



# Forests to Grassland

... and everything in between

The Arapaho and Roosevelt NF's and Pawnee National Grassland

Volume 4, Issue 3, Fall/Winter 2006

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Happy Holidays! The winter season is upon us. I hope you have a chance during this busy time to get out and enjoy your National Forests and Grassland.

I am writing this message, for Glenn Casamassa, our new Forest Supervisor who will be starting his leadership role for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland on December 11 as this newsletter will be in route to you. I am excited about Glenn joining us. Page six contains more information about Glenn.

## A message from the Forest Supervisor

This issue of the *Forests to Grassland* is very special and has been compiled in dedication to Howard Alden, President of the ARP Foundation who passed away on October 1. Howard was a dear friend and a force of nature who was dedicated to furthering the possibilities of the ARP and natural resources everywhere. Please take the time to read about Howard's contributions to the ARP on pages two and three. As we dedicate this issue of the *Forests and Grassland* to Howard, we also send our thoughts to Howard's family.

This issue is full of information Howard loved, volunteers helping accomplish work on the ARP, interpretation and environmental education programs being offered, and stakeholders contributing their thoughts in the Points of View section.

Have a wonderful winter. I know Glenn looks forward to meeting you and working with all of you in the future and I look forward to continuing working with you as well.

Jackie Parks  
Deputy Forest Supervisor

Editor, *Forests to Grassland*

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## Hot Topics

### In Dedication To Howard Alden

The Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP) and all those who love the outdoors and natural resources lost a great friend on October 1, 2006, with the passing of Howard Alden, president of the ARP Foundation. We at the ARP feel his loss in many ways. In fact, the *Forests to Grassland Newsletter* you are reading reflects the influence of Howard Alden, who wanted to make sure we designed and produced a newsletter that was a useful tool for those interested in the ARP and gave stakeholders the opportunity to contribute to its content. In our first issue published in winter 2002/2003, Howard called his fellow stakeholders to action.

He said, "Let us explore opportunities and see if we can develop a stronger partnership among stakeholders and the ARP.... We have the responsibility to foster the stewardship of the forest and grassland resources for today and future generations."

Because of Howard's input and representation of other stakeholders during those conceptual newsletter meetings, his regular contributions to the newslet-



Above: Howard Alden attired in a hat, vest and smile as most of the ARP would remember him. This photo was taken when Howard received the Mitchell Award for 20 years of contributions to the stewardship of the Poudre River.

ter and his vision and tireless efforts in co-founding and leading the ARP Foundation we dedicate this issue of *Forests to Grassland Newsletter* to Howard. This dedication is in honor of his vast contributions to the ARP and natural re-

sources use and enjoyment everywhere.

Steve Deitemeyer, acting president of the ARP Foundation sums up Howard's dedication as follows: "I will personally remember Howard for his dedication to natural resources and desire to teach others about their stewardship needs. His great humor and sensitivity for people provided a leadership style that united communities and left a legacy of commitment."

ARP employees partnered with the ARP Foundation to plant a Rocky Mountain Juniper and native grasses in front of our Fort Collins office in Howard's honor. Howard will be greatly missed, but the ARP will remember him by continuing our partnerships and dialog with stakeholders.

Because of Howard's dedication to the ARP Foundation and its great potential for the ARP, his family requested that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the ARP Foundation. Donations will be matched by the National Forest Foundation ([for details contact info@arp-foundation.org](mailto:info@arp-foundation.org)).

### 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 **February 28, 2007**. 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:  
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### Howard 's Contributions to the ARP!

