



# Forests to Grassland

... and everything in between

The Arapaho and Roosevelt NF's and Pawnee National Grassland

Volume 4, Issue 2, Summer 2006

Website: [www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf/)

E-mail: [tjwilliams@fs.fed.us](mailto:tjwilliams@fs.fed.us)

## Highlights

Front Range Partnership	2
Mountain Pine Beetle	4
Fire Restrictions	5
Former Chief's visit	7
Diamond Peak Mountain Bike Patrol	8
ARP Foundation	9
Points of View	10

## A message from the Forest Supervisor

It is hard to believe that this will be my last note to you in the *Forest to Grassland Newsletter*. In case some of you have not heard, I have accepted a promotion to our National Headquarters in Washington, D.C., where I will serve as the Director for Recreation and Heritage Resources. I am very excited about my new opportunity and as I look back to my six years of service here I know I will miss the challenges, scenic beauty, and the wonderful people I have had the opportunity to work with both internally and externally.

As I reflect on these past

years there are many things I am very proud of that the ARP showed strong leadership in or accomplished. The Front Range Fuel Treatment Partnership, the ARP Foundation and the Mountain Pine Beetle Cooperative featured in this issue are just a few examples. I am also proud that this forest isn't hesitant to take on the challenging issues such as recreational shooting, dispersed camping, campfires and prairie dogs in order to work towards environmentally sound solutions with you, our stakeholders.

My last day on the ARP is

June 23. Deputy Forest Supervisor Jackie Parks will be the Acting Forest Supervisor for 120 days after that date. Jackie and I have worked very closely over the last two years and I know you will enjoy working with her as we work to fill my position.

I hope our paths cross again sometime in the future. Until then, thank you for the wonderful opportunity of serving you.

Jim Bedwell,  
Forest Supervisor

Editor, Forests to Grassland

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

2150 Centre Avenue, Building E

Fort Collins, Colorado 80526



## Hot Topics

# Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership Update

### The Partnership

Launched in 2003, the Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership (FRFTP) has gained a reputation — and recognition — for its collaborative successes. The continuing work of the FRFTP Roundtable, the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP), research, educational outreach and the successful implementation of fuels reduction projects involving multiple partners defined the Partnership in 2005.

### The Roundtable

Building on the expanding interest and commitment of its members, the FRFTP Roundtable, which met for the first time in May 2004, continued to meet quarterly in 2005 to discuss a long-term vision for the future of Colorado's Front Range forests. The Roundtable is comprised of more than 30 representatives from county, state, and federal agencies; local governments; non-governmental environmental and conservation organizations; the academic and scientific communities; and

industry and user groups — all with a vested interest in forest health and fire risk mitigation.

Roundtable working groups were formed in 2005 to discuss research findings on forest health, fire risk mitigation, natural resource policy and economic issues. The working groups recruited additional subject-matter experts to participate in their meetings to ensure that they examined all major aspects of the issues. Meetings were well attended, discussion was lively and debate was sometimes contentious.

In the end, that lively discussion produced carefully considered findings and recommendations that were presented to the public on May 18 at the Nature Conservancy's Colorado Council meeting. This gathering featured Governor Bill Owens as the keynote speaker and had presentations providing history and support of the Roundtable by Regional Forester Rick Cables, State Forester Jeff

Jahnke and Jim Hubbard, USDA Forest Service, deputy chief of State and Private Forestry. Also highlighting the meeting was the public rollout of the Roundtable's publication "Living with Fire: Protecting Communities and Restoring Forests."

"I can think of no better model to address the needs and concerns of people and nature than what has been done through the Roundtable," said Jim Bedwell forest supervisor on the Arapaho and Roosevelt and Pawnee.

The initiatives developed by the Roundtable (*continued on page 2*)



## 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 **September 29, 2006**. 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 10.

