
News Release

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For Immediate Release

Ringer Road Recreational Improvements Among National Volunteer Events

Public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Ringer Road area just south of Ellensburg is among a few hundred sites across the country scheduled for volunteer events on National Public Lands Day (NPLD), Saturday September 29. On that day, volunteers will gather at Ringer Road to construct a small fenced parking area and install a bulletin board. Jim Fisher, Field Manager for the Wenatchee BLM office says, "Events like the one at Ringer Road provide Americans a chance to roll up their sleeves and give something back to the community."

Fisher says the seed for public land stewardship dates back about 70 years ago, when President Roosevelt mobilized 3 million people, mostly men, in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to help conserve our natural resources. Among their many accomplishments, the CCC planted more than 3 billion trees, built bridges and 800 state parks, and fought forest fires.

National Public Lands Day, coordinated by the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation (NEETF), began in 1994—just seven years ago, with only 3 sites and 700 volunteers. This year, more than 50,000 men, women and children are expected to participate in volunteer events at 350 sites on National Public Lands Day. They'll be helping to clean up, repair, and maintain public lands. It's their way to say "thank you" to "Roosevelt's Tree Army" by continuing the tradition of public land stewardship.

"Our forests, parks, beaches and recreation areas are national treasures," said Kevin Coyle, president of NEETF. "We should never take them for granted, and we should thank the Civilian Conservation Corps for showing us how to apply that 'can do' spirit to our natural resources." Information on NPLD sites can be obtained at www.npld.com. A complete list of CCC camps and sites is at www.cccalumni.org.

To learn how you can participate in National Public Lands Day activities near Ellensburg on September 29, contact Diane Priebe at the Wenatchee BLM Office, at 509/665-2100.

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