

# THE SCENE



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

NEWS & UPDATES FROM COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA

SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

[www.fs.usda.gov/crgnsa](http://www.fs.usda.gov/crgnsa)

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 19



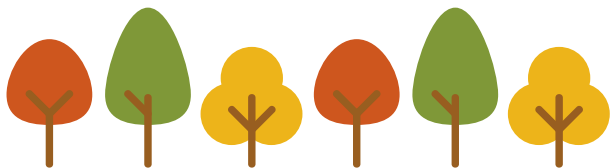
Trail crew members continue improving trail tread on fire-damaged trails in the Mark O. Hatfield Wilderness

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GORGE

### FALL IS PRESCRIBED BURNING SEASON

With fall here, our fire crews hope to get in **prescribed burns** in the eastern Gorge. This controlled, low intensity fire helps manage “fuels” by clearing ground vegetation and accumulated woody debris from the forest understory. Other benefits include restoring **historic landscapes**, improving **wildlife habitat**, reducing **smoke** from future wildfire, recycling **soil nutrients**, and increasing **resiliency** of treated stands to the effects of wildfire.

This year’s focus includes land **east of Bingen/White Salmon** and **west of the Klickitat River** in Washington. Actual ignition day(s) are selected when factors such as humidity, wind speed and direction, temperature and moisture levels are right. **Once date(s) are confirmed**, details will be posted on [facebook.com/crgnsa](https://www.facebook.com/crgnsa) and [www.twitter.com/crgnsa](https://www.twitter.com/crgnsa).



**RUN, FOREST, RUN**

Our field rangers are stoked to be working this weekend with a new group of trail runners called **Trail Sisters**, training them on **Leave No Trace**. To join, look for the group on **Instagram** or **Facebook**.

## CASCADE LOCKS MULTI-USE TRAIL

We’ve been working with the **Port of Cascade Locks** to develop a proposal for a **15-mile, multi-use trail system** near **Cascade Locks**. The proposed system would expand beginner and intermediate mountain biking and equestrian opportunities in the scenic area.

Our recreation folks will provide an update at the **Port of Cascade Locks Commission** meeting on **October 17**. Come have a listen if you are interested in learning more!



Seen this week in the Hatfield wilderness:  
Pacific giant salamander



## trail tales UPDATES & ANECDOTES

Our trail crew happily spread their work across the scenic area's geographical richness this past week: helping our hydrologist with **Best Management Practice Monitoring** along the Starvation Creek Trail, removing a **windfallen tree** on the **Klickitat Trail**, cutting tread on wildfire-damaged trails in the **Hatfield Wilderness**, stabilizing a portion of the **BZ Portage Trail**, critically assessing the integrity of various wooden trail bridges, mapping a proposed re-route, and staunching the cutting of **switchbacks** on mountain-bike trails in the **Coyote Wall** area.

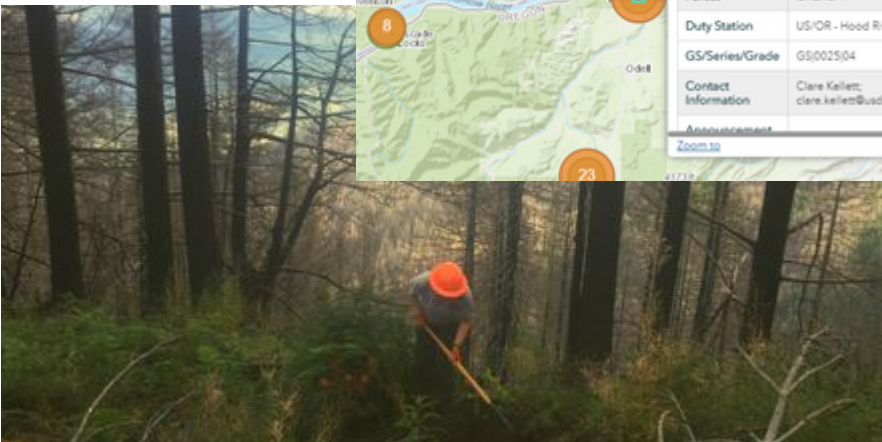
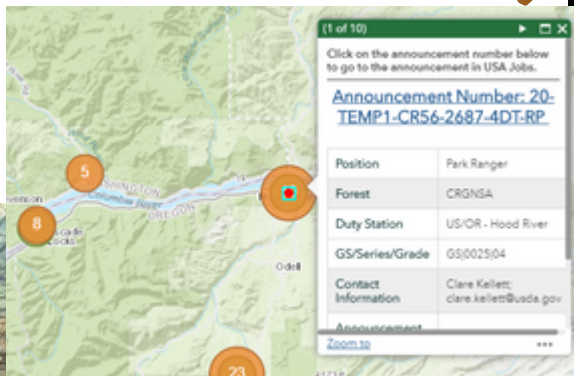
## OFFICE WITH A VIEW

### WORK OUTDOORS WITH THE FOREST SERVICE

The Forest Service is **now accepting applications** for next year's seasonal spring and summer jobs in Oregon and Washington from **September 16–30**. More than 1,000 positions are available in the Pacific Northwest. Apply through [www.USAJOBS.gov](http://www.USAJOBS.gov) with your full application no later than **9 p.m. on September 30** to be considered. Build in enough time to upload and prepare all your documentation!

Here in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, we are hiring **biological, archaeological, and recreation techs, park rangers, fire crew members, a river ranger, visitor information assistant, seasonal maintenance worker, and trail crew** members.

Try visiting the interactive map at [www.fs.usda.gov/main/r6/jobs](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r6/jobs) where you can zoom into the Gorge to see positions in **Hood River, Cascade Locks/Stevenson, and Bridal Veil** (Multnomah Falls). Click those bubbles, then use small arrows in the pop-up box to view all listings before clicking over to the **USAJobs** postings.



Welcome to our office. Apply now to work with us next summer!

## RECREATION CHAPTER

Last week we updated the **Gorge Commission** on our work to review the **Recreation Chapter** of the National Scenic Area's **Management Plan**, as part of the **Gorge 2020** plan review process. We also heard their insights and perspectives on key topics related to how the plan handles recreation.

## TIMELINE

### WINTER 2018 | PUBLIC SCOPING

Public listening sessions held on the plan

### JANUARY 2019 | PUBLIC MEETINGS

Recreation identified as one of the focus topic selected for a "deep dive" into revisions

### SPRING 2019 | TECHNICAL TEAM MEETINGS

Experts evaluated emerging issues against the current plan to frame key considerations

### AUGUST 2019 | STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Recreation managers met to discuss key topics for consideration

### SEPTEMBER 2019 | GORGE COMMISSION MEETING

Last week's updates and discussion

### OCTOBER 22, 2019 | PUBLIC MEETING

Mark your calendar to hear agency updates and share your insights. Location TBA.

