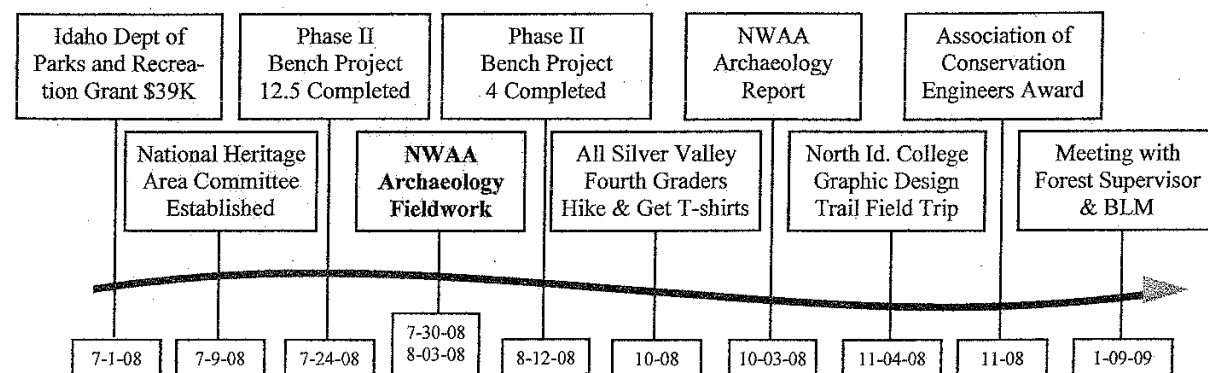
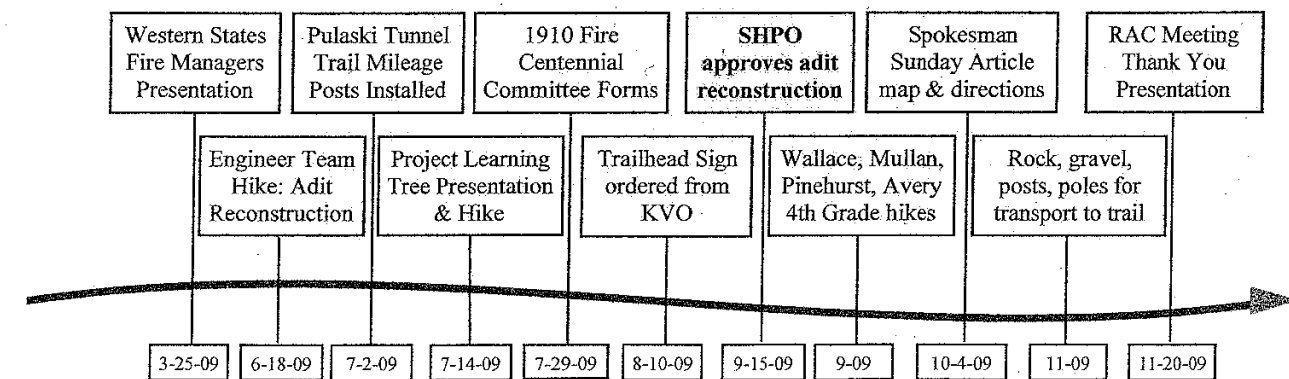


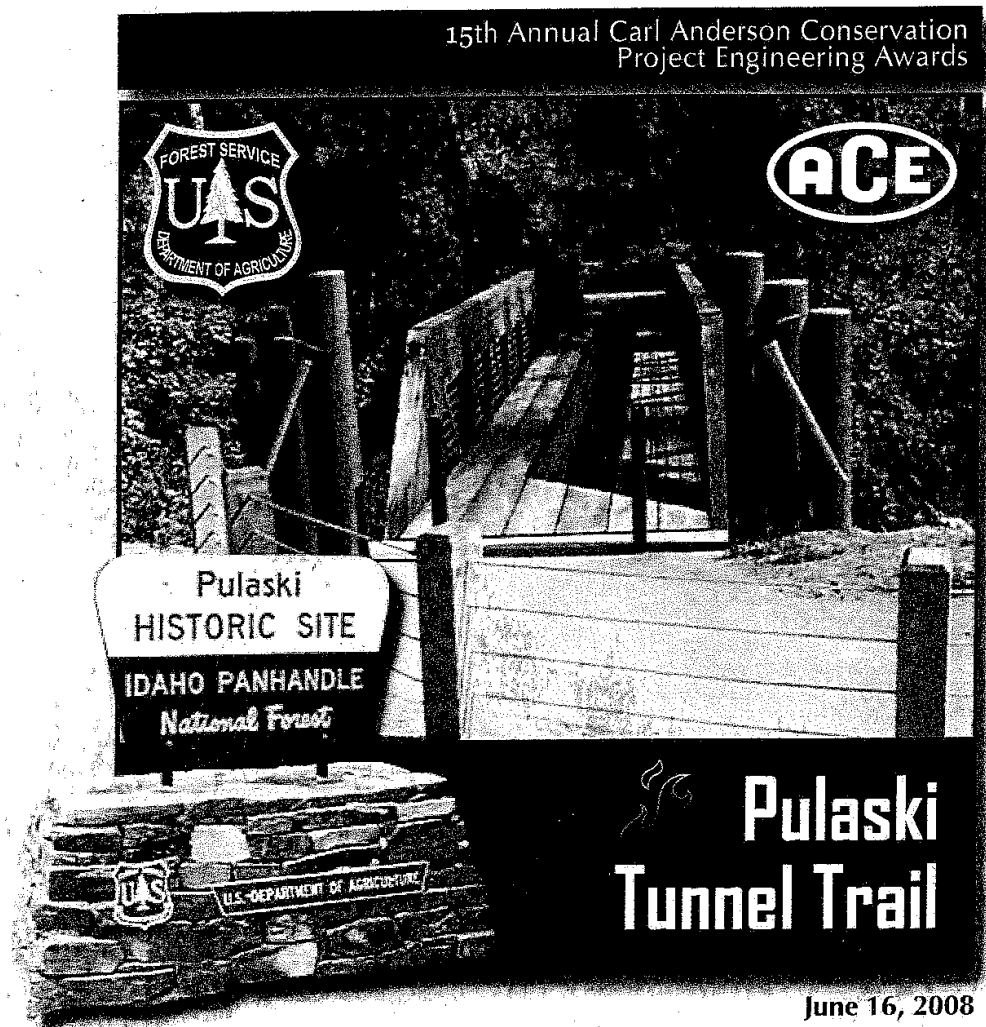
Pulaski Project Accomplishments & Activities Timeline

2008-2009



and News & Media Coverage of the Great Fire of 1910





Project Category C
Special Projects - Historical Preservation

ENGINEERS • PLANNERS • SURVEYORS
 3203 Russell Street/Missoula, MT 59801
 Ph: 406/721-4320 F: 406/549-6371
 www.djanda.com

Djanda, P.C.

1. ORIGINALITY/INNOVATION/NEW APPLICATION OF EXISTING TECHNIQUES.

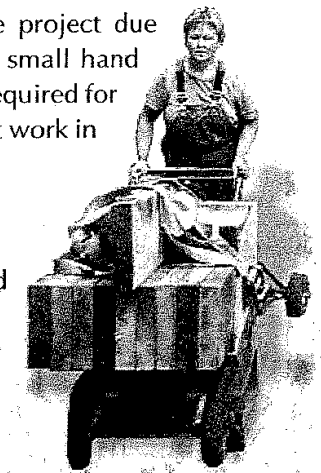
The Pulaski is a tool that most all conservation engineers are familiar with and probably use on a regular basis. The Pulaski trail was a forgotten trail with a single small marker indicating the significant event that occurred where Ed Pulaski saved the lives of 40 men during the 1910 great fires.



Original Monument for Ed Pulaski and the 1910 Wild Fires.

The historic site received limited local use for an event that had significant local importance as well as regional and national recognition. This project focused attention on the person who invented the now indispensable and everyday tool of foresters, firemen and woodsmen throughout North America. This event had never been memorialized and through the efforts of a local interest group, grant funding was obtained and supplemented by the USFS for the re-construction of the trail to this historic landmark.

Unique and specialized construction techniques were applied on the project due to the restricted access and sensitive area. Automated wheelbarrows, small hand rollers, hand mixed concrete, skid steers and hand placed asphalt were required for construction of the project as standard construction equipment would not work in the narrow confines of the trail.



2. TECHNICAL VALUE TO CONSERVATION ENGINEER'S PROFESSION.

This project is a good example of how detailed design and specialized techniques can be utilized to construct a functional facility in difficult and sensitive terrain while amplifying the natural beauty of the surrounding landscape.

3. COMPLEXITY OF PROGRAM

FUNDING

- \$ 296K Congressional Earmark
- \$ 45K RAC Funding
- \$ 60K Idaho Dept. of Parks & Recreation

GRANT

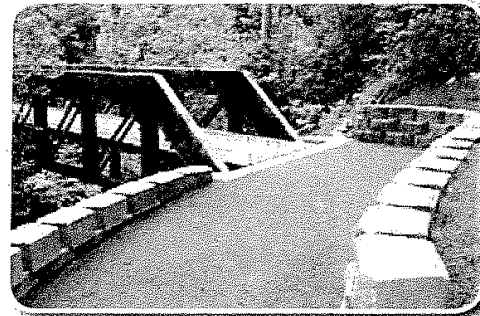
- \$ 60K Centennial Service Funds
- Small Amount of Capital Investment

Due to the different aspects of construction between the ADA accessible section of trail and the non-ADA section of trail, two separate construction firms were contracted for the project. Site access was difficult for both segments of the project and often required innovative techniques or specialized equipment to transport materials and complete the work. The project involved multiple groups with many varied interests and it incorporated a great many of the recommendations and suggestions from the local interest groups.

Pulaski Tunnel Trail

4. MEETING AND EXCEEDING OWNER'S NEEDS.

The designated trailhead originally only provided parking for two cars and would have required backing out into the existing roadway to leave the area. The trailhead was enlarged to provide for an expanded parking lot and restroom facility which significantly improved safety and provided better access. The trail was constructed to meet ADA requirements for the first 500 feet which included a wider bridge that allows access for maintenance equipment as needed. The trail was constructed at a higher standard than originally anticipated and the overall quality of the project elements exceeded the expectations of the owners.



The first 500 feet of the trail are ADA accessible including the Moosman Bridge above.

5. NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS.



Display exhibits.

Renewable resources were utilized wherever possible and included MSE block walls, timber bridges and puncheons (timber walkway). Display exhibits were constructed from timber and the impacts of the trail minimized as much as possible. Low retaining walls were used on the cut side of the trail to avoid large cuts in steep slopes. Approximately 1.25 miles of new trail was constructed to avoid unstable hillsides and hard to maintain steep sections of trail. Small bridges and puncheons were used to cross boggy spring areas and small streams. Large trees were avoided whenever possible.

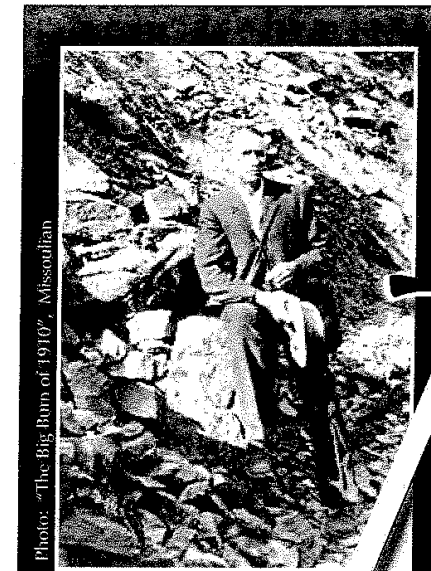


Photo: "The Big Burn of 1910", Missoulian

Edward Pulaski
(1868-1931)

The inventor of the Pulaski and hero after saving 40 men from Northern Idaho's wild fires of 1910.

