

THE SCENE



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NEWS & UPDATES FROM COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA

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UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

Now that Labor Day has come and gone and visitation ebbs, it is unfortunately time to think about **saying goodbye to our seasonal employees for the year!** The 2020 developed recreation crew had five superb folks who have cleaned and maintained our recreation day-use areas and trailheads daily and accomplished various larger-scale improvements as time has allowed. **Day-to-day work** included collecting trash/cleaning 14 to 18 restrooms per day, site maintenance, fee collection at five trailheads weekly and maintaining kiosk signage to keep the public informed of regulations and current events. Some **larger-scale projects that were performed** included assisting with painting the Eagle Creek Overlook building, installing brighter lights at Bridge of the Gods, installing hand dryers at Lyle, painting around 200 parking lot lines and 12 large directional arrows and assisting Natural Resources with repairs to a large buck n' rail fence. This is among other things the crew has been asked to take on, including helping out with closure staffing. We are very appreciative of all our seasonals, and hope to see them back next season!

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Fire Information

With an unprecedented 2020 fire season in the Pacific Northwest, ongoing large scale wildland fire and extreme weather patterns, we would like to share a few informational links.

- **Northwest Coordination Center Morning Report**
 - <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/>
- **National Interagency Fire Center National Situation Report**
 - <https://www.nifc.gov/>
- **Incident Information System**
 - <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/>
- **AirNow Air Quality Reports**
 - <https://www.airnow.gov/>

For updates on evacuations, please visit county websites and/or local law enforcement websites or social media. Stay informed and stay safe!

The CRGNSA Trail Crew is beginning to wrap up a successful season. Over the course of the season they built over 1,000 sq. feet of new dry-stacked retaining wall, installed 122 cubic feet of gabion boxes, removed over 70 windfallen logs using both chainsaws and crosscut saws, brushed over 100 miles of trail, and removed 1,000s of cubic yards of rocks, mud, and debris from fire-affected trails. All in all, they are rock stars!



- Approximate linear feet of new, rerouted segment of Horsetail Falls Trail: 700
- Person hours spent rehabilitating a single 2-mile segment of fire-affected trail: 1,029
- Number of boulders demolished by our new Microblaster device: 6
- Approximate individual cases of poison oak: 7
- Wasp stings: 3
- Cases of heat exhaustion: 1
- Approximate pairs of wet socks: 20
- Number of trees or boulders witnessed in the act of falling: 7+
- Number of trees that fell across static worksites during season: 4
- Number of new debris flows that covered segments of trail: 6
- Bear sightings: 3
- Number of crew members named Riley: 3
- Work injuries incurred: 0

HERMAN CREEK VEGETATION TREATMENT

Herman Creek Trailhead and Campground have been closed to undergo vegetation treatment on site. This treatment is to remove Douglas-fir trees infected or highly likely to be infected by laminated root rot. The disease is so named due to the delamination of growth rings (see picture #1 below). Trees infected with laminated root rot are an insidious hazard because often the tree's crown will appear healthy while the roots are rotted away to a point that the slightest wind can tip them over. While the fungus primarily affects the roots, some staining can be evident in the lower portion of the tree stump as a darkened crescent (see picture #2). The only real solution to "cleanse" an infected area is to remove the host trees and keep them out for 50 years or more.

At Herman Creek Campground we are undergoing this process of removal of suspected infected trees. In their place we are leaving as much as possible the trees that are resistant to this disease such as hardwoods like Bigleaf Maple and Ash which are on site. We have developed a planting plan for the area, which will be replanted with native vegetation, including resistant conifers like Western Red Cedar to prevent the spread of the disease.



MULTNOMAH FALLS RESERVATION SYSTEM

Visiting Multnomah Falls looks different this fall!

A reservation ticket is required to enter the site.

Reservations can be made at [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) and search for "Multnomah Falls"

The Benson Bridge spanning the base of Multnomah Falls, the trail to the top of the falls, and the loop trail to Wahkeena Falls remain CLOSED.

