

2018 Issue



Canyon Lakes Ranger District Volunteer News

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Hello Volunteers,

Thanks again for another fantastic year for the District Volunteer Program!

This year **954** volunteers provided **50,685** hours of service- that's the equivalent of 24 full time Forest Service employees and 1.2 MILLION dollars of donated service! We are very grateful for your time and commitment to national forest lands.

Kristy Wumkes
District Partnerships Coordinator

Message From the Ranger

Another year has come and gone and our volunteers just keep outdoing themselves to make the Canyon Lakes Ranger District a great place to be!

I would like to sincerely thank each and every one of you, but that would take forever because there are more than 900 of you!! So, I will have to settle on doing it through this newsletter for those I am not lucky enough to see. For those that I have seen at volunteer events throughout the year, thank you for the enthusiasm, energy and inspiration you have given me!

The support you offer our employees and the visiting public, not to mention our natural resources, is incredible.

Because of you, more visitors get information about the amazing opportunities the Forest has to offer; trails are more accessible; visitors are safer; the Forest is cleaner; habitat is improved; and the list goes on.

The work you do helps make the Canyon Lakes Ranger District that much more inviting, relevant and impressive to visitors and the community at large.

I say this every year, but it gives me so much pride to talk about our volunteer program to other districts, Forests and partners. I hope you know how special it is to have such a large group dedicating themselves to our wonderful natural resources.

Whether you donate a few hours or a hundred hours, know you are making a difference. That difference is truly appreciated by me and my staff.

Katie
Kathleen Donahue
Canyon Lakes District Ranger

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Watch out! Trees are still falling!

* Always be aware of your surroundings.

Group abbreviations

Cameron Pass Nordic Rangers: CPNR

Diamond Peaks Nat Ski Patrol: DPNSP

Diamond Peaks Mountain Bike Patrol: DPMBP

Overland Mountain Bike Club: OMBC

Poudre Wilderness Volunteers: PWV

Wildlands Restoration Volunteers: WLRV

Forest Service: FS

Volunteer Calendar *(events are free unless noted with \$)*

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Nov 28/Dec 1 | CPNR: Classroom & field training for new volunteers |
| Dec 3& 5 | CPNR- First Aid/CPR new certification, 6-10 PM Register: TimGaines@diamondpeaksskipatrol.com |
| Dec 10 | PWV: Affiliation meeting @ CB Potts Collindale (6:30 PM) Iceland in 3 1/2 Weeks |
| Dec 11 | CPNR: Affiliation meeting @ Mulligan's on College Ave. (5:30 PM) Avalanche Awareness for Backcountry Users- DPNSP (6:00 PM) |
| Dec 12 | CPNR- First Aid/CPR RE-certification, 6-10 PM \$ Register: TimGaines@diamondpeaksskipatrol.com |
| Jan 12 | PWV: WINTER patrol season begins |
| Jan 14 | PWV: Affiliation meeting @ CB Potts Collindale (6:30 PM) Horsepacking to Gannett Peak cirque |
| Jan 30 | CPNR: Affiliation meeting @ Mulligan's on College Ave. (5:30 PM) Wild Winter Survival Strategies- Mary Ann Bonnell (6:00 PM) |
| Feb 11 | PWV: Affiliation meeting @ CB Potts Collindale (6:30 PM) Trekking in Nepal |
| Feb 27 | CPNR: Affiliation meeting @ Mulligan's on College Ave. (5:30 PM) Mountain Meteorology- Dr. David Lerach (6:00 PM) |
| Mar 11 | PWV: Affiliation meeting @ CB Potts Collindale (6:30 PM) Canadian National Parks |
| Mar 30 | CPNR: Get-out-and-patrol-day & chili social |
| April 8 | PWV: Affiliation meeting @ CB Potts Collindale (6:30 PM) Poudre River Fisheries |
| April TBD | DPMBP: Good Host training @ FS office (6-9 PM) |
| April TBD | CPNR: Year end event |
| May 17-19 | PWV: New member training @ Cub Scout Camp |
| Dates TBD | Young Gulch Trail restoration days |
| Mar-May TBD | TRAIL WORKSHOPS- FREE to Forest Service volunteers! Hosted by NoCo Regional Trails Coalition For more information contact Mike Syzek mjsyzek2383@comcast.net |

Cameron Pass Nordic Ranger Patrol program kicks off another year

Ski Class of '18



There's still time to participate as a ski or snowshoe ranger!

