region initiatives such as travel management and recreation facility analysis.

The Forest has a number of units in northeast Washington: a Job Corps facility in Curlew, Three Rivers Ranger Station in Kettle Falls, Republic Ranger Station in Republic, Newport-Sullivan Lake Ranger Station in Newport, and the Forest Supervisor’s office in Colville.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCCs) changed the face of the Colville National Forest during the 1930’s. CCC workers built roads, trails, camps, and buildings, many of which are still in use today. Camp Growden was known as “Little America” because it housed CCC enrollees from around the country, was built west of Kettle Falls. It was one of the largest CCC camps in the area. An octagonal concrete fountain and a restored changing house still stand at the site. The Sullivan Lake and Newport Ranger Stations are also CCC buildings, as are many of the fire lookouts in the National Forest.

Forest Facts

- 1.1 million acres
- 30,613 acres of wilderness
- 918,000 acres for sustainable timber production
- 45 developed recreation sites
- 764 miles of fish-bearing streams
- Provides water for 2 municipalities
The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area protects a spectacular canyon where the Columbia River carves the only sea-level route through the Cascade Mountain Range. Shaped by volcanic flows and prehistoric floods, this eighty-mile stretch of the Columbia River is surrounded by cliffs and breath-taking overlooks up to 4,000 feet above the river. The National Scenic Area maintains National Forest System lands and recreational facilities within its boundaries and manages the nearby Klickitat and Lower White Salmon Wild & Scenic Rivers. Created by the 1986 National Scenic Area Act, the Area’s special designation directs the Forest Service to protect and enhance scenic, natural, cultural and recreational resources across all lands within the Scenic Area through a regional planning partnership with the Columbia River Gorge Commission, the states of Oregon and Washington, six counties, and four treaty tribes. The partnership also encourages compatible local economic development within 13 designated urban areas. A number of nationally significant attractions lie within the Scenic Area, including the Pacific Crest National Trail, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Geologic Trail, and the Mark O. Hatfield Wilderness.

Waterfalls: The Pounding Heart of the Gorge

In addition to jaw-dropping cliffs, beautiful rivers, and unparalleled hiking, the Columbia River Gorge is characterized by a series of beautiful waterfalls, many of which can be seen from the highway. The highest of these is 620-foot Multnomah Falls, which receives over two million visitors a year, making it one of the most visited natural attractions in the Pacific Northwest. Multnomah Falls also offers a magnificent glimpse at the area’s geology, with four distinct flows of Columbia River basalt visible in the fall’s cliff face. The waterfalls are located along America’s first scenic highway, the Historic Columbia River Highway. This historic route once brought early car campers to nearby Eagle Creek, the Forest Service’s oldest developed campground, which was created in 1916 with a cliff-side trail that is still popular today.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Columbia River is the main artery that flows through the heart of the Pacific Northwest. According to the Center for Columbia River History, the watershed includes territory in seven states, one Canadian province, and occupies a 259,000 square-mile basin.

The Columbia River begins in British Columbia, and flows for approximately 1,200 miles to the Pacific Ocean.

For the last 10,000 years, the Columbia River has served as a transportation corridor for a diverse assortment of life, including fish, fowl, plants, and humans. The Gorge would not be the same without this “River of Life.”
Did You Know?

A historical write-up of the Deschutes area would not be complete unless it recorded the activities of Cy J. Bingham, who was probably the first local forest ranger, and a well-known poet. One old timer produced part of a poem which he claims was composed by Bingham and reads as follows:

“In the inlet there is a splashing
it’s the dollys in a fight

Over who will use that riffle for
to spawn their eggs tonight

Up the glade I hear a horse bell
indicating all is well

Theres no other life about me
in this camp at Lake Odell!”

Newberry National Volcanic Monument

In 1988, a 30-member committee formed by local citizens wrote the bill creating Newberry National volcanic Monument. Composed of environmentalists, forest industry leaders, recreation club representatives, geothermal interests, local government, and others, the group met regularly with Forest advisors to settle proposed boundaries.

The final bill was approved by the U.S. Congress in 1990, and designated over 50,000 acres of lakes, lava flows, and unique geological features with special protections. The highest point in the monument is Paulina Peak, at 7,985 ft. Visitors can drive through Newberry Volcano’s caldera for 17 miles to the summit of the volcano. The summit also holds up two alpine lakes full of trout and salmon.

Newberry Volcano is both seismically and geothermally active, and its caldera sits over a shallow magma body that is only two to five kilometers deep.

