

It really wasn't that long ago....

Dave Steinke, USDA Forest Service

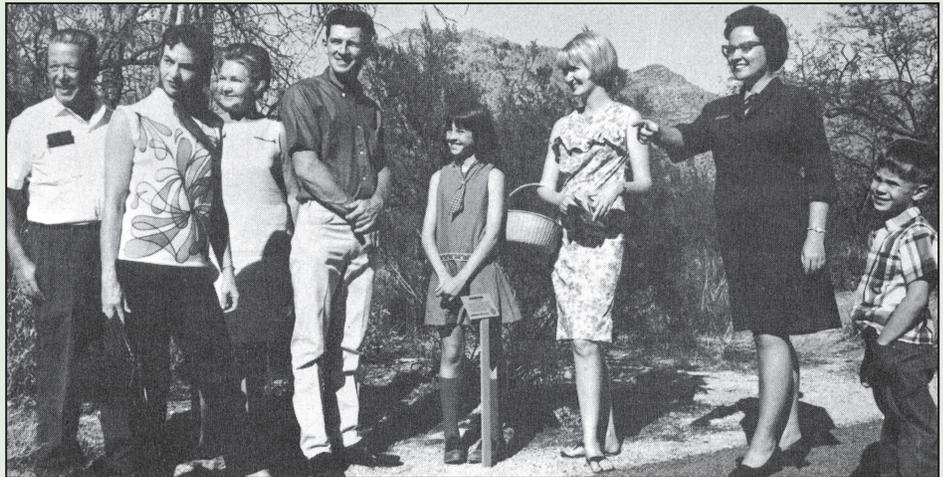
This brochure came out just about 45 years ago. The United States Department of Agriculture publication from October 1967 noted it as "Miscellaneous Publication Number 1058," and was for sale from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing office for the princely sum of 5 cents.

It featured snazzy cover artwork of a uniformed woman flashing her shield with rocker on her left shoulder, an interesting photo of a nicely coiffed woman with her hands protruding into some scientific looking device, and a nice variety of action shots in the office and out in the field. The back of the brochure is adorned with our National Forest System Map, with Edward P. Cliff, noted as our Chief.

Some of the written text inside included this text:

"Because skilled women are given a chance to prove themselves – women have the chance to work in nearly every occupation open to men in the Forest Service."

"President Lyndon B. Johnson has made it clear that he is determined to enlist women in his administration. He has said, 'I am insisting that women play a larger role in this Government's plans and programs...it will be a continuing aim, not because it is political, but because it is sound.'"



Photos top to bottom: Cover of "WOMEN in the Forest Service" Brochure.

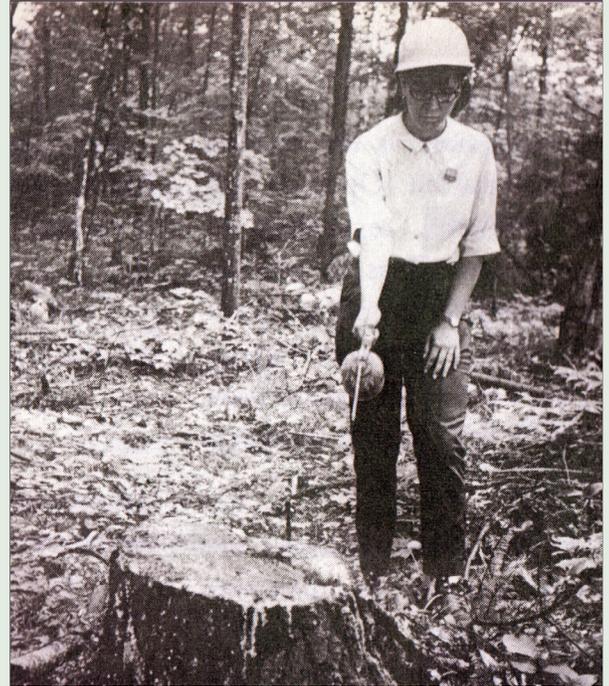
Imagine taking a hike or leading an interpretive walk in heels?

Three women collaborate.

“The majority of Forest Service positions open to women are support jobs in clerical fields. These include administrative assistants, purchasing agents, personnel management technicians, accounting technicians, secretaries, stenographers, typists, clerks, office machine operators, and technical aids in the physical or biological sciences.”

“The names of individuals who pass a Civil Service examination are placed in order of numerical score on a register of eligible for the particular score on a register of eligible for the particular discipline. An eligible’s chances of getting a job is dependent upon his or her standing on this list and on the number of available vacancies among the various agencies.”

“About 25 percent of all full-time positions in the Forest Service are filled by women, and only one-tenth of these are located in Washington, D.C. the other nine-tenths are found in towns and cities all over the country – so it is quite probable that a woman may find employment in a Forest Service office near her home.”



The Forest Service Today

(excerpt from USDA BLOG 3/16/12)

Today, women comprise 38 percent of all of the Forest Service’s more than 30,000 employees. Women hold positions in all aspects within the agency, including forester positions, scientists and senior leadership roles.

“We have made a lot of progress,” said Kim Walton, executive assistant to the agency’s Chief of Staff. *“What I saw in the agency 20 years ago is not what I see now. Women hold different positions now from being an executive assistant or district ranger or a forest supervisor... we can be smokejumpers and firefighters.*



Given today’s opportunities offered to employees of the Forest Service, regardless of gender, race and other backgrounds, it’s difficult to imagine the agency as it was...and *It really wasn’t that long ago....*

Want to read more?

<http://blogs.usda.gov/2012/03/16/u-s-forest-service-women-opportunities-are-endless/>

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Pike-San Isabel National Forests and Cimarron-Comanche NGs ● Rio Grande NF ● San Juan NF
White River NF ● NEBRASKA: Nebraska & Samuel R. McKelvie NFs ● **SOUTH DAKOTA:** Black Hills NF
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