

NezPerce News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees



Volume 1, Issue 2, May, 2003

A Message from the Forest Supervisor

Dear employees, retirees and friends,



As field season arrives, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank you for all the hard work and support you've given during these difficult, challenging and stressful times. It is very much appreciated by the Forest Leadership Team and especially me.

As most of us already know, we have several challenging projects put before the Forest to accomplish, and in shortened, critical, timeframes. We needed to work through some "growing pains" as we organized to nearly triple the workload we were used to getting done, and we're moving along. The hard job of maintaining focus and accomplishing the expected results lies ahead which will take all of our skills, knowledge and experience to achieve.

Think safety -- drive defensively, get plenty of rest, eat right, drink plenty of water -- take good care of yourself. And take time to enjoy the trees, rivers, fresh air and beauty that our forest has to offer. A healthy balance is crucial not only in managing a forest, but also in maintaining a happy lifestyle.

On another note, I want you to help me welcome our Deputy Forest Supervisor Terry Chute. Terry is detailed to our forest for 3 months, effective June 23rd. Terry hails from the Flathead National Forest and will bring much needed assistance to us.

Work hard, play hard, enjoy your summer!



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Bill Fowler and Larry Case Retire



Bill Fowler

Bill Fowler retired April 3, 2003 after working 30 years with the Forest Service. Bill began his Forest Service career in 1969 on the Nez Perce National Forest, as a Civil Engineer Technician. He left from 1976 to 1980 to attend the University of Idaho to earn a degree in Civil Engineering. Then he transferred to Region 6, Siskiyou National Forest, in 1980 and returned to the Nez Perce in 1985 as a Civil Engineer.

Bill enjoys outdoor activities and plans to do some building and remodeling around his home, local traveling, boating, fishing and ATV riding after retirement. He will be riding horses whenever possible. Some of his fondest memories are of living on the coast at Gold Beach, Oregon; taking back-country trips; and inspecting bridges and buildings.

Bill lives in Grangeville and has a son Joe. Good Luck, Bill, and happy retirement!!

Larry Case started his career with the Forest Service in 1961 as an Administratively Determined (AD) employee. This means he was picked up on roster to work in the event of an emergency, which was, in this case, fire. His job entailed working at the warehouse in Grangeville, along with working at the Moose Creek Ranger District air field. In the early 60's he worked at the Elk City Ranger District helping the engineers build bridges. Larry received his permanent appointment in the warehouse position in 1968, but was part of reduction in force (RIF) process in 1979, only to return to employment in 1983 until retiring April 3, 2003. Larry said the highlight of his career and fondest memories were meeting all the different people.

Larry lives in Grangeville and has two sons and daughters-in-law (Brad & Chris and Stan & Lynne). Larry has one grandson Nathan and another grandson due in July.

In Larry's spare time he takes care of his cattle and makes saddles. His retirement plans are to continue making saddles and visit family & friends. Enjoy your retirement, Larry!!



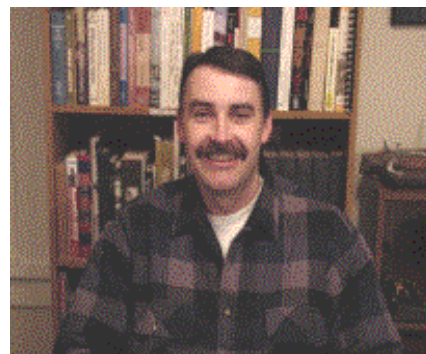
Larry Case

New Employees On The Forest

Steve Lucas took over as the new Forest Archaeologist for the Nez Perce National Forest in Feb. Lucas came to the Nez Perce from the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, where he worked as a Zone Archaeologist. He has worked for the Forest Service as an Archaeologist on the Idaho Panhandle, 1988-1989, and Umatilla, 1989-1999, before becoming the Zone Archaeologist for the Wallowa-Whitman in 1999.

Steve has a BA in Anthropology from Washington State University in 1988, with minors in Forest and Range Management, and History. In 1994 he received his MA from Oregon State in Archaeology, with graduate minors in Cultural Resource Management and Biotic Resource Management.

Steve is an avid reader of military history. His wife Megan would say that he enjoys buying books that he will never read. He enjoys hunting, home improvement projects and traveling (especially to northern Europe). He and Megan have no children and have bought a house in Grangeville.



Steve Lucas



Terry Nevius

Red River District Ranger Terry Nevius has been on the Forest for a little over two months now and recently exclaimed, "It's been a whirlwind of activity"! Terry comes from southern Idaho where he was the Zone Range Staff Officer for the Challis/Yankee Fork Ranger District of the Salmon-Challis National Forest.

