Administrator’s Corner

Greetings,

Collaborative and partnering efforts are key components for Trail successes as we work through challenging economic times. This year we will fund several Challenge Cost Share (CCS) applications to leverage available funding to work with others who have a stake in the preservation and enjoyment of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT). As you follow our CCS projects, past and future, you will feel the human history of the NPNHT, from the light pulse of footsteps to the pounding of horse hooves from the Niimíipuu traversing the Trail so many years ago, to the roll of wheels on the Auto Tour Route today.

We value our many partners who work with us to strengthen groups and networks working for our communities, our health, and our Trail. Your endorsements, success stories, and efforts to spread the word about the Trail are essential ingredients for cooking up new opportunities for exciting work today and into the future.

The Trail is one of nature’s richest living entities, a true gift of time itself. In nature, we learn to slow down and pay attention, to join, the few who “see with their own eyes and feel with their own hearts,” in Albert Einstein’s own words.

There are many treasures that the Trail unfolds for us and some are the lessons nature and history teaches us. How do we return the favor? It’s a question worth considering as we travel and work along the Trail this year. What better way to answer this question then to work towards placing it in the hands of the youth. Those impressions from our experience will shape memories of the NPNHT.

Kind regards,

Sandi McFarland, Administrator NPNHT
The National Trails System Administrators have worked with their trail non-profits and the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) to develop a Collaborative Landscape Proposal for the 2014 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). This is the first time that an effort has been made to look at the National Trails System as a whole network for the purpose of land acquisition as envisioned by Congress when the National Trails System Act was signed into law in 1968.

The Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) has recently started to plan for and potentially acquire land since the National System Trails Act was amended in 2009. This is the first effort to acquire lands that have historical significance to the NPNHT. The NPNHT worked with its federal partners, local interest groups, land owners, and non-profit groups along with the Nez Perce, Umatilla, and Colville tribes to identify potential parcels to be considered for acquisition. The Nez Perce Trail Foundation assisted with the development of this acquisition proposal.

The following NPNHT parcels have been selected by the committee of federal land management leaders from the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for submission under Land and Water Conservation Funding in the 2014 President’s Budget to Congress:

- Montana Bureau of Land Management at Cow Island and Cow Creek north of Lewistown, MT, in the Missouri River Breaks National Monument.
- Idaho Bureau of Land Management at Lolo Creek on the Clearwater River, northeast of Kamiah, ID.
- Nez Perce National Historic Park, Oregon Unit parcels at Old Joseph Historic Sites near Joseph and Minam, OR.
- Big Hole Battlefield National, an addition to the Battlefield, located near Wisdom, MT.

The National Trail System Administrators have been asked to prepare a similar request for the 2015 Land and Water Conservation Funds. The NPNHT will once again request our partner agencies to identify new parcels that have willing sellers for this new proposal during the next few months.

Julie Molzahn
NPNHT CMP Revision Coordinator
2013 Nez Perce National Historic Trail Desk Planners Distributed

The annual desk planner arrived in early December 2012 and just as quickly the 5,000 planners went back out the door to people across the region, and country, along with a few requests from overseas.

Thanks again to the staff of Recreation Solutions who helped with design, layout, and printing; Angel Sobotta of the Nez Perce Language Program who provided Nez Perce names for inclusion in the Planner; and Wilfred “Scotty” Scott from the Nez Perce Tribe who provided information on the annual commemorations.

Work on the 2014 Desk Planner will begin this spring. We are always looking for new and creative ideas. If any of our partners have an idea they would like to propose please share it with NPNHT staff.

We have a few planners left. If you would like copies, please contact Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, at (406) 329-3540 or rmpeterson@fs.fed.us

NPNHT Annual Poster Available Soon

The next installment in the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) Annual Poster series will be available in the next few weeks. This year’s full color poster entitled “Nez Perce Leaders of the Flight of 1877” features a number of the Nez Perce chiefs that served as leaders during the war and flight of 1877. Unfortunately, NPNHT staff were not able to locate images of Lean Elk, also known as Poker Joe, or Husis Kute who also played critical roles in those events.

The posters will be available for distribution later in February, 2013.

This year’s poster is dedicated to the memory of Roger Cooke (1941 – 2012) whose skill as an artist and meticulous attention to historic detail enhance many sites along the NPNHT. (see memorial on page 9).