Forest Facts

| 1,6 Million Acres |
| 181,300 Acres of Wilderness |
| 840,000 Acres for Timber Production |
| 19,289 Acres of Lakes |
| 62 Trailheads |
| 316 Recreation Sites |

“Fun in the Sun” for Everyone

Nestled along the Cascade Mountains, the Deschutes National Forest is one of the most popular recreation forests in the Pacific Northwest. Truly a four season vacationland, the Forest attracts more than 3 million people every year to mountain bike, camp, fish, hike, kayak, and ski as well as participate in a wide variety of other outdoor activities. The Forest provides a variety of natural resource commodities. Besides recreation, the other primary focus of the Deschutes is active stewardship of the landscape through partnerships and collaboration. Much of the work of both the Forest and local communities is focused on restoring healthy forests through vegetation management such as fuel reduction work, including thinning and prescribed burning.

The Deschutes National Forest is home to three scenic byways. These byways—the Cascade Lakes Scenic Byway, the Outback Scenic Byway, and the McKenzie Pass-Santiam Pass Scenic Byway—provide accessible means for visitors to experience the natural and cultural landscapes that are full of dramatic beauty. Because of the rich cultural history of central Oregon, campsites of ancient hunters and gatherers can be found next to upland streams and lakes, and lowland and high deserts. Casual forest visitors can stumble across ancient stone tools or rock art.
Oregon’s expansive outback

Framed by major migratory bird flyways, the Fremont-Winema National Forest provides solitude and serene beauty in a spacious landscape, including majestic snow-capped peaks to park-like stands of large ponderosa pines. Administratively combined in 2002, the Forest offers 2.3 million acres to explore. The heavily timbered western portion of the Forests are bordered by the Cascade Mountain Range and Crater Lake National Park, and stretch east into the Klamath River Basin, an area known for year-round sunshine. Near the floor of the Basin, the Forests open to the vast marshes and meadows associated with Upper Klamath Lake and Williamson River. To the north and east, extensive stands of ponderosa pine grow on deep pumice and ash that blanketed the area during the eruption of Mt. Mazama (now Crater Lake) nearly 7,000 years ago. The eastern portion of the forests offer expansive views, dramatic cliffs, and solitude. The area is known as “Oregon’s Outback”, and provides the self-reliant recreationist the opportunity to discover nature in a rustic environment.

Mountain Lakes Wilderness: One Caldera, Many Lakes

Mountain Lakes was one of the three original “primitive areas” designated in Oregon and Washington National Forests in 1930, and has been managed as a primitive recreation area since that time. When the 1964 Wilderness Act passed, 23,071 acres of Mountain lakes became one of the nation’s original Wildernesses.

Mountain lakes is unique, but its geologic history is similar to that of Crater Lake National Park. Like Crater Lake, the landscape contains a large caldera formed by the collapse of a volcanic cone. Unlike Crater Lake, this caldera is filled with many smaller lakes rather than one big one.

The wilderness is a blend of easily traversed broad valleys and lake basins with rugged remnants of the old volcano. Most of the area is above 6,000 feet in elevation.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Winema National Forest was established in 1961 and named for a heroine of the Modoc War of 1872: Woman of the Brave heart. More than 50 percent of the Forest is comprised of former Klamath Indian Reservation land. Members of the Klamath Tribe reserve specific rights to hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering of forest materials on former reservation land.

Forest Facts

- 2.3 million acres
- 112,052 acres of wilderness
- 1,425,736 acres for timber production
- 6,095 acres of lakes
- 434 miles of summer trails
- 350+ species of terrestrial wildlife
Gifford Pinchot

A special place and enduring grace

Spanning from Mount Rainier to the north, the Columbia River to the south, and Mount Adams to the east, and Mount St. Helens to the west; the nearly 1.4 million-acre Gifford Pinchot National Forest serves rural communities around its edges, as well as the metro populations of Portland and Vancouver, Tacoma and Seattle. Working with partners such as the South Gifford Pinchot Collaborative and the Pinchot Partners, Backcountry Horsemen, Washington Trails Association, and Mount St. Helens Institute, the Forest offers sustainable forest products, year-round recreation opportunities, and restored fish and wildlife habitat.

Forest staff engage with hundreds of thousands of visitors at Forest recreation sites, including climbers scaling the 12,276 foot tall Mt. Adams, hikers enjoying the incredible scenery in the Groat Rocks Wilderness, and people from around the world taking in the landscape transformation around Mount St. Helens.

The principles of conservation established by Gifford Pinchot and his family remain at the foundation of the Forest’s philosophy. The Forest is a special place, possesses a lasting legacy, and demonstrates the dynamic natural world that leaves visitors with a hopeful message for its future.

Mount St. Helens: A living, enthralling landscape

On the morning of May 18, 1980 an earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale triggered the explosive eruption of Mount St. Helens. In a few moments, an avalanche of rock, debris, and ice slammed into Spirit Lake, crossed a ridge 1,300 feet high, and roared down the Toutle River. Nearly 150 square miles of forest was blown over or buried.