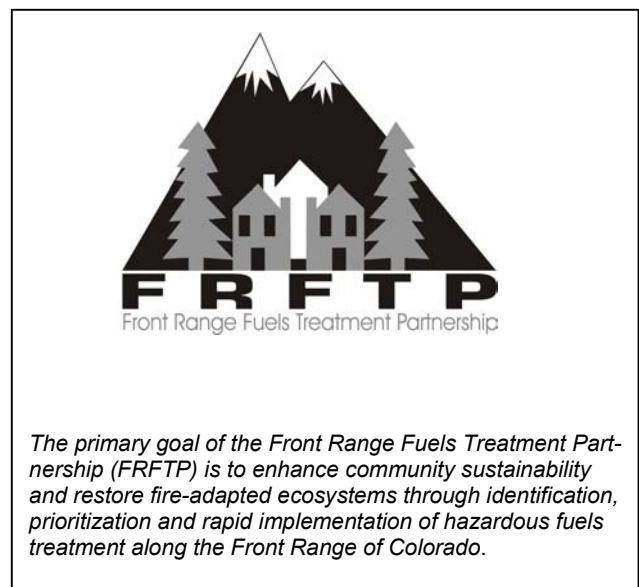
- As a Colorado State University Professor for 22 years Howard taught many Forest Service and ARP employees in recreation resource management. He also had students help the ARP by contributing to several interpretation, recreation and trail design projects.
- As an ARP employee for eight years, Howard helped gather and interpret data and write portions of our 1997 Revised Land and Resource Management Plan (recreation, monitoring and comment analysis) . After the plan was finished he coordinated monitoring of the plan and its annual report.
- As a co-founder and president of the ARP Foundation from its establishment in 2003 to 2006, Howard's personal commitment was a principal driver in all Foundation business from the strategies for the future, logo design, and fundraising to the daily operations. Through his leadership and tireless efforts, the ARP Foundation sponsored many recreation and interpretation activities as well on-the-ground accomplishments. Two items we know Howard was very proud of was the Interpretive Training the Foundation sponsored for ARP employees and the "Go Connect" vehicle for the Canyon Lakes Ranger District that allowed the district to bring information and interpretation out to the visitors as they are enjoying the national forest.
- As a friend he shared many passions, whether it be his family, wood carvings or smile. He also took the time to get to know the person not just the position they held.
- Howard's influence and contributions cannot really be measured and will live on through little seeds he planted in the minds of others, not to mention the inspiration.

## Front Range Fuel Treatment Partnership

It's hard to believe, but it's annual report time again! Over the next several weeks, we'll be assembling information for the 2006 Front Range Fuels Treatment Part-

nership Annual Report. While this year's report will again provide information about our accomplishments, we're taking a slightly different approach to telling our story. We'll still provide updates on acres treated and FRFTP Roundtable activities, as well as Community Wildfire Protection Plans completed and in progress. But that's where the similarities end. This year, we'll include several feature stories that discuss cross-boundary fuels reduction from the standpoint of land-owners and other cooperators. The stories will be modeled after the "Crossing Boundaries" series, which has been an effective tool in communicating our successes with decision-makers and cooperators alike. If you haven't read the stories, we encourage you to check them out at [www.frftp.org](http://www.frftp.org) (click on "News and Features" and then scroll down to "Success Stories"). We will be publishing several new stories early next year, so we encourage you to visit the website often.

We currently have several potential story ideas for the annual report, but we could use more. We're looking for stories that focus on collaborative fuels reduction or forest management projects on the Front Range including the development of Colorado Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) research projects and planning efforts, to name a few. If you have an idea, please send a brief description of the project along with names and contact information for sources to John Bustos at [jbustos@fs.fed.us](mailto:jbustos@fs.fed.us) or Katherine Timm at [kmtimm@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:kmtimm@lamar.colostate.edu). We'd like to include at least two stories each from the northern and southern Front Range.



The 2007 FRFTP implementers meeting will be held from 9-4:30 on Wednesday, February 7, 2007. The one-day meeting will be held at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities. The planning committee has assembled a jam-packed agenda (con't. page 5)



## Shadow Mountain Lake Drawdown

The USDA Forest Service together with the Bureau of Reclamation, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, Three Lakes Watershed Association, Western Area Power Administration and Grand County lowered the water level of Shadow Mountain Lake (SML) from October 16 to December 1, 2006, to kill aquatic weeds. Over the past several years aquatic weeds in the lake have increased to a level that has made navigation and other recreational activities difficult.