Terry's first taste of the Forest Service began in 1978 as a seasonal employee. Terry started a permanent career with the USFS as a Range Technician in 1988 on the Toiyabe National Forest in Bridgeport, California. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Range Management from Humboldt State University in 1990. Terry continued up his career ladder from Range Technician to Range Conservationist to Natural Resource Specialist to Range Staff Officer.

Terry has also held Acting District Ranger positions in Minnesota and Nevada. He's worked in Regions 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9 (eight National Forests and one Regional Office). In addition, he's also worked for the Bureau of Land Management in California, Nevada and Oregon.

"My goals are to complete what I was hired to do - accomplishing the high priority Red River Salvage, Hazard Tree and Defensible Space projects on time, within budget and in a quality manner," Terry said. He added, "I also feel it's very important to work closely with the Elk City residents and surrounding communities to assist them in economic development and to help them make their homes fire Assistant."

Terry has three dogs and his hobbies include fishing and hunting. He can be reached at the Red River Ranger District by calling (208) 842-2140 or by writing P.O. Box 416, Elk City, Idaho 83525. Terry also welcomes visitors to stop by his office for a chat.

The Forest welcomes Charise Nelson. Charise accepted the front office/budget & finance 1039 position at the Supervisor's Office. You might remember her smiling, friendly face at Cash & Carry foods. She will be working Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the front desk and Tuesday and Thursday in the Budget & Finance office.

Charise worked in San Diego, California managing a medical office with the Federal Aviation Administration from 1989 to 1997, but moved to Grangeville to be closer to her family. Her parents are Edd & Leanne Woslum, who own the Yellow Wolf Ranch at the top of White Bird grade.

Charise lives in Grangeville with her husband Randy, who is a smokejumper at the Grangeville Air Center. They live up by Snow Haven ski lodge and enjoy 4 wheeling and playing with their three dogs, Orrian, Kassi and Butch.



Charise Nelson

Idaho's Grand Champion Fiddler!

Contributed by Shelley Gill

Duane Stephens is quite the fiddle player. On March 28-30 he competed in the Idaho Grand Champion fiddle contest in Weiser, Idaho and...WON!

Friday Duane won the Gambler's Contest, and on Saturday won his senior division and received a nice plaque. On Sunday he won the 2003 I.O.T.F.A. (Idaho Old Timers Fiddle Association) Grand Champion contest and received a big purple ribbon and a beautiful Montana silversmith belt buckle.

In each contest Duane played three tunes: a Hoe-down, a Waltz, and a tune of choice. There were 12 fiddle players that competed and the top two from each division played for the grand championship.

Did you know that Duane has recorded his own compact disks of his fiddle music? You can contact Duane at the Slate Creek Ranger District for his autograph and his cd's. Congratulations!



Duane Stephens

Health & Safety

Regional Special Emphasis Items for 2003

- **Driving Proficiency and Certification-Defensive Driving**
Attend Defensive Driving every 3 years.
Must have U.S. Government Motor Vehicle Driver/Operator card, R1-FS-7130-17 in addition to State Driver's License.
- **Hazard Tree Awareness**
Increase the level of hazard tree awareness and snag safety for all employees. All field-going employees should attend snag safety and tree awareness training.
- **Safety for Supervisors-29 CFR 1960 Mandatory Training**
All managers are required to complete this training by FY 2004.

Fire Personnel Spread Prevention Message to Local Schools

Governor of the State of Idaho, Dirk Kempthorne has proclaimed June 16th through June 20th as **IDAHO WILDFIRE PREVENTION WEEK.**



Wildfire Prevention Week:

- Public Service Announcements-KORT radio station fire prevention information
- Theater Slide (Prevention message)
- Shoe laces to local shoe store
- Paper grocery bags decorated with prevention messages (local stores)
- Different prevention messages in the shopper
- Fire Squirts Fire Education Camp-Elk City
- Flyers/labels in local bills (electric, water, etc.) with prevention messages

Local Events:

- White Bird rodeo/parade
- Border Days/Art in the Park
 - *stick horse races
 - *defensible space booth/games
- Elk City Days

Fire prevention is everyone's responsibility. You can participate in the effort by:

-Clearing all debris and combustible materials from around your home, creating a 30' "Survivable Space"

-Abiding by all fire regulations and restrictions, and...

-ALWAYS being careful with fire!

Clearwater/Nez Perce National Forests Retirees

Mark Your Calendars!