A vast, gray landscape lay where once the forested slopes of Mount St. Helens grew. In 1982 the President and Congress created the 110,000-acre National Volcanic Monument for research, recreation, and education. Surviving plants and animals have risen out of the ash, colonizing plants have caught hold of the earth, and visitors, scientists, and surrounding communities can now experience the wonders of the volcano.

Did You Know?

The history of people using the land of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest traces back at least 6,000 years to when Native Americans hunted and gathered in the meadows below the Cascades’ peaks. European trappers followed Lewis and Clark, then Ft. Vancouver became the first permanent settlement near the Forest in 1824.

In 1897, the area became part of the Mt. Rainier Forest Reserve. In 1908, it became the Columbia National Forest.

In 1949, the 1.3 million-acre Forest was re-named to honor the first Chief of the Forest Service in a ceremony at LaWisWis, a CCC campground near Packwood, Washington.

Forest Facts

| 1.37 million acres |
| 180,000 acres of wilderness |
| 49,838 volunteer hours in 2009 valued at $998,406 |
| 20+ species of fish |
| 552,262 riparian acres |
| Over 100 partnerships |
Diverse landscape, complex history

The 1.7 million acre Malheur National Forest is located in the Blue Mountains of eastern Oregon. The Forest is home to high desert grasslands, sage, juniper, pine, fir, and hidden alpine lakes and meadows. Elevations vary from 4,000 feet to the 9,038 foot Strawberry Mountain. The Strawberry Mountain range extends east to west through the center of the forest.

The Forest is the headwaters for the John Day River System, the only tributary to the Columbia River System that has no dams. It also provides two Wild and Scenic stretches of the Malheur River System and the Silvies River.

Today’s Malheur National Forest is the product of a rich historical tapestry, composed of Oregon Trail settlers, American Indians, European fur traders, Chinese railroad workers and miners, Basque shepherders, and the timber industry. The Forest values its relationship with local communities, recreationists, and people from all backgrounds who appreciate its beauty, natural resources, and opportunities for recreation and solitude.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Malheur National Forest is home to 18 fire lookout towers, most of which are still actively staffed during the fire season.

Represented lookout styles include 1911 lookout trees and 1920’s platform trees, rare 7’ x 7’ metal lookouts made by the same companies that manufactured windmills in the 20’s – 30’s, a 1927 ground house, a 99’ tall lookout tower, Depression Era “L-4s” and an “L-6”, and modern 1950-1970) R6 flat tops!

An important part of our history and culture, we are proud to maintain and actively use these sentinels.

Salmon Runs in the John Day River Basin

The John Day River Basin supports the largest remaining wild runs of spring Chinook salmon and summer steelhead trout in the Mid-Columbia River basin. On average, the Middle Fork John Day River (MFJDR) and its tributaries account for 24% of the Chinook salmon production and 30% of the steelhead production in the John Day River Basin. Bull trout and inland Columbia Basin redband trout also inhabit the MFJDR watershed.

In 2009, the Malheur National Forest and partners developed a John Day Basin Restoration Strategy where priority watersheds have been identified as well as potential projects that would put watersheds on the trajectory to recovery we are seeing today.
The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest is located on the west side of the North Cascades between the Canadian border and Mt. Rainier National Park in Washington state. It contains picturesque beauty, with glacier-covered peaks, spectacular mountain meadows, and old-growth forests. Because of its proximity to metro Seattle, Tacoma, Vancouver BC, and surrounding Puget Sound communities, the Forest receives 5.4 million visitors every year. The Forest prides itself on offering year-round recreation and educational opportunities.

The Forest also relies heavily on partnerships to accomplish work. In 2009, the Forest worked with more than 100 partners, an estimated value of $4 million.

The Forest focuses on building social capacity and local communities by engaging underserved urban youth in the outdoors, helping to foster an appreciation for the environment while encouraging them to pursue educational and career development opportunities. The Forest partners with natural resource groups to provide education through application. Successful programs in meeting these goals are the International District Housing Alliance, Kulshan Creek Neighborhood Kids Program, and Snohomish County’s “Get Movin’” campaign.

It Takes a Community to Grow a Forest

Did You Know?

The Ice Caves National Recreation Trail is one of the most popular trails on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, featuring the lowest elevation glacier in the lower 48 states.