Agencies lowered the surface elevation of SML approximately 12 feet by preventing water flow into Grand Lake from SML and storing the water in Lake Granby. On December 1, the 12 feet of water from Lake Granby was pumped back into SML bringing it back to its normal water level on December 8.

The purpose of the drawdown was to expose aquatic weeds to freezing temperatures to kill them. During the drawdown, existing dockowners who obtained a permit were allowed to remove weeds and lakebed material from around their dock. Additionally, the Grand County Water Information network hosted two volunteer days. Approximately 16 people participated, raking and piling weeds from the lakebed that were later disposed of. We greatly appreciate their contributions and hard work in cold temperatures.

Agencies will continue to monitor the effectiveness on the drawdown on managing weeds in the lake over the next several years. This summer they will conduct a doppler survey, which will map the extent of the weeds as well as use quick bird aerial photos to monitor water quality. Although we don't know exactly how effective this drawdown was, we do know that weeds were exposed to freezing temperatures and based on previous drawdowns we expect that some weeds were killed.

Conducting the drawdown required a lot of coordination and partnering. A major concern was ensuring that the drawdown didn't negatively effect the kokanee salmon egg collection activities. The Colorado Division of Wildlife, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and the



*Above: Heading out to rake up weeds.*

*Below: Kokanee Salmon Egg collection activities below Shadow Mountain Lake Dam.*



Bureau of Reclamation closely coordinated maintaining adequate water flows to support the egg collection activities. Additionally, participating agencies provided on-the-ground help with the actual egg collection. The DOW had hoped to collect at least two to two and a half million eggs. At press time well over 2.6 million eggs had been collected.

## Have You Heard About Facilities Master Planning?

The recreation facility master planning effort provides a standardized process to examine recreation facilities such as campgrounds and look at the level of services and opportunities the Forest Service can provide. The public depends on the Forest Service to make good choices and be fiscally responsible for the resources they manage. The goal of this planning effort is to have a list of facilities prioritized by how well the public is served and by how efficient the sites are at providing that service.

Currently, we are gathering and checking data and de-

scriptions of the sites. This planning effort also checks to see if the sites are environmentally sustainable and if there are effects on community stability.

"As we move through this process, we will be sharing some more information with you about our findings and ask for your input. Stay tuned," said Acting Forest Supervisor Jackie Parks.

For more information on the recreation facilities master planning process, call Paul Cruz, Forest Recreation Staff, at 970-295-6614.

## Old Roach Passport In Time Project

The Old Roach Passport in Time (PIT) project connected volunteers, Forest Service archaeologists, and original settlers to share lost knowledge of “tie hacking” (railroad logging) in the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP) and preserved this unique part of Forest Service history in video and audio recordings. In August 2006, five volunteers and three USDA Forest Service (USFS) employees spent a week recording historical sites in the Old Roach area of the Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLR D) and interviewing the original inhabitants of these sites and their descendants. In addition to identifying and recording archaeological sites, the volunteers also collected oral histories and historical photographs from some of the people who lived at Roach as children. The group identified over 100 archaeological features and sites, collected several hours of oral history, and compiled dozens of original historical photographs from personal collections.

The Old Roach Logging Camp is located southwest of Laramie, Wyoming, in an area that was extensively logged for railroad ties in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Old Roach was the headquarters camp of the Otto Lumber Company in the last days of tie hacking in Colorado. Although built on Forest Service land, Old Roach was a “real town” that included houses for loggers and their families (some with flush toilets), a school, a cookhouse and even a post office. The tie hacks’ timber contract required that the town be destroyed when the contract expired so that today all that remains of Old Roach is an archaeological site. The Old Roach PIT project allowed the USFS to use volunteers to fully document the extensive town site and other tie hacking resources in the surrounding area, including a splash dam, log flume, and several work camps.

Volunteers and Forest Service employees did not excavate artifacts. Instead, they spent the week making a record of the logging camp sites by documenting artifacts and mapping, photographing, and evaluating them for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. They also collected several hours of oral history that helped them understand the Old Roach site while preserving the lost history of tie hacking on Forest Service lands.

