

Bitterroot National Forest "Trivia"

After the passage of the Organic Act (1897), the Bitter Root Forest Reserve was established by an Act of Congress on February 22, 1897.

The Bitterroot Forest Reserve and National Forest was named for the Bitterroot flower -- native to the valley.

When the Bitterroot was originally named, Bitter Root was two words. The name was made one word in 1908 by Executive Order.

The Nez Perce, Salmon, Clearwater, Lolo and Beaverhead were formerly part of the Bitterroot National Forest.

The Alta Ranger Station cabin, one of the first cabins built on the Forest Reserves, was constructed in 1899. The cabin still stands in the mountains south of Conner on Hughes Creek.

The Salish inhabited the Bitterroot Valley before settlement by the Europeans.

Total acreage on the Bitterroot National Forest is 1.6 million.

There are 750,000 acres of wilderness on the Bitterroot National Forest or 47% of the Forest.

Three quarters of the Forest is roadless (wilderness and inventoried roadless by forest plan direction).

The highest peak in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness is Trapper Peak at 10,157 feet.

The East Fork Guard Station, Sula Ranger District, was home to the only YCC camp on the Forest.