Winter avalanches pile tremendous amounts of snow at the base of the mountain. Stream channels flowing down the mountain and running under the snowfield form the ice caves when temperatures rise in late summer. “It really is a very special place,” said Gary Paull, Wilderness and Trails Manager for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

Forest Facts

- 1.75 million acres
- 834,000 acres of wilderness
- 166,611 acres for timber production
- 1,505 miles of trail
- 186 miles of wild and scenic rivers
- 13 historic fire lookouts

The International District Housing Alliance

The International District Housing Alliance (IDHA) improves opportunities for Asians and Pacific Islanders in the Seattle area. Since 2002, IDHA’s Wilderness Inner-City Leadership Development Program has been developing youth leaders through outdoor recreation, job training, career development, and stewardship outings having kids pulling weeds and planting native vegetation, while wildlife viewing trips teach about river ecology, salmon, and eagle biology. They practice public speaking skills by interpreting what they learn to their elders. Youth go camping, canoeing, build trails, and learn about Forest Service careers. Some of the youth later intern with the agency.
**Did You Know?**

Ninety-eight percent of the Forest is somebody’s municipal water supply. Forest water resources also have implications for irrigation, hydroelectric power, wildlife and vegetation, and recreation. For this reason our watershed, hydrology, and fisheries programs strive to maintain high quality fish habitat and water resources while collaborating with our partners to implement high priority stream and forest restoration on private and public lands where opportunities exist to improve fisheries and water quality.

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**Pacific Northwest Region**

**Mt. Hood**

**A picturesque Oregon icon**

Located twenty miles east of Portland, the Mt. Hood National Forest extends south from the strikingly beautiful Columbia River Gorge, across more than sixty miles of forested mountains, lakes, and streams to Olallie Scenic Area, and high lake basin under the slopes of Mt. Jefferson. The Forest encompasses some 1,015,854 acres.

Mt. Hood’s many visitors enjoy fishing, camping, boating, and hiking in the summer, hunting in the fall, and skiing and other snow sports in the winter. Berry-picking and mushroom collection are popular, and for many residents, a trip in December to cut the family’s Christmas tree is a long standing tradition.

Mt. Hood is an Oregon icon, exemplifying the connection between local communities and a special place. Through dedicated collaboration, the forest staff fosters citizen-stewards who contribute their talents toward the betterment of our natural resources. Commitment to sustainable partnerships and community engagement have allowed the Mt. Hood National Forest to grow, learn, and evolve with its most important constituency: the public.

**Climbing Mt. Hood: An 11,239 ft. Challenge**

Mt. Hood was first known to the Northwest Indians as Wy’East. Geologists agree that Wy’East, like all the Cascade volcanoes, may only be “resting” from more active volcanic activity.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, Mt. Hood is 11,239 feet tall (3,426 meters). It is one of the highest mountains in Oregon, and the most frequently climbed peak in the United States. The most popular route is the South Side Route, which begins at Timberline Lodge. Year-round snow and a moderately technical ascent at the top of the mountain means that most climbers wear crampons and helmets, and use ice axes to perform self-arrests.

As visitors ascend Mt. Hood, they enter the Mt. Hood Wilderness area, which encompasses an area of 64,742 acres, and is truly a national treasure.

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**Forest Facts**

| 1,067,000 acres | 297,000 acres of wilderness |
| 5,720 miles of lakes and streams | 5,155 total acres of lakes |
| 208 miles of wild and scenic rivers | 146 developed recreation sites |
The Ochoco National Forest works closely with the Deschutes National Forest and the Prineville District of the Bureau of Land Management, “to work together as one to serve central Oregon.”

Before Ochoco became part of the National Forest System, numerous American Indian tribes roamed the forests and grasslands over the last 10,000 years. Members of the Burns Paiute Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs still harvest traditional foods there.

In 1825, Peter Skene Ogden led his party of Hudson Bay Company trappers up the Crooked River to its source in the Blue Mountains. A few decades later, the Willamette Valley began to fill with homesteaders who had traversed the United States on the Oregon Trail and other routes. Settlement began slowly, with ranching as the primary industry. The local timber industry and sawmills began in 1820.

The Ochoco National Forest was created in 1911 from portions of the Malheur and Deschutes National Forests.

In 1935, the Federal government began buying land from homesteaders who were having trouble surviving due to inadequate rainfall and poor economic conditions. In 1954, the land was transferred to the Forest Service from the Soil Conservation Service. The name was changed to the Crooked River National Grassland in 1960.

The Grassland provides habitat for approximately 200 species of birds; 80 species of reptiles, amphibians, and mammals; and 20 species of fish. It is home to pronghorn antelope, mule deer, elk, coyotes, cougar, quail, chukar, and non-game species. Haystack Reservoir, Lake Billy Chinook, Deschutes River, Crooked River, and Squaw Creek are the primary fish habitats, and support a wide variety of warm and cold-water fish.

Did You Know?