Ed Pulaski is honored at the US Forest Service Pulaski Historic Site for his heroic actions in the 1910 wildfire near Wallace, Idaho, as well as for the invention of the "Pulaski Tool".

In a recount of Pulaski's story about the fiery August night of 1910, told to his wife, in the *Missoulian*, Pulaski (a ranger for the US Forest Service in Wallace, ID) used his knowledge of fire dynamics and the area to guide his crew of 40 to a nearby mining tunnel, where he ordered his men to lay face down and not get up. He stood at the entrance of the tunnel with a pistol threatening to shoot anyone who tried to run away from the tunnel. After several hours, most had passed out from smoke inhalation, dehydration and pure exhaustion. Once the fire had died down enough to evacuate the tunnel the crew thought Ed had passed away, someone declared, "The boss is dead." and Ed uttered, "The hell he is!" They drug themselves, often without strength to walk, off the mountainside into Wallace, Idaho.

Ed Pulaski felt the tools for fighting wildfires needed some improvement after watching much of Northern Idaho burn up in 1910 as well as some of Idaho's residents. So he went to work on a multifunctional hand tool to aid in fighting fires. In 1911 the "Pulaski Tool" was born.

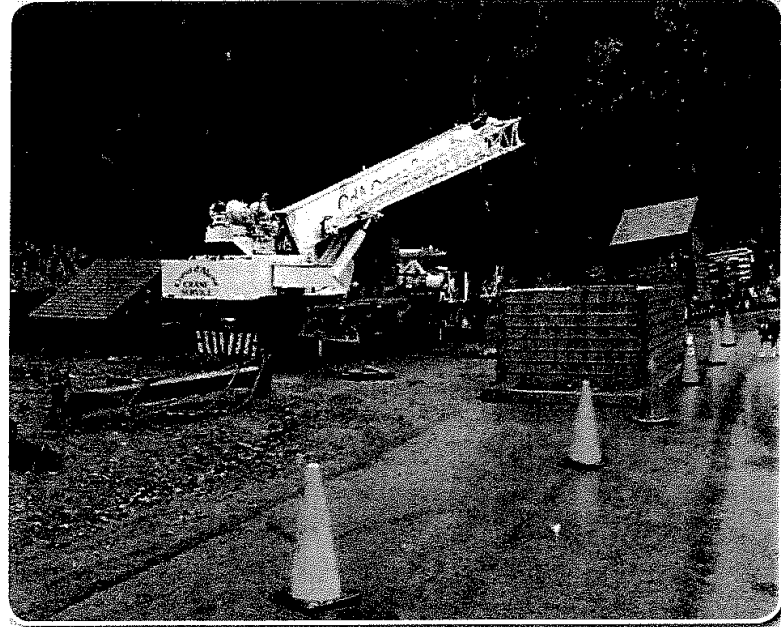
The "Pulaski Tool" is a special hand tool used in wild fire fighting, with a combined axe and mattock on one head, with a rigid handle. It is used to dig soil as well as chop wood, making it an invaluable tool for fighting fires.

Information derived from the *Missoulian* story, *The Big Burn of 1910* and www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pulaski



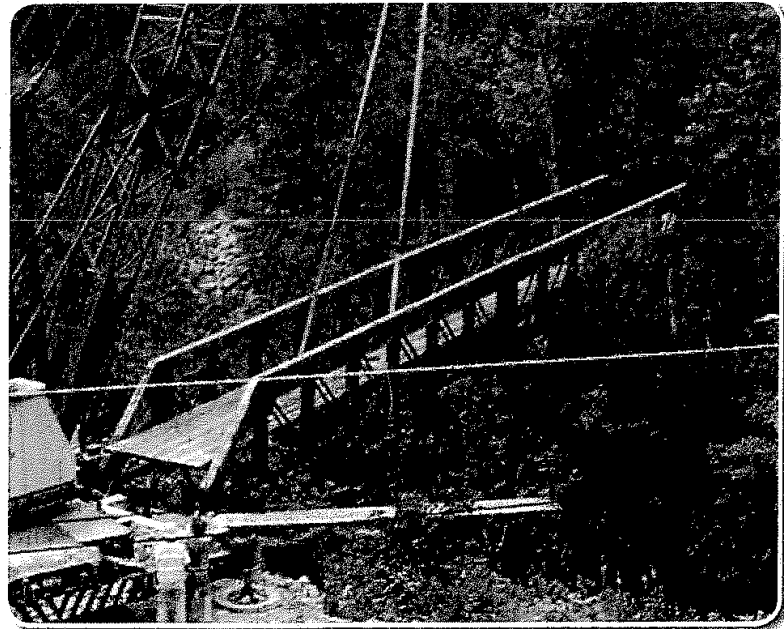
Pulaski

 PROJECT PHOTOS



Installation of the CXT Cascadian Toilet, ADA accessible.

Installation of the ADA accessible Moosman Bridge.



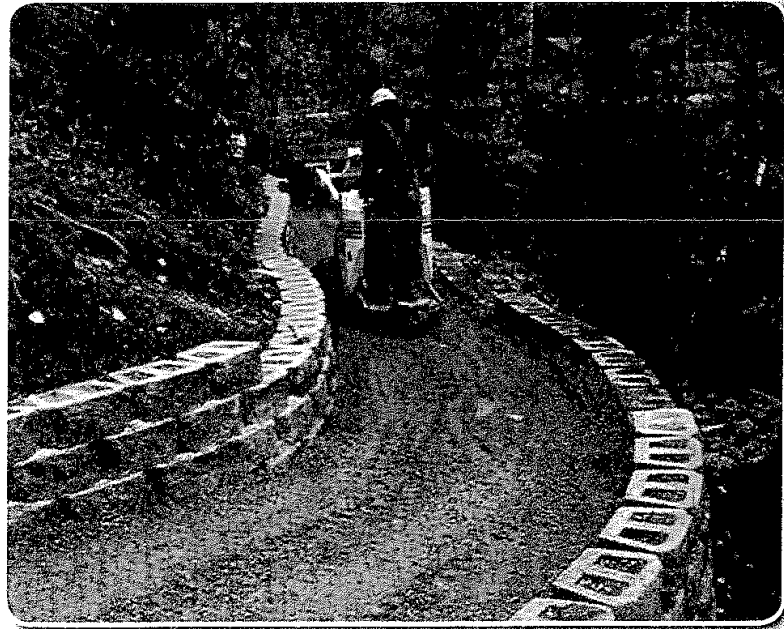
23

 PROJECT PHOTOS



Poured concrete block, the use of the hand mixer was necessary because of the sensitive area.

Spreading gravel on the trail with the automated wheelbarrow.



33

 PROJECT PHOTOS



Setting the 1st Glu-Laminated Stringer with hand cable assembly

Crew using the automated wheelbarrow to install the interpretive signs.



 PROJECT PHOTOS



Coming off the ADA accessible Moosman Bridge onto the trail with MSE block walls.

Treated Timber Bridge, No. 1

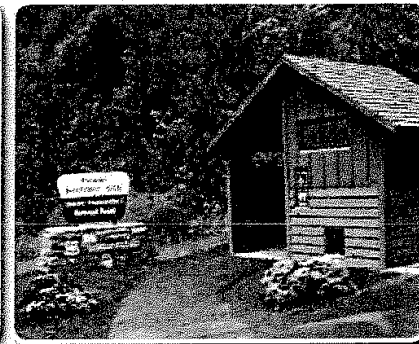
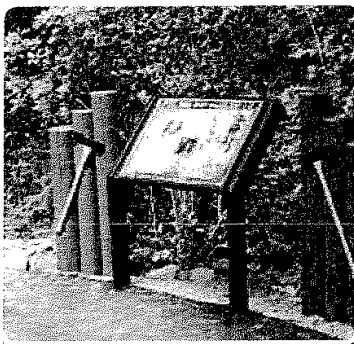


PROJECT PHOTOS



Treated Timber
Trail Bridge
No. 2, West
Fork Placer
Creek.

One of the
interpretive
signs along
the trail.



CXT Cascadian
Toilet, ADA
accessible,
Pulaski
Trailhead



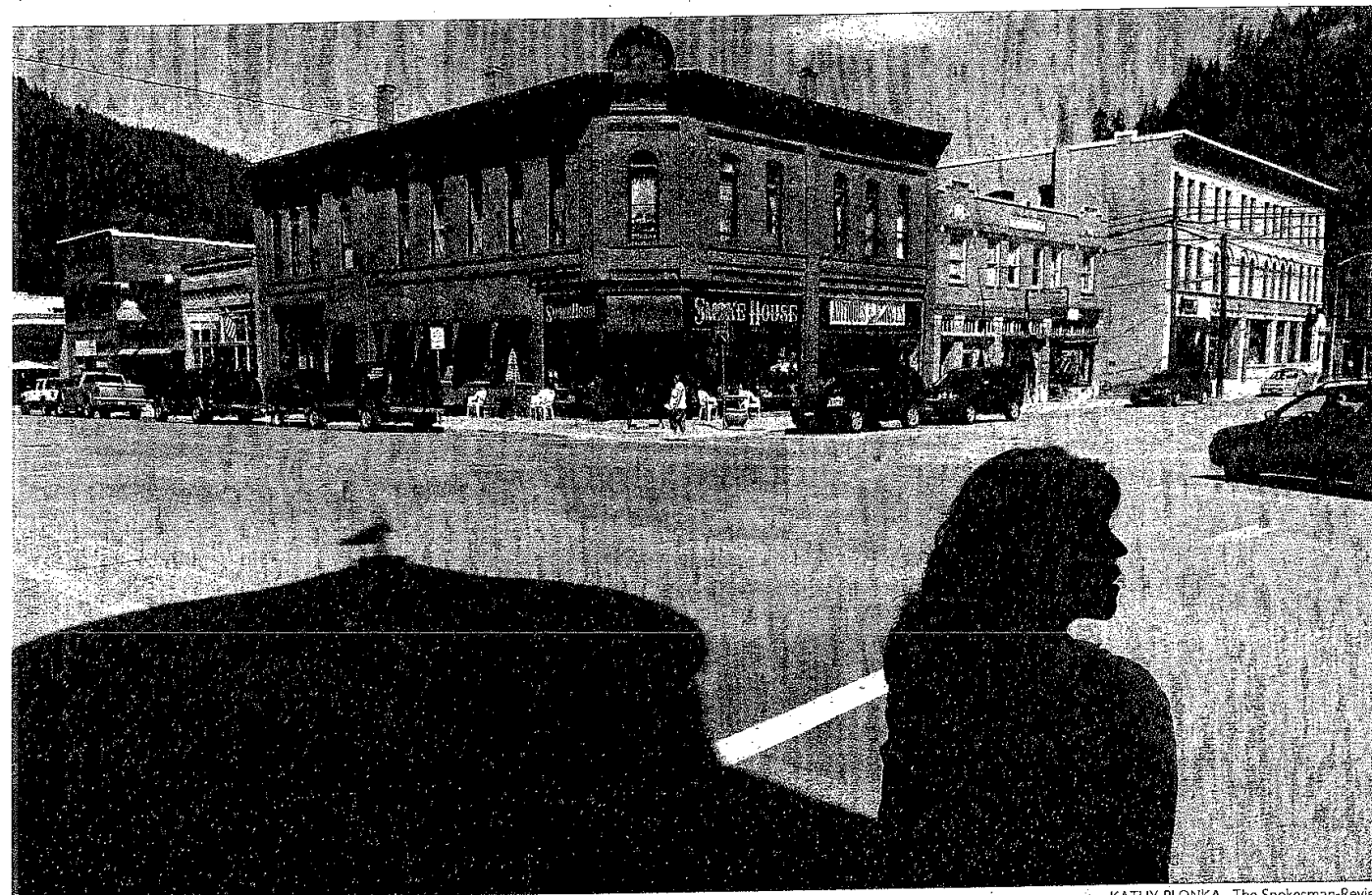
Multiple
parking spots
make it easier
for people
to enjoy the
trailhead.

