



Rocky Mountain Federation News

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WORDS OF CAUTION

by John M. Wright, Chair, AFMS Conservation & Legislation

When you head out this spring on a field trip or any other type of outing that involves federal lands, don't be surprised to find roads blocked by gates or earthen structures and many parks, camp sites, and trails closed. In spite of congressional legislation that requires proposals and recommendations for road closures based on in-depth studies and public hearings, the U. S. Forest Service has more-or-less chosen to ignore the congressional mandate and is pursuing a course that is indiscriminately restricting the public from vast areas of federal lands. Trying to understand the rationale they use in choosing areas to be closed is impossible and reminds me of a game kids play called "pin the tail on the donkey".

During the early 1980's the U. S. Forest Service began to make changes in their philosophy for the management of forest resources. In all fairness, I want to acknowledge up front that in large part this was because of reductions in federal funds; however, in recent years the reduction in funds has become a scapegoat for placing millions of acres off limits to the public because of pressure exerted by well-financed special interest groups. These restrictions may very well come back and bite them in the backside, but that will be of little consolation for us as our tax dollars will be used to correct the mistakes.

The following USDA News Release is the new philosophy in a "nut shell" so to speak. It also contains the website for a more detailed version:

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service, Washington, D.C.

Release No. 0721

USDA FOREST SERVICE RELEASES FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

WASHINGTON, October 29, 2007—U.S. Forest Service Chief Abigail Kimbell announced today the release of the agency's strategic plan for fiscal years 2007 – 2012. The plan includes Kimbell's emphasis areas of climate change, water and involving youngsters in forest activities.

"Forests play a unique role in meeting our Nation's future challenges associated with climate change, renewable energy, and sustaining abundant flows of fresh water to the American people," said Kimbell. "Because issues related to climate change and looming water shortages will take many years to resolve, the Forest Service is committed to instilling stronger land ethics in future generations."

The Forest Service Strategic Plan for FY 2007 – 2012 provides a clear yet broad direction to carry out its mission of natural resource management while focusing on critical programs and activities. The Forest Service strategy includes the integration of environmental, social, and economic issues into its management decisions while accounting for present and future needs.

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Thank you,

*Stan Nowak
Yonis Lone Eagle
Linda Jaeger
and everyone else*

*for your contributions
to the March issue of
the Rocky Mountain
Federation News.*

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DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the bulletin are due the first day of the month prior to the publication date, i.e., the deadline for April is March 1.

President's Message

By Stan Nowak

Spring is just around the corner with several clubs starting to have many activities, so participate and/or attend your local and area clubs activities. And while we are at this, I very heartily ask your clubs to entice your members to display their specimens or workmanship by entering competitive cases in the Novice Class. It is better to start at that level to learn what is needed to work ones way up the ladder to the higher levels. Yes, it may seem neat to win a gold panner's trophy, but one must start walking before you can run with the best. One doesn't have to be a youngster for the Novice Class. It is for first time or beginner's exhibition. You don't have to be embarrassed; you just want to show what you have to others.

I would like challenge every club in the Federation for a 100% participation in the Scholarship Fund this year. Our Scholarship Fund is not hurting, but I would like to see each and every club in the RMFMS donate at least \$25.00 to the scholarship fund. I feel every club could donate at least that much. I know there are a few clubs that donate much more than that each year. Thank you very much. Also several clubs annually sponsor local scholarships of their own. Great!! I want to see **Sandy Cannedy** keep busy with all these donations. Remember, I am not asking for a large sum, just the participation.

It is sad to see **Sandy Riekeman** stepping down as the RMFMS Newsletter Editor. She has done a very good job. Send your application for this position to either Sandy or myself. My mailing and e-mail addresses are still the same, however, my phone numbers are 580-747-2046 and 580-234-3126.

I am still awaiting word to see if and when the Great Salt Plains will open to the public for hourglass selenite crystal digging near Jet/Cherokee, OK. The last word I heard was that they wanted to open the area by the 4th of July, but that was tentative at that time.

CAUTION continued from page 1

The Forest Service Strategic Plan can be found at: www.fs.fed.us/publications/strategic/fs-sp-fy07-12.pdf

So what does this mean for you? Ultimately it will mean fewer places for field trips and other outings as competition is increased for access to private property as trail bikers, 4-wheelers, hunters, campers, etc. are displaced from federal lands and seek out new areas for their pursuits. It will also mean higher prices for lumber and wood products, fuel, and minerals used to make our lives more productive and comfortable.

The underhanded covert methods being used for taking away public access to federal lands without public approval or hearings will continue unless we take a stand. Become involved and let your opposition be known. We are not alone in this fight and can increase our leverage by joining with other groups that are opposed to the road closures and limiting the public's access to lands controlled by the Forest Service. Find a way to become aware of, and to keep yourself up to date on these important issues in your area. I recommend that you or your club join the American Lands Access Association and also the BlueRibbon Coalition (sharetrails.org). These are two of the better ones for keeping informed, but there are many more and some of them may be located in your immediate area.

Source: A.F.M.S. Newsletter March 2008



QUICK TIPS for EDITORS

By Linda Jaeger, RMFMS/AFMS Club
Publications Chair

If you have a question (or suggestion) about editing or writing or the bulletin contest or something related, send it to me by email: LjgrAlg@aol.com or at home address: 3515 E. 88th St., Tulsa, OK 74137. If I cannot find an answer to your question, we'll publish the question and ask the readers for their answers.

WHO AND WHAT GET CAPITAL LETTERS?

Recently I received a request from an editor asking for clarification on capitalizing names of rocks, minerals, and fossils.

Generally speaking, **rock and mineral names** are not capitalized unless they begin a sentence, are given in a list of names, or are written as part of a specific format — such as on a label for a competitive case according to the convention required by AFMS.

