

# THE SCENE



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A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA

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

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Local kids get lessons on River Safety at Water Jam 2019!

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIELD

### WATER JAM 2019 & OTHER HAPPENINGS

This week, USFS connected with local children from White Salmon, Lyle, Goldendale, and Wishram at Spring Creek Fish Hatchery for **Water Jam 2019**. Our river ranger led kids through a river stewardship and safety demo, while field rangers presented on the rain shadow effect and our fish and wildlife biologist educated groups on local fish species.

Last Friday, our heritage manager presented an exhibit on research and field work results exploring the Bridal Veil Lumbering Company at the **8th Annual Archaeology Roadshow** at Portland State University.

Mark your calendars for more upcoming chances to talk with your local CRGNSA rangers at these exciting events:

**JUNE 6 | S.T.E.M. Fair** Downtown Hood River - 5:00 to 7:00 PM

**JUNE 8 | National Get Outdoors Day** Fort Vancouver - 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**DON'T FORGET!** It is illegal to pick wildflowers within the National Scenic Area, please leave them for others to enjoy.

### WATERJAM: BY THE NUMBERS

8 Agencies

190 Local Students

### DOG MOUNTAIN WILDFLOWER WATCH

Balsomroot blooms are slowing down for the season but Indian Paintbrush is out and looking spectacular



# Feature Story

## EAGLE CREEK RESTROOM RENOVATION

Located within the **Historic Columbia River Highway National Historic Landmark**, our very own **Eagle Creek Campground** was the first modern-era, developed Forest Service campground in the United States. This year, campers will find a new restroom constructed during the closure last year.

The **new vault toilet restroom** replaces a 1970s-era restroom that closed in September 2016 due to a failing septic system. The building maintains a historic appearance with a gabled entrance, covered walkways, rough-sawn lumber, and local basalt fascia on pillars and lower walls. It also improves accessibility, minimizes ground disturbance, and will reduce maintenance costs. The project was funded by **USFS recreation fees**.



### READY, SET, GORGE!

Our partner website is useful for planning your Gorge adventures. Visit: [ReadySetGorge.com](https://www.ReadySetGorge.com)

## trail tales

### UPDATES & ANECDOTES

Not all trailwork in the busy National Scenic Area involves rebuilding historic stone walls or cross-cutting old growth trees in remote wilderness. Sections of the **Gorge 400 Trail** system run parallel to (and approximately 400 feet above) the Columbia River for 35 miles, situated a mere 50 feet above Interstate 84. Many sections were burned in the Eagle Creek Fire, so rockfall -- both natural and human-caused -- pose particular risks to public safety.

This week our crew worked towards repairing the **closed sections between Cascade Locks and Eagle Creek Campground** by clearing windfalls, "brushing" encroaching vegetation, and benching trail tread. Despite the close proximity of a major national freeway, a profusion of wildflowers were seen blooming trailside, and an **American pika's** call was heard from a nearby talus pile.