Submissions can be sent to:  
 Tammy Williams  
 Forests to Grassland  
 2150 Centre Avenue, Building E  
 Fort Collins, CO 80526  
 tjwilliams@fs.fed.us

## Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership con't

address issues, especially on private land, such as providing increased funding for forest treatments, reducing forest treatment costs, engaging local leadership in project planning and implementation, and setting priorities that ensure progress toward common forest restoration and community protection goals.

For example, the Roundtable scenario identified an average cost of more than \$400 per acre and annual treatment costs that could exceed \$15 million. The expected annual shortfall of \$9 million annually over the 40-year time horizon applies primarily to private land. This is a contrast to the FRFTP Strategy, which identified a shortfall of \$23 million annually over a period of more than 10 years and applies primarily to federal lands.

### The Action

With help from members of the FRFTP, 13 Front Range communities completed Community Wildfire Protection Plans that meet CSFS standards and nearly 30 Front Range subdivisions and/or HOAs strategically implemented fuels reduction projects to help protect their communities from wildfires and restore forest health.

Agencies involved with the FRFTP engaged in numerous outreach and technology transfer programs during 2005. For example, Partnership agency representatives organized and hosted two congressional tours; one in Estes Park that highlighted collaborative fuels reduction projects on public and private land on the northern Front Range, and one at the Manitou Experimental Forest that focused on mastication research, development of the Teller County CWPP, and fuels mitigation projects on adjacent public and private lands.

In the spring of 2005, three forest ecologists with the Rocky Mountain Research Station organized and hosted the first Great Mixed Conifer Tour. The first tour was so well attended that two additional tours were offered in September, which attracted more than 60 participants including federal, state, and local agency personnel, legislative staffers, the media, and the general public. The purpose of the tours was to present data collected by the scientists and discuss implications for management in the complex mixed conifer zone between 7,500 and 9,000 feet in elevation.

Complementing these major tours were several smaller tours that showcased project demonstration sites throughout the Front Range.

The FRFTP also partnered with the Rocky Mountain Research Station to host a Landscape Treatment Optimization Workshop that was attended by more than 50 representatives from land-management agencies and non-governmental conservation organizations.

As a result of successful collaboration among agencies and private landowners, 24,908 acres were treated on the Front Range in 2005. That brings the total number of acres treated under the auspices of the FRFTP to 51,886 in two years. In

2005, the Colorado State Forest Service treated 9,284 acres on state and private land at a cost of \$3,713,600. This figure represents FRFTP Strategy funding, USDA Forest Service grants, and in-kind or monetary match for treatments implemented by private landowners. The Pike National forest

**The FRFTP has gained a reputation — and recognition — for its collaborative successes.**

treated 7,900 acres at a cost of \$2,000,000, the Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forests treated 6,729 acres at a cost of \$1,610,958, and the National Park Service treated 995 acres at a cost of \$291,740. Planning was completed on an additional 24,083 acres of federal land, and 14,144 acres of state and private land.

### The Future

The Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership continues to find success through collaboration that fosters support for fuels reduction projects resulting in fire risk mitigation and forest restoration. With continued funding, support from the Roundtable, successful implementation of CWPPs, and timely research and outreach programs, 2006 promises to be another productive year for the Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership.

*(To read the FRFTP Roundtable's complete report or the FRFTP annual report, visit [www.frftp.org](http://www.frftp.org) and click on the Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership Roundtable. The 2005 Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership Annual Report is also available on the FRFTP website.)*

### New Visitor Guide

**Visitor Guide**  
Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland

Welcome... Inside Front cover	1
A Brief History.....	1
<b>What to do?</b>	2
Camping.....	2
Fishing.....	2
Service Drive.....	2
Wilderness.....	2
Hiking Trails.....	2
Mountain Biking.....	2
Rock Climbing.....	2
Canoeing and Flat Water Boating.....	2
Hunting and Kipshing.....	2
Recreational Driving.....	2
Day Trips and ATV.....	2
Skating and Snowmobiling.....	2
Swimming.....	2
Fishing and Hunting.....	2
Horseback Riding.....	2
<b>Where to go?</b>	3
Scenic Byways.....	3
Wilderness Areas.....	3
Cades in Paradise.....	3
Wild and Scenic Rivers.....	3
Arapaho National Recreation Area.....	3
Historical and Archeological Sites.....	3
ARP Area Map.....	3
<b>What to know?</b>	4
Permits and Passes.....	4
Hours and Closures.....	4
Recreation.....	4
Companions.....	4
Outdoor Safety.....	4
Volunteer Opportunities.....	4
Order Maps for Maps and Pamphlets.....	4
Handy Numbers and Web Sites.....	4
Back cover	4

