TRI-FEDERATION FIELDTRIP TO THE BLUE FOREST AREA IN WYOMING ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

May 29-31, 2010

The Tri-Federation trip is scheduled for May 28-June 2nd, there are several trips scheduled for different locations within a 40-50 mile radius of Fontanels, Wyoming, the Blue Forest Petrified Forest area.

The base camp will be at Slate Creek Campground, just east of Fontenelle, next to the Green River. This is a no fee campground with fire pits, tables and restrooms. We will post the area with signs marking the camp area on Thursday May 27th. Trips will leave from the camp for the Blue Forest Dig area, one trip to the Eden Valley area, and others. Most of the trips will be related to collecting Petrified Wood. At the base camp we will have maps available for other areas, like algae, turitella agate, agates and fee fossil areas in the Kemmerer area and the Jade areas. There are millions of acres of wide open country, most of which will be BLM ground. You are expected to follow all rules on the collecting of petrified wood on public lands.

For those not camping at Slate Creek and need a Motel there is one at Farson, about 35 minutes to the east: Sitzmans, (307) 273 9246. This is a small motel only 6 rooms so make your reservations now. Rates = 1 person $50+ tax, 2 persons $58 + tax (one Queen Bed), 2 beds $65 plus tax. Farson also has gas and groceries. There are more motels in Kemmerer also: Fossil Butte Motel (307) 877-3996, Fairview Motel (307) 877-3938, Frontier Suites (307) 877-3377, Energy Inn (307) 877-6901 and Antler’s Inn (307-877-4461. There is also an RV Park in Farson and several in Kemmerer. Kemmerer is about 25 miles from our base camp. You can also get gas and some supplies in Fontenelle.

The schedule for the weekend follows. On Friday a group will leave for the Blue Forest dig area at 9 am. Then on Saturday at 9 am to the Blue Forest and at 6pm we will have a potluck and camp fire to get to know each other and share stories. On Sunday a trip to Eden valley area will leave at 8:30 am. Sunday evening is set aside for a swap session so bring some good trade material. Monday there will be another unnamed trip leaving at 9 am and an open day for you to go anywhere you like.

A few safety notes: The elevation of the area is around 7000 ft. The days can be nice but nights can be cold. The wind blows most of the time in this country so bring warm clothes. It is a little early for bugs, BUT bring bug spray anyway just in case. I have never heard of or seen a rattlesnake in the area.

Tools needed: shovel and pick, rock pick, gloves, steel probe, hat and sun screen.

There are lots of sandy roads in the area and ATV’s can be used. Stay on the sand and off the brush or plants, and please follow all local rules and regulations. If you pack it in pack it out. And most of all have fun. See you all at Slate Creek Campground

Doug True  e-mail: dtruefossils@yahoo.com  Phone (406) 670-0506

[See more information about a side trip for fish fossils on page 5]

Keep your calendar up to date:

Northwest Rockhound Retreat, September 6-12, 2010, Hancock Field Station, Fossil, Oregon

NFMS Convention and Annual Meeting, September 18, 2010, 2 pm.
Washington County Fairgrounds in Hillsboro, Oregon
Editor: For matters related to the Newsletter circulation (new members, address changes, etc.) contact Circulation.

SHOW COORDINATION. Your Federation provides a free service for members by placing your show in this Newsletter, on the NFMS website, two magazines (“Rocks and Minerals” and “Rock and Gem”) and the on-line Calendar from “Lapidary Journal”. Please provide the date and time for the show, the club name and show title (if applicable), the location of the show, and most important a contact person with address, e-mail address and/or phone (e-mail is preferred). Please send your show information four to six months in advance to the Show Coordination Chairperson. If you see an error once your show is listed, or if your show is not listed, contact the Newsletter Editor.

SAVE STAMPS PROGRAM. NFMS members are encouraged to use and save commemorative stamps. The money generated from the sale of these used (canceled) stamps is then donated to Cancer Research. The collected stamps can be sent to the Stamps Chairman, brought to the NFMS Annual Show or given to your Federation Director in your club.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS

Where to send your money

To NFMS Treasurer for: 1. Dues and supplies 2. Donations for the general fund 3. Donations to Junior Achievement 4. Advertising in this Newsletter

Send to: Lyle Vogelohp, see Treasurer this page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund 2. Memorial contributions

Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund, send to Endowment Fund Treasurer.

To NFMS Scholarship Chairman for:

1. Donations to Scholarship Fund 2. Memorial contributions to NFMS Scholarship Fund

Send to: Rose Alene McArthur (see Scholarship Chair this page).


Send to: See NFMS Newsletter

To ALAA Treasurer for: 1. Memberships, new and renewals 2. Donations

Make check payable to ALAA Treasurer, send to Joyce Hunscha, ALAA Treasurer, 6607 Sturbridge Ln, Canton, MI 48187-2638

NFMS NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT

Members, non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the Northwest Newsletter. This service is provided to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and is encouraged by the Federation. The only criteria for the ad is that it be hobby related (e.g. rocks, gear, equipment, show, etc.).