Volunteers were recruited through the Passport in Time website [www.passportintime.com](http://www.passportintime.com). The five volunteers provided a great benefit to the USFS by helping forest staff work in a relatively large area and document the enormous Old Roach site, which measures one square mile in area with 96 individual features identified. Although the site is relatively recent by archaeological standards (occupied 1923-1942), little of its history was known. The camp layout, size, composition, and even dates of occupation had to be discovered through artifacts and oral history. The identification of household artifacts (dishes, toys and food cans) versus logging artifacts (saw blades, files and slabs) al-

lowed the PIT volunteers to map the activity areas of the camp, while the sizes of building foundations show that the camp was divided into “family” and “bachelor” living areas.

PIT volunteers brought a variety of skills and experience to the archaeological sites. Three of the Old Roach volunteers have worked on archaeological sites before, the fourth is a history teacher and the fifth a retired engineer. These volunteers quickly mastered historical artifact identification and mapping skills and developed questions to ask interviewees based on what they had observed at the site.

Tie hacking was an important early use of National Forest timber and the legacy of this use is apparent in the logging camps, dams, saw mills and cabins throughout the Roach area. The Old Roach PIT project has allowed the CLR D staff to document and preserve the history of, not only a “lost city,” but the Forest Service itself.

Old Roach was a critical part of USFS logging history. Today it is an outstanding example of the culture, technology and legacy of tie hacking. The Old Roach PIT Project allowed the ARP staff to finally document the extent of the camp and to use artifacts to map the camp’s houses, cookhouse, barn, school and trash dump.



Above: *The Passport in Time Roach Crew*

## FRFTP con't.

based on feedback from last year’s evaluations.

The 2007 meeting will include presentations and discussions on the FRFTP Roundtable, Community Wildfire Protection Plans, the FRFTP website, research (CWPPs, treatments in mixed conifer, and mastication studies), Stewardship Contracting, grants, budget and legislation, and prescribed fire and smoke management. We’ll also take time during lunch to hear ideas for potential field trips.

We look forward to a productive new year.

## Changing Places Changing Faces

### Hellos and Goodbyes

We have had a lot of comings and goings on the ARP and people detailing to fill in critical vacancies on the ARP over the last summer and this fall.

#### Actings/Detailers

- Deputy Forest Supervisor Jackie Parks— Acting Forest Supervisor
- San Juan National Forest Deputy Forest Supervisor Howard Sargent— Acting Forest Supervisor
- Ecosystem Group Leader Hal Gibbs— Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor
- Forest Fisheries Biologist Kris Sexton— Acting Ecosystem Group Leader
- Human Resources Officer Robin Winston— Acting Administrative Officer and Public Affairs Group Leader
- Forest Planner Ken Tu— Acting Administrative Officer and Public Affairs Group Leader
- Forest Database Manager Eric Jensen— Acting Administrative Officer and Public Affairs Group Leader and Safety Officer
- Assistant Roosevelt Hotshot Superintendent Larry Money to Hotshot Superintendent

#### Goodbyes

- Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLRD) Soil Scientist Terra Mascarenas—to private industry
- Boulder Ranger District Fire Management Officer Ed Guzman to Bureau of Land Management in Lakeview, Oregon
- CLRD Fire Management Officer Tracy Swenson to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Utah
- Sulphur Ranger District (SRD) ANRA Crew Supervisor Danelle Highfill to Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area, Dutch George, Utah
- Supervisors Office (SO) Administrative Assistant Cristie Lee to Rocky Mountain Research Station Grants and Agreements Specialist
- SO Contracting Specialist Loren Ebner to Lolo National Forest

#### Transfers/promotions within the ARP

- Boulder District Soils Scientist Eric Schroder to Forest Soils Scientist
- CLRD Wildlife Biologist Lynne Deibel to Forest Wildlife Biologist