The 2003 Retiree Gathering is scheduled for August 1-2 at the Wilderness Gateway Campground, located on the Lochsa Ranger District of the Clearwater National Forest.

In the plans are a social on Friday starting about 4:30 PM followed by dinner. Saturday retirees will enjoy breakfast together followed by information sharing from the Forests.

Tom Blunn is taking over the reins from Bob Rehfeld as Chief Wrangler----many thanks to Bob for a job well done. Tom has signed on Jon Bledsoe and Fred Trevey as his camp go-fers.

This is a "heads up" for your calendars, more details and a RSVP request will come out late May/early June.

Fred is updating the mailing list and would like to add e-mail addresses to facilitate future contact. He can be reached at: ftrevey@cablone.net or (208)743-5465. Tom is at stblunn@cablone.net or (406)721-6350.



Employee Day 2003

The Clearwater National Forest's Human Resource Action Committee and the Nez Perce National Forest's Human Resource Team hosted Employee Day 2003 on April 16 in Kamiah. This year's theme was "Building Bridges Across Cultures and Generations."

The day began with a warm welcome from Spike Thompson, Acting for Forest Supervisor Larry Dawson and Bruce Bernhardt, Forest Supervisor for the Nez Perce National Forest.

Kevin Peters, a Park Ranger for the Nez Perce National Historical Park in Spalding, Idaho informed and entertained us with stories behind the legend about the "Heart of the Monster." The "Heart of the Monster", a rock formation said to represent the heart of a monster killed by coyote and dropped at its current location, in East Kamiah, is an important Nez Perce legend. The site is approximately 53 acres of National Park Service land located two miles upstream from Kamiah. Kevin is a gifted artist and musician and plays a Native American flute. We welcome Kevin back to the Clearwater and Nez Perce Forests to share his talent with us again.



Kevin Peters



Dr. Janet Mills - right

Dr. Janet Mills, a professor of Public Policy and Administration & the Professor of Communication at Boise State University. Janet disclosed twelve key differences of generational personalities. With humor, role playing and insight, Dr. Mills urged us to understand, accept, respect and utilize differences and to learn to flex our style. When we do, we enhance our ability to influence and motivate others, make better decisions, and adapt gracefully to meet our own needs and those of others. She taught us some helpful guidelines for working with generational personalities so that we all can work together and accept the fact that we all have different needs and core values.

Both Civil Rights teams shared information and displays on activities sponsored by their groups throughout the year. Many employees expressed that it was a successful, interesting and very informative day.



Competitive Sourcing Information

According to the Official Competitive Sourcing Website, <http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/pma/main/CS.shtml>, the objective of the Competitive Sourcing (CS) initiative is to increase government performance and efficiency through the use of public-private competitions.

These competitions are meant to compare the cost of performing a specific function in-house with the cost of accomplishing the same work through private sector contracts, and then converting to the most cost-effective source.

This website is your definitive source for all CS issues. Regardless of your opinion on the whole deal, this is a valuable information resource --Bookmark it!

To start to understand the CS initiative, you can use the CS Toolbox (house on the website). Here you will find [how the process works](#), [regulations](#), [guidance](#), [tools and training](#), [memos and briefings](#), [news](#), and [what's being studied](#).

This website is regularly updated for all your CS information needs!

Nez Perce National Forest contact for competitive sourcing is Michael Cook

Awards & Promotions

ARMETTA, JENNIFER, law enforcement officer, SO, promotion

BEESON, JEREMY, forestry tech, Red River RD, promotion

DEFORD, LORI, law enforcement, SO, performance award

GORMLEY, RALPH, maintenance worker, Red River RD, Promotion, maintenance mechanic

SMITH, LAURA, public affairs specialist, SO, promotion

WARDEN, JOSHUA, forestry tech, Red River RD, promotion, supervisory forestry tech

Reassignments/Transfers

ARTLEY, RICHARD, forester, SO reassignment, planning specialist

KONCERAK, WILLIAM, resource information specialist, Red River RD, transfer, USDI Wind Cave NP

MYERS, MATT, forestry tech, career-conditional, Salmon River RD

GERFEN, JEFF, Civil Engineer, promotion



*Nez Perce
National
Forest*





Nez Perce National Forest Vision

- *We on the Nez Perce National Forest serve with integrity.**
- *We build and foster healthy interpersonal relationships.**
- *Our creative stewardship integrates science and social values ensuring ecological sustainability.**

**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
NEZ PERCE NATIONAL FOREST
Route 2, Box 475
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Penalty for Private Use, \$300