Ad Rates: $1.50 per square inch. Example: 3” x 4” ad = 12 inches 12 inches $1.50 = $18 per issue of the Newsletter

Do not send ads on colored paper because the back-ground will look gray in the ad. Following the placement of the ad, the Editor will send a billing statement to the customer which will include instructions to make payment to the NFMS Treasurer. For more information or questions, call, e-mail or write the Newsletter Editor.
Evelyn Cataldo
President

April – what a busy month. Our club rock show is this next weekend and we are scurrying around doing last minute preparations. This afternoon, I helped a group of club members repair display cases and liners. It is amazing how much a group can accomplish in a short time. If we all do a little, the whole job gets done, with minimum effort by everyone. There are many other Club shows this month and next. I encourage you to volunteer to help put on your local show. It is a great way to make friends, learn about our hobby and have fun.

This is also the month, with the days lengthening and the weather warming, that we get our tools together, check the trailer batteries, change the oil in the ATVs and prepare for the upcoming rock hunting season. A great way to start this year’s field tripping is to join Doug True on the Tri-Federation Field Trip to the Blue Forest in Wyoming.

I have been to this location several times in the past and have always returned home with lots of good material. What I am holding, in the picture above, is a basket of little limbs from the Blue Forest. I am not a great digger, but I am a pretty good looker. I found all of these little limbs around holes that others had dug. I polished the ends of the limbs and arranged them in the basket. The secret to getting all the limbs the same height is….. newspaper! Check out the close-up of my limb basket.

Don’t forget to stop in Farson for one of their BIG ice cream cones.

Judi Allison
2nd VP

By the time you read this, the mid-year meeting in Kennewick will be over and we will be looking toward the summer and treasurers to find. I, personally, am looking forward to checking out the Blue Forest area at the Tri-Federation field trip the end of May. I have never been there, so that will be an adventure in itself. The addition of the trip being a get together by a group of rockhounds adds to the pleasure. One can almost go away from such an event skunked as still be completely satisfied with the experience. Please note that I did say “almost”, as I certainly hope I am not the one in that category.

Thanks to Doug True and everyone else who is working hard to put this experience together for us. That is just one more of the benefits of belonging to the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. So, get out there and enjoy everything there is to be offered, shows, meetings, field trips and workshops. Get started on a great rockhound summer!

Hermina Kolski

Remember to collect those stamps for Cancer research. Ask your friends and neighbors. Leave at least ½ inch all the way around up to 2 inches. The company that buys them pays by the pound. Please do not allow someone else to go through them and remove the commemorative stamps – they are the ones the collectors really want most of all. Save even the Forever stamps. Give them to your Federation Director or Delegate and they will get them to the Federation. Thanks.

Dee Holland for Rocky McCall

Last year at the NFMS/AFMS combined show in Billings, Montana, the competitive exhibits reached an all time high of 38 for recent years. We probably won't reach that mark this year in September but we'd like to see a good showing.

One last reminder, for those of you who might be interested in competing at the AFMS level, you can apply for the CFMS/AFMS show in La Habra in June. Time is running out to get your application in. Deadline is June 1st. Go to amfed.org for and an application and also their pre-registration forms. A chance to exhibit at the AFMS level won't come along for a number of years because next year 2011 will be in Syracuse, New York, followed by 2012 somewhere in the Midwest and in 2013 somewhere in the Southeast.

Please begin now, to put your competitive exhibit together. It isn't too early.

beauholland@centurytel.net or P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468
ARE YOU RECEIVING YOUR COPY OF "THE NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER"?
Lyle Vogelpohl
NFMS Treasurer

Now that your club has paid your dues to the NFMS, you should be receiving "The NFMS Newsletter". If you are not ... notify the person in your club who informs the NFMS of changes.

Your club should be notifying two (2) NFMS Chairs of changes in your club membership during the year. This goes for deletions as well as additions to your club's membership list. The list to the NFMS Treasurer with the dues at the beginning of the year was based upon the clubs' members as of the last day of December 2009. The Treasurer forwards these lists to the Circulation and Directory Chairs.

By now you have probably dropped those who did not renew ... and hopefully you have been adding new members. You do not pay NFMS dues on the new members until the annual dues payment at the end of December 2010.

1. Notify the NFMS Newsletter Circulation Chair of additions and deletions by contacting:
Tom Burchard at Roxhund@aol.com OR send changes to him at 875 E 4500 S, South Ogden, UT 84403

2. Notify the NFMS Directory Chair of additions and deletions by contacting
Audrey Vogelpohl at nfmsdirectory@comcast.net OR send changes to her at 8810 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126

AND a reminder that individual members (adults and juniors) are only eligible for NFMS and AFMS awards and trophies IF they are listed in the NFMS Directory, OR are new club members since December 31, 2009.