6

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2008 | SPOKESMANREVIEW.COM

FROM THE HANDLE
News from North Idaho



KATHY PLONKA The Spokesman-Review

oman walks through Wallace last week. An official sign refers to this intersection as "the center of the universe."

Silver Valley seeks distinction

Residents champion effort
to designate region
National Heritage Area

BY TARYN HECKER
Staff writer

Hometown loyalties run deeper than the veins of silver in the hills surrounding Kellogg, Wallace and the small towns of the Silver Valley.

Jim See first noticed it — on the football field and off — when he moved to Wallace in the 1970s.

The towns share a common and colorful history dating back to the 1880s, when gold was discovered on the North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River.

Now supporters like See hope to tap into federal funding and national publicity by having the region named a National Heritage

Meeting

What: National Heritage Area informational meeting

When: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday

Where: Job Service conference room, Wildcat Way, Kellogg

Information: Ron Roizen, (208) 556-1707

Online: www.roizen.com/ron/nha-a.html

Area — the first in the Pacific Northwest.

Champions of the effort to create the Coeur d'Alene Mining District National Heritage Area hope the entire Silver Valley community will support the idea.

"This, I think, would unify the district," said See, who also heads up the Pulaski Project to restore the trail leading to a tunnel where firefighters took shelter from the 1910

fire.

Representatives from the National Park Service will be in Kellogg on Wednesday for presentation on the National Heritage Area program, which was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in 1984.

Nearly 40 National Heritage Areas are sprinkled throughout the country, mostly in the East and Civil War South. According to the National Park Service, those areas "tell nationally important stories about our nation."

Wallace resident Ron Roizen said the Silver Valley meets the definition of a National Heritage Area as well or better than some others that are already on the map.

Roizen built a Web site detailing the history of the Coeur d'Alene Mining District to support the National Heritage Area recognition.

He's part of a committee attempting to gauge community support and determine

See **HERITAGE, A7**

HERITAGE

Continued from A1

benefits the designation would bring in terms of historic preservation and economic development.

The meeting Wednesday is one step in a lengthy process that ultimately would require

an act of Congress to take effect.

Roizen said committee members want to hear from mining, timber and recreation industry representatives, along with chambers of commerce, nonprofits and economic development groups throughout the Silver Valley.

"We're even anxious to have people who

don't want to do it," Roizen said. "We'd like to hear what they have to say. This is a community effort and we need to try and bring them on board."

Reach Reporter Taryn Hecker at (208) 818-0054 or by e-mail at tarynh@spokseman.com.

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

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7-7-08

EDITORIAL

A story, indeed

Our View: Silver Valley's history has much to offer others

The telling of a family's story will vary depending on the storyteller. The black sheep might remember the family as always judgmental. The favored one might remember the family as always encouraging. To understand the truth about a family, you must hear stories from all members — those who gloss over its failings and those who never let them go.

Communities tell their stories, too. In Idaho's Silver Valley, an effort is under way to do just that. The Coeur d'Alene Mining District National Heritage Area committee is working to become a National Heritage Area. To get the federal designation, a region's history must shed light on the country's history. The Silver Valley certainly qualifies.

In the late 1800s, its mines drew speculators and miners from throughout the country. For more than a century, Silver Valley mines produced the metals that paid workers, fed families and built proud towns, including Wallace, Kellogg and Mullan. Its mines produced the metals used in the equipment soldiers took to battle in World War II.

Its mines also polluted soil and air, killed with its fires, laid down toxic waste in waterways, deposited lead in the blood of its children. And dependence on fluctuating metals markets fostered boom-bust cycles much harsher than the region's rugged winters. A story, indeed.

Its current chapter could foster hope for struggling communities. The Silver Valley is regenerating itself as a tourist and recreation destination. The National Heritage Area designation would attract even more visitors — historians, for instance, who would study the community and then take some extra time to ski, hike and mountain bike.

Kudos to the Coeur d'Alene Mining District National Heritage Area committee for listening to all concerns. Some residents

At a glance

- A national heritage area is a place designated by the United States Congress where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources combine to tell stories that are representative of the national experience through the physical features that remain and the traditions that have evolved within them.
- There are 40 national heritage areas under the auspices of the National Park Service. No sites are in Washington or Idaho.
- More information can be found online at www.roizen.com/ron/nha-a.html

still feel anger over the Superfund cleanup, for instance. They worry that the heritage area designation might infringe on private property rights, though it hasn't in other heritage areas. The federal money given to these projects is not substantial, and local residents decide together how their area's story is told. Some have done it through museums and interpretive signs. Silver Valley residents might brainstorm even more creative ways.

"The downside is that whenever you let the federal nose into the tent, you may get more of the camel than you want to," explained Ron Roizen, a prime mover behind the effort. "This is a very individualistic culture. There is a healthy suspicion. Others see it as a blessing."

The skeptics and the boosters need to listen to one another. Then they should work together for this important designation. Explain the Silver Valley's history to the rest of the nation. It's a fascinating story, from all sides.

THE NEWS-PRESS Tuesday, July 8, 2008 3

Pulaski Tunnel Trail receives recreational grant

WALLACE — The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation has awarded a \$39,000 Recreational Trails Program grant to the Pulaski Project for making improvements and remediations to the Pulaski Tunnel Trail. Combined with the Pulaski Project's matching contribution, the overall grant comes to \$59,000 in total available project resources.

This annual competitive grant program accepts proposals from all over Idaho,

which are in turn reviewed and scored by the Idaho Park and Recreation Board.

"Idaho Parks and Rec has been a great supporter of the Pulaski Tunnel Trail project," said Jim See, Pulaski Project president.

"This is the second substantial grant from IDPR awarded to the trail."

The grant funds will be used to make safety improvements along the trail.

"As the trail becomes more well known, we antici-

pate increasing use by fourth grade students, who visit the trail as part of their Idaho history curriculum. Making the trail as safe as possible for these youngsters is an important priority," added See.

Work on the grant's several projects will begin as soon as Forest Service permits for each have been issued. The Forest Service has overall responsibility for the trail.

"We have had an excellent working relationship with the Forest Service. We are also

happy to secure this parks and rec grant to further enhance a great trail," said Ron Roizen, Pulaski Project executive director.

The Pulaski Tunnel Trail, a two-mile hike, interprets the Great Fire of 1910 and the story of "Big Ed" Pulaski's heroic leadership of his fire-fighting crew to the relative safety of what is now known as the Pulaski Tunnel.

The trailhead is located on Moon Pass Road one mile south of Wallace.

Couple gives stock donation to Pulaski Project

By ROBERT DEANE
Staff writer

WALLACE — Timnath, Colo. residents Tim and Sherry Gaines have never been to the Silver Valley or seen the Pulaski Tunnel Trail.

But through her husband's work as Trails Coordinator for the State Forest and State Park in Colorado, and their love of history, they learned about the Pulaski Tunnel Trail Project.

"We got interested in the Pulaski Project from our work on other trail projects," said Sherry Gaines, "and the pulaski is a tool used for trail maintenance."

Her husband, Gaines said, got in touch with Pulaski Project Executive Director Ron Roizen, who, after speaking with Tim, told him about the project's need for donations.

"Ron said they really

needed funds for the project," said Gaines. "The amount they needed, though, was more than we usually donate."

The Gaines have donated money to environmental projects in the past, like the Pulaski project, and saw the opportunity

fair market value," said Gaines, "and it was an asset we had, when we did not have cash available to give them."

Total amount of stock the Gaines donated was 85 shares valued at \$3,880, according to information provided by Roizen.

public donors with the trail being unfinished."

Roizen said it also helps that the funds donated by the Gaines is unrestricted, allowing the funds to be used for multiple purposes.

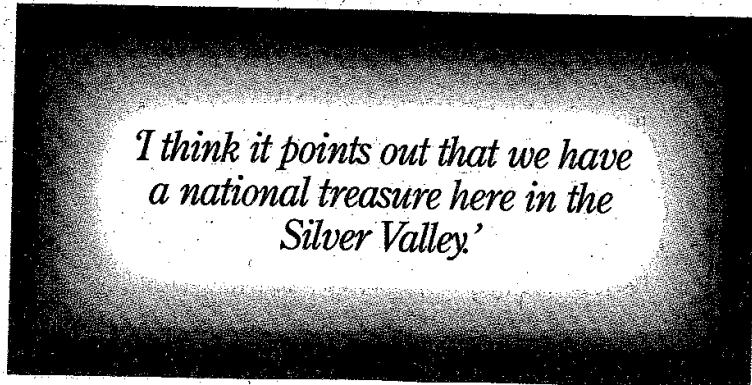
"A private donation does not have the same restrictions as grants do," said Roizen.

The donated funds have not been used yet, but Pulaski Project President Jim See said given their undesignated status, they can be used for things that are not earmarked in the future.

Possible uses for the Gaines' donation, See and Roizen stated, include Pulaski Tunnel Trail t-shirts for fourth-graders from the Silver Valley who will be hiking the trail for their history curriculum.

Funds could also be

See PROJECT page 6



to help.

"Tim really believed in what they were doing," said Gaines, "and he wanted to make a difference."

The Gaines soon decided to donate stock Sherry held with Hewlett-Packard.

"Donating stock was easier, because it has

The donation was made to the Schwab stock account of the Greater Wallace Community Development Corporation (GWCDC), and is intended for the Pulaski Project.

"This donation was a big surprise," said Roizen. "We're always looking for donations from private and

PROJECT

Continued from Page 1

used for the development of the trail's mine portal and outlook area, and other unexpected expenses that may come up.

Informational signs for hikers may also be a future option the funds could be used for, See said.

See added a small portion of the money may go to the start of funds for the fifth

phase of the Pulaski Project. The fifth phase, See said, is a foundation for the maintenance of the trail and its future needs.

"But it will mostly go to projects for the trail," said See.

See agreed with Roizen, though, that the donation was surprising because it was a stock, but more so by its size.

"It was the largest donation we have received from a private individual," said See.

See said the project has received larger grants, but not private donations the size of the one the Gaines made.

"I think it points out that we have a national treasure here in the Silver Valley," said See.

It is a treasure that Gaines said she and her husband plan on visiting in the future.

"It is a goal to some day come up," said Gaines, "It is just a matter of timing."

See said when the Gaines do visit, they will get a guided tour of the project they have helped move another step forward to completion.

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2008

SHOSHONE NEWS-PAPER

SPORTS
PAGE 8

50 CENTS

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Digging deep



ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG STARTED AT PULASKI TUNNEL TRAIL

BY ROBERT DEANE
Staff writer

WALLACE — Archaeologists from Northwest Archaeology Associates, Inc. began work Wednesday on a dig at the terminus of the Pulaski Tunnel Trail.

