

CE Regional Coordinators Call

March 24

Attending: Barbara McGuinness, Michelle Andrews, Babs McDonald, Jean Szymanski, Tim Beaty, Carol Ryan, Tim Williams, Susan Thomas, Sue Baker, Kristi Kantola, Iris Velez, Safiya Samman, Vicki Arthur, Sue Cummings, Julie Molzahn

Round Robin

HTF- Carlos

1-Earth Day Celebration: Week March 15-19, 2010. at the Aguirre State Forest (mangrove forest). 15 middle & high schools participate. The most important date was March 17. Each school were integrated by 25 students . Each school created a big paint about it interpretation about the mangroves. At this moment there is a coordination with some commercial place for exhibit it along the island. I offered a lecture about the "History of mangrove police during the XIX century in Puerto Rico" as part of a seminar relative to the celebration.

2- Health and Environment Activity (University of Puerto Rico- Cayey Campus) Distribution of Natural Inquirer (World Forest Edition), Become a Junior Forest Ranger, the poster How a tree grows and the relative literature of that poster figured between the CE materials that the students and the public received. A total of 900 publications were distributed in one day

Northern Area- Susan Cox

I attended the **Northeast Pest Council** meeting. Along with the updates on forest pests, there was discussion on citizen participation for detecting and monitoring for pests.

Two things of interest:

- APHIS has developed a **curriculum for Asian Longhorned Beetle**. Thanks to our Forest Health staff who notified me. I will be meeting with the APHIS rep once the curriculum is complete (any day now). This is something APHIS did on their own. I have no idea if this is focused on the Worcester MA outbreak or if it has broader application.
- In an effort to have better **detection of Emerald Ash Borer**, researchers at the University of Guelph, Ontario Canada, have developed a method for watching the cerceris wasp which feeds only on Buprestidae (the EAB family). Several Northeast states and Canadian provinces have been locating wasp nests and are looking for monitors.

http://www.cerceris.info/wasp_watcher.html

The state of Maine has had good success with getting Girl Scouts to monitor. GS in New Hampshire and Vermont are interested too.

These wasps nest in compacted sandy soil (think baseball diamond, edges of sidewalks), they do not sting people, they are not aggressive at all. The cool thing- the states that have started monitoring are now identifying new species of Buprestides never identified before. So- even if the wasps do not bring in EAB, they are still bringing in borers

Region 3 – Jean

On the Apache-Sitgreaves NF, the EE program received \$30,000 in RAC funding for their program. Jean has put on a 2 day training class for EE to assist with this effort

Jean spent time speaking to the National Wildlife, Fish, Water, Range, etc program managers on CE and they were so interested that they kept her speaking for 1.5 hours- YEAH!

Region 4- Carol

Carol is holding an Regional Interpretive/CE workshop on April 14-16. Steve Kratville will be addressing the group on FFEC.

Carol is completing work on Historical Rental Cabin Interpretation and Forest Visitor Guides

Region 5- Tim

1. CE/IS brochures have been completed and I have a plenty. Anyone who needs some let me know and I will put a box in the mail to you. Please send me your name and address.

2. Forest Conservation Days occurred last week and what a success. We included the new CE/IS brochures in the teacher packets. We had over 1,400 hundred students attend during the week and over 400 Boy and Girl Scouts plus parents on the weekend.

3. Junior Forest Ranger program is being planned for the 100th anniversary Jamboree in Pleasonton, California during the weekend of April 15th - 18th, 2010 I will be supported by a Fire Truck, Patrol Module from the Mendocino National Forest, and Wildlife Biologists from the Eldorado National Forest.

4. Forestry Institute for Teachers is coming up. This is a program focused on teaching the teachers instead of teaching Forest for Every Classroom initiative in the classrooms. There will be 4 sessions, June 13th to June 19th, 2010 - June 27th to July 2nd, 2010 - July 11th to July 17th, 2010 - July 18th to July 24th.

5. I am planning two 5th grade presentations of the Natural Inquirer in Vallejo Unified School District.

6. I am also planning a Natural Inquirer presentation to a three 6th grade classes at the Julia Morgan School for Girls in Oakland, California.

