

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service

San Bernardino National Forest



Date: January 23, 2006

San Bernardino National Forest
Big Bear Ranger Station
P.O. Box 290/ 41300 North Shore/Hwy 38
Fawnskin, CA 92333

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(909) 382-2827

Big Bear Greenthumbs Native Plant Restoration Volunteer Program Schedule 2006

Big Bear Valley, CA.....For the past decade the San Bernardino National Forest has been conducting ecological restoration projects on the Mountaintop District. The Big Bear Ranger Station Native Plant Nursery has a commercial-size greenhouse, a shade cloth structure, a seed storage facility, and a tool shed, all managed by volunteers and/or private grant funding. With these facilities, the District has grown and out-planted thousands of native plants and enhanced hundreds of acres of habitat for wildlife, federally listed plants and animals, and other degraded lands.

The U.S. Forest Service is seeking volunteers of all ages who enjoy working outdoors and have an interest in working in our nursery program and out on the Forest for our native plant restoration program. Activities will include site preparation, seed collection, germination, plant propagation, and

out-planting of potted materials. Work will vary month to month as seasons and weather change. We will be working in the greenhouses and out on the Forest. Workdays will last from 9:00am to around 3:00pm on the second to last Saturday per month. The volunteer group will meet in front of the Big Bear Ranger Station at the flagpole. **Dates include March 18, April 15** (Earthday is the 22!), **April 22, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, September 23, October 14, October 21, and November 18.**

Anyone interested in volunteering for these dates, or any additional dates or times, please contact **Juli Goss at (909) 382-2827**. Volunteers should bring a sack lunch, water, sunscreen, hat, jacket and work gloves if you have them. The Big Bear Ranger Station is located in Fawnskin, 3 miles east of the town, on North Shore Drive/Hwy 38. **Please call ahead to verify participation.** We thank you for your interest!

Tentative Schedule:

- March 18th
Greenhouse Work
- April 15th & 22nd
Tree Planting
- May 20th
Greenhouse Work
- June 17th
Noxious Weed Removal
- July 15th
Seed Collection Month
- August 19th
Seed Collection Month
- September 16th & 23rd
Out Planting
- October 14th & 21st
Out Planting
- November 18th
Out Planting