The name “Ochoco” is said to be derived from at least two possible sources. The most popular theory is that “Ochoco” came from the American Indian word for willow. Willow is one of the many key plants used by American Indians. It is also claimed that the word Ochoco refers to a Snake Indian or Northern Paiute chief. “Old-timers” of Crook County believe that Ochoco Creek was named for Chief Ochoco because the stream passed by his settlement.

Forest Facts

963,500 acres
36,200 acres of wilderness
493,300 for timber production
685 acres of lakes
75 recreation sites
24 trailheads
The Okanogan-Wenatchee, located in Washington State, is called the “sunny east side” for a good reason: summers are hot and dry, and winters are famous for brilliant, clear skies and plenty of snow. Stretching from the inspiring heights of the Cascade Crest, to the open lowlands of the Columbia River, the 4 million acre Forest is defined by contrasts. Vast wildlife areas offer solitude, challenge, and freedom; while hundreds of miles of trail and recreation roads offer easy access to one of the most heavily visited National Forests in the western United States.

“Mountains to See, Places to Be,” is a slogan that sums up the abundance and variety of recreation opportunities to be found in the incredible northeastern portion of the Pacific Northwest Region.

Year-round recreation activities are further enhanced by the many opportunities also provided by the neighboring Bureau of Land Management site, the North Cascades National Park, the Mt. Rainier National Park, and an abundance of Washington State Parks, often near Forest facilities.

The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest is also the largest National Forest in Washington State (it is about the size of the state of Hawaii). 51-mile long glacier-fed Lake Chelan is the third deepest lake in North America at 1,486 feet deep.

Salmon Fest “Edutainment” Fun for Families

The annual Wenatchee River Salmon Festival is held each September in Leavenworth, Washington. “Salmon fest” is devoted to fun-filled “edu-tainment,” a form of education that is both fun and entertaining. The Fest connects youth and families to nature and helps them discover and appreciate the significance of salmon to the people of Pacific Northwest. Students from North Central Washington schools visit Salmon Fest during the weekdays, followed by family day on Saturday. Local American Indian tribes host an intertribal encampment on the hatchery grounds thus giving visitors an opportunity to learn about each tribe's history and traditions. Artists, musicians, and scientists join kids and their families for the free festival.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Wenatchee National Forest is named after the P’squosa Indians, known in literature as the Wenatchi. The Okanogan National Forest was named after the Okanogan Indians of southern British Columbia. It refers to several Salish-speaking tribes affiliated with the Colville Confederated Tribes. The American Indians continue centuries-old uses of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, working with the forest to safeguard sacred sites and protect and enhance places for sustainable gathering of forest plants, fish, and wildlife.

The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest is the “sunny east side” for a good reason: summers are hot and dry, and winters are famous for brilliant, clear skies and plenty of snow. Stretching from the inspiring heights of the Cascade Crest, to the open lowlands of the Columbia River, the 4 million acre Forest is defined by contrasts. Vast wildlife areas offer solitude, challenge, and freedom; while hundreds of miles of trail and recreation roads offer easy access to one of the most heavily visited National Forests in the western United States.

“Mountains to See, Places to Be,” is a slogan that sums up the abundance and variety of recreation opportunities to be found in the incredible northeastern portion of the Pacific Northwest Region.

Year-round recreation activities are further enhanced by the many opportunities also provided by the neighboring Bureau of Land Management site, the North Cascades National Park, the Mt. Rainier National Park, and an abundance of Washington State Parks, often near Forest facilities.

The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest is also the largest National Forest in Washington State (it is about the size of the state of Hawaii). 51-mile long glacier-fed Lake Chelan is the third deepest lake in North America at 1,486 feet deep.
The Olympic National Forest is part of an emerald paradise on the Olympic Peninsula in the northwest corner of Washington State. The Peninsula is a unique geographic province consisting of five major landscape settings: temperate rain forests, rugged mountains, large lowland lakes, cascading rivers, and saltwater beaches.

The “Oly”, as it’s locally known, is noted for ecological restoration. Past intensive timber harvesting left the Forest with acres of young stands, extensive roads, and fish passage concerns. Restoration strategies integrate young stand thinning, road decommissioning, and aquatic habitat restoration to create a more resilient Forest landscape.

The Olympic provides a scenic backdrop and serene refuge for the highly populated Puget Sound region. Four highly developed “Cornerstones” provide a staging area for diverse day-use opportunities and a peaceful place to sleep among the Forest’s most outstanding water features.

Ranger Districts are located in Quilcene and Forks, with the headquarters in Olympia.

A Snapshot of the Life and Times of Forks, Washington

The city of Forks is home to the Olympic’s Pacific Ranger District. Its unique name comes from its location near the forks of the Quillayute, Bogachiel, Calawah, and Sol Duc Rivers.