7. I have five tree planting events planned with five 5th grade classes here on Mare Island in Vallejo, California.

8. Big Earth Day event planned for April 22nd, 2010 here on Mare Island.

9. Woodsy Owl program going well. I have completed 6 programs with the Oakland Head Start program so far and I have one more planned for tomorrow with the Solano County Child Start site.

10. Kids for Trees initiative have been planned here in R5 on the Los Padres NF and the San Bernardino NF. I will be personally attending the April 10th event to give the District support, see how the program actually works, and have a discussion with Steve Redner about his program in terms of National implementation.

11. Region 5 will be the host again this year for the Robert Bateman Society - Get to Know initiative.

Region 6- Sue and Susan

Working with Susan Thomas, Becky Bittner and RLT team on Valuing Place Strategy. Three pronged effort for 2010, Short lead time, and final desired outcome from RLT not settled on are providing a challenging task. More after our meeting next week. In conjunction, also working on panel for Chief's visit to R6 in late April.

Continue presentations with SECRETS program and aided Smokey Bear presentations grades 1 & 2. The Teacher Smokey Big books are a big hit, but they are no longer free- all have to pay. Kids4Trees will not happen at the Scenic Area. You saw my details write up – basically it was a major miscommunication and expectations not clear on both sides. Thanks to RO & WO for helping us work with Steve and provide closure.

Looking forward to discussion for FFEC with Oregon Natural Resources Education Program Director Susan Sahnou & Julie. Working with the new web site update to get CE connections on the Scenic Area and then work to get sites on each forest. Fire in PNW is now moving again in the Fire Prevention shop to get find ways to get it out to the public.

Region 8- Sharon

March 27 will be Girl Scouts Day at LBL's Nature Station. Spring Break weeks will see extra programs at HomePlace (Children's Chores, and Critter Celebrations). April 10 will be Junior Explorer Day at Nature Station (ages 6-12 especially). Earth Day week-end will have many activities April 17-18 including Celebrating Wildflowers, Green Camping, and a focus on water and energy for National Environmental Education week.

NF's in Texas continue to implement a Forest For Every Classroom participating in **May 8, 2010 — Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center — Cinco de May April 10, 2010 — Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center — Outdoor Fool's Day** — Teaching a variety of outdoor skills and engage in activities such as archery, fishing and kayaking. Accessible for the mobility impaired.

Urban Connections program has many many activities and public programs. These attachments help explain some of the things going on in that area. (with notes)

Region 9- Clare

New Young Rangers Pilot program out of the new Campton Office, Saturday morning from 9:00 to 10:30am for the 4 weekends in March. Free and open to the public. Topics are: Forests in Winter, Animals in Winter, Weather, and Animal Signs and Tracks. * participants per class with ages ranging from 5-9 yrs old. The session starts with a short intro in the new Discovery Room (kids arriving early can interact with discovery boxes, read books or explore the natural items gallery), head outside to check things out, activity/craft, snack and story (all outside weather permitting). Each child is accompanied by an adult. Lots of fun and the public is already looking for more of them. Great start to connecting with the local publics, especially those experiencing economic challenges (as many in this area are due to the collapsing lumber industry).

Attended a pilot training program for Climate Change (TACCT) in Madison, WI. Lots of great information from current research and a new awareness of some confusing information. The TACCT program is slated for future offerings so plan to see more of this from Mark Twery and others in the land of Research.

Planning continues for the 100th anniversary of the Weeks Act in 2011 (Weeks Act allowed gov't to purchase lands to protect navigable waterways and make them national forests). Continued speaker events, field trips, a remake of an historic video, and a one day special event are all in the works. (Weeks State Park is located in NH). Any word on what other forests are doing to acknowledge or celebrate?

Region 10- Kristi

*Tongass, PNW Research and Regional Office personnel met to talk about joint CE efforts and about the education program of the new Heen Latinee Experimental Forest.

*Chugach staff is working on the launch of their Iditarod Trail to Every Classroom program and on a number of Children's Forest projects.

*The Regional NICE (NatureWatch, Interpretation, Conservation Education) team is working on a new education section on the R10 website.