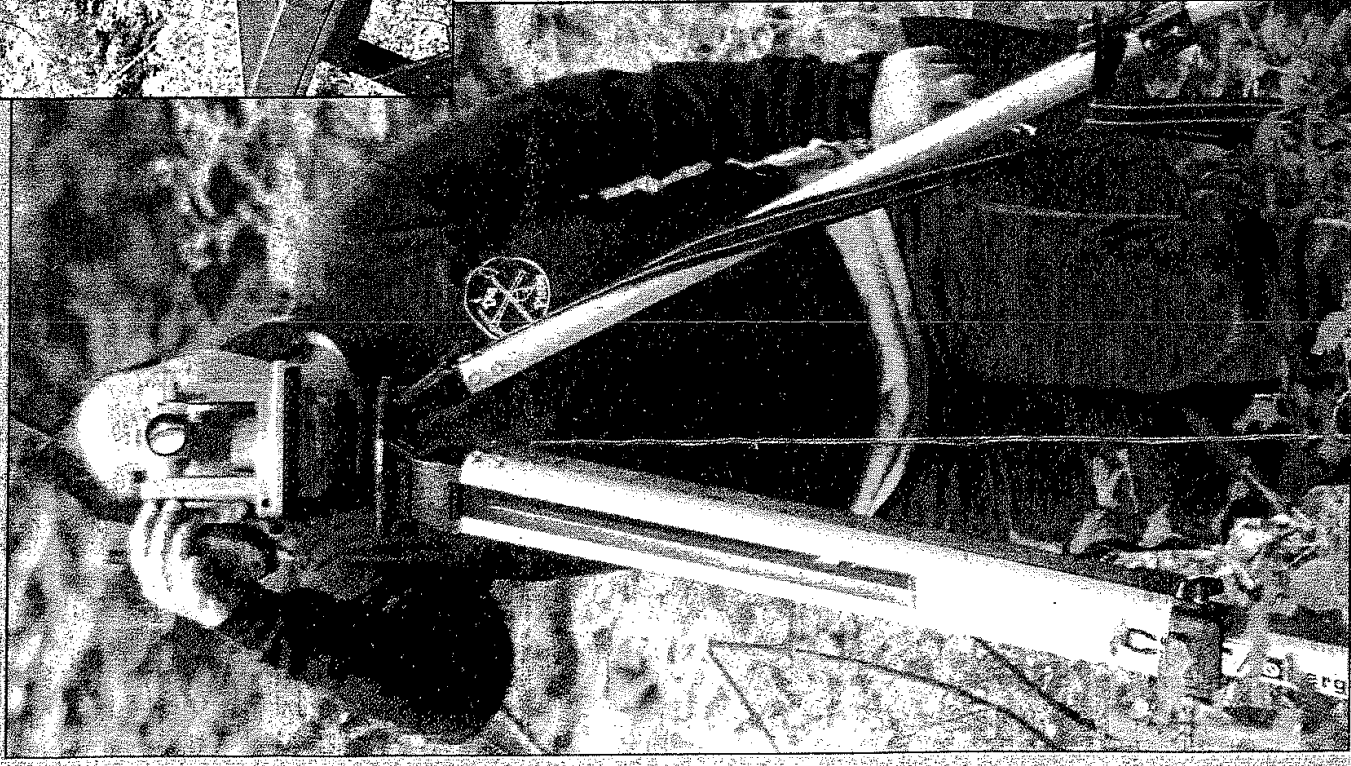
Wednesday was the first of five 10-hour days the group, led by NWAIA Inc. project director Dr. Alicia Valentino and three professional archeologists, will be working, according to Pulaski Project President Jim See.

"We also have four students from Mullan High School who are working as assistants," said See.

The archeologists and their student assistants from Mullan High School started work with a walkthrough of the site, using metal detectors to find metallic items not easily seen and marking hits with pin flags for mapping, according to Stephan Matz, Forest Archaeologist, Idaho Panhandle National Forests.

Valentino said a map was needed to show the distribution of the artifacts on the site.

"The distribution of artifacts is the most important thing because



— Photos by ROBERT DEANE

Top: Mullan High School senior Britany Walsh removes pieces of vegetation from soil in a sifter at the terminus of the Pulaski Tunnel Trail Wednesday afternoon. Walsh and three other Mullan High School students are assisting the Northwest Archaeological Associates, Inc. with a dig at the terminus of the Pulaski Tunnel Trail. Top right: Walsh uses a sifter to sift soil collected at the terminus of

DIG

Continued from Page 1

we didn't have a detailed map of that," said Valentino

See said the goal of the dig is to find any artifacts connected to the events of the August 20 and 21 1910 fire involving Edward C. Pulaski, who the trail is named after, so they are not disturbed by future development of the trail's terminus.

"We want to provide a destination for people on trail by making a viewing area," said See, explaining the future of the terminus.

Before that can happen, See explained, an archaeological dig must be conducted to make sure any artifacts connected to the site are not disturbed. In an e-mail, Pulaski Project Executive Director Ron Roizen said a dig must be conducted, because the trail and mine are on the National Register of Historic Places.

Given those regulations,

Roizen added, NWAA Inc. was also asked to assess if the trail's terminus is where Pulaski saved his men in 1910.

Lorelea Hudson, NWAA Inc. Senior Archaeologist and Project Manager, said the team also wants to bring awareness about what archaeology is and how illegal "treasure hunting" is damaging to the understanding of the trail's history.

"We want people to understand they cannot take things from the area," said Hudson. "It makes it hard for us to understand what was here."

Matz agreed with Hudson, explaining that people who take items from federal land risk both civil and federal penalties that include jail time if caught.

Hudson said she hopes by working with the Pulaski Project and students from Mullan High School, NWAA Inc. can bring awareness that archaeology is not about taking artifacts.

"We can show what archaeology is and that we

do not just collect items," said Hudson, "but tell the history, both ethnically and culturally, of the area and the people who lived here."

Matz agreed, adding that the group hopes by investigating the Pulaski Tunnel Trail's terminus, the group can clear up any questions about the trail and its association with Pulaski that may still exist.

"We are trying to associate the addit (the mine) with Pulaski and the 1910 fire," said Matz, "and mining in the Silver Valley."

Matz said NWAA Inc. will be looking into the site of a cabin near the overlook of the mine tunnel, to see if it was built before or after the 1910 fire.

The archaeologists will also be looking for remnants of items, which will help tell where people who lived there got their goods, which can shed light on the lives of those people.

"It will tells us what life was like pre- or post-1910," said Matz. "That is why it

is important the items stay here." If the artifacts are taken, Matz explained, the story of the area is lost with them.

Matz made it clear, though, that many of the items found will either be put back where they are found, or through agreements with local museums, put on display locally, given the expense of taking artifacts out of the site to a repository.

"We are not artifact hoarders," said Matz. "The vast majority of the items people do not want to see, but they tell us the story of the site."

Matz said excavation of the site would follow after the mapping had been completed.

"We will start excavating the site with small digs, one-by-one meter squares," said Matz, "with the possibility of going to 10 by 10 meter squares."

The dig, conducted by the NWAA, Inc., will continue through Sunday with artifacts submitted to the Idaho Panhandle National Forest Archaeologist.

A summary of the study, according to See, will be prepared within 45 days of the field investigations.

NORTHWEST

SUNDAY
AUGUST 3, 2008
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

"Even the smallest scraps can be important."

Steve Matz
Forest Service archaeologist



Student assistants work with a metal detector Thursday near the Pulaski Tunnel in the Wallace, Idaho, area.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN PLONKA The Spokesman-Review



A piece of cast iron stove in the weeds near the Pulaski Tunnel will be analyzed for the manufacturing date.

Crews digging into history

Pulaski Tunnel a refuge in 1910 fire

BY TARYN HECKER
Staff writer

It's not much to look at. Much of what remains near the mine where forest ranger Edward Pulaski and 45 men holed up during the Great Fire of 1910 could be described as junk - not even worthy of

@ On the Web: View a slideshow of photos from the Pulaski Project at spokesmanreview.com.

See PULASKI, B7

PULASKI

Continued from B1

display in a museum.

But for historians trying to piece together evidence of one of the Silver Valley's most famed tales of survival, bits of broken glass and rusted metal are worth their weight in gold.

"They are the things archaeologists can pull together to tell the story," Forest Service archaeologist Steve Matz said. "Even the smallest scraps can be important."

Archaeologists have spent the past week collecting artifacts and surveying the historical site in preparation for restoration of the tunnel and construction of an observation deck at the end of the two-mile Pulaski Tunnel Trail.

There's little doubt that the tunnel is where Pulaski and his men took refuge as they fled one wildfire and another advanced toward them, but Matz hopes to find more evidence to back up the historical accounts.

Pictures taken after the 1910 fire showed horse tack and boots and tools outside the entrance to the mine.

Archaeologists last week unearthed pieces appearing to be parts of a cart or wheelbarrow, including a wheel and a handle, just outside the mine portal.



BRIAN PLONKA/The Spokesman-Review

Archaeologists and volunteers discuss strategy Thursday for mapping out the work area at the Pulaski Tunnel near Wallace.

Nearby, crews worked to pin down the site of the Nicholson Cabin. They found logs, part of a cast iron stove, pieces of metal and glass, bullet casings, nails and the top from a milk can.

Assisted by four Mullan High students, archaeologists from Seattle's Northwest Archaeology Associates Inc. painstakingly excavated portions of the site in layers 10 centimeters deep, and screened the dirt for artifacts.

For decades everything had been sitting on, or just below, the surface.

Matz was hoping to leave the artifacts at the site, but because of recent looting, the decision was made to remove everything.

The door to the Garland cast iron stove - noted during an earlier archaeological study - went

missing. It was embossed with the date 1885.

Looters also visited the nearby War Eagle Mine, Matz said, turning up dirt and rock in search of relics from the mining era.

Though the War Eagle is on private property, the Pulaski Tunnel and surrounding area

are all federal lands. Removing artifacts is considered theft of government property, Matz said, and also can be punishable by civil and criminal

penalties under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

The dig - funded by grants from the Inland Northwest Community Foundation and others - was required before the Pulaski Project could begin restoring the mine portal to the way it looked following the fire of 1910.

Pulaski Project President Jim See said the nonprofit organization is also hoping to build a platform where people can sit for interpretive talks. Each year hundreds of fourth-grade Idaho history students visit the site to learn about Pulaski's heroism during the Great Fire of 1910.

Each day of the dig, the archaeologists and students hiked in, pulling supplies on a cart made for carrying elk carcasses.

Project director Alicia Valentino said Pulaski's story made the hike and 10-hour workdays

into one of the more fun and interesting projects she's been involved in as an archaeologist.

"I can't even imagine being in that situation," she said. "The trail is hard enough for me. I can't imagine running for my life without the trail."

Reach reporter Taryn Hecker at (208) 818-0054 or by e-mail at tarynh@spokesman.com.

THE NEWS-PRESS Wednesday, October 8, 2008

Aide heroic on class trip

I went on a Pulaski field trip with the fourth graders from Osburn elementary yesterday. It was fun. The reason I'm writing is because, well, it was a tough climb, two miles straight up on a little tiny dirt/rock horse trail. I was beginning to question whether or not we were actually gonna make it.

Heck most of the kids were complaining, and I was sweating like a butcher, we all were - it was good for us.

But "miss Sarah," one of the aides, was there to help a little boy up to the top, a little boy that wouldn't have been able to go on the trip otherwise.

As soon as I saw the trail go from asphalt to dirt and then rock, I thought for sure she would head back, but much to my (and everyone else's) surprise, she did it. She pushed that fourth grader up on his special motorcycle-looking bike all the way to the top.

I don't see how she did it. In my opinion she went above and beyond to make sure he got to see what all the other fourth graders got to see on their own two feet.

It was an impossible feat that she conquered. She then carried him down on her back and I think the bus driver took on the responsibility of his bike.

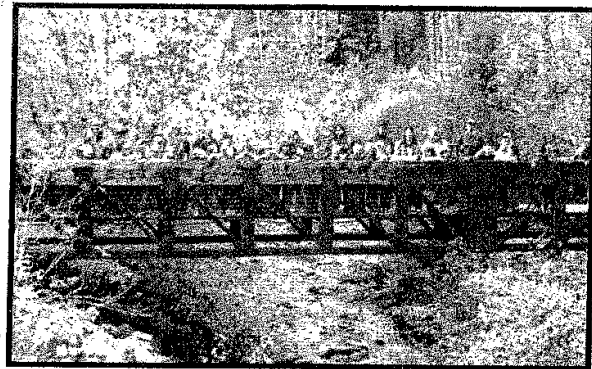
I was so proud, and somewhat embarrassed. I should've helped, more people should've helped, but in all honesty, I thought she would turn around right there at the beginning and

just go back and wait for us. But she didn't. I just thought she needed some recognition, a pat on the back for doing what she did, seemingly the impossible. We need more "miss Sarahs" around. She rocked, and a thank you to the bus driver as well.

"Miss Sarah," you are going to change little lives. We are lucky to have you at Osburn Elementary.

Danee McGillivray
Osburn

A bridge to the past



Students stepped into history during a visit to the site of Edward Pulaski and firefighters' efforts to survive the 1910 fire.

