

VOLUNTEERS PARTNERS

Serving People

Volunteers and partners continue to improve the forest for everyone and serve a vital role in not only providing the public with recreation and safety information but also helping with forest restoration efforts, wildlife habitat improvements, trail repairs and maintenance, invasive species, building fences, kiosks and collecting data. Volunteers and partners contribute to our success and accomplishments.



Wildlife volunteers help remove obsolete fencing to improve habitat connectivity.

VOLUNTEER 2013 FACTS

- Visitor information volunteers donated more than **1,500 hours** to the Boulder Ranger District.
- Poudre Wilderness Volunteers contributed over **22,000 hours**, just shy of **\$500,000** worth of value.
- Volunteers on the Canyon Lakes Ranger District contacted more than **18,871** visitors.
- More than **1,000** volunteers donated their time to the Boulder Ranger District in 2013.



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers extend the Waldrop Trail on Boulder Ranger District connecting the Gateway Trailhead and Sourdough Trail.

► Sulphur Ranger District (SRD) continues to foster community partnerships with organizations such as **Grand Mountain Bike Alliance, Headwaters Trails Alliance, Grand County Wilderness Group** and **Volunteers for Wildlife**. Programs administered by these partnerships in conjunction with the USFS provide volunteers with more than **4,344 hours** of trail maintenance opportunities to help maintain trails for visitor's saving the U.S. Forest Service **\$96,187**.

► More than **731 volunteer hours** were logged for wildlife on SRD. Volunteers enabled the success of a **monofilament recovery and recycle bin** project that installed three new bins on the district to collect hazardous fishing line. Nine additional bins were constructed for installation across the Forest. Volunteers **monitored osprey nests**, contributed to **bluebird nest box maintenance** and monitoring, monitored **toad breeding sites** and **remote camera stations**, planted trees for a **lynx habitat restoration** project and adopted "**brake-for-snakes**" habitat protection signs.

► **National Public Lands Day** attracted 132 volunteers on SRD providing 904 volunteer hours across multiple disciplines including administration of the event, constructing a 50' boardwalk and bridge on the Idlewild Trail System, constructing .25 miles of new trail on the Colorado River Trail, and construction of a 30' turnpike on Blizzard Pass in the Stillwater Pass area.

► Boulder Ranger District (BRD) continues to build relationships with a wide variety of partners, including **Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance, Boulder Mountain Bike Patrol, the Student Conservation Association, Wildlands Restoration Volunteers, and Boy Scouts of America**. Volunteers supported the invasive plants, abandoned mine lands and recreation programs by pulling invasive weeds; hosting trails, trailheads and information desk; repairing and constructing facilities, trails and roads; monitoring golden eagle nesting; cleaning up trash, and assessing abandoned mine lands for safety or environmental issues. In all, **719 individual volunteers** contributed nearly **13,000 hours** of their time, worth **\$283,300 in savings** to BRD.

► Clear Creek Ranger District (CCRD) coordinated work with volunteers on a variety of projects. After years of joint volunteer and Forest Service restoration efforts, the **Squaw Peak Fire Lookout** was opened for public overnight rental in 2013. The district also partnered with the **Rocky**

*All told, volunteers contributed nearly
62,000 hours of their time on the ARP in 2013,
a value of nearly \$1.2 million!*

Mountain Nature Association American Conservation Corps, Friends of Mount Evans and Lost Creek Wilderness, Colorado Mountain Club, and Volunteers Outdoor Colorado to cut out an area with extensive blow down on the Cub Creek and Beartracks Lake trail in the Mount Evans Wilderness. The groups cut out approximately 1.25 miles of trail and cleared 678 trees. In total, 245 individuals contributed 3,753 hours of volunteer time, **a value of more than \$83,000.**

► Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLRD) had another outstanding year with 42,422 hours contributed by volunteers. This is **more than \$900,000 in value** given to the natural resources and those who enjoy them. A total of 579 volunteers made this possible, with an **average of 73 hours each.** The district continues to rely on long-term volunteer efforts for 93 percent of those hours. These groups include **Poudre Wilderness Volunteers, Adopt-a-Trail, Adopt-a-Road, Cameron Pass Nordic Rangers** and others.

► Volunteers on CLRD are an important part of the districts outreach efforts. Nearly **20,000 contacts with visitors were made by volunteers** in remote visitor centers and on field patrols. Nearly half of these were done by **Poudre Wilderness Volunteers.**

► The **Heritage Program** had **66 volunteers** that worked on 11 projects and generated **1,843 hours** of volunteer time and a **benefit of \$40,557.**

► Forest Service volunteers at the **Mount Goliath Natural Area** on CCRD made approximately **5,800 contacts** while helping staff the nature center. **Denver Botanic Gardens** provided several guided interpretative wildflower hikes at Mount Goliath with 300 participants led by 27 guides.

► A record-setting 40 volunteer hosts trained this year to staff the **Deadman Tower Lookout** on CLRD, providing visitors with valuable information, ranging from where to camp and fish to tips about how to become better public land stewards. All the volunteers have a keen interest in helping to **preserve and share the history of the Deadman Fire Lookout** with others. Nearly 1,300 visitors met with volunteers at the historic tower in the summer and fall.



Looking for a volunteer opportunity?
www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/volunteers



Volunteers adopted these "Brake For Snakes" signs recently installed on Sulphur Ranger District.



Eagle Scouts conduct trail maintenance on Boulder Ranger District.



Sixth graders help clean up trash in Lefthand Canyon.