The Nordic Ranger program began in 1992 to provide a backcountry presence and much-needed winter trail maintenance at the district's busiest winter play area around Cameron Pass.

Training will be Nov. 28, 6-9 PM in Fort Collins and Dec. 1 at Cameron Pass. Contact Kristy to register at kwumkes@fs.fed.us.



Stub Creek Ranger Station Hosts



We couldn't say goodbye to 2018 without acknowledging the amazing commitment of our Stub Creek hosts this past summer.

Mike and Jeanne Smith agreed to host with another couple this summer, and that couple had to back out at the last minute. The Smith's stepped up and for the better part of the summer were the only hosts on site at this remote location.

Stub Creek may have low visitation but that doesn't mean there isn't work to do.

The rental cabin has to be cleaned between guest arrivals, including splitting and stocking wood for the fire place.

Visitors are greeted and provided with recreation and travel information four days a week.

The large yard needs to be mowed and trees and shrubs trimmed as needed, and there is a public outhouse to clean.



Rental Cabin

Mike and Jean decided to go above and beyond the 'gotta dos'.

The entire length of fence- a quarter mile- was repainted and repaired. The broken bulletin board was repaired. Unsightly brush piles and old fire rings in 'the back forty' were rehabbed. Stub has never looked better. All while fulfilling their six day patrol commitment to PWV.

They say they like to keep busy. We say they have provided quite a gift to Stub Creek. Thank you both. And see you next summer as hosts.

District Volunteer Programs

Adopt-A-Programs

- Adopt-A-Road
- Adopt-A-Trail

With your help, the District has maintained its standing as one of the largest Forest Service volunteer programs in the nation.

Are these all the programs we'll ever have? No way! As work type and volunteer needs change, we'll have to change with it.

Visitor Services Programs

- Arrowhead Lodge Visitor Center
- Deadman Fire Tower Volunteers
- Redfeather Work Center
- Stub Creek Ranger Station
- Fort Collins Visitor Center

Backcountry Patrol Programs

- Cameron Pass Nordic Rangers
- Diamond Peaks Mountain Bike Patrol
- Diamond Peaks National Ski Patrol
- Poudre River Volunteers
- Poudre Wilderness Volunteers

Flood Restoration- Trails

Still Closed- West Creek, Fox Creek, Young Gulch

2018 was another big year for trail restoration on the **YOUNG GULCH TRAIL**.



Thanks to many volunteer organizations such as Wildlands Restoration Volunteers, Overland Mountain Bike Club, Poudre Wilderness Volunteers, CATS, New Belgium Brewing, and RMYCC, approximately two miles of new trail has been constructed and roughed in. Half a mile to go!

An incredible amount of rock work has been accomplished to date. In 2018, volunteers dedicated 3,857 hours to restoring the Young Gulch Trail.

The original trail boasted 40 creek crossings- which means that flooding is always a potential issue. The new route is much more sustainable, eliminating almost half of those crossings as we pull the trail up and out of the creek bed.

Join us in 2019 as we restore the next section- and have a chance to be the first to see the new and improved Young Gulch Trail.

Public restoration dates and registration can be found at these websites next spring:
www.wlrv.org
www.pwv.org



Rocky Mountain YCC high school participants help to complete the bridges on the Lion Gulch Trail



The last half mile of tangled jungle left to restore.