www.fs.fed.us/arp  
Forest Information Center  
3120 Century Ave, Bldg 6  
Fort Collins, CO 80526  
970-239-4700

The ARP Visitor Guide is now available to visitors at no cost. The guide features information about the recreational opportunities, rules and regulations on the ARP. To obtain a copy call your visit your local ARP district office.

## Mountain Pine Beetle Cooperative

On May 3, a list of projects funded with the first increment of Northern Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative special monies was released. The projects will focus on reducing the threat of wildfire and associated risks to life and property in Northern Colorado. Over half a million dollars has been allocated through the U. S. Forest Service to fund projects in Grand, Eagle, Jackson, Routt and Summit counties. The project funding is a direct result of efforts from the Northern Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative working with the congressional delegation and other partners. It will be allocated using criteria created by the Cooperative.

The projects are:

- Piney (Eagle County)- \$245,000 – the project accomplishes fuels reduction, timber salvage and reforestation in a critical watershed.
- Vail Valley Partnership (Eagle County) - \$50,000 – the project focuses on an existing partnership for fuels reduction in the urban wildland forest interface.
- Big Creek/Pearl (Jackson County) – \$75,000 – this is a fuels reduction project needed in a remote subdivision and recreation corridor surrounded by forest infested with bark beetles.
- Seedhouse (Routt County) - \$20,000 – this is a fuels reduction project in a major recreation corridor that serves private landowners and recreation industry businesses.
- County Commons/Iron Springs (Summit County) - \$85,000 – this project is a fuels reduction project that lies in the “heart” of Summit County’s wildland urban interface, including defensible fuels reduction around

the local high school and hospital.

- Arapaho National Recreation Area Good Neighbor (Grand County) - \$75,000 – this project will accomplish considerable biomass removal and tree thinning in a high value recreation area.

Projects are funded in each county and focused on county and community priorities and collaboratively developed criteria such as; protection of life and property, protection of public infrastructure (high schools, hospitals), maintaining healthy watersheds, high value recreation corridors, and remote subdivisions surrounded by forests. The projects have already been through or are close to completion of the planning phase and complement existing projects on adjacent lands.

As efforts for the Cooperative move forward the funding in each county/community will vary, coming from various sources including grants, state and private funds, as well as federal dollars allocated through the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

The Cooperative is working toward the Next Forest which includes a sustainable community based forest products industry for Northern Colorado. Local communities have economies that are tied to surrounding forests. All efforts are community based to insure that outcomes are aligned with local community visions.

More about the Northwest Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative, their strategy, and their collaborative efforts can be found at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/fhm/bbcoop/>

## Mountain Pine Beetle effects on campgrounds

For six years the Sulphur Ranger District has been engaged in a battle with the Mountain Pine Beetle. As part of this ongoing battle the district has been spraying trees in the Arapaho National Recreation Area to help protect and maintain the attributes of the campground.

Even with this annual effort trees continue to become infested and continue to be removed. Winter winds in infested and treated areas have intensified the problem. These winds create hazardous conditions for the public by blowing down some of these weakened trees.

The district has worked diligently to address this hazard and open most campgrounds. The Green Ridge

Campground still has a few closed campsites within it because of hazardous trees.

Three campgrounds on the Sulphur Ranger District will not open this year because of hazardous trees. Those campgrounds Sugarloaf, South Fork and Horseshoe, are all in the Williams Fork area.