If you would like copies, please contact Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, at (406) 329-3540 or rmpeterson@fs.fed.us
More than 80 people attended the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) Partners meeting on November 7-8, 2012. The main group of attendees was located at the U.S. Forest Service Regional office in Missoula, MT. In order to reduce travel costs and allow for increased attendance Video Teleconference (VTC) links were established with eight locations from Okanogan, WA, to Billings, MT. Another dozen people attended the meeting via phone and webinar. This was the first partners meeting in a couple of years and a lot of good information was shared.

Following a welcome by Sandi McFarland, Administrator, NPNHT, Trail staff gave updates on a variety of ongoing NPNHT Projects.

Sandi explained the overall program of work for the NPNHT in 2012 and reviewed the NPNHT budget including how funds are dispersed to various National Forests along the NPNHT. Sandi also provided information on the NPNHT Challenge Cost Share program and touched on the Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) revision for the NPNHT.

Roger Peterson, Public Affairs Specialist, NPNHT, provided a communications overview. Roger discussed a wide range of topics from maintenance of the NPNHT mailing database to media communication, internal agency communication and the full range of NPNHT publications, work with partners and communities along the NPNHT, web site maintenance, and the recent work with Social Media by the NPNHT.

Following lunch and a short video presentation by the staff from Big Hole National Battlefield, Jim Evans, the Executive Director of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF), gave a presentation on the work that has recently been accomplished by the Foundation.

Sandi followed providing a thorough review of the NPNHT Challenge Cost Share (CCS) program including how the program is funded and what types of projects have recently been approved for funding. Sandi also reviewed the overarching goals and objectives for the CCS program.

Following a short break, Julie Molzahn, CMP revision Coordinator, NPNHT, gave a presentation on where we currently stand in this process. From December, 2010, to February, 2012, a series of 19 public workshops were held in communities along the entire length of the NPNHT. The public also had the opportunity to provide comment via the NPNHT website and also by mail. More than 900 comments were received and are being analyzed. Staff from the NPNHT has also met with seven tribes. (cont. on page 5)
Progress Report - Nez Perce National Historic Trail - Winter 2013

Maureen Kirchhoff, Deputy Director for Recreation, Lands, Minerals, Heritage and Wilderness in the Forest Service Northern Region, discussed additional work that will be necessary to complete the CMP revision.

Before the end of the first day a round robin discussion was held with all partners to discuss ongoing work related to the NPNHT on their local unit.

On November 8th the morning started with a discussion of future CCS projects that partners would like to see accomplished to further enhance the NPNHT and visitors’ experiences along the NPNHT.

Next, Ron Hall an Eastern Washington University geographic information system (GIS) instructor and a Google certified kml developer for interactive web map content, gave a presentation on the recently completed NPNHT Google Earth project, a CCS effort undertaken by the NPTF. Ron displayed the wide range or tools that are available in Google Earth, which is a free web browser available to anyone with a computer, tablet, or mobile device. Completion of the virtual tour marks the first significant use of the full range of Google web tools to showcase, promote, educate, and enhance the public's awareness and use of one of our nation’s historic trails. Ron also discussed the future capabilities of this feature as an educational tool to reach thousands of students across the United States and the world. (photo right)

Sandi then discussed a number of ongoing interpretive projects along the NPNHT.

Following some final discussion with partners the meeting was dismissed early that afternoon so those traveling could make it home safely ahead of the impending early winter storm.

Thanks to everyone who attended and we hope to hold these meetings more frequently to keep the ongoing dialogue with our partners up to date. This meeting featured the first significant use of online interactive media (VTC/Webinar) by the NPNHT and we are open to feedback on ways to improve this for future meetings.

For those of you who missed the meeting or those who attended and would like to review information presentations from the meeting are posted on the NPNHT partnerships website for the next couple of months. We are finalizing the meeting notes and they will also be posted on this site soon.

Visit the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture

The Josephy Library is part of the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture in Joseph, OR. It is based on more than 2000 books, journals, artifacts, manuscripts, and miscellaneous pieces from Alvin Josephy’s home libraries in Greenwich, CT, and Joseph, OR. It honors Alvin’s work as a historian of and advocate for American Indians, and Alvin and his wife Betty’s commitment to literature, history, the arts, the West, and to the men, women, and children of all races and backgrounds who have lived in and loved the West.