- Roosevelt Hotshot Superintendent Dave Hamrick to CLRD Fire Management Officer
- SRD Administrative Assistant Pat Thornberry to Pawnee National Grassland Support Service Supervisor
- CLRD Rangeland Management Specialist Amanda Cameron to CLRD Range Staff

#### Hellos

- Cheri Ford accepted Capital City Coordinator position. Cheri most recently worked in the Eastern Regional office as a government liaison and wildlife program manager.
- Mark McFall accepted the ARP/ Medicine Bow Routt Safety Officer position. Mark most recently worked for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service where he was their Safety and Occupation Health Specialist.
- Deb Entwistle accepted the CLRD/ Pawnee Zone Hydrologist position. Deb formerly worked on the PSICC as the Forest Hydrologist.



Above: Glenn Casamassa, the new Forest Supervisor for the ARP

We are excited to welcome our new Forest Supervisor, Glenn Casamassa. Glen will begin to serve as the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland Forest Supervisor on December 11. Glen replace Jim Bedwell who became the

### New Forest Supervisor

National Director for Recreation in Washington, D. C., last June.

Glenn comes to the Rocky Mountain Region from the Forest Service's Legislative Affairs Staff in Washington, D.C., where he has served since 2003, working with Congressional staff, Department of Agriculture officials, and the Office of Management and Budget on Forest Service issues related to legislation, program oversight and budget formulation.

Glenn is very excited about his new position and responsibilities.

He said, "I am truly humbled by the duties entrusted to me as the Forest Supervisor of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland. I look forward to working with the employees of the Forest, the communities, and all those interested in the management of such a special place."

Glenn began his Forest Service career in 1982 on the Tongass National Forest, Prince of Wales Island, Southeast Alaska. Later assignments include several national forests in Utah as a timber forester and recreation forester, the Intermountain Regional Office in Ogden as Regional Environmental Coordinator, and the Manti-La Sal National Forest in Utah where he served as district ranger for the Moab and Monticello Ranger Districts. He served as the Acting Area Ranger for the Sawtooth National Recreation Area in central Idaho in 2002.

Glenn has a wife named Rosemary and two children. His daughter lives in Missoula, Montana, and works for the University of Montana and his son is in the Navy.

Welcome Glenn!



## Forest Service Highlights

### Donner Pass Bridge Repair

How many mules does it take to haul bridge-building materials into the forest? According to Glen Ryan, a U.S. Forest Service (USFS) pack string supervisor, five.

Jimmy, Skid, Bruce, Joey and Jeff were the five tall, black mules led by Ryan and his horse Leah to carry in materials for a bridge on the Donner Pass Trail on the Canyon Lakes Ranger District. The crew carried in construction materials, and it was the first time they had packed anything eight feet in length.

The Northern Colorado Trail Riders saw a need for this bridge to be repaired, so they applied for and received a state grant to help get this work done. They provided the materials and the USFS designed the bridge and supported the pack string.

The Rocky Mountain Pack String is based out of the South Platte Ranger District on the Pike/San Isabel National Forests. The group travels all over the Rocky Mountain Region and also occasionally does work outside the region and for other government agencies, such as the

National Parks Service.

The pack string has three primary roles within the USFS. First is work projects like the one done on Donner Pass. Second is to represent the USFS. This is done through fairs, parades

and horse expos. The last role is training. The group conducts training on not only packing animals, but also horsemanship and safety. The group is an asset to the Rocky Mountain Region for all that the mules provide.



*Above: The Regional pack string is loaded with bridge materials.*

### 2006 Hispanic Natural Resources Career Camp

The 2006 Hispanic Natural Resources Career Camp, sponsored by Colorado State University (CSU) and the U.S. Forest Service was held to educate Hispanic students about natural resource careers. The camp was held at CSU's Pingree Park Mountain Campus located west of Fort Collins, Colo. Students were taught about natural resource sciences and research techniques. Topics included aquatic ecology, forest ecology, ornithology, hydrology, archeology, fire science and wildfire fighting. This year included presentations from a Canyon Lakes Ranger District wildland firefighter and a Roosevelt Hotshot crew member. These two firefighters captured the students' attention with personal testimony from their fire experience. The session was so successful, that organizers hope to permanently add this to the annual agenda.