When camping on the district expect to see changes in the landscape. Although some shade has been lost, some areas have more sun and more space for smaller trees to grow .



Above: Photo of Mountain Pine beetle work in the ARNA.

## Recreational Shooting, Dispersed Camping and Campfires

The Boulder Ranger District of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland held three public meetings last month to listen to concerns, issues and needs regarding recreational shooting, dispersed camping and campfires. Approximately 81 people participated in these meetings held in Boulder and Longmont.

These meetings were part of the pre-NEPA phase of the district's Urban Front Country Initiative Project and were

designed to help the district define the many aspects of these topic areas in order to understand the public's concerns, needs and issues more clearly. The next phase of this project will include more public involvement, this time about solutions. For more information about this project please contact Cat Luna or visit our website at [www.fs.fed.us/arnf/](http://www.fs.fed.us/arnf/)

## Pawnee National Grassland Prairie Dog Plan

The U.S. Forest Service will be making a decision that will guide the management of black-tailed prairie dogs and their habitat on the Pawnee National Grassland (PNG) for the next 10 to 15 years. The PNG is located in northeast Weld County, about 35 miles northeast of Greeley, Colo. It is approximately 193,000 acres of Forest Service lands, and the proposal affects the entire PNG, which is primarily short grass prairie.

People do not agree on how or where prairie dogs should be managed on the PNG. Some would like to have many more acres of prairie dog colonies, which provide habitat for other wildlife, such as the burrowing owl. Other people consider prairie dogs pests which destroy the land. They would like to see fewer acres of prairie dog colonies on the PNG.

"My desire is to make a decision on the management of

prairie dogs on the Pawnee National Grassland that finds some balance between opposing viewpoints. It is important for me to hear the interests and concerns of folks about the management of prairie dogs on the grassland, so I can make a balanced decision" District Ranger Steve Currey said.

The district held two open houses in April and received more than 400 written comments. Relocation and poisoning of prairie dogs and the number of acres of prairie dog colonies are some of the issues heard at the open houses and in written comments. The decision on prairie dog management will be issued sometime this fall.

For additional information, visit the Forest Service web page at [www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf/projects/ea-projects/png/pdog/index.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf/projects/ea-projects/png/pdog/index.shtml)

## Fire Restrictions and Fire Activity

The hot, dry summer is upon us, and with it fire restrictions were put in place on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest on June 13. Specifically these restrictions prohibit the following:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or wood stove, except within a developed recreation site, or improved site. 36 CFR § 261.52(a)
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material. 36 CFR § 261.52(d).

We appreciate everyone's help this summer in complying with this and other fire restrictions that may be put in place. We know that the summer is predicted to be hot and dry, and that we will get lightning; however, it will help greatly if our visitors and neighbors were extremely careful with fire this season and aware of all the restrictions different agencies may put in place. Before visiting the ARP check fire restriction information on our website at [www.fs.fed.us/arnf.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/arnf.shtml). Thank you!



*Above: Military Aerial Firefighters known as MAFFS practice their aerial drops near Deadman Peak on the Canyon Lakes Ranger District, as part of their training for this fire season.*

## Changing Places... Changing Faces

### Hellos and Goodbyes

This issue we say goodbye to four ARP employees: Forest Supervisor James Bedwell, Human Resources Specialist Larry Hagen, Forest Wildlife Biologist Dennis Lowry, and Forest Landscape Architect Jennifer Burns.

Forest Supervisor James Bedwell accepted a promotion to the Forest Service National Headquarters in Washington D.C. where he will serve as the National Director for Recreation and Heritage Resources. Jim came to the ARP in June of 2000 just two weeks prior to the Bobcat Gulch Fire. During his time on the ARP he helped establish the Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership, expand the resources necessary to more aggressively address the fuel hazard problem on the forest, consolidate the Canyon Lakes Ranger District and the Forest Supervisor's Office into one building in Fort Collins, and partnered with the ARP Foundation. In April 2005 during the Regional Integrated Resource Review the Regional Office interviewed ARP employees on each district and staff area and found not only that morale was

strong on the ARP but the majority of employees were happy with their leadership. Jim and his dedication and genuine concern for employees, stakeholders and the resource will be greatly missed. Deputy Forest Supervisor Jackie Parks will be the acting Forest Supervisor beginning for the first 120 days after Jim heads to Washington, D.C. Hal Gibbs the current ecosystem manager will temporarily fill in behind Jackie as the acting Deputy Forest Supervisor. Both bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to their respective jobs.

