

Colville National Forest 2011 Year In Review



USDA FOREST SERVICE

Welcome from the Forest Supervisor

2011 was a productive year on the Colville National Forest. 2011's many highlights include some important restoration work along high-use trails and streams, connecting kids to the outdoors through experiential learning, restoring our heritage through volunteer projects, and, of course, treating more than 6000 acres of forest to restore its health and vigor. The Colville's forest products program provide timber to the local mills and biomass for generating power. Most important, the relationships we create and maintain with our partners, volunteers, and our communities is what makes all of this possible. I am grateful to all of you for the difference you make in our national forest and in our communities.



Hooknose Lake, Colville N.F.

When the snow melts and a new summer unfolds, I encourage you to get out and enjoy this treasure that is our national forest. The stewardship we practice on this incredible landscape will be the legacy we leave for our children's future.

Laura Jo West
Forest Supervisor

Connecting Kids with the Woods—Scientific Monitoring

On the banks of Sherman Creek local 3rd and 4th graders helped replant and reseed the Growden site with native vegetation, moving one step closer to restoring the area back to a natural stream channel while reducing erosion. This opportunity to be outside while learning about erosion, gives our community's youth a sense of how the environment works and how the restoration of an ecosystem can be fun and rewarding.

Local Kettle Falls 5th graders are helping improve their math and science skills by helping with pre and post-treatment monitoring of the Kettle Face forest restoration project. Through monitoring this project, they are connecting to the outdoors through experiential learning while helping them understanding how healthy ecosystems function and what it takes to make that happen.

While these are two great examples of connecting kids with the outdoors, additionally Colville National Forest employees gave 35 presentations, events, and activities connecting with over 2500 youth and 65 partners.



Replanting and reseeding the Growden sight to reduce erosion and restore native vegetation

Forest at a Glance

ESTABLISHED IN 1907
1,099,461 ACRES OVER THREE RANGER DISTRICTS

- THREE RIVERS R.D.
- REPUBLIC R.D.
- NEWPORT-SULLIVAN R.D.

ACRES OF NATIONAL FOREST BY COUNTY:

- FERRY 484,472
- PEND OREILLE 269,621
- STEVENS 208,290

27 CAMPGROUNDS
19 PICNIC AREAS
25 BOAT LAUNCHES
4 WILDLIFE VIEWING AREAS
57 TRAILHEADS

OVER 475,000 VISITORS A YEAR

HIGHEST PEAK—GYPSY PEAK 7309 FT.

17 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF CONIFERS INCLUDING THE COLORFUL WESTERN LARCH

Web Site Upgrade

WWW.FS.USDA.GOV/COLVILLE/

- EASIER TO FIND WHAT YOU NEED
- MORE MAPS AND TABLES TO HELP PLAN YOUR ADVENTURE
- LARGE PRINT AND READER COMPATIBLE

Colville National Forest 2011



Smokey Bear with his biggest fans learning about being safe with fire, camping and all the creatures that make the woods their home

Forest Products—Collaborative Approach

Supporting the local economy through close collaboration with the Northeast Washington Forestry Coalition and local communities, the Colville National Forest has been able to meet our objectives of restoring watersheds and creating healthy forests, while supplying the timber industry the products it needs to keep our communities working and our local economy robust. In addition to traditional timber products, the forest produced 21,883 tons of bio-energy for local generating stations. This approach to creating a healthy forest and helping our local communities prosper goes beyond the traditional methods of large diameter timber harvesting. Through innovative tools such as third-party environmental planning, stewardship contracts, exploring larger landscape areas treatments with an eye towards greater efficiency in process and effectiveness, the Colville National Forest and our partners have been able to improve ecosystem health and restore landscapes on more than 6000 acres of the Colville National Forest.



Western Larch showing their fall colors on the Republic Ranger District

THE COLVILLE'S FIRE CREWS TREATED 1600 ACRES WITH PRESCRIBED FIRE HELPING TO RESTORE A FIRE RESISTANT LANDSCAPE AND IMPROVING WILDLIFE FORAGE. CREWS ALSO SUPPORTED LOCAL FIRE SUPPRESSION EFFORTS AND THE NATIONAL FIRE FIGHTING EFFORT, INCLUDING THE WORST FIRES IN TEXAS STATE HISTORY

Recreation—The Great Outdoors

The city of Colville's motto is "Discover our Good Nature." The Colville National Forest is the scenic backdrop to our communities and over a million acres of good nature and quality of life northeast Washington is known for. The forest has extensive hiking, biking, equestrian and motorized trails and exceptional berry picking, mushrooming and hunting experiences. The Colville National Forest has been providing generations of locals and visitors the experiences that make our area unique.