STORY PAGE 10



Top: Students and chaperones from three different school districts in the Silver Valley took a trip back in time on Wednesday, Oct. 8 as they hiked the Pulaski Trail just outside of Wallace. The trail is named for Edward Pulaski, who helped his crew escape the intense flames of the 1910 Wallace Fire. Directly above: Forest Service firefighter Kyle Mann assists Pinehurst student Numa Poche up the Pulaski trail during the class field trip.

— Photos courtesy of DAN FRITZ

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2008

SHOSHONE NEWS-PRESS

10A THE NEWS-PRESS Friday, October 24, 2008

Pinehurst, Mullan kids step back into history

By JOHN FRITZ
Special to the News-Press

WALLACE — On Wednesday, Oct. 8, the fourth graders from Pinehurst Elementary and the third and fourth graders from Mullan Elementary took a trip into history.

The children, along with teachers and chaperones,

hiked the Pulaski Tunnel Trail. The trail, located just south of Wallace, commemorates the ordeal of Edward Pulaski and other firefighters trying to survive the 1910 fire.

Through the cooperation of Shawn Pearson, Assistant Fire Management Officer, four Forest Service personnel met the students for a

demonstration of present-day equipment.

The students were all able to use the fire hoses, explore the fire vehicle, and honk the vehicles' horns.

All of the adults and students made the four-mile round trip hike to the site of the tunnel where Pulaski and his men escaped the intense flames of the 1910 inferno.

A big thanks to the members of the Forest Service, Stan Goode, Luke Smith, Art Hilton, and Kyle Mann, who not only accompanied the hikers, but also gave the old fireman's carry to one fourth grader with a cast on her foot.

Each person received a Pulaski Tunnel Trail T-shirt. These shirts will be a nice

with Pulaski trip

reminder of an exciting, education experience. Fourth graders study Idaho History and two local educators created a curriculum to teach today's youth about this

amazing piece of history that happened in our backyard.

For more information about the curriculum, Ed Pulaski, or the fires of 1910 visit edpulaski.com.

Pulaski Project earns 2008 Conservation Award

By JASON ELLIOTT
Staff writer

WALLACE — Members of the Pulaski Project Committee were recently notified of being named the winner of the 2008 Carl Anderson Conservation Project Engineering Excellence Award, along with two other organizations.

The purpose of this design award competition is to give recognition to those members and/or agencies whose work, as judged by their peers and associates, best exhibits the goals and objectives of the Association of Conservation Engineers.

Any governmental or non-governmental agency or owner, or its selected consultant, engaged in the fields of recreation, wildlife preservation, tourism, and/or conservation and restoration of the natural and historical environment, who is a member of or has made application for membership in the ACE, is eligible for participation in this awards program.

Founder and president of the Pulaski Project Jim See added that the group has led at least 50 hikes over the summer and fall, most of which came during school field trips and an archeology dig near the peak of the trail.

"During the dig, we were up there five days a week," See said.

See added that the group is still working on some projects at a couple of different locations with the goal of the summer of 2009.

"The biggest project will be finishing the destination loop," See said. "We want to make that look just as impressive as the trailhead. We also want to make the adit look like it did in the 1910 fire. To do that, it would be based on old photographs."

See estimates he has spent over 358 hours working on trail projects within the past year, with meetings, hiking and working on presentations for meetings and school classrooms.

"It's a labor of love," See said. "This is a project that is important to the community and nation. I like the trail. I recommend two to three hours to take everything in."

Another project lined up for the near future will be to install seating along the trail for school field trips.

"We'd like to install seating



for 4th grade students at the destination loop," See said. "We're still working on that. We are still trying to get distance signs and a map at the start of the trail."

To look into the history of the Pulaski Project Trail, visit www.pulaski-project.org.

Members of the Pulaski Project Board of Directors, from left, are: Ron Roizen, Dick Caron, Robin Stanley, Dennis O'Brien, Harry Magnuson and Jim See.

—Photo by JASON ELLIOTT

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2009

SHOSHONE NEWS-PRESS

Inland Northwest Community Foundation appoints local members to council

Group seeks to facilitate vibrant communities

By SARAH LEAVENWORTH
Staff writer

SHOSHONE COUNTY — The Inland Northwest Community Foundation has appointed two local representatives to serve on the newly-formed North Idaho Partnership Council (NIPC).

Hollis "Holly" Anderson of Hollis J. Anderson and Associates and former Shoshone County Commissioner Sherry Krulitz will join a group of North Idaho business and community leaders to serve on the council, comprising volunteer and business-oriented representatives of the six North Idaho counties.

Anderson, Krulitz and

the council will serve as ambassadors for the Inland Northwest Community Foundation, providing advice to NIPC on community needs, grants and charitable gifts.

"They have helped various organizations in the past," Krulitz said of NIPC. "It's really a wonderful foundation."

NIPC's impact on Shoshone County has been far-reaching.

Funding allocated to local organizations and projects during the fiscal years of 2006-08 include two grants to the Wallace swimming pool in the amounts of \$35,000 and \$40,000; three grants for Sather Field in Silverton, funding the scoreboard and press box; \$18,000 for the Pulaski Project; two grants for audio/visual equipment and archive storage at the Shoshone County Mining

see COUNCIL, A5

"During these times of economic challenges, the collective and local wisdom of this group will be an invaluable resource for North Idaho."

MARK HURTUBISE, Inland Northwest Community Foundation president, CEO

COUNCIL from A1

and Smelting Museum in Kellogg; and a \$13,000 gift for a Sierra Mine Tour trolley. Money was also allocated to the community concert series and Habitat for Humanity.

"During these times of economic challenges, the collective and local wisdom of this group will be an invaluable resource for North Idaho," according to Mark Hurtubise, president and CEO of the Inland Northwest Community Foundation.

"The formation of NIPC is part of the visionary planning of Margaret F. Galbraith, who lived in Wallace and died in 2006,"

he said. "Margaret created a legacy of almost \$12 million to benefit the North Idaho region she loved in perpetuity through careful estate planning. She would be pleased that everyone appointed to the NIPC shares her passion and vision for the region."

The work of INWCF, founded in 1974, spans 10 Eastern Washington counties and 10 North Idaho counties.

The goal of the organization, which has doled out more than \$34 million in grants and scholarships since its formation, is to facilitate vibrant, sustainable communities in the Inland Northwest.

For more information on NIPC, contact Sarah Bain at (509) 624-2606.

**FY 2008 Pulaski Tunnel Trail (10SE664)
Accomplishments**



Stephan E. Matz
Idaho Panhandle National Forests
Report R2008010401641
February 11, 2009

Pulaski Tunnel Trail Accomplishments for FY 2008

In the summer of 2008, archaeologists studied the remains of the Nicholson adit and cabin site that is thought to be Pulaski's refuge from the 1910 Fire. On August 20 and 21, 1910, Edward C. Pulaski and 40-some men sought shelter from forest fires in a mine adit along the West Fork of Placer Creek, near Wallace, Idaho. Big Ed Pulaski was proclaimed a hero for leading the men to the tunnel along the fire and smoke filled creek. Today, his story is told along an interpretive trail (Figure 1) that ends at the Nicholson adit, where it is thought they escaped the flames. The archaeological excavations were designed to help answer questions about the relationship of the remains at the adit and cabin to the 1910 Fire and Silver Valley mining history, help prevent vandalism to the archaeological site, and allow for additional development of interpretive facilities. Archaeologists from the Seattle firm, Northwest Archaeological Associates, worked with members of the Pulaski Project, Mullen High School students, Coeur d'Alene Field Office of the BLM and Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNF) to locate and excavate remains of this important piece of Silver Valley history. While positive proof of Pulaski's refuge was not found, the artifacts and features that were recovered suggest the cabin and adit were burned in the 1910 fire and would have been available to Pulaski and his men.

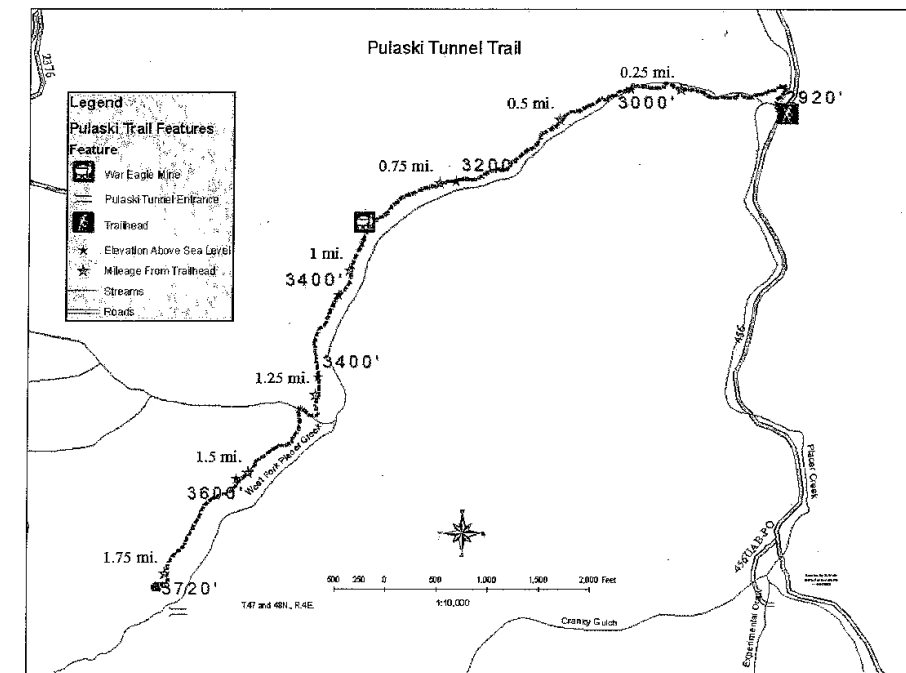


Figure 1. Pulaski Trail and Nicholson adit location.

As a series of single fires came together in one great conflagration known as the 1910 Fire (Figure 2), Big Ed Pulaski gathered about 45 men together and made a dash down the West Fork of Placer Creek to the expected safety of the War Eagle Mine. On the way down the creek they came to the J.I.C. cabin where he took a cross-cut saw to clear the trail for the two pack horses they had brought. Trapped between fire above and below they sought shelter in the J.I.C. tunnel first, but since it was too short they headed into the nearby Nicholson tunnel. The men sought shelter on the damp floor of the 230 foot long adit, while their two horses were kept near the mouth. Sometime during the three to five hours they stayed within the tunnel they lost consciousness and several men drowned in the water pooled on the floor of the tunnel. Finally, one man woke up and made his way into Wallace to find help. A rescue party was then sent up the mountain and the remaining men finally made it to Wallace on the 21st of August. For additional information see Carl Ritchie's *Cultural Resource Inventory: Pulaski, Two Days in August, 1910* (see http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/rec/heritage/publications/pulaski_two_days_in_august_1910.pdf) and *When the Mountains Roared* (see http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/rec/heritage/publications/when_the_mountains_roared.pdf).