Human Resources Specialist Larry Hagen accepted a position with the Department of Army in Tomah, Wis. in May. Larry was known for being extremely service oriented to all the employees he helped with benefits, pay and employment. Larry was also known for his great sense of humor and making the workplace more fun.

Forest Wildlife Biologist Dennis Lowry has decided to retire after 32 years. Dennis began his tour on the ARP in 1987. Dennis was essential to the development

of the forest plan and served all the district biologists and resources well.. Dennis added humor to the workplace and always was ready to help someone and greet them with a smile. Dennis's retirement was effective June 3.

Forest Landscape Architect Jennifer Burns accepted her dream job on the San Juan National Forest and will report as Forest Landscape Architect in July. Jennifer came to the ARP in August of 2003. Jennifer is highly dedicated to scenic beauty and the art of interpretation and was a major contributor to the look, feel and design of the interpretive aspects of our Fort Collins office. During her time on the ARP Jennifer developed a Forest-wide Interpretive strategy to improve and coordinate interpretation on the ARP.

We wish Jim, Larry, Dennis and Jennifer well in their new endeavors. We will miss their contributions both personally and professionally.

## Lenora Arevalos honored by Larimer County Sheriff

"Availability." "Flexibility." Two terms used to describe Lenora Arevalos in the Larimer County Sheriff's Office Sheriff's Commendation she received in January.

Lenora has worked for the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) in Larimer County for more than 25 years. In that time, she has appreciated the great working relationship USFS law enforcement officers (LEOs) and the county have.

The Sheriff's Commendation recognized Lenora specifically for her availability in the Red Feather Lakes area, providing equipment for search and rescue, and her extensive knowledge of the area. This knowledge was particularly important last fall when Search and Rescue and Emergency Services were looking for a hunter in the Crown Point area. He had suffered potentially

life-threatening injuries, and Lenora worked with him to determine his possible location. The hunter was located and received needed medical attention.

As an LEO, Lenora faces many situations in the field like the one above. Most common are emergencies and recreational issues, such as motorized travel, camping restrictions and hunting. She also answers a lot of questions about directions, camping, fishing and all-terrain vehicles.

Some she remembers as particularly rewarding. Her most rewarding experience happened about five years ago when she "prevented a young girl from committing suicide." One of many incredible services she has provided individuals on the national forest.

Lenora is particularly deserving of this award because of her dedication to

the land and people she serves. The award is very rewarding for her and a first of this type.

"I feel like I've assisted," she said. "Basically I'm doing my job and making a difference."

Her work is greatly appreciated by not only the Sheriff's Office, but also those who work with her in the USFS.

"Lenora has always provided outstanding law enforcement services to the district and entire Forest. This special acknowledgement by her peers in Larimer County only emphasize what we've known all along.... Lenora is an outstanding law enforcement officer and a true credit to the Forest Service. We are truly proud of her and express our most sincere CONGRATULATIONS!" Ellen Hodges, Canyon Lakes District Ranger, said.

## Forest Service Highlights

### Four Chief's Visit

Wednesday, June 6, Forest Supervisor Jim Bedwell Regional Forester, Rick Cables and Clear Creek District Ranger Daniel Lovato accompanied the four living ex-chiefs of the USDA Forest Service, Max Peterson, Dale Roberts, Mike Dombeck and Jack Ward Thomas on a trip to Berthoud Pass.

