

THE SCENE



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NEWS & UPDATES FROM COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA

JANUARY 27, 2020

www.fs.usda.gov/crgnsa

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Snowy gorge views from Cape Horn

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIELD

RECREATION UPDATES

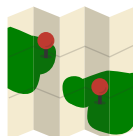
It's breeding and nesting time for Peregrine Falcons! We'll be closing the lower portion of Cape Horn Trail from February 1 to July 15 to protect nesting Peregrines along this prime area of cliff habitat. Each year, we work with volunteers to monitor the nesting activities here. Please do your part to help the birds by steering clear of the closed area.

In response to the wildfires in Australia, the Forest Service sent 87 personnel to combat bushfires this month, including CRGNSA's Fire Management Officer. The US, Australia, and New Zealand have been exchanging fire assistance for more than 15 years.

DID YOU KNOW? The online National Forest Map Store has **CLOSED**.

You can purchase National Forest maps at:

- USGS Map Store (online)
- Discover Your Northwest (online)
- Forest Service Offices



EVERY KID OUTDOORS BY THE NUMBERS

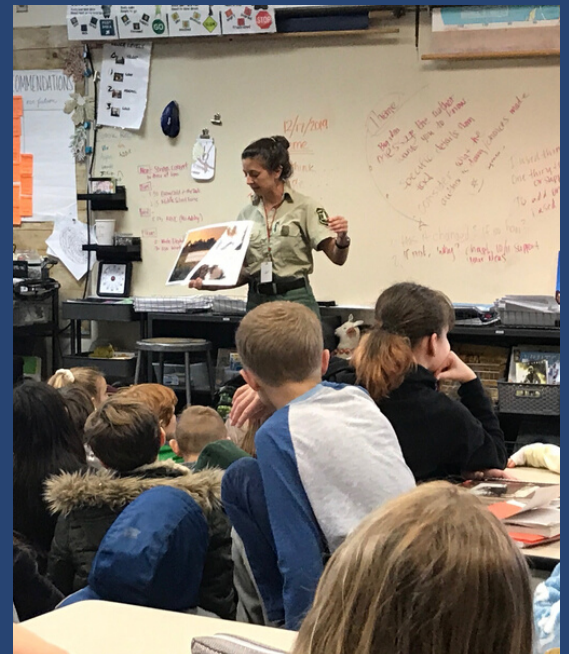
The Every Kid Outdoors program is a nationwide call to action to build the next generation of outdoor stewards through free access to federal public lands. Each year, rangers visit fourth grade classrooms in the Gorge to distribute passes. To learn more visit EveryKidOutdoors.gov

THIS YEAR WE VISITED....

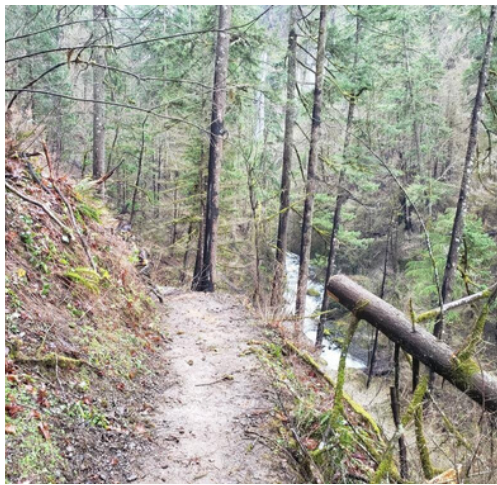
11 SCHOOLS

25 CLASSROOMS

600 FOURTH GRADERS



Ranger Alyssa presents to Corbett Elementary fourth graders



Wahclella Trail post log removal

Thank you to volunteers & visitors for reporting an 18-inch thick tree across Wahclella Trail on New Years Day! We removed the tree so the trail is clear again at the moment. This is a good chance for a few reminders:

- ✓ Hikers are always welcome to report downed trees directly to the US Forest Service by calling 541-308-1700.
- ✓ That said, we run on a skeleton crew in winter so response times are generally slow and most trails won't be logged out until spring. Come prepared for rugged winter conditions and hard slogs.
- ✓ Hikers on Wahclella have been reporting hearing trees fall nearby. That is exactly what we'd expect in the burned area during periods of high winds and heavy rain, so please avoid hiking in those conditions for your safety.

SPOTLIGHT: SANDY RIVER DELTA

Starting January 21, Sandy River Delta became a fee site. This 1,500-acre natural area provides public access to a rare tract of "river bottomland" habitat where the Sandy River meets the Columbia River that was protected when the U.S. Forest Service acquired it in 1991. Dubbed "Thousand Acres" by locals, the delta was historically a flood-tolerant hardwood forest made up of cottonwood, ash, alder, willows, and dogwood. It was used by hunters, gatherers, and fishers, and described by the Lewis and Clark 'Corps of Discovery' expedition. During the nineteenth century, the delta became a ranchland, then housed an aluminum factory during World War II.

The Forest Service management plan for the Sandy River Delta, finalized in 1996, took a balanced approach to protecting and restoring scenic, cultural, and natural resources while developing recreation opportunities. The Forest Service worked for decades with partners to develop trails and restore the site's ecology. Restoration efforts have enhanced habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife species, while preserving the viewshed. In 2013, an old dike was removed to restore the river's historic main channel, improving habitat for salmon, steelhead, and bass.

As you explore the site's trails, be sure to follow Confluence Trail to discover the bird blind designed by Maya Lin to commemorate species documented by Lewis and Clark!

Q A Fees at Sandy River Delta

"How much is the fee?"

\$5 per vehicle per day

"How do I pay?"

Buy a digital day pass at [RECREATION.gov](https://www.recreation.gov)
OR from local vendors (nearest is Plaid Pantry in Troutdale)
No cash accepted on-site

"What passes are accepted?"

Annual & Day Northwest Forest Pass
Digital Day Northwest Forest Pass
"America the Beautiful" Passes
(all versions, including Annual, Senior, Military, & Access)
Golden Age/ Golden Access no longer sold but still accepted



Dogs enjoying the wide open spaces of Sandy River Delta