

THE SCENE



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NEWS & UPDATES FROM COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA

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www.fs.usda.gov/crgnsa

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UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

What a busy month it's been! We'd like to highlight just a few activities staff have been working on.

- With the waterfall corridor section of the Historic Columbia River Highway closed, staff have been assisting law enforcement to patrol those closure areas.
- We've started using a new disinfection protocol to keep our staff safe while they clean and restock public bathrooms. We've been using a fogger machine with vital oxide disinfectant. It has been working great!
- Recreation staff have been hard at work mowing our grassy areas and painting the inside of the Eagle Creek Overlook building.
- We are also working to install new informational kiosks at Catherine Creek. They are almost done!
- We've been working the lower section of Cape Horn trail system to re-open after the annual Peregrine Falcon closure, Washington Trails Association has helped tremendously with this work, including re-routing part of the trail!

Recreate Responsibly

Plan Before You Go

1. Check if the area you want to visit is open, visit ReadySetGorge.com
2. Have a backup plan in case you arrive and it's crowded
3. Bring your 10 essentials for hiking **plus** a face mask & hand sanitizer
4. Be safe, leave no trace, give others space and have fun!

Osprey

BY THE NUMBERS

Osprey, or fish hawks, are amazing birds of prey! With countless nests along the Columbia River, Osprey are a common feathered sight in the CRGNSA.

264 lb average nest weight

1-4 eggs

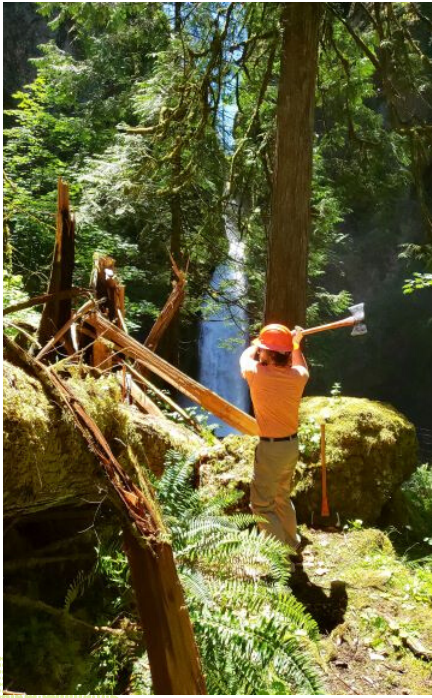
5-5.5 ft wingspan

99% of diet is fish

25 year lifespan

3000+ mile annual migration





Reiley Bieber uses an axe to remove a side-bound cedar in the MOH wilderness

The CRGNSA trail crew has been working hard on trails across the Gorge: brushing the Cape Horn Trail, removing downed trees on the Wahclella Falls trail, and slowly chipping away at the hillsides of rock burying the Oneonta trail.



Matthew Stevens and Casey Andrews use a crosscut felling saw to remove a hazard tree

Our partner organizations have also been hard at work: WTA recently completed a 170ft reroute of the Cape Horn Trail near Pioneer Point, TKO has been clearing encroaching brush atop Angels Rest trail, and the PCTA has been sending out volunteers to scout future work areas



WTA crew posing in front of their re-route

A NEW WAY TO CONNECT WITH THE PUBLIC

LEARN WITH US

VIRTUAL RANGER



Curious about this area?
Want to learn more?

Explore this site with
our U.S. Forest Service
Virtual Ranger!

- Log onto Facebook
- Go to CRGNSA profile
- Look under photos for "Virtual Ranger"
- Find your trail's video
- Play, watch, LEARN!



As we are all learning how to cope in unusual times, person to person interpretation is one thing we don't want to lose! Recently, we've been working to create a collection of remote learning materials that will allow visitors to access short educational videos directly from their cell phones, their own personal **Virtual Ranger**. They can learn all about the site they are visiting, their surroundings, the cultural and natural histories of the Gorge without an in-person ranger.

Our "Virtual Rangers" are actual Forest Service rangers and employees who give short 2-8 minute talks about a range of topics including geology, fire ecology, pacific lampreys, wildflower ID, history of sites, birding and so much more. We are also developing a mini-series that includes field trips with our Biological Technicians, Trail Crew Supervisor and other staff to give the public a behind the scenes look at what the CRGNSA is currently working on!

So far we have over 20 Virtual Ranger videos that will be available to the public on our facebook page very soon!