The timber industry dominated the town from its incorporation in 1945 until the early 1990s. During that time, it was informally known as “The Logging Capital of the World.” A 33,000 acres wildfire in 1951 and a massive storm in 1962 provided an abundant supply of salvage timber, anchoring the town in its boom years.

The listing of the Northern Spotted Owl in the early 1990s ended the town’s timber boom. However, as the main setting for the “Twilight” series of novels and films, the town is experiencing a new and unexpected resurgence of interest.
Wet, wild, and biologically diverse

The 1.8 million acre Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest is a place all its own. It is known for its free-flowing Wild and Scenic River (more than any Forest in the nation), its globally significant botanical values, world famous salmon and steelhead runs, unique geology, collaborative approach to forest restoration, and for addressing the social and economic needs of local communities.

The Forest spans an area from the crest of the Cascade Range nearly to the Pacific Ocean. Vegetation on the Forest varies from sub-alpine to dense coastal forests, but mostly encompasses fire-adapted mixed conifer ecosystems.

The Forest includes 8 wildernesses, 6 Wild and Scenic Rivers, and 368,000 acres of Roadless Areas.

Only the Great Smokey Mountains rival the Siskiyou Mountains in plant diversity. Of the approximately 400 sensitive plant species in the region, 100 species are found in this Forest.

Next to the Columbia, the Rogue Basin is the second most productive salmon and steelhead system on the west coast.

Diverse Geology, Flora, and Climate

The Forest is composed of two distinct geological provinces: the Cascade Range, and the Siskiyou Mountains. The Cascade Ranges is dominated by volcanic peaks such as the 9,495-foot Mt. McLoughlin, located within Sky Lakes Wilderness on the High Cascades Ranger District.

The Siskiyou area embodies the most complex soils, geology, landscape, and plant communities in the Pacific Northwest. Geological parent rocks range in age from 200 million years old to the recent ice-age alluviums that are about 50,000 years old.

The varied geological substrate and the climatic extremes of the Siskiyou Mountains provide a range of niches of genetic material. Fifteen distinct plants series, comprised of 92 plant associations and numerous endemic plants can be found in this area.

DID YOU KNOW?

Originally named the Crater National Forest, the Forest was established by Theodore Roosevelt in 1908. In 1932 the name was changed to the Rogue River National Forest in 1932. The name Rogue River commemorates the Takelma people, whose defense of their homeland led French-Canadian trappers to call them “Les Coquins,” which means “the Rogues.”

The Siskiyou Forest Reserve was established by Theodore Roosevelt in 1905, and the Reserve was designated a National Forest in 1907. The name Siskiyou is a Cree work for bob-tailed horse.

The Forests combined in 2004 to become the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.
The Siuslaw National Forest lies within the Oregon Coast range, a mountain range running from the Columbia River to north central California. The forest is bordered by the Willamette Valley on the east and the Pacific Ocean on the west. It is one of two National Forests in the contiguous U.S. with oceanfront property. Marys Peak, the highest in the Coast Range at 4,097 feet, is prominent west of the Siuslaw’s headquarters in Corvallis.

Four major rivers flow through the Siuslaw: the Nestucca, Alsea, Siuslaw, and Umpqua. The Forest provides important habitat for anadromous fish, including the threatened coastal Coho Salmon, as well as many terrestrial species, including the threatened Northern Spotted Owl, Marbled Murrelet, and Western Snowy Plover.

A popular recreation Forest, the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area and Sand Lake Recreation Area provide proving grounds for Off-Highway Vehicle enthusiasts who enjoy the challenges of riding on sand. Cape Perpetua and Cascade Head are favorite spots along the coast for hikers and nature lovers to experience the unique forest-sea ecosystem.

Known as a restoration forest, the Siuslaw has won awards both for its watershed restoration efforts as well as its contributions to the local economy. The Forest enjoys broad support locally and has some of the strongest partnerships in the Pacific Northwest Region.

Cape Perpetua Scenic Area: A Majestic View

The Cape Perpetua Scenic Area sits two miles south of the town of Yachats on a headland of the majestic Oregon Coast. Becoming part of the Siuslaw in 1908, Cape Perpetua rises more than 800 feet above sea level and offers an unobstructed view of nearly 70 miles of pristine cliffs, beaches, and coastline.

In 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps built Cape Perpetua campground, a network of trails, and the West Shelter Observation Point. During World War II, the U.S. military used West Shelter as a coastal watch station and a large coastal defense gun was temporarily installed.

Congress established the Scenic Area in the 1960s. Today, the Area contains 2,700 acres of spruce, Douglas fir, western hemlock, and remarkable coastal opportunities.

DID YOU KNOW?