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We are still in need of a Juniors’ Chairperson!
Please contact Evelyn Cataldo
ecataldo@cbtabs.com

From the Editor’s Rockpile
By Beth Heesacker

We just returned from the NFMS Mid-Year Meeting. Many thanks to the Lakeside Club in Kennewick, Washington for hosting the meeting. Lots of new and “old” faces.

Judi Allison, 2nd VP, introduced the Delegates and Directors at the meeting by having them tell a bit about how they got into rockhounding. The stories were very interesting and funny. Some found out that putting the rock in their pockets was less expensive than replacing the windows in the neighbor’s houses after throwing it. Others married into the hobby or inherited it from their parents. Each one of us has a story to tell.

My story is that my parents were rockhounds. Not in a big sense, just a couple of boxes of rocks in the back yard. Paul, my husband, rockhounded in his teen years with his brothers and some friends. It wasn’t until just a few years ago we joined a rockhound club and got into the hobby big-time. Now that is our favorite pastime. We have all the saws, grinders, etc. along with piles and piles of rock.

Why not share your story with your friends or your local club newsletter editor?
Fossil Safari 2010
Evan Day

The “FOSSIL SAFARI” side trip from the NFMS petrified wood trip to the Blue Forest is now set for the morning of Memorial Day, Monday May 31, 2010. If you would like to dig fish fossils, meet Evan Day at 0900 at the intersection of US-189 and WY-233 (Lake Viva Naughton Rd) about ¼ mile North of Kemmerer, WY (75 miles Southwest of Farson, WY) We will then caravan to Warfield Fossils quarry about ten miles Northwest. We will pay our fees, sign a release form, get a hammer/chisel/goggles (if you don’t have your own), get an orientation talk, and dig for four hours.

Please look over a flyer from the NFMS mid-year meeting, or go to www.fossilsafari.com for more details and a map. Assuming we have more than ten folks actively digging and paying fees, a group rate of $60.00 per person applies. Kids under 12 who dig actively are ½ price. Little ones who will not be trying for complete fish can pick up fragments from the scrap piles. However, remember that this is indeed a rock quarry and you must watch out for their safety. I strongly recommend going by a Thrift Store (Salvation Army, Goodwill, Deseret Industries, etc) and getting 6-12 sturdy steel table knives to help split the rock. Bring newspaper and boxes or crates to hold your prizes, and some cheap hairspray to protect them from rubbing. Bring lunch, cold drinks, sunscreen, hats and gloves.

Like any other fishing trip: some get a lot of fish, some get a few; but I’ve never seen anyone get “skunked”! Please let Field Trip Chairman Doug True if you will be going with us, or call Evan Day on cellphone 801-391-2912 if deciding at the last minute (we may have to split into morning and afternoon shifts). The road is a bit rough, so pickup trucks are best (we are going to haul rock after all), but passenger cars can get in just fine. There are lots of motels in Kemmerer and Diamondville. There is camping at a couple RV Parks, or dry camping just above the quarry. If you have time, stop in at “Bob’s Rock Shop” if you enter Kemmerer from the South, and a visit to Fossil Butte National Monument West of Kemmerer on US-30 is well worth the time (either before or after digging).

Trip distance: 74.6 miles Time: 1 hrs 39 min
You are at Farson, Sweetwater, WY, USA

1. Go North on US-191 700 feet
2. Turn left onto WY-28 28.8 miles
3. Turn right onto WY-372 (La Barge Rd) 11.6 miles
4. Continue onto WY-372 10.0 miles
5. Turn left onto US-189 24.1 miles
6. You are at Kemmerer, Lincoln, WY, USA

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society Show
Ravalli County Fairgrounds
First Interstate Center
Old Corvallis Road
Hamilton, MT.

Dealers
Silent Auction
Wire Wrapping Demos
Beads

Dave Texler, Paleontologist
Two River Dinosaur Center, with his displays,

Friday, May 15, 10:00 AM to 6:00 Pm
Saturday, May 16, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Ore-Rock-On On DVD NEW Version 5.2
Oregon, Washington, and Idaho Rock Dig Locations DVD
- Use with any internet browser - PC or MAC
- A comprehensive guide for finding lapidary rock, minerals, and fossils
- 36 detailed descriptions of 100s of dig sites that have GOOD material
- 222 USGS 7.5’ topo map 3D images to view & print with digs clearly marked
- 257 1:100,000 scale Overview & Land Ownership maps for each collecting area
- A map of each state points you to maps or detailed info & photos
- Waypoint files to upload to your GPS – Over 2,700 Waypoints
- Google Earth file – view dig sites on color satellite images with roads etc.
- $60 ppd. to Continental US; $65.50 w/ Priority Mail shipping.
- Upgrade from ANY previous version $30.00 (proof req’d.).
- Send Money Order only to Tim Fisher,
- 18403 S Clear Acres Drive, Oregon City OR 97045
- For more info and to purchase the DVD with Paypal, a Debit or Credit Card, please browse to http://OreRockOn.com/CD.htm
AFMS

YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO IT AND HOW IT WORKS

By Lauren Williams

The AFMS Scholarship Foundation is a completely separate organization from the rest of the AFMS. No part of the funds from the AFMS can be used to help or bail out the Scholarship Foundation. No part of the funds from the Scholarship Foundation can be used to help or bail out the AFMS. Or, no funds on either side can be co-mingled. In short, there can be no transference of funds from one organization to the other. The funds are completely separate and must be kept that way. This is why there is always a separate Scholarship meeting immediately following the AFMS Business meeting. However, the AFMS can, when it has the funds, make a donation to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, this is not a loan but a gift just like if you made the donation and the AFMS cannot ask for the money back or call it a loan or bail-out and vice versa!

Each year each regional federation picks an individual to be the Scholarship Awardee of that Federation. The Scholarship Awardee then picks two students working on either their Masters or Doctoral degree in one of the Earth Sciences. These two students then receive a $4,000.00 Scholarship for that year, yes this is a change from the way it has always been. These students can be attending any university any place and is not restricted to the federation’s geographical area that the Awardee is from. This Scholarship cannot be applied for; it is entirely up to the Scholarship Awardee to pick the two students. The students must be working on an advance degree. In this manner each federation receives funds back from the AFMS.

When donating money to either the AFMS or AFMS Scholarship Foundation you now know the difference between the two. Make your choice accordingly, and each has its own ‘restricted’ and ‘unrestricted’ funds, just like your regional federation that you belong to. Make your donation to which ever fund you want.

This ends this series of articles about the AFMS and how it relates to you. I hope it helps you to understand the AFMS and how it relates to the NFMS. If you have any questions about the AFMS or NFMS just ask your club’s Federation Director, which ‘will make their day’!

[My apologies to Lauren for using the wrong picture on past articles he wrote – Editor]
NFMS Nominees for Rock Hound of the Year

CLACKAMETTE GEM & MINERAL CLUB

The Clackamette Gem & Mineral Club of Oregon City, OR is honored to nominate HIDEKI & TOMOKO KIRA as our 2010 Rockhounds of the year. Since joining the club in 2002 the Kira’s have worked tirelessly in support of our club. Hidemi has served as a board member, then as 2nd vice president /field trip chairman, 1st vice president/show chairman and club president for two terms. He also served on the program and membership committees, as well as web master.

Tomoko’s perky personality and hard work has been an inspiration to the club. Additionally, she has served two terms as head of the club’s hostess/sunshine committees.

Their lapidary and business knowledge have been of great value in support of the club’s annual show and sale. They are key figures in the operation of the club and this nomination is a small token of appreciation for all they have done.

Submitted by David Hanna, Federation Director

YAKIMA ROCK and MINERAL CLUB, INC.

On behalf of the YAKIMA ROCK And MINERAL CLUB, INC., of Yakima, WA, I would like to nominate our candidate, HOWARD ALEXANDER, for 2010 Rockhound of The Year. He has occupied positions of elected offices as well as chairing many committees. He is a great asset particularly when it comes to the club’s annual gem show. He participates in all club activities. This individual when called upon to assist a fellow rockhound doesn’t hesitate to provide any help required. Therefore, this individual is most deserving of this special honor and recognition.

Submitted by Howard S. Walter, Jr., Federation Director

CHUGACH GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

The Chugach Gem and Mineral Club of Anchorage, AK are proud to nominate an exceptional couple as our 2010 Rockhound(s) of the Year. For over 15 years, Joe and Bobbie Turnbow have supported our club in all activities, serving as editor and officers, leading special field trips, helping in all aspects of our annual show from setup, display competition and takedown. The Turnbows have opened their lapidary shop monthly for classes and meetings.

They share their expertise of lapidary techniques to formal Earth Science classes. Joe has helped the Natural History Museum identify a large number of specimens when the Museum’s documentation was lost. Joe conducts special geology classes and field trips every year for local organizations, schools, scouts, bead societies, etc.

Joe also took on the project of finishing our “Rockhound Guidebook of Alaska” which had been stalled for several years. When membership wouldn’t finance the publication, he created a partnership between the club and three businesses to spread the cost. Joe and Bobbie work full time ‘day jobs’ plus their rock shop and have no more time than any of us, yet they still find time to devote to the club and are generous with specimen donations to the club and the public.

Submitted by Thomas W. Cooper, Federation Director

Faceting Boot Camp
hosted by John Bailey
Klamath Falls, Oregon
July 8-13, 2010.