Bruce Ward, Executive Director of the Continental Divide Trail Alliance, hosted the event which was planned and sponsored by the Alliance. The entire event included an invitation-only breakfast, a field trip to Berthoud Pass, an invitation-only reception and dinner, and concluded with a free presentation of the "The Greatest Good" and a panel discussion featuring the chiefs at the Denver Museum of Science and Nature.

Noting that Berthoud Pass will be a "world-class" trailhead, Ward, Bedwell and Lovato were joined by Colorado State Parks Director, Lyle Laverty, as they described the partnership formed to make the trailhead a reality.

The chiefs responded with unanimous praise for the project noting the need for changes in forest service focus toward recreation and the need for more partnerships, that was a reality during their tenures and is a reality today.

When completed Berthoud Pass Trailhead will be one of the most, if not the most accessible points to the Conti-



Above: The four chiefs from left to right, Mike Dombeck, Jack Ward Thomas, Dale Robertson and Max Peterson

ental Divide Trail. It will feature, a new parking lot, restrooms, a warming hut and signs interpreting the history, ecology and significance of Berthoud Pass. An historic sign marking the summit of the pass and providing the backdrop for many visitors' pictures will be moved to an area more suitable and scenic.

The contract for work on the pass will be awarded in the next month and construction will begin in the spring of 2007.

### Dowdy Lake Closure Update

Dowdy Lake Campground on the Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLRD) near Red Feather Lakes, Colo., will be closed in 2006 for reconstruction. The day-use area will be closed starting July 7 through the rest of 2006. There will be no parking available at the day-use area parking lot or on the roads in the area.

It has been more than twenty years since major improvements have been made to the campground and when completed, the area will have better accessibility,

additional parking and electricity hook-ups.

The inconvenience of the closure is fully recognized by CLRD Staff; however, closing the entire area allows for safety for the public and workers, as well as time and cost efficiencies. For more information about camping in the Red Feather Lakes area, please contact visitor information at 970-295-6700.

### Canyon Lakes District Fuels Accomplishments

Crews on the Canyon Lakes Ranger District have been hard at work reducing hazardous fuels both mechanically and through prescribed fire. This winter 1069 acres worth of slash piles created from thinning shrubs and trees around the Crystal Lakes Subdivision have been burned and 583 acres of thinning was done by contractors and USFS crews. An additional 63 acres were burned in the South Elkhorn area and 129 acres our Seven Mile Project.

Another way the district reduces hazardous fuels is by opening up areas to fuelwood sales. This winter, over

1400 acres were open to this permitted activity, offering a service to the community and resource management to reduce the threat of wildfires. Another 340 acres will be open next fall.

This summer additional activities will take place to reduce hazardous fuels on the district. Activity will continue around Crystal Lakes, as contractors are scheduled to thin an additional 900 acres. We also have approximately 200 acres of fuels management on our Seven Mile Project along the Manhattan Road northwest of Fort Collins.

## Volunteers Spotlights

### Diamond Peak Mountain Bike Patrol



Do you enjoy cruising through the forest on your mountain bike? Helping out others who enjoy the outdoors? Serving not only the public, but the land that you enjoy? Then the Diamond Peaks Mountain Bike Patrol (DPMB) might be just the group for you.

DPMB volunteers donated 719 hours to the Canyon Lakes Ranger District last season. And, volunteers work not only with the district, but also Colorado State Parks and Larimer County, to promote responsible mountain biking. This volunteer organization

of 78 members from ages 18 to 62, provides trail information, educates on "Tread Lightly" practices, has First Aid and CPR training, and does trail work while enjoying the great outdoors since its creation in 1995. The group is a member of the International Mountain Bicycling Association and the National Mountain Pike Patrol.

A typical experience for a patroller includes riding his or her bike on trails identified by the organization and interacting with other trail users. This can include providing first aid, directions, food, water, answering questions about the trail and some advice on trail-side mountain bike repairs.

Volunteers join DPMB for many reasons, but many like the chance to give back to the land that they ride, meet other riders, help trail users, and helping be the eyes and ears for land agencies.