Author Frank Herbert was inspired to write the sci-fi novel “Dune” by a visit to the Oregon Dunes. The Dunes stretch along 40 miles of the coast between the towns of Florence and North Bend. They are the largest expanse of coastal dunes in North America and provide stellar OHV opportunities.

Forest Facts

| 630,000 acres |
| 22,000 acres of wilderness |
| 349,141 acres for timber production |
| 3,200 miles of streams |
| $1.8 million in recreation fees |
Deep Valleys, Timeless Traditions

The Umatilla National Forest lies nestled in the valleys of the Blue Mountains of southeast Washington and northeast Oregon. Its 1.4 million acres hold a surprising variety of landscapes. The wetter northern portion of the Forest contains moist-forest tree types such as grand and subalpine firs. The drying southern portion contains abundant lodgepole and ponderosa pine stands. In autumn, western larch and tamarack trees provide splashes of color.

The Umatilla has four ranger stations spread across two states. The Heppner and North Fork John Day districts are in Oregon, the Pomeroy district is in Washington, and the Walla Walla district manages lands in both states.

The Forest is known nationally for its excellent big game viewing and hunting. It supports one of the largest herds of Rocky Mountain Elk found in any National Forest. Nearly 38,000 hunters visit Umatilla each year for the game hunting opportunities.

The Forest emphasizes “traditional ways for new days,” inviting a new generation of visitors to experience timeless traditions that remain a staple of life in eastern Oregon and Washington.

Diverse Geology, Flora, and Climate

The North Fork John Day River means different things to different people. From its origin at the crest of the Blue Mountains, this National Wild and Scenic River travels 107 miles, providing an abundance of recreation and habitat along the way. For whitewater rafters, the river offers a series of challenging rapids, to test all skill levels from beginner, to expert. For floaters, the river provides a gentler experience along a popular stretch from Dale to Monument, Oregon.

For hikers, departing from almost any point on the shore leads to ponderosa pine forests with abundant wildflowers in the spring.

For wildlife, the river is one of the most important in northeast Oregon. It sustains anadromous fish species, including chinook salmon and steelhead, and rainbow trout.

Did You Know?

The Umatilla National Forest takes its name from the [Nixyáawii/ Sahaptin] word meaning “water rippling over sands” Explorers Lewis and Clark came past the area in 1805 on their Columbia River Voyage to the Pacific Ocean. Marcus and Narcissa Whitman passed this way in 1836 to establish a mission at Walla Walla, Washington. Thousands of emigrants followed the Oregon Trail westward, and many remained in the Blue Mountain country.

Forest Facts

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Did You Know?

Mt. Thielsen, namesake for the surrounding Wilderness Area, is called “The Lightning Rod of the Cascades.” A dormant volcano, its peak is struck by lightning so often that some rocks at the summit have melted into an unusual mineral called fulgurite. This mineral is made of natural hollow glass tubes formed when silica is subjected to high temperatures, such as lightning strikes.

Forest Facts

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<td>110,100 ACRES INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREAS</td>
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<td>5,190 MILES OF STREAMS</td>
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<td>169 MINING CLAIMS</td>
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Cascades, Craters, and Currents

High Cascade glaciations, whitewater rapids, and explosive volcanic events have shaped the Umpqua National Forest.

The headwaters of the North and South Umpqua Rivers and the Row River begin in the Forest, providing visitors with thundering waters and heart-stopping rapids. Verdant stands of hemlock, true fir, Douglas-fir, and mixed cedar transition to mixed conifer and hardwoods at lower elevations.

The name “Umpqua” comes from an American Indian tribe of the same name, and may mean “Thundering waters” or “across the waters.” Ancestors of these American Indian tribes lived in the area prior to the eruption of Mt. Mazama 7,000 years ago, which created Crater Lake, northeast of the Forest.

The 172-mile Rogue-Umpqua National Scenic Byway offers visitors a brilliant perspective of the area. The Byway travels deep into the Cascades, passing by whitewater rapids and steelhead runs on the 33.8 mile stretch of the Wild and Scenic North Umpqua River.

Archaeological evidence suggests that the Umpqua Basin has been inhabited for over 10,000 years. As trappers and settlers arrived in the mid-19th century, they reported four distinct tribes of American Indians living in what is now Umpqua National Forest: the Umpqua in the main valley, the Southern Molalla in the uplands, the Yoncalla in the northern valley, and the Cow Creek in the South Umpqua drainage. The Umpqua, Southern Molalla, and Yoncalla were moved to the Grand Ronde and Siletz reservations. The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua is the only federally recognized tribe remaining in the Umpqua Basin.

The Forest maintains close ties with the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz, and Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribes of Indians.