An intensive, six-day, beginner-to-intermediate faceting training covering a professional range of subject matter in a professional manner

Details are available at:
www.gemstoneartist.com/bootcamp.asp

I will provide a quantity of rough, my well-known polish, an exclusive 150-page manual and reference with dozens of designs - and a guaranteed good time.

If you have other questions, please ask.

Happy Mother’s Day

Happy Father’s Day
NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT
2010

Here we are looking Spring straight in the face and wondering how we are going to utilize our Spring, Summer and Fall weather to the best advantage. Merlia and I were fortunate enough to spend the winter down South in Quartzsite. We had our share of rain and a tornado touched down in Blythe just 22 miles West of Quartzsite. Other than that it is pretty hard to beat shirt sleeve weather.

It appears that a lot of folks are looking ahead to Fall and the Northwest Rockhound Retreat at Hancock Field Station in Central Oregon. I just got our 50th registration and according to our contract that is the maximum. For those of you who have procrastinated, I will still be taking forms and creating a waiting list. In the past years we have found that a few people have problems arise and they must cancel out. We then use the waiting list to fill out the Retreat to its max. If you are one of those that want in, send in your form but do not send a check with it. If it happens that you are pulled from the waiting list, I will call you and you can then send the check. If you are on the waiting list and do not get called, next year you will be notified before the published notice in the Newsletter so you will have the opportunity to get in before it fills up.

For those of you who have not been able to make the connection with the Retreat yet, it is a wonderful experience and you can’t beat the price. This year we are having Wayne Sukow from the Eastern Federation join us, and he will provide three wonderful evening programs on Agates. He states that one will be on Lake Superior Agates, the second on Iris Agates (He says “it will blow your sox off”) and the third is as of yet undefined. If you want to join this group, fill out the entry form and get on the waiting list for this year, you might still have the chance to get in.

If you have questions about the Retreat, please give me a call or Email and I will try to give you the info. My phone number is 503-666-2905 and my Email is lstilgner1@verizon.net

Lamar Tilgner
IN ALASKA ..........Red Devil Mine is in a remote and isolated area of southwestern Alaska, 250 miles west of Anchorage. Cinnabar was mined here; mercury was extracted from the ore. The mining operation spanned from 1933 until 1971, and produced approximately 35,000 2.5-quart flasks (76 lbs. per flask) of mercury. By the 1990s, the mine was hardly noticeable from the air and consisted of a small clearing and a scattering of building ruins. The mine is accessed from the Kuskokwim River or by aircraft via a gravel airstrip at nearby Red Devil Village.

Less visible, but perhaps more impacting, are the environmental effects the operation left behind after the mine played out. The processing of the ore (cinnabar) and the naturally metal-rich host rock resulted in heavy metals contaminating the soils and adjacent stream sediments with mercury, antimony, arsenic, and lead.

The Red Devil Mine is on federal lands managed by the BLM. The BLM is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to investigate the extent of contamination and conduct the cleanup. The BLM is coordinating with the area's Native corporations and the local community of Red Devil Village to keep all parties informed.

IN IDAHO
BLM Seeks Nominees for Resource Advisory Councils

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Idaho announced today that it is seeking public nominations for 19 open positions on its 4 Resource Advisory Councils, which advise the BLM on public land issues. The BLM will consider the nominations for 45 days after today, when the agency is publishing its formal call for nominations in the Federal Register.

The BLM’s Resource Advisory Councils (RACs), composed of citizens chosen for their expertise in natural resource issues, help the Bureau carry out its stewardship of 253 million acres of public lands. The Bureau, which manages more land than any other Federal agency, has 24 RACs across the West, where most BLM-managed land is located. Each RAC consists of 12 to 15 members with an interest in public land management, including such individuals as conservationists, ranchers, outdoor recreationists, state and local government officials, Tribal officials and academics. The diverse membership of each RAC is aimed at achieving a balanced outlook that the BLM needs for its mission, which is to manage the public lands for multiple uses.

“I value the advice given to the BLM by these citizen-based Resource Advisory Committees, and I know that Interior Secretary Ken Salazar shares my view of their importance,” said BLM Director Bob Abbey. “The people who live, work, and recreate near or on BLM-managed lands deserve a formal voice on public land issues, and their input will enhance our agency’s ability to manage the public lands for multiple uses while conserving resources for future generations.”

Individuals may nominate themselves or others to serve on an advisory council. Nominees, who must be residents of the state or states where the RAC has jurisdiction, will be judged on the basis of their training, education and knowledge of the council’s geographical area. Nominees should also demonstrate a commitment to consensus building and collaborative decision making. All nominations must be accompanied by letters of reference from any represented interests or organizations; a completed background information nomination form; and any other information that speaks to the nominee's qualifications. The nomination form may be downloaded from the web in both DOC and PDF formats.