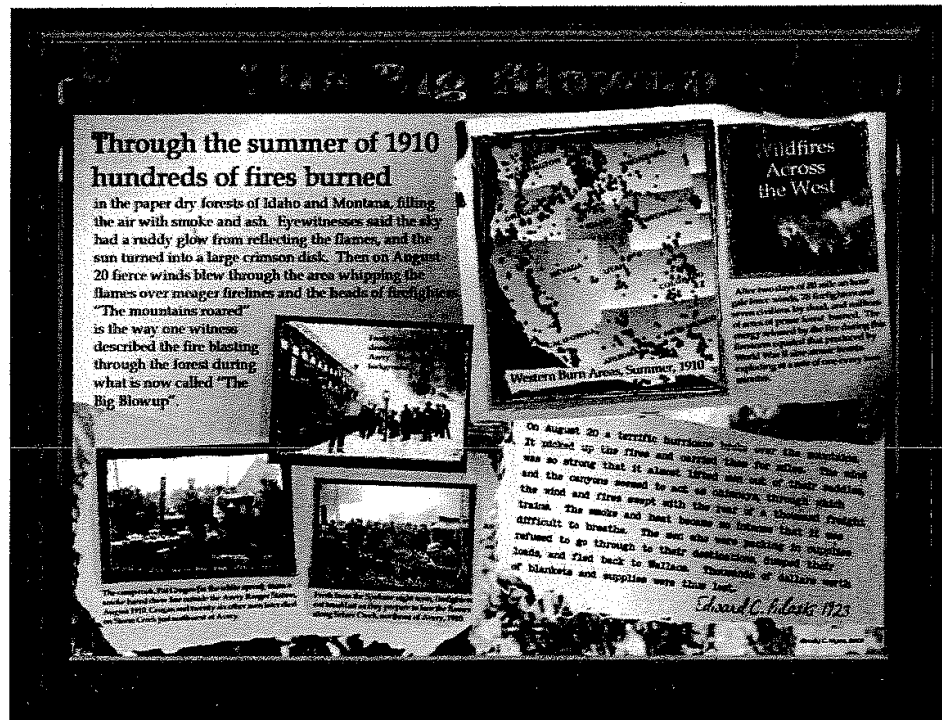


Figure 2. The Big Blow-up of 1910 interpretive sign from the Pulaski Tunnel Trail.

The trail and tunnel are listed on the National Register of Historic Places for their association with the 1910 Fire, an event of national significance. The nomination form for the *North Idaho 1910 Fire Sites* describes "Edward Pulaski's Tunnel and Placer Creek Escape Route" as "a strip 1 drain wide, west side of West fork..." The trail portion of the

site is described as crossing a high ridge into the West Fork of Placer Creek to a prospect tunnel that provided shelter from a backfire set near Wallace. The trail continues to Placer Creek. The tunnel is noted as being partially collapsed with split cedar floor planking for about 30 feet after the collapse and three charred squeeze caps spaced over 25 feet of this distance. The tunnel continues for 120 feet from the entrance where there is a 10 foot offset. At another 110 feet beyond the offset there is a widened area for tool storage where the present tunnel ends. Besides its association with the 1910 Fire, the tunnel is also significant "as an example of an early hand-drilled prospect, providing important information on how such work was done". To protect the public a gate has been installed at the mouth of the portal that blocks access to the rest of the tunnel.

While there are five known adits and two cabin sites along the West Fork of Placer Creek that could have provided shelter for the fire fighters, Ritchie provides evidence that "adit # 4" was the most likely candidate for the site chosen by Pulaski that day in August. Ritchie identified Adit # 4 as being on the J.J. Nicholson property and so it is often referred to as the Nicholson adit. Ritchie was unsure which cabin was Pulaski's J.I.C. cabin, the one at adit # 4 or a cabin shown on an early map further up the creek.

The lands along the trail that Pulaski followed from the Nicholson adit to main Placer Creek are owned by the East Shoshone County Water District, Stimson Lumber Company, Hecla Mining Company and BLM. The Forest Service has a right-of-way for use along the trail and at the adit. The Nicholson adit and cabin are located on BLM lands, while features associated with the War Eagle Mine, including the power transmission poles, and trash dump are on Stimson Lumber Company lands.

While plans for the archaeological work were being developed to address concerns about trail development impacts, recent vandalism at the War Eagle Mine (Figure 3) spurred the need to collect artifacts and features before they are further damaged. The archaeological project was originally proposed by the Pulaski Project, a group of Silver Valley residents dedicated to telling the story of Edward Pulaski and the 1910 Fire. The project would allow the portal to be reconstructed to look as it did just after the 1910 Fire and to provide an interpretive overlook of the tunnel entrance. With construction of the interpretive trail



visitor use has increased tremendously. Recently, artifacts have been dug up at the cabin site and at the War Eagle mine leading IPNF archaeologist, Steve Matz, to collect the materials before they disappear. Besides being illegal to disturb or collect artifacts from public or private lands without appropriate permission, the loss of these materials makes the job of understanding the history of the 1910 Fire and Silver Valley mining much more difficult, if not impossible.

Figure 3. Artifact hunters damaged this can dump at the War Eagle Mine.

Between July 30 and August 3, 2008, archaeologists and several Mullen High students used metal detectors, cadastral surveying equipment and archaeological excavation techniques to better understand the history of the site (Figure 4). The metal detector surveys allowed concentrations of metal artifacts associated with the adit and cabin to be located and mapped. Archaeologists then excavated a series of shovel probes (i.e., round holes a little over a foot in diameter and up to several feet deep) on a grid and screened the remains through 1/8" mesh cloth to recover any artifacts. This systematic testing of the site area helped to further refine the locations of artifact concentrations, structural remains, and the boundaries of the site. Once the shovel probes were excavated a series of 1x1 meter (39x39") units were excavated in high value areas to remove the artifacts and structural remains for further laboratory analysis.



Figure 4. Metal detector inventory at adit and shovel probe excavation at cabin site.

While the BLM and FS do not normally excavate or remove artifacts from archaeological sites, recent vandalism has become so serious that as much material as possible was removed to preserve it for future analysis and interpretation. A comprehensive surface collection of cans, bottles and other remains was undertaken to preserve this material for archaeological analysis and public display and interpretation. Each artifact collected was bagged, tagged and mapped with cadastral survey equipment so its original location is known and the site can be studied in three dimensions (Figure 5). Artifacts from the excavation suitable for display will be loaned to the Pulaski Project and the Wallace Mining Museum as the need arises.

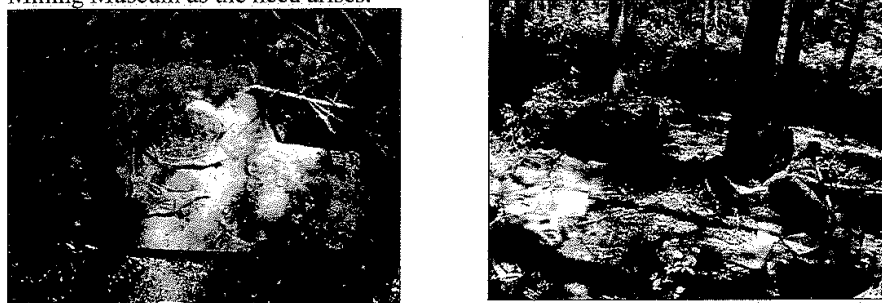


Figure 5. Garland stove door (left) and mapping the surface scatter (right).

Nearly 2300 artifacts were collected during the week long project. Most of the artifacts are small scraps of metal, nails, fragments of ceramics and pieces of broken glass that can tell archaeologists a part of the Nicholson cabin story, but are of little interest to the general public. A few hundred have trademarks or other distinctive characteristics that tell the age of the site, what type of activities took place, and interactions with the rest of the Silver Valley and United States around the turn of the 20th Century (Figure 6). At the mouth of the tunnel a wagon bench spring, sheet metal, an axe head (Figure 6) and a mine cart wheel were recovered that are probably associated with mining activities. Unfortunately, the remains of the saddles and other equipment left by Pulaski's men were not found (Figures 7 and 8). At the cabin site, several features were uncovered. The first was an area that contained a scatter of Garland wood stove parts, bottle glass dating between 1890 and 1917, nails, a bobby pin, corrugated metal roofing and other material (Figures 5 and 6). According to NWAA the Garland stove was made by the Michigan Stove Company as early as 1884 and can be traced back through several different distributors. The bobby pin suggests that a woman may have lived in the cabin, giving us the barest glimpse into family life. A depression that may have been a trash pit contained stove parts, tin cans dating to the late 1800s and early 1900s, nails, window glass, Western bullet cartridges dating from 1898, more parts of the Garland stove, and a watchcase from the "American Waltham Watch Co." dating from 1892 (Figures 6 and 8). At the final location what appeared to be the remains of sill or wall logs from a structure were excavated and nails, window glass, chimney glass from an oil lamp, bottles, Western bullet cartridges dating from 1898, and corrugated metal roofing were found (Figures 6, 9 and 10). Many of the artifacts show fire damage consistent with a pre-1910 fire date. In conclusion, the remains suggest that the cabin was occupied around 1900, however, there is no link to Pulaski's use of the site as a refuge.



Figure 6. Sample of artifacts from the excavations. These materials, if found where they were originally left can tell us the age of the site, type of activities that occurred and what kind of economic ties the cabin owners had with the outside world. The glass, shells, watch case and can date to the late 1800s or early 1900s. The bobby pin and axe head can tell us about the gender of the occupants and the types of activities that occurred. The corrugated metal roofing was damaged by fire and suggests the remains of a cabin or other structure.

136



Figure 7. Present adit with gate installed (left) and original 1910 portal with saddles and other material at entrance immediately after fire (right).



Figure 8. Excavation at the tunnel mouth (left) and in the pit feature at the cabin (right).



Figure 9. Potential cabin remains cut by trail construction. The left hand photo shows the relationship of the burned log and depressions (yellow lines) cut by trail. The right hand photo shows the log, depression perpendicular to the log, and burned area with glass and ceramics in between the log and the trail.



Figure 10. Corrugated tin roofing associated with the burned log shown in Figure 9.

The 2008 work was made possible through grants and numerous partners that should be recognized for their efforts and generosity. First and foremost, the members of the Pulaski Project, especially Ron Roizen and Jim See, sought the grants that paid for the majority of the work and provided the push to complete the archaeological evaluations. The Inland Northwest Community Foundation provided the majority of the grant money for the excavations. Additional funding was provided by the Recreation Advisory Committee. BLM archaeologists Stan McDonald and David Sisson provided comments on the plan of work and expedited the review so that the excavations could take place on BLM administered lands. Northwest Archaeological Associates (NWAA), under contract to the Pulaski Project, directed and accomplished the majority of the field work, initial artifact preparation and analysis, preparation of the letter report describing the investigations, and donated time and labor to the project to keep it within the Pulaski Project's budget. The NWAA project director was Alicia Valentino, while the field crew consisted of professional archaeologists Yonara Carrilho, Margaret Elm, and Dylan Henderson. NWAA Project Manager, Lorelea Hudson, donated her time to the project during the preparation, field and report phases of the work. Mullen High School students Chad Dawson, Damon Reid, Trevor Henderson, and Brittany Walsh, under the supervision of Jim See, provided help with the field data collection. Housing in Wallace for the field crews was supplied by ?? IPNF Forest Archaeologist, Steve Matz, completed the initial plan of work and facilitated the negotiations for the contract and a portion of the field work. IPNF Archaeologist Sarah Wilson took part in the initial planning and field work.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2009

SHOSHONE NEWS-PRESS

Western state fire managers tour Pulaski Tunnel trail

Project set to be completed in August 2010

By RON ROIZEN
Special to the News-Press

Earlier this week, a contingent of members of the Western State Fire Managers organization toured the first segment of the Pulaski Tunnel Trail and heard brief presentations by Pulaski Project president Jim See and project director Ron Roizen.

Jim See offered the group a summary of the trail's construction history and plans for completing the trail by August 20, 2010, the Big Blow-up's centennial.

He particularly noted the importance of completing the trail's destination area, including the outlook to the Pulaski Tunnel and the apron area in front of the mine portal. "The existence of about a half-dozen photos of the mine portal immediately after the fire," said See, "allows us to get a go-ahead from Idaho State Historical Preservation Office to re-create the portal's post-fire look."

"More definition at the outlook area, across the creek from the mine portal, is also a high priority."

The trail project is a partnership between the U.S. Forest Service, the Pulaski Project, the BLM, and a number of contributing or cooperating agencies

and individuals.

Roizen gave a brief history of the Big Blow-up and offered some remarks on "Big Ed" Pulaski.

"Even after high winds joined many small fires into a catastrophic fire storm," said Roizen, "still there were separated large segments of fire in northern Idaho and western Montana."

"The segment that scorched Wallace," he continued, "stretched from St. Maries to the east to about 40 miles into Montana to the west and from Avery to the south and Wallace to the north."

Roizen conveyed a couple of anecdotes reflecting "Big Ed's" character and wry wit.