"You take so much from the trail, isn't it time to give some back?" Barb

Allan, DPMB member, said.

The organization is not just about providing a service to land management agencies, but also having fun. DPMB sponsors many social activities, including a mid-season BBQ and an end-of-the-season bash. In addition there are group trips, social rides and special events. There is a little of something for everyone.

"The variety of activities – from Take a Kid Mountain Biking to trail projects, bridge design and construction, the variety of trails, first aid for public events, adopt-a-highway, public advocacy for low-impact riding and keeping trails open, etc., are all great experiences," Ron Splittgerber, DPMB member, said.

If your interest is piqued and you want more information on the Diamond Peak Mountain Bike Patrol, check their website at

[www.diamondpeakspatrol.org](http://www.diamondpeakspatrol.org).

## Recipients of the Regional Foresters 2005 Partnership Award

Joe and Frieda Ladd were the recipients of the 2005 Regional Foresters Recreation Partnership award. The Ladds are from Macomb, Ill., have traveled to Boulder Ranger District every summer for the past 20 years to serve as volunteer trailhead hosts. Together they provide over 400 hours of volunteer service each summer (a value of over \$5,500.00 in 2005). Over the course of their 20 years as volunteers, they have given well over 8,000 volunteer hours.

As trailhead hosts, the Ladd's staff the Long Lake, Mitchell Lake and Ceran Saint Vrain Trailheads, offering friendly greetings and visitor information. The Ladds' extensive knowledge of the area benefits visitors by providing them with information about trail conditions, weather, wildlife and outdoor preparedness. The Ladds share key messages from the Forest Service about regulations, sanitation and Leave No Trace, use of fire or fire restrictions, and safety. Their presence at trailheads provides the benefits of Forest Service visibility, personal communication and education that are otherwise often missing at district trailheads.

In addition, the Ladds provide resource information to Boulder Ranger District. They record data about visitor use and activities, conditions of the trail and trailhead facilities, along with any other pertinent information to help

care for the National Forest. This benefits the district directly by helping staff recognize resource needs and plan trail or trailhead projects accordingly.

Since their retirement the Ladd's have resided in Boulder Ranger District's South Saint Vrain Cabin each summer, serving as stewards of the historic site. They keep the cabin and property around it clean of litter, they report to the district any problems or needs for the cabin, and their presence helps discourage vandalism. We are thankful for their long-term dedication.



*Above: Regional Forester Rick Cables, ARP Deputy Forest Supervisor Jackie Parks, Joe and Frieda Ladd, Boulder District Ranger Christine Walsh, ARP Forest Supervisor Jim Bedwell and Deputy Regional Forester Richard Stem at the awards ceremony.*



## Stakeholder/partners Highlights

### BeAware & Prepare Wildfire Fair coming in the Fall

Nearly 250 Teller County area residents attended the 2006 BeAware & Prepare Wildfire Fair in Woodland Park on May 20 to learn more about fire risk mitigation and forest health. The fair is sponsored by the City of Woodland Park, Coalition for the Upper South Platte, Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension, Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership, National Park Service and USDA Forest Service.

In addition to 20 booths featuring information about fire history, fire ecology, fire hazard reduction around homes, FireWise landscaping and examples of fuels reduction projects, the fair included a media breakfast to highlight the just-released Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership Roundtable report, workshops on forest health and developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans, children's activities and FireWise Jeopardy, an interactive game that tests participants' knowledge about wildfire mitigation.

Evaluations indicate a high level of interest in making the fair an annual event in Teller County, and expanding the fair to other communities around the state. To help jumpstart interest, 2006 BeAware & Prepare Wildfire Fair

planning committee members have offered to meet with potential participants and sponsors in other communities to discuss lessons learned about organizing the event. And the Estes Valley is taking them up on their offer. Representatives from Rocky Mountain National Park, the Colorado State Forest Service and the Estes Park Fire Department are making tentative plans to hold a wildfire fair next spring. In the meantime, they will work on recruiting other organizations to help with planning and identify a date so they can promote the event at activities in the Estes Valley throughout the summer and fall. Watch for additional information in future editions of *Forests to Grassland*.