The RAC positions open in Idaho are in the following categories:

**Category One** – Public land ranchers and representatives of organizations associated with energy and mineral development, the timber industry, transportation or rights-of-way, off-highway vehicle use, and commercial recreation.

**Category Two** – Representatives of nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations, archaeological and historical organizations, dispersed recreation activities, and wild horse and burro organizations.

**Category Three** – Representatives of state, county, or local elected office; representatives and employees of a state agency responsible for the management of natural resources; representatives of Indian Tribes within or adjacent to the area for which the RAC is organized; representatives and employees of academic institutions who are involved in natural sciences; and the public-at-large.

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<th>District</th>
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<td>Twin Falls District</td>
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Nominations should be sent to the respective BLM District Office address below and must be received no later than May 10, 2010:

**Boise District RAC**

MJ Byrne
Boise District Office, BLM
3948 Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705
(208) 384–3393
Mary_J_Byrne@blm.gov

(Continued on next page)
IN MONTANA

USDA FOREST SERVICE IS DEVELOPING A NEW PLANNING RULE

MISSOULA, Mont. – Regional Forester Leslie Weldon has revealed the process by which a new PLANNING RULE is being developed by the US Forest Service.


The planning rule provides the primary framework for individual forests and grasslands to develop amend and revise land management plans. To collaboratively discuss how the new planning rule should be developed and elements that the framework should contain. The Forest Service will also host a national science forum, three national roundtables and eight additional regional roundtables. This provides multiple opportunities for public participation which ties directly to President Obama’s call for open government that is transparent, participatory and collaborative, and illustrates Forest Service commitment to engage the public in the development of a new planning rule.

"We encourage broad public participation in our regional roundtables,” said Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. “Through collaboration we will be able to better address the current and future needs of the National Forest System such as restoration, protecting watersheds, addressing climate change, sustaining local economies, improving collaboration, and working across landscapes.”

Anyone interested in participating in this planning process is encouraged to contacting Larry Lackner at (406) 329-3659. Additional background can be found at http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/projects/planning/. Public involvement on development of the new planning rule will not affect the ongoing forest plan revision efforts in the Northern Region, like those on the Idaho Panhandle and Kootenai National Forests. These revision efforts are moving forward under the 1982 planning rule, which will continue to be used by forests and grasslands to amend plans while a new rule is being developed.

Summaries from discussions in the science forum, national and regional roundtables, along with the individual comments received during the 60-day formal comment period on the Notice of Intent, will be used to develop the proposed rule and a draft environmental impact statement. To encourage widespread participation the Forest Service is using new media tools in conjunction with the public meetings. Please visit http://blogs.usda.gov/usdablogs/planningrule to participate in the planning rule blog and sign up to follow the Forest Service on Twitter at www.twitter.com/forestservice.

IN OREGON……

Resource Councils in Eastern Oregon Need Advisors

PORTLAND – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking applicants for positions on Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) in central and eastern Oregon. These RACs advise and recommend management strategies for federal lands east of the Cascade Range administered by the BLM and the US Forest Service. The John Day-Snake RAC and the Southeast Oregon RAC each have five terms expiring in September. Nominations for these key advisors will be accepted through May 10, 2010. Individuals may nominate themselves or others, and current members whose terms expire this year may be re-nominated. Candidates must reside in the State where the Council has jurisdiction. For a nomination form or additional information, please contact Pam Robbins, Bureau of Land Management, pam.robbins@or.blm.gov, P.O. Box 2965 Portland, Oregon 97208, (503) 808-6306; online at http://www.blm.gov/or/rac/index.php; or your local BLM District Office.

(Continued on next page)
Abbreviations – Have I found a shortcut to a can of worms?

My husband recently asked me a question about an abbreviation he wanted to use in an article he was writing. I thought, “Gee, abbreviations would be a good topic to research and write about for ‘Quick Tips.’” The best thing I can say is: decide on a reasonable style and stick with it.

There are a mountain of different styles to choose from — some for essays, some for technical writing, some for specific subject areas, some for casual writing. The can of worms I discovered is that none of these styles seem to agree on much of anything.

The most helpful information came from an online site for homeschoolers. It gave these basic rules for abbreviation use:

- if you’re unsure about using an abbreviation, spell it out every time you use it (for numbers, I’d stick with full spellings for any number under 10 and use numerals for anything with two or more digits)
- check the dictionary – it’s always worth a try
- be consistent with the style you have chosen
- use an abbreviation instead of a contraction (as in “cont.” instead of “cont’d.” for continued)
- if the abbreviation is only a couple of letters shorter than the actual word you might as well use the whole word
- within a reference, use periods with the abbreviations (Vol., 5th ed., p. 41)

The articles we write for our bulletins sometimes need units of measure. The numerical part is written with numerals, there is a space between the numeric part and the units, and there is no period after the abbreviation for the units, except when it is in. for inches (to distinguish from the preposition, “in”). Samples: 35 in., 18 g, 79 km

Numbers that should always be written with numerals, not words are: dates, addresses, percentages, fractions and decimals, scores, exact amounts of money, and time of day.