"Ed was invited to attend a Wallace Chamber of Commerce meeting," said Roizen.

"When he was asked whether all the visitors and outsiders coming to the area were having a destructive impact on local forest, Ed replied, no, he believed that local citizens were doing a pretty good job of that themselves."

The Western Fire Managers organization is visiting Coeur d'Alene for its 23rd annual meeting. Its field trip to the Silver Valley was hosted by the Idaho Department of Lands. The field trip included tours of endowment (State) lands managed by IDL and fire

see PULASKI, A5

PULASKI from A1

mitigation projects as well as the Pulaski Tunnel Trail.

Member states of the organization include Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming and the Western Pacific Territories (Am. Samoa, Palau, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands).

The Silver Valley field trip was also sponsored by the Shoshone County Fire Prevention Coop, which focuses on fire prevention with special reference to young children.

Jim See noted that the Pulaski Tunnel Trail was becoming a more widely employed venue for field trips by North Idaho fourth-graders, as part of their Idaho history curriculum.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2009

SHOSHONE NEWS-PRESS

Pulaski Tunnel plans solidified for summer

New signs to be installed along trail

By RON ROIZEN
and JIM SEE
Special to the News-Press

WALLACE — The centennial of the Great Fire of 1910 is just around the corner. In preparation, plans to finish the construction and improvements to the Pulaski Tunnel Trail have been solidified. The U.S. Forest Service and the Pulaski Project have teamed up to complete a number of projects during the summer of 2009.

At the trailhead, just south of Wallace on Moon Pass Road, a new large-

format sign will inform hikers about the trail's main features and attractions. A guest register and donation box will also be installed near the trailhead.

Along the trail, distance signs will be installed and damage from the spring run-off will be mitigated. In addition, the trail's third bridge will receive a safety railing.

Perhaps the most ambitious project is located at the trail's destination. After the two-mile walk along the West Fork of Placer Creek, the hiker arrives at the overlook area. There, a buttressing rock wall and a short pole fence will define the outlook venue.

see PULASKI, A6

PULASKI from A1

These barriers are meant to ensure the hikers' safety and preserve the historical integrity of the site. Benches are also planned, which will provide much needed seating for school groups and other small groups of hikers.

From the rock wall observation area, the hiker will be able to observe a re-creation of the Pulaski Tunnel portal as it looked shortly after the fire.

Last summer, a number of activities were undertaken to pave the way for the development of the outlook area. An archaeological dig was conducted. Its main goal was to ensure that improvements at the site would not compromise historic artifacts under the surface of the ground.

"Ambitious plans are in store for the Pulaski Tunnel Trail for the summer of 2009. We hope to have the trail in

tiptop shape for the centennial," said Jim See, Pulaski Project president. "We believe the construction and improvement activities will have minimum impact on the hiking experience during this

summer." "Our vision for the completed trail will be very nearly completed with these projects," said Ron Roizen, Pulaski Project executive director.

Artifacts

Volume 26, No. 1

Idaho Archaeological Society, Inc.

May 2009

Greetings from the IAS President...

As current President of the Idaho Archaeology Society I would like to welcome you, and to encourage you to participate in the many benefits that will be available to you in the coming year. This is the first issue of our newsletter Artifacts for 2009, and in it you will find articles discussing recent Idaho discoveries, topics on Idaho history, and a calendar of upcoming events scheduled for this year.

I, like many of you am not a professional involved in ongoing research or preservation of our Idaho cultural heritage, but we share a deep interest in what has happened in the past. Interest in the very first inhabitants of this land is important to me. As a geologist, I gravitate toward the more technical articles of each issue, though I am also interested in the cultural history of our State and the people that developed the great northwest. For those professionals in our audience, I hope you will not only enjoy the content of this publication, but also consider contributing to it in the future.

So please, sit back with this issue, maybe grab a cold one, and step back to the days inhabited by those that came before us.

Thanks, Kevin Schroeder
President, IAS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT THE PULASKI TUNNEL TRAIL

Steve Matz
Idaho Panhandle NF

In the summer of 2008, archaeologists studied the remains of the Nicholson adit and cabin site (10SE664) that is thought to be Pulaski's refuge from the 1910 Fire. On August 20 and 21, 1910, Edward C. Pulaski and 40-some men sought shelter from forest fires in a mine adit along the West Fork of Placer Creek, near Wallace, Idaho. Big Ed Pulaski was proclaimed a hero for leading the men to the tunnel along the fire and smoke filled creek. Today, his story is told along an interpretive trail that ends at the Nicholson adit, where it is thought they escaped the flames. The archaeological excavations were designed to help answer questions about the relationship of the remains at the adit and cabin to the 1910 Fire and Silver Valley mining history, help prevent vandalism to the

Artifacts Vd. 26, No. 1

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As a series of single fires came together in one great conflagration known as the 1910 Fire, Big Ed Pulaski gathered about 45 men together and made a dash down the West Fork of Placer Creek to the expected safety of the War Eagle Mine. On the way down the creek they came to the J.I.C. cabin where he took a cross-cut saw to clear the trail for the two pack horses they had brought. Trapped between fire above and below they sought shelter in the J.I.C. tunnel first, but since it was too short they headed into the nearby Nicholson tunnel. The men sought shelter on the damp floor of the 230 foot long adit, while their two horses were kept near the mouth. Sometime during the three to five hours they stayed within the tunnel they lost consciousness and several men drowned in the water pooled on the floor of the tunnel. Finally, one man woke up and made his way into Wallace to find help. A rescue party was then sent up the mountain and the remaining men finally made it to Wallace on the 21st of August.

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Alicia and Mullan High School students excavating a 1x1m unit in trash pit depression.

Artifacts Vd. 26, No. 1

Recently, artifacts have been dug up at the cabin site and at the War Eagle mine leading IPNF archaeologist, Steve Matz, to collect the materials before they disappear. Besides being illegal to disturb or collect artifacts from public or private lands without appropriate permission, the loss of these materials makes the job of understanding the history of the 1910 Fire and Silver Valley mining much more difficult, if not impossible.

Between July 30 and August 3, 2008, archaeologists and several Mullan High students used metal detectors, cadastral surveying equipment and archaeological excavation techniques to better understand the history of the site. The metal detector surveys allowed concentrations of metal artifacts associated with the adit and cabin to be located and mapped. Archaeologists then excavated a series of shovel probes (i.e., round holes a little over a foot in diameter and up to several feet deep) on a grid and screened the remains through 1/8" mesh cloth to recover any artifacts.

This systematic testing of the site area helped to further refine the locations of artifact concentrations, structural remains, and the boundaries of the site. Once the shovel probes were excavated a series of 1x1 meter (39x39") units were excavated in high value areas to remove the artifacts and structural remains for further laboratory analysis.

While the BLM and FS do not normally excavate or remove artifacts from archaeological sites, recent vandalism has become so serious that as much material as possible was removed to preserve it for future analysis and interpretation. A comprehensive surface collection of cans, bottles and other remains was undertaken to preserve this material for archaeological analysis and public display and interpretation. Each artifact collected was bagged, tagged and mapped with cadastral survey equipment so its original location is known and the site can be studied in three dimensions. Artifacts from the excavation suitable for display will be loaned to the Pulaski Project and the Wallace Mining Museum as the need arises.

Nearly 2300 artifacts were collected during the week long project. Most of the artifacts are small scraps of metal, nails, fragments of ceramics and pieces of broken glass that can tell archaeologists a part of the Nicholson cabin story, but are of little interest to the general public. A few hundred have trademarks or other distinctive characteristics that tell the age of the site, what type of activities took place, and interactions with the rest of the Silver Valley and United States around the turn of the 20th Century.

At the mouth of the tunnel a wagon bench spring, sheet metal, an axe head and a mine cart wheel were recovered that are probably associated with mining activities.

Unfortunately, the remains of the saddles and other equipment left by Pulaski's men were not found. At the cabin site, several features were uncovered. The first was an area that contained a scatter of Garland wood stove parts, bottle glass dating between 1890 and 1917, nails, a bobby pin, corrugated metal roofing and other material. According to NWAA the Garland stove was made by the Michigan Stove Company as early as 1884 and can be traced back through several different distributors. The bobby pin suggests that a woman may have lived in the cabin, giving us the barest glimpse into family life.



Dylan Henderson and Margaret Elm of NWAA excavating a test unit at the Nicholson portal.

A depression that may have been a trash pit contained stove parts, tin cans dating to the late 1800s and early 1900s, nails, window glass, Western bullet cartridges dating from 1898, more parts of the Garland stove, and a watchcase from the "American Waltham Watch Co." dating from 1892. At the final location what appeared to be the remains of sill or wall logs from a structure were excavated and nails, window glass, chimney glass from an oil lamp, bottles, Western bullet cartridges dating from 1898, and corrugated metal roofing were found. Many of the artifacts show fire damage consistent with a pre-1910 fire date. In conclusion, the remains suggest that the cabin was occupied around 1900; however, there is no link to Pulaski's use of the site as a refuge.

The 2008 work was made possible through grants and numerous partners that should be recognized for their efforts and generosity. First and foremost, the members of the Pulaski Project, especially Ron Roizen and Jim See, sought the grants that paid for the majority of the work and provided the push to complete the archaeological evaluations. The Inland Northwest Community Foundation provided the majority of the grant money for the excavations. Additional funding was provided by the Recreation Advisory Committee. BLM archaeologists Stan McDonald and David Sisson provided comments on the plan of work and expedited the review so that the excavations could take place on BLM administered lands.

Northwest Archaeological Associates (NWAA), under contract to the Pulaski Project, directed and accomplished the majority of the field work, initial artifact preparation and analysis, preparation of the letter report describing the investigations, and donated time and labor to the project to keep it within the Pulaski Project's budget. The NWAA project director was Alicia Valentino, while the field crew consisted of professional archaeologists Yonara Carrilho, Margaret Elm, and Dylan Henderson. NWAA Project Manager, Lorelea Hudson, donated her time to the project during the preparation, field and report phases of the work. Mullan High School students Chad Dawson, Damon Reed, Trevor Henderson, and Brittany Walsh, under the supervision of Jim See, provided help with the field data collection. Housing in Wallace for the field crews was supplied Rick Schaffer at the Stardust Motel. IPNF Forest Archaeologist, Steve Matz, completed the initial plan of work and facilitated the negotiations for the contract and a portion of the field work. IPNF Archaeologist Sarah Wilson took part in the initial planning and field work. Photographs are courtesy of the Idaho Panhandle NF and Northwest Archaeological Associates, Inc.