### Monarch Lake 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Environmental Education Day



*Above: A student explores nature*

Over 120 fifth grade students participated in the annual Monarch Lake Environmental Education Day on September 20, 2006, presented by the USDA Forest Service Sulphur Ranger District, Colorado Department of Wildlife, and Rocky Mountain National Park, with additional support from the Colorado State Forest Service.

Students from Fraser, Granby, Grand Lake and West Grand Elementary Schools, Indian Peaks Charter School, and Winter Park Christian School participated in eight memorable learning stations throughout the day.

This year's interpretive activities were Monarch History, Wildlife, Pine Beetle Education, Pond Life, Outdoor Survival, Bird Watching & Binocular Use, Firefighting & Safety, and Animal Clue Relay.

The more our students understand our public lands and the resources within, the better equipped they will be to make sound decisions for the future use and conservation of these lands. We are facilitating this understanding in our children through the educational partnership of the public land managers, our county schools, teachers, and the parents of our students.

Our goal is not to necessarily teach the students everything there is to know about any particular subject, but to provoke their curiosity and interest, relate the learning to their everyday lives, and to give these students more pieces to the picture puzzle that is our public lands.

## Great Summer for Interpretation on Mt. Evans

The Clear Creek Ranger District significantly improved the Mt. Evans interpretive programs this past summer. Approximately 4,000 visitors attended these programs and the interpretive crew made around 20,000 visitor contacts. Our volunteer coordinator, Susan Jones helped expand the volunteer program from four last year to 15 this year. These volunteers put in a total of 710 hours of informal wildflower interpretation, as well as general customer service.

The Arapaho Roosevelt Pawnee Foundation paid for Forest Service employees to attend training so they could be in-

terpretive trainers. This year, certified interpretive trainers Todd Hess and Jeremiah Hyslop were able to teach the National Association for Interpretation's 32-hour Interpretive Guide course to the entire crew and interested partners. Throughout this past summer, five interpretive guides did programs on bighorn sheep and mountain goats, history, mountain place names, geology and alpine ecology.

Overall, it was the most successful season for interpretation on the mountain since 1997 when the district first began offering the service.

## Volunteers Spotlights



Above: Del and a display case he constructed.

Caring for the land and serving people. The motto of the Forest Service could not describe Del Brown any more accurately.

Del has dedicated almost 6,000 hours of service to the Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLRD) and the Arapaho and Roosevelt National For-

ests and Pawnee National Grassland since October 1994. Del likes that his volunteering keeps him busy and provides a benefit to the forest.

"I've got nothing else to do," Del said. "I guess it's in my nature to keep doing stuff."

And, you can see that attitude throughout Del's life. Del first spent two years with the army after graduating from Colorado State University, back when it was Colorado A & M College. Following those two years, he worked for the Colorado State Forest Service for 30 years before retiring from being the deputy state forester in 1985. After retirement Del and his wife spent three years in Ecuador with the Peace Corps. teaching high school students and others how to set up a nursery and utilize forestry on coffee farms and ranches. This was merely the beginning of his devotion to caring for the land and serving people.

Besides Del's 6000 hours building more than 25 trailhead bulletin boards, countless trail markers, trail signs, display

## A Passion for Serving the Public

cases, benches, steps to Smokey's Christmas Tree Cabin, and anything else that wood can be turned into, he also helped organize the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers (PWV) on the CLRD and spent six years with the organization. He and his wife also worked on three PIT, Passport in Time, projects. One of the projects was the front porch of Arrowhead Lodge on the CLRD. The other two included the front port of the Jacob Lake Ranger Station on the Kaibab National Forest and working two weeks on the Inland Passage of the Tongass National Forest off of a boat mapping old fox farms on islands. His daughter was the crew chief on this project and was a Forest Service archeologist on the Tongass.

