

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**USDA Forest Service  
Ashley National Forest  
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Vernal, Utah 84078  
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**For:** Immediate Release  
**Date:** April 22, 2005  
**Subject:** Honor Day Celebration

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### **FOREST SERVICE TO OBSERVE NATIONAL HONOR DAY**

**Vernal, Utah (April 22, 2005)**—As part of celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2005, the USDA Forest Service has designated Tuesday, May 3, 2005 as Forest Service Honor Day.

Honor Day will reflect on the contributions that employees, volunteers, and partners have made to conservation over the past 100 years. This day will also honor those employees who have given their lives in the line of duty and recognize the contributions of community members and other partners the Forest Service has worked with over the years.

The celebration will be held at the Ashley National Forest Supervisor office, (355 North Vernal Avenue). It will begin at 12:45 p.m. with a welcome from Forest Supervisor Kevin Elliott. The celebration will continue with a moment of silence, a flag ceremony from the Utah National Guard, and recognitions.

The guest speaker for the Honor Day celebration is Bill Hurst, a former Ashley National Forest Supervisor who worked at the Ashley from 1950 to 1955. Bill was employed by the Forest Service for 39 years in the Intermountain Region, Washington Office, and Southwestern Region. He held positions in the Forest Service as: Administrative Guard, Range Survey, District Forest Ranger, Forest Staff Officer, Forest Supervisor, Assistant Chief in Range Management, Assistant Regional Forester for Range and Wildlife Management, Deputy Regional Forester in the Intermountain Region, and Regional Forester in Southwestern Region.

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For 10 years Bill was in charge of National Forest administration on over twenty million acres of National Forest land in New Mexico and Arizona, including the National Grasslands in Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. He also worked in State and Private Forestry activities in Arizona and New Mexico.

Bill is a member of the Society of American Foresters since 1943 and the Society for Range Management since its inception in 1948. He lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico and has been an outspoken advocate for wise use and management of the nation's wild lands.

The public is invited to attend and help the Forest Service celebrate this special day. Please contact Lisa Ross at Ashley National Forest, 435-789-1181 for more details.

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