WO-Detached- Babs and Michelle

Natural Inquirer update: Student Scientist is at GPO, Ecosystem Services (USGS sponsored) is ready for print after USDA clearance, Climate Change in OC for review, and Fire is being written

EUGENE testing- Well, just wanted to let you all know that I have received some good responses thus far in regard to those wishing to participate in this project. We do need some more folks to help. The time needed for CE folks is only the time it takes for you to participate in an activity using the Natural Inquirer as well as factoring in the use of EUGENE with a pre and post test. If you choose just to analyze one ecological principle, the evaluation instrument will only have eight questions. So this should be entirely doable in an hour activity. You will also need to set aside the time however to enter the data into EUGENE from your pre and post tests. Michelle

WO Topics-

PollinatorLIVE! – slide show is attachments to email

The **USFS: PollinatorLIVE: Schoolyard Gardening Basics** Web Seminar scheduled to take place on **Wednesday, March 24, 2010 from 6:30P.M. - 8:00P.M. Eastern Time** The program is intended for elementary through middle school science teachers. For more information about this web seminar and to read about its presenters visit:

http://learningcenter.nsta.org/products/symposia_seminars/PollinatorLive/webseminar1.aspx

Get Outdoors Day- American Great Outdoors Month- Tim Beaty

Tim asked for help in coordinating the events for Get Outdoors Day. We would like to use existing events and pack them as Get Outdoors Day events. Tim indicated that they didn't have to occur on the same day (June 12) and we should take advantage of Fishing, Trails or Great American Campout events already occurring. There is Department and White House interest so if you have events that you think dignitaries may be interested in please let him know.

Here is the link to the information site:

Tim Beaty tbeaty@fs.fed.us has invited you to join the US Forest Service - National Get Outdoors Day group with this message:

----- Google Groups Information -----

You can accept this invitation by clicking the following URL:

http://groups.google.com/group/us-forest-service-GO-Day/sub?s=gBgnigwAAADr7z4ueHwA_MrIIFMBC9A5&hl=en

EdOut!- Safiya

This is a pilot event taking place with Prince William County Schools, NWF, ARC and us. We will be taking students to a BSA Camp for a day outdoors with multiple modules occurring all day. Students will be 4 and 7 graders for this event. If this works well we will be replicating next year. We can use this as an event to start discussions with school districts about FFEC. For more information you can look at the website

<http://www.funoutdoors.com/>

NSTA - Vicki

Over 10,000 science teachers attended the conference this year. We had a booth and co-sponsored a Climate Change Education track with the Sally Ride Science Center. It went very well

Job Corps Modules- Safiya

There was an event held in Nampa, Idaho at the Centennial Job Corp Center to accept new centers into our system and role out the first three education modules. Under Secretary Sherman Harris was present along with Safiya. The first three modules developed with the WO Staff and partners are:

- Sustainable Living, Making a World of Difference with Simple Actions
- Climate Change, Reducing our Carbon Footprint
- Green Jobs, Integrating Career Technical Training into the "Green" Economy

International Year of the Forest- Safiya

There was an initial conference call about our involvement for this year. Cindy McArthur from the NPO is the primary lead for the agency. There will be a meeting in the WO next week and we will send out more information once we have it. We are not looking to develop new events for this year but use what we are already doing.

National Public Lands Day- Sue

Sue is the Forest Service lead for this event. She will be sending out information on this soon to all of the coordinators.

Sustainable Operations Collective work in western regions- Julie

Julie is the lead for the Youth and Community Engagement Group for the Sustainable Operations Collective which includes Regions 1,2,3,5,6 and RMRS with R10 potentially joining soon, Julie and her team will be asking units for the best programs you have that include a sustainable or green messaging or programs that could incorporate these types of messaging. This will be an initial inventory so that we don't have to reinvent the wheel on program development for this area.

Ad Council- Safiya

There will be Shrek Discover the Forest PSA's viewing before the new Shrek movie this summer.

The Ad Council is developing a curriculum for the website that will get kids outside

Hispanic Communications Network- Safiya

This is an network of radio stations that are running Spanish PSA's. We are in the 6 year of this partnership with 5 old PSA's and 5 new PSA's running this year.