Del enjoys a lot of his work on the CLRD and with its staff. He thinks teaching others who stumble into the shop while he is there is really fulfilling and fun and enjoys working with many of the seasonal employees.

"The younger folks are wonderful to work with," he said.

And, so is Del. His work continues to be an enormous benefit to the district.

Del's legacy will live on for years on the district in the form of roofed kiosks, modern and historic signs, repaired doors and windows at Arrowhead, and a well-organized and well equipped district woodworking shop," CLRD Volunteer Coordinator Kristy Wumkes said.

So, the next time you see a trailhead bulletin board or sit on a bench on the Greyrock Trail, notice the detail of craftsmanship and think of Del in the Fort Collins woodworking shop.

## National Public Lands Day on the Sulphur Ranger District

The Sulphur Ranger District (SRD) co-hosted another successful National Public Lands Day on September 30. Five projects were accomplished by 170 volunteers, saving participating agencies approximately three and a half months of time and approximately \$45,000.

Two of the five projects were located on SRD. Volunteers improved water drainage, cleared the trail of windfall trees, constructed water crossings, rehabilitated 200 feet of trail and constructed or re-routed 500 feet of trail on the

High Lonesome Trail/ Continental Divide Scenic Trail. They also rerouted one-half mile of trail, improved the streambed and constructed two bridges on the Strawberry Trail.

Non-Forest Service projects included trail work on Lake Irene in Rocky Mountain National Park, buck and rail fence construction at the Jesse Historical Cabin for the Bureau of Land Management and trail construction from Fraser to Granby by the Headwaters Trails Alliance.



## Boulder Ranger District and Volunteers Restore Wildlife Habitat and Watershed Health

During the 2006 field season, the Boulder Ranger District (BRD) successfully completed several important restoration projects with much help from partners and volunteers. Together we restored approximately 16 acres of important habitats including wetlands, riparian areas, old growth ponderosa pine forest, and both dry and wet mountain meadows.

Involvement of off-highway vehicle (OHV) enthusiasts, particularly working with local restoration and environmental groups, is vital to the success of restoration projects and to reinforce a stewardship ethic among motorized users of National Forest System lands. By cooperating on these projects with the Forest Service and other volunteer groups, volunteers from the local OHV community set a good example for other OHV visitors. These OHV groups brought funds, tools and equipment, vehicles to haul materials on demanding roads, and hardy, dedicated volunteers. Cooperation between environmental and user groups helps people with different perspectives find common ground, working toward mutual goals.

On-the-ground benefits include restoring sponge and filter watershed capabilities, reducing sedimentation, restoring vegetation needed by local wildlife and keeping motorized use out of sensitive areas. In future years, the BRD will implement additional restoration projects that will continue to improve watershed function and wildlife habitat in this area. The BRD is grateful for the ongoing support of our many partners and volunteers. Projects like these would not happen without them! Below are project summaries describing this effort.

### James Peak Trailhead at East Portal

**Partners:** Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado and Gilpin County- 50 volunteers

**Project:** To treat the noxious weed oxeye daisy on five acres at the East Portal of the historic Moffat Tunnel, where a trailhead accesses the James Peak Wilderness to prevent its entrance into the Wilderness.

### Caribou Flats Wet Meadow

**Partners:** Mountain Youth Corps at the Nederland Teen Center

**Project:** Followed up backhoe scarification and grass plug transplant work gathering and sewing local seeds and digging some of the grass plugs deeper into the soil to better cover all the roots.

### Yankee Doodle Lake and Jenny Creek

**Partners:** Environmental and user groups, Rising Sun Four Wheel Drive Club (also contributed funding), Rocky Mountain Recreation Initiative, the Sierra Club, and Colorado Rails to Trails

**Project:** Restored wetlands, lake-shore and upland habitat, and a stream channel by installing fencing and restoring degraded upland and wetland areas. Fencing restricts vehicle travel to designated routes.