Alvin M. Josephy Jr. was the author of The Nez Perce Indians and the Opening of the Northwest, The Indian Heritage of America.

More than 400 books are cataloged and on the shelves: http://josephylibrary.blogspot.com/ enjoy and come visit!

Rich Wanschneider
rich.wandschneider@gmail.com

R-L: Rich Wanschneider and Josephy Center Director Lyn Craig at the shelves.
The staff of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail was deeply saddened to hear the news of the fire which destroyed the Chief Joseph Nez Perce Longhouse at Nespelem, WA, in late December 2012.

Longhouse Destroyed in Fire, But Not All Is Lost
Indian Country Media
Jack McNeel January 19, 2013

A disastrous fire rocked the Colville Reservation as the year ended. A news release from the office of Chairman John Sirois expressed the sorrow felt throughout the reservation.

“Our community, especially the Longhouse Community, stand in a state of shock a day after Christmas. At approximately 12:30 a.m. a fire broke out at the Chief Joseph Nez Perce Longhouse and it completely burned to the ground.”

“This building was more than a place of worship; it was a place of giving and a place of teaching and love. Our prayers are with those families affected and we ask that our heavy hearts are lifted in time.”

Milton Davis, a Chief Joseph Band member, had similar comments. “It was our home. It wasn’t just a place of worship. It was a community place where we had funerals, weddings, memorials, name-givings, and rejoinings. We had language classes there.”

Twelve tribes live within the boundaries of the Colville Confederated Reservation and there are a number of longhouses and a number of ways of believing and ways of worship, the Chief Joseph Band being one of those twelve.

Albert Andrews Redstar is principal leader of the longhouse and arrived as soon as possible after getting word of the fire and remained until 3:30 that morning. “It started at the back of the building. It was an electrical fire. It built up over a matter of hours but when it kicked in it just took the whole building. We had stacks of chairs and they are highly combustible if stacked together. They cause what are called flash fires. That’s what happened.”

The building was insured and it will be replaced when the insurance process is finished, most likely in the same location. The loss of the building was hard enough, but even more difficult is the loss of the items in the building.

“We lost all our drums,” Davis said. “There were probably over 12 drums. We had different items: artifacts, things given to the Chief Joseph Band like plaques, eagle fan or artwork. We had pictures and different artwork from some of our members in our band. Those things can’t be replaced. We can’t really put a dollar value on them.”

Fortunately some things can be replaced. Redstar said that a hand drum maker on the Umatilla Reservation has already made drums for them. “Some ladies are planning to get together and rebuild the tule mats,” he added. The bells are also replaceable. “All in all, I think we’re going to survive okay, absorb the loss, keep moving, and do what we need to do.”

Sirois recalls one message, one teaching, that has remained in his mind. “You really take good care of your Indian belongings, these sacred objects you use when you’re singing and drumming. You take care of them strongly and they’ll take care of you. But the important thing to remember is that you’re building that relationship with the Creator. If something happens to one of these things, they’re material things. They represent something, but that relationship you have with each other and with the Creator is the most important thing.”

Redstar spoke of the support already received from not only this reservation, but elsewhere. Many of the Joseph people live elsewhere; on the Umatilla and Yakama reservations and along the Snake River as well as friends on the Nez Perce reservation in Idaho. “Many of them are supportive of our group and many on this reservation have stepped forward and offered support and help.”
A Guide to National Register of Historic Places in Idaho County

A new guide has just been published which identifies Idaho County properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This guide is designed to stimulate one’s curiosity and encourage people to seek more information about these and other important places in Idaho’s history.

This publication is a free guide that was made possible through a grant from the National Park Service and administered by the Idaho State Historical Society (ISHS).

Key sites of interest in this guide and important to the Nez Perce National Historical Trail (NPNHT) include sites that are part of the Nez Perce National Historical Park created in 1965. Those sites include:

Tolo Lake where the U.S. Forest Service has an interpretive panel from our partnership with the Idaho State Fish and Game Service, White Bird Battlefield, Looking Glass Camp where the NPNHT sponsored the McWhorter monument with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Clearwater Battlefield.

“The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation’s cultural resources deemed worthy of preservation. It is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic resources.” Idaho State Historical Society.