Even **minerals** that are named after a person are not capitalized in general usage. The correct spelling of the person's name would be used, but no spaces and no capital letters at the beginning or in the middle of the name as applied to the official name of a mineral. Some examples are: goethite, mcnearite, joesmithite.

Names of **rocks** are not capitalized (sandstone, quartzite) unless they refer to a proper name (such as Dox Sandstone, Troy Quartzite).

When writing the **scientific names of fossils**, the genus name is capitalized, the species name is lowercase, and both names are *italicized*. An example is: *Favosites sp.* If you use a typewriter and do not have the capability to italicize, you must underline: Favosites sp.

Names of **fossil phylums, classes, orders, and families** are capitalized but are not italicized (examples: Ammonoidea, Mollusca, Arthropoda). If these are used informally as English nouns or adjectives, they are not capitalized (examples: ammonites, mollusks, arthropods).

Names of **geologic eras, periods, epochs, and formations** are capitalized: Paleozoic Era, Jurassic Period, Miocene Epoch, Green River Formation.

If you need a really quick reference, you can always look up the word in the dictionary!

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Vice-President's Message

by Yonis Lone Eagle



Just a quick reminder, the February issue of the Rocky Mountain Federation News had all the information about the AGATE Rendezvous 2008, for anyone and everyone interested in attending!

SHOWS & MORE

REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS

Northwest Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Stallknecht-Morgan Museum G&MS
Ontario Oregon
June 20 - 22, 2008

Midwest Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts:
Lincoln Nebraska
June 20 - 22, 2008

California Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: California Federation
Ventura California
June 27 - 29, 2008

South Central Federation Convention & Show

Hosts: Houston G&M Society
Humble Texas
September 25 - 28, 2008

AFMS

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Rocky Mountain Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Tulsa Rockhounds
Tulsa Oklahoma
October 31 - November 2, 2008

RMFMS

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Southeast Federation Convention & Show

?, 2008

Eastern Federation Convention & Show

CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS

March 14 - 16, 2008, Albuquerque, NM

Treasures of the Earth (TotE) ABQ Gem and Mineral Club's, 39th annual show. In the School Arts/Flower bldg at the Fairgrounds. Enter from San Pedro about two blocks north of Central. Fri. & Sat. - 10 AM - 6 PM, Sun. 10 AM - 5 PM. This year's theme mineral is Quartz. Rocks, minerals, gems, jewelry, equipment, books, door prizes, vote on display cases, silent auctions, wolf, raffles, NM Bur. of Geology and Mineral Resources, and more. Admission \$3.00, (Fri. is Buck Day!), children under 13 are free. State Fair parking \$5.00. Contact info - Show Chairman Paul Hlava 505-255-5478. www.agmc.info

March 21 - 23, 2008, Cottonwood, AZ

Mingus Gem & Mineral Club presents: Verde Valley Gem & Mineral Show, Mingus Union High School 1801 E Fir St. Contact Doug Evenson 928-634-0459 dougeverson@verdecomm.net, Mike Ramsey 928-592-0666 ramsey6264@yahoo.com, Free Parking, Admission Fri-\$1, Sat \$3, Sun \$3, 3 day pass \$5

March 28 - 30, 2008, Fort Collins, CO

Fort Collins Rockhounds 47th Annual Gem and Mineral Show. Theme: Minerals of the American West. Lincoln Center, 419 W. Magnolia St., Fort Collins, CO 80521. Hours: Friday, March 28, 4-8 p.m.; Saturday, March 29, 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.; Sunday, March 30, 10 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Fort Collins Rockhounds, P.O. Box 482, Fort Collins, CO 80522 Web: www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org Dealer information: 970-221-0338. Show chairman: 970-493-6168, email showchairman@fortcollinsrockhounds.org

March 28 - 30, 2008, Ada, OK

Ada Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club Show. Special Kids' Event "Gem Dig" Rock, Mineral & Fossil Dealers, Silent Auction, and Raffle. Location: Main Building #1 (Western side of Pontotoc County Agri-plex) at the NE Corner of the intersection of State Highway 99 (US 377) and Richardson Bypass (SHwy 1 & 3E). Fri: 10-7, Sat: 9-5, Sun 10-5. Public Auction 7pm Saturday. For more information: Ed Vermillion, Show Chairperson, PO Box 782 Purcell OK 73080, 405-527-6431, okieed42@classicnet.net.

April 11-13, 2008, Pond Creek, OK

Pond Creek Rock Swap/Show sponsored by the Enid Gem & Mineral Society, located in the Women's Building at the Grant County Fairgrounds. It is an indoor/outdoor activity with limited indoor space at this time. Hours are 9 am - 6 pm on Friday & Saturday and 10 am - 4 pm on Sunday, with Bingo Saturday night at 7 pm. For more information: Stan Nowak, 580-747-2046, snowak48@yahoo.com.

April 25-27, 2008, Wichita, KS

55th Annual Wichita Gem & Mineral Society, Nature's Wonders - Dazzling Gemstone, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd. For more information: www.wgmsks.org Show chairman: Gene Maggard show@wgmsks.org

REMEMBER - to insure that your RMFMS member club sponsored event is listed here, the responsible person should send a written notice to the RMFMS Editor: Sandy Riekeman, 220 W Harry St, Wichita KS 67213-5135 or e-mail at: wgms2001@yahoo.com. Include the following information: Show dates and times, Sponsor (Club), Show Location, Contact Name, phone number and e-mail, and Club Web Site. You may include other information about your show if you wish, but this information will only be printed if space permits. ALL RMFMS CLUBS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER THEIR EVENT LISTINGS ON THE RMFMS WEBSITE AT: www.rmfmts.org e-mail your submissions to the webmaster.

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