### Lefthand Canyon OHV Area

**Partners:** Big Thompson 4 Wheelers OHV club and Wildlands Restoration Volunteers, additionally the James Creek Watershed Initiative obtained an EPA nonpoint source 319 grant to fund this and future projects in this OHV area.

**Project:** Completed our third restoration project in this popular OHV area. A degraded area was restored within the Lower Creek Closure in the "Carnage Canyon" drainage, in old growth ponderosa pine habitat and installed post and cable fencing to keep vehicles on designated routes.

### Bald Mountain

**Partners:** Wildlands Restoration Volunteers

**Project:** Implemented a portion of the Caribou Travel Management Plan in a high elevation area west of the Caribou townsite, near the Indian Peaks Wilderness. WRV celebrated its 100th project on this September weekend, combining restoration on National Forest lands with work on Boulder County Parks and Open Space lands near Nederland the previous day.

### Park Creek Riparian Area and Bunce School Road Aspen Grove

**Partners:** Big Thompson 4 Wheelers

**Project:** Installed buck and rail fencing in two different areas to protect riparian areas from off-highway vehicle use before the areas became more degraded and to protect rare plant habitat in an aspen grove.

## Stakeholder/partners Highlights

### A Time of Reflection and Transition for the ARP Foundation

The ARP Foundation, like everyone at this time of year, is in a reflective period as the 2006 year comes to an end. The year has been one of successes, challenges, growth, project development, surprises and change. Our founding president, Howard Alden, would have considered this a successful year in the development of this relatively new organization, and would be anxiously anticipating 2007 as a year of continued organizational growth. We will miss Howard's creative energy and wisdom as we transition the Foundation's Board activities and community outreach programs. Howard left a legacy for conservation stewardship and education, and a great deal of organizational momentum that will keep the Foundation moving ahead in support of Forest programs.

We deeply appreciate the support of the Alden family and friends in identifying the Foundation as the beneficiary of Howard's honorariums. To date, over \$6100 has been do-

nated to be matched for special Forests and Grassland projects in Howard's memory.

The Foundation will continue to work on carry over 2006 projects including Grassland trails, Winter Park Hotel contributions, matching National Forest Foundation grants, a continued "Friends of the Forest" campaign and other fund raising projects.

The Foundation welcomes new Forest Supervisor Glenn Casamassa to the Forest and to the Rocky Mountain Region leadership team. We look forward to working with him and his staff to grow the Foundation's support programs, and help to find ways to include surrounding communities as participating partners in the many significant Forests and Grassland program and project opportunities.

*submitted by Steve Deitemeyer, Acting President, ARP Foundation  
Arapaho-Roosevelt - Pawnee Foundation*

### Points of View

The last three issues of the *Forests to Grassland* have been dedicated to starting a dialog about recreational shooting. Below is another submission on this topic:

*"This is in response to the points of view conversation on shooting in our National Forest. I agree with the real concern of the hunter that a few bad eggs will ruin it for all...and that we do not need more new shooting ranges to solve the problem. I have also first hand knowledge on this topic since one day I was trail running up to stove prairie from the Poudre River and when approaching the upper poorly marked trail head, I kept running toward the trail head even after hearing shots; so as to not be one of the "more excitable people" mentioned in points of view. This I found out rightly went against my better instinct because three youths were indeed literally shooting down the trail at no target.*

*A few conclusions, youth learn and respect what they see. Although this trail could have been marked better so that*

*shooters might realize there could be foot traffic coming up from the river, the fact that this trail is located in a demo'ed area of the forest or an official 4wd ripped up area, why would respect for life suggest itself when our keepers of our National Forest have not respected the land enough to manage and protect it. I don't think we need new roads and shooting ranges in our national forests, this only adds insult to injury and begins to compound the tell-tell signs we see coming down.*

*What about putting a few buffalo out on the Pawnee?  
Thanks for listening, Chad Doverspike."*

We appreciate our readers willingness to share their thoughts. If there is another topic you would like to start a dialog on please see the Points of View Guidelines box below. Help us keep a dialog going on subjects that are important to the ARP.

#### 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**

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: February 28, 2007.