The guide is available at local Idaho County U.S. Forest Service offices, the Grangeville, ID, Visitor Center, Grangeville Bicentennial Historical Museum, Kooskia, ID, Library, Elk City Hotel, St. Gertrude’s Museum in Cottonwood, ID, and various other businesses within the county. It can also be downloaded from the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest website.

UPCOMING Events:

- February—March, 2013—Winter Storyteller Series, Travelers Rest State Park, Lolo, MT, see the Pak website for details.
- February, 2013 — Hike the Hill: Trails Advocacy Week, Washington, DC—more info at www.americanhiking.org/tht/
- March 11-15, 2013 — Native American Awareness Week Lewiston, ID
- April 14-17, 2013—21st American Trails International Trails Symposium, Scottsdale, AZ
- April 20, 2013 — Red Heart Band Memorial, Vancouver, WA
- April 22 - 26, 2013 — National Park Week, fees waived at National Parks (check with local units)
- May 17-19, 2013 — Mata’Lyma Pow Wow, Wa-A’Yas Community Center, Kamiah, ID
- May 17-18, 2013 — Eastern Oregon University Indian Arts Festival, Pow Wow and Friendship Feast, La Grande, OR
- May 31—June 2, 2013—E-Peh-Tes Pow Wow, Lapwai, ID
- June 1, 2013—National Trails Day
- June 8, 2013—National Get Outdoors Day, fees waived at U.S. Forest Service sites that require a fee, (check with local units)
- June 8-9, 2013 — Ess-Kah-Po Pow Wow, Orofino High School, Orofino, ID
- June 14-16, 2013 — Chief Joseph & Warriors Pow Wow, Lapwai, ID
- June 15, 2012—White Bird Battle Memorial, White Bird, ID
News From the Nez Perce Trail Foundation

Jim Evans, Executive Director for the Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF), and Candy Moulton a NPTF Lifetime member recently attended the National Trails System Workshop. The National Park Service Intermountain Regional office, and the Partnership for the National Trails System, hosted the Leadership and Tribal Outreach Workshop, December 4-6, 2012, in Albuquerque, NM.

The Workshop presented information on Organizational leadership and governance, membership and volunteer recruitment and retention, with an emphasis on youth. The second half of the workshop focused on reaching out to American Indian tribal entities.

It was one of the best workshops that we have attended and congratulations to Aaron Mahr and his team for putting together this outstanding event.

Jim Evans
Executive Director
Nez Perce Trail Foundation

Jim Zimmerman Elected Foundation President

At the Nez Perce Trail Foundations (NPTF) annual meeting in West Yellowstone, MT, last October Jim Zimmerman of La Grange, KY, was elected as the new NPTF President.

Zimmerman is a 1968 graduate of Morehead State University where he earned his BS degree and teachers certificate. Shortly after graduation he joined the U.S. Army. Of the three years Jim was in the military, one year of duty was spent in South Vietnam where he served as a Tank Commander with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Jim’s military decorations include the Bronze Star. Jim retired from the Kentucky House of Representative in 1998 following 10 years of service.

The majority of Jim’s working career has revolved around the Banking Industry by either working for a financial institution or the marketing of banking products and services.

Jim and his wife Bette have lived in LaGrange since 1972 and both have been active in the community for many years. They have one daughter, Tricia Taylor, who graduated from Oldham County High School and Western Kentucky University and now resides in Gardner, KS. Jim is also recognized as the first Lifetime member of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation.

Nez Perce Trail Foundation Now on Facebook

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation is pleased to announce that the new NPTF Facebook page has been completed and is now online and available.

Our page will make every attempt to keep everyone updated on upcoming Nez Perce events and trail activities.

Hopefully our Facebook fans will find our page to be the place to exchange information relative to the Nez Perce auto tours, hiking, and horseback riding issues and questions.

We look forward to your posts and participation. We can be found at www.facebook.com/NezPerceTF.
Roger Cooke Memorial
Oregonian Obituary March 2012

Cooke, Roger 71

January 24, 1941 March 27, 2012

Roger Waldron Cooke, age 71, of Sandy, OR, passed away in his home on March 27, 2012. He won a three-year battle with multiple myeloma cancer and he is now enjoying his life in heaven.

He was born January 24, 1941, to Ernest and Laura Cooke in Portland, OR. He graduated with a bachelor's degree from Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles. He leaves behind his wife of 41 years, Edna; and four children, Lance, Stephanie, Brady, Kenny; and nine grandchildren.