For more information on the 2006 BeAware & Prepare Wildfire Fair, contact Katherine Timm, Colorado State Forest Service and Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership, at 970.295.6892 or visit

[www.rockymountainwildlandfire.info](http://www.rockymountainwildlandfire.info).

*(submitted by Katherine Timm, Colorado State Forest Service, Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership)*

## Foundation member highlight

The dictionary definition of Collaboration states: to work together, especially in some literary, artistic or scientific undertaking. The dictionary defines spirit as enthusiasm with real meaning. These definitions together describe an outstanding Forest Service employee who is dedicated to the Forest Service mission and the understanding of what the ARP Foundation can bring to the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland. Through her tireless effort, the Foundation's outreach to the general public has been significantly enhanced through an excellent and informative Foundation web page. The web page covers Foundation activities forest wide. The person responsible for the Foundation's web page is Debbie Winston.

Debbie currently hails from Loveland, Colo., but has lived in Hawaii, Oklahoma and Nebraska. She has extensive skills in all phases of computer applications, has been a wireless data specialist and been a travel counselor along with other kinds of work.

Debbie received several merit scholarships while attending the Art Institute of Colorado where she studied multimedia and web design. As an outstanding student (GPA



*Left:  
Debbie  
Winston,  
volunteer  
webmas-  
ter for the  
ARP  
Founda-  
tion*

of 3.6) she was initiated into the Alpha Beta Kappa Honor Society.

It is abundantly clear why Debbie has developed an outstanding Foundation web page. The foundation is extremely grateful for Debbie's collaborative effort.

*(submitted by Howard Alden, President of the ARP Foundation )*

## Points of View

In our last issue of the *Forest to Grassland* we asked out readers to share their thoughts about recreational shooting on public lands. We received the following contribution:

*I saw the article on concerns re. shooting in the National Forest.*

*I am an avid shooter of both modern and antique firearms. At the same time, I am a quite active hiker and biker. Hopefully that gives me more perspective.*

*I have never shot at LHC...nor have I ever seen the need to use tracers, exploding targets or consumer durable goods as targets. I simply punch holes in paper...clean up my mess and then move on. (I generally shoot at the area in St. Vrain Canyon near the 7/72 intersection).*

*Incidentally...I regularly see wildlife at that location in the early mornings...so we are not scaring the animals...just some of the more excitable people.*

*While I can certainly see the need for some additional established ranges, I also see real value in the undeveloped locations. They provide an excellent site for less formal endeavors (like teaching my kids)...they are always open and they are less restrictive for actual meaningful competitive training IE: running a "hot range"*

*My very real concern is that responsible shooters will once again pay the price for the "bad eggs" I have no problem whatsoever with a ban on tracers, exploding targets or ...shall we say non-biodegradable targets. I think we would all be better served if we simply tried to eliminate the problems rather than the activity.*

*Additionally, there are several shooting groups that would be quite happy to "adopt a range" and eliminate the trashed status you feel they have.*

*I know Colorado AR15 Shooters is planning one for St Vrain Canyon right now...and there is one planned for Pawnee as well.*

*These groups regularly do informal cleanups of the different areas...and I think we could go a long way towards "policing" ourselves.*

*I can help put that in motion! Thanks for listening. Bill Brokob*

The focus of the Points of view section is to start a dialog among our stakeholder's. We appreciate Bill's willingness to contribute. We would like to give other stake-

holders another opportunity to share their thoughts regarding recreational shooting for our next issue. Please see the Points of View guidelines and deadlines and help us start this dialog.

### Points of View 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 Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland. 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  
2150 Centre Avenue, Building E  
Fort Collins, CO 80526  
or e-mail: [tjwilliams@fs.fed.us](mailto:tjwilliams@fs.fed.us)**

The non-U.S. 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.

**Submissions for the next issue of the Forest to Grassland are due: September 29, 2006**

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."