In a continued effort to ensure our visitors have the best experience possible, The Colville National Forest has improved motorized and non-motorized access and eliminating use conflicts with the Gibraltar Trailhead. The construction is being completed with Title II funding and volunteers from the motorized and non-motorized communities. The Colville National Forest also made a number of improvements to the popular Pierre Lake campground and constructed a new boat dock at East Sullivan Campground on Sullivan Lake. Washington Trails Association crews and Forest Service crews replaced 10 information boards at trailheads on the Sullivan Lake District funded with Title II dollars. Recreation crews replaced 100 site markers at East Sullivan, West Sullivan, South Skookum and Browns Lake Campgrounds.



Spring Flow on Harvey Creek, Sullivan Lake Ranger District



New boat dock at East Sullivan Campground- Sullivan Lake District



New Trailhead Information Board- Sullivan Lake District

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Restoring our Heritage -Growden Changing House

Over the course of seven weeks, Colville National Forest employees and volunteers disassembled, moved and reconstructed the Growden Changing House. The changing house was built in 1939 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and is the only remaining feature of the CCC Camp that was on this site, Camp Growden. The changing house was built for use on the CCC constructed lake, known as Lake Sherman. While almost all signs of the original camp are gone and the earthen dam has since been removed, the changing house now sits prominently at the sight giving forest visitors a sense of what life was like during that period.

This effort was a Passport in Time Project and has received the attention of both regional and local media. Volunteers donated 480 hours of labor, and came from throughout the northwest to donate their time to preserve our community's local heritage and highlight the role the Colville National Forest has played in generations of northeast Washingtonians lives over the past century



Whitebark pine cone collecting

The Colville National Forest collected a bumper white bark pine cone crop this year. Cones will be tested for resistance to white pine blister rust and help bring in more genetic diversity. We are excited to be involved in saving an important ecosystem species that is suffering from both climate change and white pine blister rust.



Changing house before disassembly, numbering, relocation and restoration



Original logs were used if at all possible and traditional methods and tools were used when possible to ensure authenticity in the restoration



Roof supports constructed almost completely with original style post-truss design

THE REPLACEMENT LOGS WERE HAND-HEWN, JUST LIKE THE ORIGINAL LOGS USED IN THE INITIAL CONSTRUCTION



Restoration completed, with original design shake roof and siding

THE COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST PROVIDED **9,502** CORDS OF FIREWOOD LAST YEAR TO HEAT HOMES AND HELP REDUCE HEATING BILLS



Colville National Forest 2011

Caring for the Land and Serving People

USDA FOREST SERVICE

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Community Investments

Forest Service employees are your friends and neighbors who pride themselves in being an active part of our local communities. Many employees are active in community service clubs like Rotary or Kiwanis and you can also find many employees coaching little league baseball, helping with 4H, Boy Scouts and even as Ski Patrollers and ambulance EMTs. Colville National Forest employees are also active in their local churches, afterschool programs, resource centers, and local food banks. Professionally, the forest spearheaded the Northeastern Washington Sustainable Tourism and Recreation Team (NEWSTART) helping local businesses develop a strategy to promote sustainable recreation based tourism and business to supplement traditional forest products related businesses. The forest is an active partner in the Interagency Kettle Falls Regional Information Center (KFRIC). KFRIC serves the local community by providing public lands information, permits and passes for the Forest Service and National Park Service. The KFRIC also provides tourism and business information for the local Chamber of Commerce. Colville's National Forest employees conducted environmental education and exposure to natural resource related career presentations for 3,052 northeast Washington youths. This incredible commitment to our communities and our youth is what makes our investment in our communities so special.



Sullivan Lake—Sullivan Lake Ranger District

We're on the Web!

www.fs.usda.gov/colville/

SUCCESSFULLY TREATED
1,995 ACRES TO PREVENT
THE SPREAD AND
ESTABLISHMENT OF
NOXIOUS WEEDS

Looking Forward—What's Ahead for 2012

2012 promises to bring new challenges and wonderful opportunities to the Colville National Forest and the communities it serves.

The forest will continue to provide timber and biomass to the local mills and plants. A new grant will help the forest accelerate landscape restoration work and provide new jobs.

Emerging efforts to connect kids with nature are taking root with partners in the community.

A draft long term management plan for the forest is expected later in the fall.

New trail systems, habitat improvement projects, road and facility maintenance, rangeland management, and so much more is planned for implementation in 2012.

The dedicated employees of the Colville National Forest are committed to making sure the forest continues to provide the products and services our communities depend on while protecting the health and productivity of our precious watersheds.



Kettle Crest—Highest Maintained Pass In Washington at 5,575 feet.



Lady Slipper—Lake Gillette, Three Rivers Ranger District



Pierre Lake Campground—Three Rivers Ranger District

The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to State and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.