Until just four months ago, they had lived for almost 40 years in their home on Marmot Road overlooking the Sandy River, where Roger's studio produced his famous paintings and other artwork. Roger was well-known up the mountain for his fishing expertise, as well as his love for the outdoors and wildlife. In his 43-year career as a professional artist, he was well-known for his detailed paintings of Native American Indians and historic scenes.

He was also nationally recognized as a leader in painting murals as he has painted over 60 murals in towns throughout the U.S. You may view samples of his work on his website www.rogercooke.com. Above his work and hobbies, Roger's love for God inspired him to pour his life of God's love into anyone who crossed his path. His faith kept him mentally strong until the very end. He was submitted to how God wanted to use him. Although he hoped for a miracle, he always said, "God has the final word."

This year’s Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) Annual Poster is dedicated to Roger. Travelers along the NPNHT will find Roger’s work on interpretive signs and in NPNHT brochures.

Below are some examples of Roger’s work for the NPNHT:

- Interpretive art along the Lolo Motorway in Central Idaho and near Gibbons in Southwest Montana.
News From the National Park Service:
Big Hole National Battlefield

While winter may be a slow time of year for visitation, it is our busiest time of year for reporting, planning, and completing inside projects. Currently the Park is working on many new projects, including an information station in the new front hallway, updating our junior ranger booklet, and revamping our bathrooms to make them more accessible.

2013 will be the third consecutive year for our annual Coyote Camp. This week long event invites schools, free of charge, to visit the Park to not only learn the history of this site, but also have the opportunity to interact with cultural demonstrators. Coyote Camp will be held May 20 – 24, 2013, with programs starting at 10 a.m. and ending at 3 p.m. daily.

As we plan for the upcoming summer we will be releasing vacancy announcements for Park Guides, Youth Conservation Corp, Student Conservation Association, and Volunteers in Parks. If you or someone you know is interested in working or volunteering at the Park this summer please contact the Big Hole National Battlefield. The Park will also be announcing cultural demonstration opportunities for both our Summer Speaker Series, as well as Coyote Camp.

The Battlefield is free of charge and open year round. Currently we are in winter hours; those hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Trails can still be accessed by snowshoes (provided free of charge) or by cross country skis (provide your own). The Park will be closed February 18th in observance of Presidents’ Day.

This is a great time of year to visit the Park, with the crowds at a minimum and not a mosquito in sight!

Mandi Wick, Acting Superintendent
Big Hole National Battlefield

Be Safe in Your Travels

The Staff of the NPNHT want your experience along the Trail this winter to be a safe one.

Please take a few minutes to review the Trail’s Safety and Ethics Website before you begin your journey: http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/npnht/ethics

Also check weather reports and call ahead for road conditions at 511.

There are links to a number of webcams from the NPNHT website.
News From the National Park Service:

Bear Paw Battlefield

The National Park Service asked for public comment about a proposed land exchange at Bear Paw Battlefield from December 12, 2012, to January 28, 2013. Gordon Cattle Company of Chinook, MT, will receive 18.88 acres of cultivated land in exchange for a conservation easement on the 40 acre parcel that contains General Nelson A. Miles’ artillery position used in October 1877. This acquisition will help preserve the integrity of an important battlefield site and maintain the view shed as it appeared in 1877.

Stephanie Martin
Park Ranger, Bear Paw Battlefield

Photo: “Seven rifle pits plus the site of the U.S. Army’s 12 pounder Napoleon cannon are located near the vehicle behind the corrals on the west side of Highway 240 at Bear Paw Battlefield.”

News From Nez Perce National Historical Park

The Annual Beadwork Bazaar was held December 1, 2012, at the Spalding Visitor Center. There were 29 vendors this year displaying and selling everything from fine beadwork to delicious cookies. More than 270 people attended, enjoyed some good shopping, and had the chance to visit with folks they hadn't seen for a while.

On December 28, Ranger Diane Mallickan (photo right) retired after 22 years at Nez Perce National Historical Park. During that time she shared Nez Perce history and culture with thousands of park visitors and presented programs to many delighted school children. She was also a great resource for many authors over the years. Diane is looking forward to having more time for family and the chance to relax a little bit.