There are some words that we should NOT abbreviate as we are writing: short forms of words (thru, nite – too casual), days of the week, months of the year, people’s names (use Charles, not Chas.), and states’ names (use Oklahoma, not OK or Okla.).

Then there are the acronyms. A true acronym is formed by taking the first letter of each word in a phrase and using those initials to form a word that can be pronounced.

If the acronym forms a proper noun (NASA, NAFTA, AIDS) the letters are all capitalized, and there are no periods. If initials form a phrase (a.k.a., e.g., i.e.) they are written in small case letters and include the first letter of each word in a phrase and using those initials to form a word that can be pronounced.

If you have questions or comments, please use the below info.

Law Enforcement Program relies heavily on feedback from the public. If you have questions or comments, please use the below info.

DNR Law Enforcement Regions

Northeast Region (Colville) 509-684-7474
Pacific Cascades Region (Castle Rock) 360-577-2025
Northwest Region (Sedro Woolley) 360-856-3500
Southeast Region (Ellensburg) 509-925-8510
Olympic Region (Forks) 360-374-2800
South Puget Sound (Enumclaw) 360-825-1631

Public Lands Update (Cont.)

The US Forest Service is undertaking a collaborative process to develop a proposed, new Planning Rule to address current and future needs of the 155 national forests and 20 grasslands in the National Forest System. The proposed Planning Rule will provide the framework for individual forests and grasslands to use in developing, amending and revising land management plans. The desired outcome for this collaborative, rule-making process is to create a new Planning Rule that is successful, practical, and supported by the public. The rule must also meet the requirements of the National Forest Management Act of 1976. The Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to develop the new Planning Rule.

"Our National Forests and Grasslands are great natural treasures that we must conserve and restore for the benefit of future generations," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "Developing a new planning rule provides the opportunity to manage national forests and grasslands for the benefit of water resources, the climate and local communities." Of course there was no mention of recreational opportunities in his statement.