The Distinct Tribes of the Umpqua Basin
**Wallowa-Whitman**

**Unique Rural Communities**

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest spans nearly 2.3 million acres from the central Blue and Wallowa Mountains in northeast Oregon and across the Snake River into Seven Devils Mountains in western Idaho. These diverse landscapes are the backdrop for rural communities as individual as their local residents. The first settlers in northeast Oregon arrived via the Oregon Trail. In 1861, gold was discovered near Baker City and mining towns flourished. Farmers, ranchers, and merchants followed the miners, providing services and food. A period of intense mining and logging coincided with the arrival of the Union Pacific Railroad across the region. Mining flourished until the turn of the century and then declined. Timber, cattle ranching, and agriculture remain key activities, although the area is known for its stunning scenery and myriad of recreation opportunities. This rural setting is inspiring to talented individuals who have created a local community of artists and writers.

**Hells Canyon National Recreation Area**

The Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA), located in the northeast corner of Oregon and west-central Idaho, was established by the U.S. Congress on December 31st, 1975 and is administered as part of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The primary feature of the HCRNA is Hells Canyon. Measuring 7,993 feet deep from the Seven Devils to the Snake River and, in some places 10 miles from rim to rim, it forms the deepest river canyon in North America. The HCNRA contains exceptional archeological sites, a richness and productivity of vegetation, and unique geology. These characteristics combine to create a colorful backdrop for recreation activities and exploration.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The historic Nez Perce Tribe journey and flight to Canada in 1877, led by young Chief Joseph, began in Wallowa County, on the north end of the Wallow-Whitman National Forest.

The 1,170 mile Nez Perce National Historic Trail begins near Wallowa Lake at the foot of the Eagle Cap Wilderness and crosses the Snake River at Dug Bar in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. The trail extends through four states and ends near the Canadian Border in Montana.

**Forest Facts**

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<th>2,264 million acres</th>
<th>586,729 acres of wilderness</th>
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<td>652,488 acres in HCNRA</td>
<td>183 developed recreation sites</td>
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<td>7,204 heritage sites</td>
<td>10 wild and scenic rivers</td>
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</table>
The Willamette National Forest draws its name from the Willamette River, which originates deep within the Forest. Originally part of the Cascade Range Forest Reserve designated by President Grover Cleveland in 1893, the Forest assumed its current identity in 1933. The Willamette spans 110 miles along the western slopes of the Cascade Range including Mt. Jefferson and the Three Sisters. The lush and diverse landscape is dominated by high mountains, narrow canyons, and numerous waterfalls. Each year, the Forest invites more than 1.5 million visitors to “Follow the Water” by traveling its three Scenic Byways, where visitors can experience more than 1,500 miles of rivers and 375 lakes, many of which are located over 4,000 feet in elevation. Its plentiful trails, stellar winter recreation areas, and awe-inspiring vistas leave visitors breathless for more.

Gazing into Waldo Lake, A Gem of the Cascades

Waldo Lake lies more than 5,400 feet above sea level on the western slopes of the Oregon Cascades. Waldo is one of the largest natural lakes in Oregon and is the state’s second deepest after Crater Lake. It is also one of the purest and most clear lakes in the world, a result of lacking a permanent inlet that could introduce plant-fostering nutrients. On a calm day, visitors can see to the depths of 120 feet.

The lake is named after Oregon Supreme Court Judge John B. Waldo, who pushed for its preservation, ultimately leading to establishment of the Cascade Forest Reserve in 1893. Today, the lake serves as an alpine jewel and a sought-after destination for Forest visitors. Hiking, camping, kayaking, and picnicking are just a few of the activities the area offers.

Did You Know?
The Upper Middle Fork Willamette watershed is the site of the first successful reintroduction of native Bull Trout to the wild since the species was listed as Threatened in 1998. Bull Trout are North America’s southernmost descendant of arctic char, a subgroup of the salmon family. They thrive in cold and clean waters.

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<td>United States Department of the Interior — Bureau of Land Management</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Oregon State Office</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1220 SW Third Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland, OR 97204</td>
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<td>503/808-6002</td>
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<td><strong>Burns District Office</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>28910 Hwy 20 West</td>
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<td>Hines, OR 97738</td>
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<td><strong>Coos Bay District Office</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1300 Airport Lane</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Bend, OR 97459</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay">www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay</a></td>
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<td><strong>United States Department of Agriculture — Forest Service</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Pacific NW Regional Office</strong></td>
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<td>1220 SW Third Avenue</td>
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<td>765 S. Main Street</td>
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<td>32651 Highway 19</td>
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<td>Kimberly, OR 97848</td>
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<td><strong>Columbia Cascade System</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>909 1st Avenue</td>
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