Terry O'Halloran
Chief of Interpretation
News From the Bureau of Land Management (BLM):
Upper Snake Field Office

Eastern Idaho Visitor Information Center Relocates

In early December, 2012, the ribbon was cut, officially opening the doors at the new Eastern Idaho Visitor Information Center in Idaho Falls, ID. (photo below)

Thanks to everyone who attended the open house and ribbon cutting! Visit the center at 420 Memorial Drive in Idaho Falls to learn more about what you can do on public lands and pick up informational brochures and maps to help plan your next adventure.

The Upper Snake Field Office cooperatively manages the Eastern Idaho Visitor Information Center with the U.S. Forest Service and the Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce. In addition to providing information on regulations and opportunities on public lands throughout eastern Idaho, the center offers:

♦  Brochures and information about tourist attractions and community events
♦  South Fork parking passes
♦  Select river guides
♦  Invasive species stickers
♦  Books
♦  Souvenirs
♦  Maps for Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service,
♦  U.S. Geological Survey and other agencies

The Visitor’s Center is located at 420 Memorial Drive in Idaho Falls.

For more information, please call 208-523-1012.

News From the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS):
Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge

The staff at the Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), located just north of Stevensville, MT, is busy developing a series of interpretive panels for placement along Wildfowl Lane, the main road through the refuge, that highlight several themes. One panel in particular is dedicated to culture and history. This panel includes information about the Salish people, and Nez Perce and Lewis and Clark National Historic Trails. It is still in draft and the NWR is accepting comments until March 1, 2013. The staff plans to include Quick Reference (QR) codes on the panels which will provide visitors with mobile devices quick access to additional information.

Bob Danley
Outdoor Recreation Planner
New Faces Along the Trail:

Forest Service Northern Regional Forester Announces New Director of Recreation, Lands, Minerals, Heritage and Wilderness

Faye Krueger, regional forester for the U.S. Forest Service Northern Region, welcomes George Bain as the new director of Recreation, Lands, Minerals, Heritage, and Wilderness for the Northern Region.

Bain reported to his new position at the regional headquarters in Missoula in November, 2012, after serving five years as forest supervisor of the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests in Georgia. While there, Bain was honored as the 2012 Federal Land Manager of the Year for the Forest Service.

“George has a history of bringing creative and innovative ideas to communities as recognized by his recent award,” said Krueger. “We are extremely fortunate to have him back in the region.”

Bain started working in the Forest Service in 1979 as a forest technician supervising field crews on the Clearwater National Forest in Kooskia, ID. Two years later, he moved to the Salmon River Ranger District of the Nez Perce National Forest in Idaho as a professional forester working in timber management.

In 1985, Bain began managing wilderness, recreation, special uses, and minerals on the Kootenai National Forest in Montana. He also served as district ranger on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest and on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest before leaving the region in 2003. Bain has more than 24 years of service in the National Forests of Idaho and Montana.

“In a way, I feel like I’m coming home,” said Bain. “My experiences working in Western forests are ones that shaped me early in my career, and gave me valuable perspectives that have been essential since then. I am truly looking forward to all the opportunities and challenges I know I'll face in this new position, and to working with the many agency employees and partners managing the incredible natural resources the Region has to offer.”

Bain is a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), earning a bachelor of science in forestry and wildlife. Bain plans to reside in Missoula with his wife and teenage son. His daughter attends North Georgia College and State University in Dahlonega, GA.

Jim Bedwell Named Director of Recreation, Lands, and Minerals for the Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region

Jim Bedwell “came home” to the Rocky Mountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service in October, 2012, to assume the duties of Regional Director of RLM. The pull of the mountains and the field, coupled with the fact that his two adult children now live in Denver, was too much to resist.

Prior to the move back West, Bedwell was the Director of Recreation, Heritage, and Volunteer Resources for the Forest Service in Washington DC, from June 2006 to October, 2012. As director, Bedwell led the programs that make national forests and grasslands the country’s top providers of quality recreation opportunities, from primitive backcountry to highly developed activities like alpine skiing. He also oversaw programs that protect, restore, and interpret the many archaeological and historic sites found in national forests and grasslands as well as programs that help create citizen stewards of the land through volunteerism and service. (cont. on page 14)
New Faces Along the Trail:

Prior to his work as Director in Washington, Bedwell served for six years as the Forest Supervisor on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland, a complex multiple-use unit that abuts the cities of Denver and the Northern Colorado Front Range.