To have your voice heard follow the link http://fs.usda.gov/planningrule

When you read this AFMS judges will be in full swing, reading and judging entries for the 2010 AFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest. When I have received the results, I will send postcards to the top 10 winners in each category. See you at the CFMS/AFMS Show and Convention in California in June!
## Gem and Mineral Show Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Club/Show Name</th>
<th>Show Location</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 1-2</td>
<td>West Seattle Rock Club</td>
<td>44th Annual Gem &amp; Mineral Show</td>
<td>Rachel Miller, <a href="mailto:westseattlerocks@hotmail.com">westseattlerocks@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>4736 40th Ave SW, Seattle, WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8 – 9</td>
<td>Bozeman Gem &amp; Mineral Club</td>
<td>Gallatin County Fair Grounds</td>
<td>Dan Carter, 406 586 4552</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Montana’s Treasures”</td>
<td>“Black &amp; Tamarack”</td>
<td>Sally Griffin, 406 451 4248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Exit I-90 @ N. 7th Street), Bozeman, MT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gribin830@yahoo.net">gribin830@yahoo.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15 – 16</td>
<td>Hatrockhounds Gem &amp; Mineral</td>
<td>Hermiston Conference Center</td>
<td>Mike Filarski, (541) 922 5091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Society</td>
<td>4155 Highway 395, Hermiston, OR 97838</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stonzeman01@netscape.net">stonzeman01@netscape.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15 - 16</td>
<td>Bitterroot Gem and Mineral</td>
<td>Ravalli County Fairgrounds, First Interstate Cir,</td>
<td>Steve Vieth, (406) 369-5489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Show</td>
<td>100 Old Corvallis Road, Hamilton, MT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:viethsteve88@gmail.com">viethsteve88@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 4 - 6</td>
<td>Puyallup Valley Gem &amp; Mineral Club</td>
<td>112th Street &amp; 86th Avenue East, Puyallup, WA</td>
<td>Mark Baumann, (253) 756-8636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:djmbmb@earthlink.net">djmbmb@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 5 – 6</td>
<td>North Idaho Mineral Club</td>
<td>Kootenai Co. Fairgrounds and Event Center</td>
<td>Warren Price, PO Box 1643</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10-5</td>
<td>Kathleen and Gov't Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID</td>
<td>Hayden ID 83835, <a href="mailto:genuniegems@gmail.com">genuniegems@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 18 - 20</td>
<td>Oregon Coast Agate Club</td>
<td>Yaquina View Elementary School - Multipurpose Room,</td>
<td>K. Myers 541 265 2514</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rock’n the Coast</td>
<td>351 SE Harney Street Newport, OR 97365</td>
<td>PO Box 293, Newport OR 97365</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 19 - 20</td>
<td>Butte Mineral &amp; Gem Club</td>
<td>Civic Center Annex</td>
<td>Pete Knudsen, 406 496 4395,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Show</td>
<td>1340 Harrison Avenue (exit 127 North)</td>
<td>PO Box 4492, Butte, MT 97072</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 16 - 18</td>
<td>Lower Umpqua Gem &amp; Lapidary</td>
<td>Reedsport community building 415 Winchester Ave,</td>
<td>Bill Hendrickson 541-271-6816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Treasures Of The Earth”</td>
<td>Reedsport, OR</td>
<td>or <a href="mailto:bamoonman7@msn.com">bamoonman7@msn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 24 – 25</td>
<td>Washington Agate and Mineral</td>
<td>Parkside Elementary School, Street Stage South</td>
<td>Contact: Daniel De Boer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Society</td>
<td>Tenino WA Exit 88 from I-5, go east approx 8 miles.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:keylock1@live.com">keylock1@live.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WAMS and the Tenino Rock</td>
<td>Turn right on Stage Street South. The school is on</td>
<td>5107 Brenner Dr. NW</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cruisers</td>
<td>the left.</td>
<td>Olympia WA 98502</td>
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<td>Rock &amp; Gem Rendez-Vous</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 6 – 8</td>
<td>Far West Lapidary and Gem</td>
<td>Far West Lapidary and Gem Society</td>
<td>Rocky Priddle 541-572-8301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Society</td>
<td>Rock &amp; Gem Society</td>
<td>PO Box 251, Coos Bay OR 97420</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 13 - 15</td>
<td>Port Townsend Rock Club</td>
<td>Jefferson County Fairgrounds</td>
<td>Tom Madsen, 2915 SR20</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10-9</td>
<td>4907 Landsle Street Port Townsend WA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:porttowndsen@olympen.com">porttowndsen@olympen.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 21 - 22</td>
<td>Nisqually Valley Rockhound</td>
<td>Yelm City Park, Highway 507</td>
<td>Tim Howard, 17240 11th Ave SE,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Society</td>
<td>Yelm, WA, (Exit 111 off I-5/No Marvin Road)</td>
<td>Yelm WA 98597, 360-458-7841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Marcus Whitman Gem &amp;</td>
<td>Walla Walla County Fair Ground 9th Street &amp;</td>
<td>Warren Rood 509 522 2330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mineral &amp; Mineral Society</td>
<td>Orchard, Community Center Walla Walla WA 99362</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wrood@coffeycomm.com">wrood@coffeycomm.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 17 - 19</td>
<td>Far West Lapidary and Gem</td>
<td>4th Street Parking Lot (across from Outdoor-In)</td>
<td>Rocky Priddle 541-572-8301</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Coast Rock &amp; Gem</td>
<td>Downtown Coos Bay, OR</td>
<td>PO Box 251, Coos Bay OR 97420</td>
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<td>Fest 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 18 - 19</td>
<td>Southern Washington</td>
<td>Castle Rock Fairgrounds</td>
<td>Fran Wolff, PO Box 1492, Kalama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mineralological Society</td>
<td>Castle Rock, WA 98611</td>
<td>WA 98625, 360-560-2987,</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:fwolf@comcast.net">fwolf@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 25-26</td>
<td>Hellgate Mineral Society</td>
<td>Ruby’s Reserve Street Inn</td>
<td>Bob Riggs, 14 Holiday Lane,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Big Sky Rocks</td>
<td>4825 North Reserve Street Missoula, MT 59808</td>
<td>Missoula MT 59801, 406-543-3667</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 16 - 17</td>
<td>Hells Canyon Gem</td>
<td>Nez Perce County Fair Grounds</td>
<td>Rick Westerholm 208-746-2101</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gifts From The Earth</td>
<td>1229 Burrell Avenue, Lewiston ID 83501</td>
<td>POBox 365, Lewiston ID 83501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 23-24</td>
<td>Clackamette Mineral and Gem</td>
<td>Clackamas County Fairgrounds</td>
<td>Bea Settle 503-631-3128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harvest of Gems in 2010 - 46</td>
<td>Main Pavilion Building, 694 NE 4th Avenue</td>
<td>Rick Mauer 503-691-6395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Gem and Mineral Show</td>
<td>Canby, OR</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tallerricard@juno.com">tallerricard@juno.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 20 &amp; 21</td>
<td>2010 Fall Festival of</td>
<td>The President’s Hall, Kitsap County Fairgrounds</td>
<td>Jim McClure 253-265-3011,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gems</td>
<td>1200 N.W. Fairgrounds Road Bremerton WA 98311</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pogy2@centurytel.net">pogy2@centurytel.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>