

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service -- Northern Region



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Forest Service Honors Work in Conservation Education

Dale Bosworth, Regional Forester for the Northern Region of the USDA Forest Service, has announced the co-winners of this year's regional conservation education award.

The award winners include Dr. Ray Shearer and Jack Schmidt, with the Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Research Station in Missoula, and Browning high school teacher Dr. Donald Kiehn. Together Shearer, Schmidt and Kiehn developed a public trail system on the Flathead National Forest near Glacier National Park that highlights and explains 50 years of sustainable forestry and watershed research. An important part of the project was a self-guide brochure for the trail, written by Shearer and Kiehn.

Twice each year Dr. Kiehn, chairman of the science department at Browning High School on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, busses his science students to the trail. Other public schools in the vicinity also use the trail to assist in teaching their science curricula.

Tom Alt and Gary Grocholski, of Billings, were recognized for their extraordinary efforts to bring understanding of natural resources to young people in the Billings area. Alt, a Forest Service retiree, and Grocholski, a full time businessman, volunteered more than 900 hours this year in the presentation of conservation education programs.

A total of 5,545 young people and adults attended their popular classes, such as "Leave No Trace," "Wilderness Survival," and "Bear Us in Mind."

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