As the agency’s Chief Landscape Architect from 1996-2000, Bedwell led the development of the Built Environment Image Guide, which incorporated sustainability as an essential component of Forest Service recreation and administrative facilities. He began his career with the Forest Service in 1979 and worked in a variety of landscape architecture and recreation management positions in Southern Arizona, Northern New Mexico, and Puerto Rico. In addition, he has worked extensively in international programs, most notably in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

Bedwell holds a Bachelor’s in Landscape Architecture from the University of Arizona. In 2004, he received the Alfred B. LaGasse Medal from the American Society of Landscape Architects in recognition of distinguished and continuing contributions to the field of resource conservation and public land management.

Bedwell and his wife of 30+ years, Andrea, now see their children James and Amanda at least once a week. They share a love of family, outdoor recreation (skiing, hiking, biking), international travel, and working on their home in Colorado.

John Laurence Named Wallow-Whitman National Forest Supervisor

A longtime research scientist who recently lead the Umatilla National Forest has been selected as Forest Supervisor for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in northeast Oregon. John Laurence, began his new job on January 14, 2013.

“John is an experienced manager, critical thinker, and capable champion of collaboration and partnerships,” said Pacific Northwest Regional Forester Kent Connaughton. “He has served as the Region’s Acting Director of Resource Planning and Monitoring, which has prepared him well to guide the Forest Plan Revision process and lead travel management planning on the Wallowa-Whitman.”

Laurence, 63, has served as Acting Supervisor of the Umatilla National Forest since August. Laurence is filling in for Kevin Martin, who has been Acting Wallowa-Whitman Forest Supervisor. Martin will return to his Supervisor’s job on the Umatilla.

“Laurence’s planning experience has prepared him to work well with his peers and the workforce in the Blue Mountains of eastern Oregon. His reputation as a science leader and mature manager of people precedes him,” said Connaughton.

Laurence began his Forest Service career in 2002 as a research scientist for the Pacific Northwest Research Station in Portland. He had worked 25 years as a research scientist at Cornell University in New York and three years with the Environmental Protection Agency in Corvallis. He has managed research projects in eastern Oregon and been responsible for the Station’s research office in LaGrande, OR, the past three years.

“I’ve long been interested in the application of science to research management and policy, and what better place to do it than with the Forest Service,” Laurence said, adding that he looking forward to the opportunity to work full-time in eastern Oregon.

Laurence and his wife Nancy, a writer, have three grown children. He enjoys photography and taking long, exploratory walks.
New Faces Along the Trail:

Michael Kania Selected as Upper Missouri Breaks National Monument Manager

Michael Kania will report as the new Monument Manager for the Upper Missouri River Breaks in early February 2013.

Kania was born in Erie, PA, and raised on a working dairy farm. He attended Pennsylvania State University where he received a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture. He went on to receive a Master’s in Landscape Architecture from Utah State University in Logan, UT.

Kania is a thirty year veteran of the U.S. Forest Service, where his experience includes Landscape Architect and Recreation Specialist at the Middle Fork Ranger District and the Supervisor’s Office of the Challis National Forest in Idaho. He then worked as a Community Planner with the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area in Oregon and Washington, where he completed the Management Plan for the CRGNSA. He also served as the staff officer for Fire, Watershed, Fisheries and Wildlife, Range, Recreation, and Engineering with the CRGNSA. Following his service in the Gorge he took the position of District Ranger on the Seward Ranger District of the Chugach National Forest in Alaska before transferring to be Recreation Planner for the Intermountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service, in Ogden, UT, covering Utah, Nevada, southern Idaho, and western Wyoming.

He has severed on numerous details including a detail as planner for Yosemite National Park and working on the Merced River Management Plan.

Revision of NPNHT Auto Tour Brochures 1 and 7 Planned for 2013

The staffs of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) and Recreation Solutions have started the process to update and reprint several NPNHT Auto Tour brochures. These brochures include, Auto Tour 1 Wallowa Valley, Oregon to Kooskia, Idaho, and Auto Tour 7 Yellowstone National Park to Canyon Creek, Montana.

In addition, Auto Tour brochures 6 and 8, which were released last spring, were extremely well received and we will need to reprint those brochures in the near future.

We anticipate that these updated and reprinted brochures will be ready for distribution during the summer of 2013.