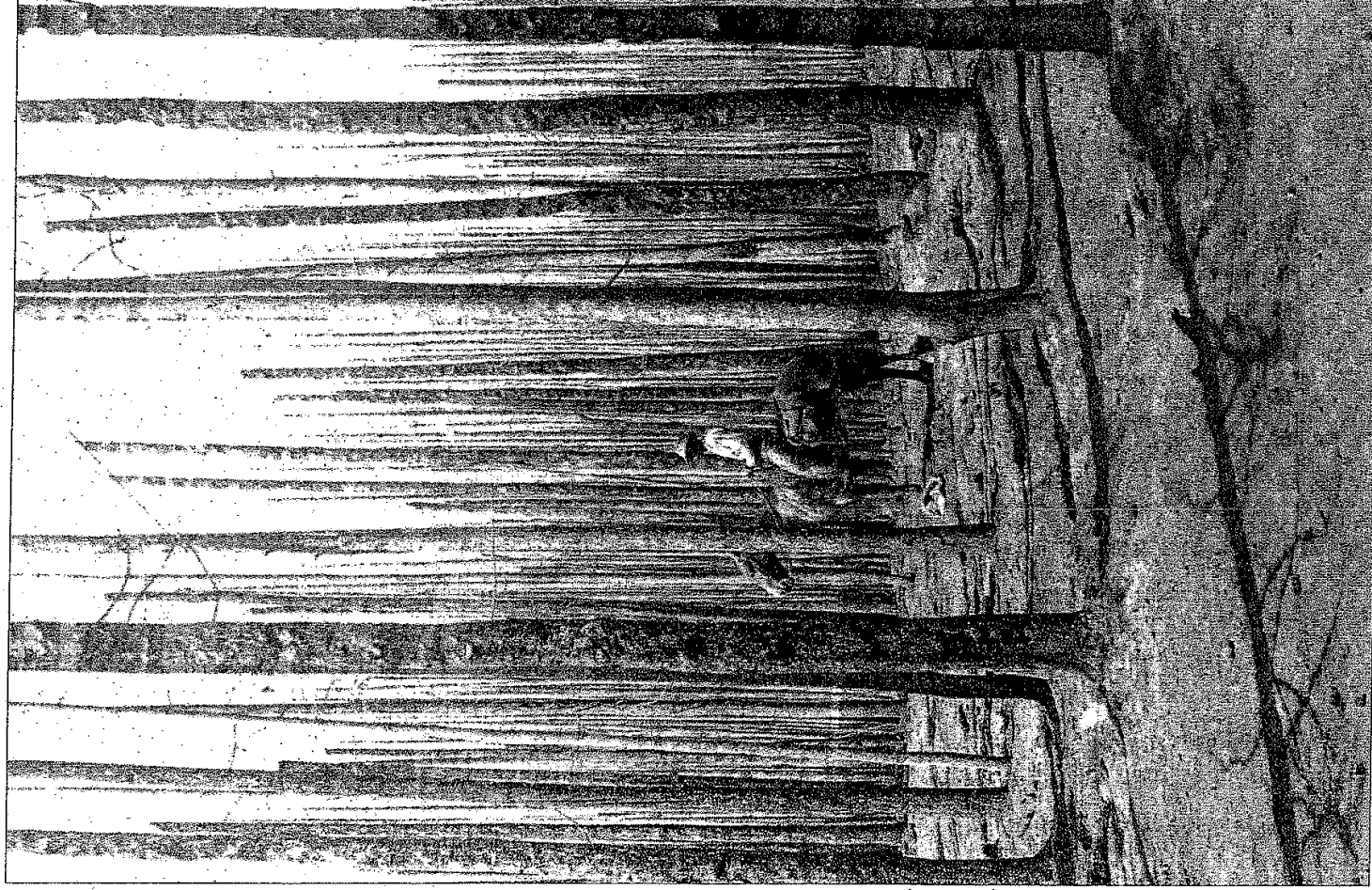
For additional information see Carl Ritchie's *Cultural Resource Inventory: Pulaski, Two Days in August, 1910* (see http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/rec/heritage/publications/pulaski_two_days_in_august_1910.pdf) and *When the Mountains Roared* (see http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/rec/heritage/publications/when_the_mountains_roared.pdf).

Timothy Egan's latest book details the 1910 fire that swept through Idaho and Montana and helped provide the spark for environmental consciousness



FILE The Spokesman-Review

Riled by fire



Courtesy of U.S. Forest Service
On horseback, a forest ranger patrolled the blackened and still forest in the first days after the 1910 fires in Idaho and Montana. Smoke from the Big Burn drifted as far east as Chicago.



By Jim Kershner
 jmk@spokesman.com, (509) 459-5493

Timothy Egan was faced with what he called a "happy problem" following his 2005 best-selling Dust Bowl history, "The Worst Hard Time."

How do you top a National Book Award winner?

"You worry about what to do next," said Egan, by phone from his Seattle office.

He solved that problem by diving into one of the most dramatic stories in Inland Northwest history: the 1910 fires in North Idaho and Montana.

This story of death, devastation, cowardice and courage had always been in the back of his mind. Egan grew up in Spokane and camped and fished in those Idaho and Montana forests, so he knew the essence of the story:

- Three million acres of forest burned.
- Nearly a hundred people died.
- Wallace and four other towns were reduced to smoldering ruins.

But an "amazing" back story — involving one of the out-sized

See EGAN, D7

Hike the Pulaski Trail

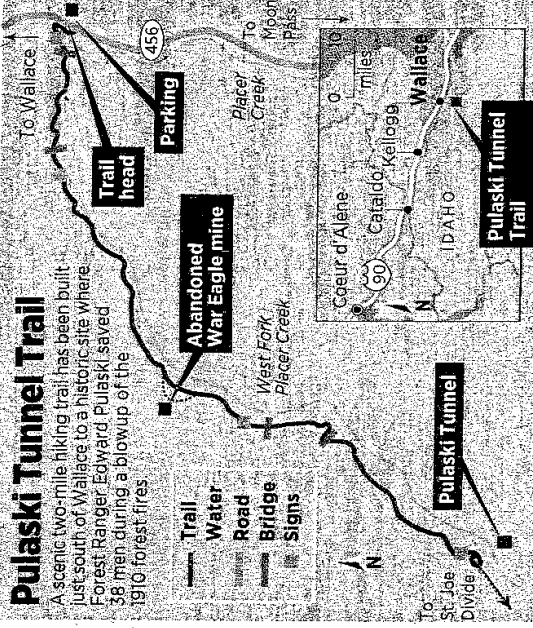
The Pulaski Tunnel Trail near Wallace features information kiosks on a route that explores an epic moment of heroism during the 1910 fires. It also makes a healthy hike at four miles round-trip with nearly 1,000 feet of elevation gain and loss.

Directions: Eastbound on Interstate 90, take Exit 61 at Wallace. Turn right at the stop and pass the Visitor Information Center. Turn left at the T. Drive just past the Wallace Inn and turn right on one-way Second Street, which follows Placer Creek. Go past Cedar Street and turn right on Bank Street. Continue left as the road bends into King Street. From here it's .9 mile to the Pulaski Tunnel. Trailhead on the road that heads over Moon Pass to the St. Joe River.

— Rich Landers, Outdoors editor

Pulaski Tunnel Trail

A scenic two-mile hiking trail has been built just south of Wallace to a historic site where Forest Ranger Edward Pulaski saved 36 men during a blowup of the 1910 forest fires



If you go

THE NORTHERN IDAHO DISTINGUISHED HUMANITIES LECTURE, BY TIMOTHY EGAN

When: Thursday, 7 p.m.

Where: Coeur d'Alene Resort

Cost: \$45 or benefactor tickets for \$100 (event includes dinner, lecture and book signing)

Call: (888) 345-5346 or go to www.idaho-humanities.org

TODAY

EGAN

Continued from D1

characters of American history, Teddy Roosevelt – is what pushed this story to the top of Egan's project list.

The result is "The Big Burn: Teddy Roosevelt & the Fire That Saved America" (\$27, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), now at area bookstores.

Egan discovered that a series of events around 1909 and 1910 – including the construction of the Milwaukee Road and a devastating summer drought – had combined to make the Bitterroot Crest and valley of the St. Joe River into ground zero in a conflict that transcended the fire.

Gilded Age land barons were pitted against "Teddy's green rangers," the college-educated forest rangers, in a struggle for the existence of the fledgling conservation movement and the entire concept of public land.

"You can say, objectively, that a huge part of American history during the first 10 years of the last century coursed through that pretty, narrow part of where you guys live," said Egan.

Egan, "always a huge fan of Roosevelt's," became even more of an admirer as he researched the origins of Roosevelt's "huge, radical idea: conservation."

The back story is, essentially, about the creation of the Forest Service and the precariousness of its political position leading up to the fires. The Big Burn threatened to kill Roosevelt's radical conservation experiment after only five years.

"You look for these things, the



FILE The Spokesman-Review archive
Wallace's Union Pacific Station following the fire of 1910.

linchpins of history," said Egan. "It's easy to do in hindsight.

"But the fire clearly changed the perception of the Forest Service. The rangers were thought to be sissified, to use an old-fashioned term."

Then about 100 rangers and firefighters died, protecting the people who had once hooted derisively at them. Suddenly, the rangers were heroes. The name of one ranger, Ed Pulaski, has become legendary even among today's forest firefighters.

Egan also became fascinated by another outsized character: Gifford Pinchot, the aristocratic father of the Forest Service.

"Pinchot gets shortchanged by history, but Roosevelt said that Pinchot was his conscience, and no man did more for his administration," said Egan. "But he just gets this asterisk in history."

When he started his research, Egan fully expected that Pinchot deserved only an asterisk in this story, too. But he discovered

that Pinchot was as fascinating as Roosevelt himself.

"It helped that Pinchot kept voluminous diaries – there was no thought he didn't record," said Egan. "He was quite a conflicted person – he thought he could do better, was troubled by his own inadequacies. A strange guy. ...

"And this secret life of his, I found utterly fascinating and character-forming."

Secret life?

As Egan discovered, Pinchot carried on beautiful, intimate conversations for years with his fiancé, Laura Houghteling.

The only problem was, Laura was not alive. She had died during the engagement, yet she often "appeared" to him, séance-style, for many years afterward.

"My Lady has told me beautiful things," was a typical entry in Pinchot's journal.

"The Big Burn" is similar to Egan's award-winning "The Worst Hard Time" in that it tells

a true Western story with nearly novel-like drama. Yet for Egan, the differences were stark.

When Egan wrote the Dust Bowl book, he often felt like he had "landed on Mars" when he visited dusty Oklahoma and Texas.

"It was so different from what I was used to," he said. "I'm a third-generation Northwesterner."

Egan felt much more at home roaming through the Silver Valley, the Bitterroot Crest and especially the St. Joe River. His two brothers had once taken him fishing in the upper St. Joe and he had never forgotten it.

"I've climbed most of the major peaks in the Northwest," he said. "Last year, I climbed Half Dome. I've done Kilimanjaro and rafted most of the major rivers of the West."

"But I considered those first few days where I got to know the upper reaches of the St. Joe to be among the most glorious outdoor experiences of my life."

Knowing the land's history makes that experience even richer – and Egan hopes his book will also enrich the experiences of, for instance, all of those mountain bikers along the Route of the Hiawatha, which follows the old Milwaukee Road route and cuts right through the center of the old Big Burn area.

In the book, you'll learn that Taft, Mont., was once dubbed, "the wickedest city in America" and had a higher murder rate than New York City. Today, nothing remains except the name on the I-90 freeway exit.

You'll learn that Grand Forks, Idaho, was nearly as wicked as Taft, and even more thoroughly expunged from the earth. You'll learn that Avery, Idaho, was named for a Rockefeller grandson and once boasted mansions.

Yet despite the wealth of historical details in his books, Egan still claims he is "not a historian by trade." He thinks of historians as people with Ph.D.s.

"I consider myself a storyteller," he said. "I try to find a really good story at its core, and then hang all of these historical ornaments on it. But at the core, it's a really terrific story."

He sandwiches all of his research and writing around his day job as the "Outposts" columnist at The New York Times. It's an opinion column that runs once a week online, and a dozen or so times a year in print.

The job gives him a lot of freedom to "travel around the West and write about things that catch my eye."

Egan is on his way to Coeur d'Alene this week for an event that he calls "totally serendipitous."

He'll be delivering the Northern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture on Thursday at the Coeur d'Alene Resort. When he signed up for this lecture, he didn't know that his book would be coming out at the same time.

"It turns out, this will be the first time I'll be publicly speaking about the book," said Egan. "And the great thing is, I'll be speaking about it at the place where the fire happened."

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2009

SHOSHONE NEWS-PRESS

Hiking the Pulaski Tunnel Trail



— Courtesy photo

During the first week of October, 41 Silver Hills Elementary fourth-graders and 15 parents/grandparents hiked the Pulaski Tunnel Trail. This field trip incorporated science as well Idaho History curriculum. Armed with information about the 1910 fire, Edward Pulaski, and conifers, the enthusiastic fourth-graders scampered to the top of the two-mile trail within 45 minutes — quite a feat, considering the 1,000-foot elevation gain. At the top of the trail, the children ate cheese and crackers, shared trail stories and observations. We at Silver Hills would like to thank those dedicated folks who dreamed the Pulaski Tunnel trail project and worked to make that project come true for all of us to enjoy.