

Locating Gold, Gems and Minerals

The official publication of the
Trails and Tales of UPI

www.unitedprospectors.com

September 2006

No. 287 Vol. 69-7

United Prospectors Inc. Publications ©



Did we have fun?
You bet!!!



OPENING THE CREEK UP!



THE BOARD AND MEMBERS AT WORK!



A sample of early finds!

**THE NEXT OUTING,
SPANISH CREEK
AND ELECTIONS!
BE THERE FOR THE EXCITEMENT!**

PUT YOUR TROUBLES IN A POCKET WITH A HOLE IN IT AND GO PROSPECTING !



UNITED PROSPECTORS INC.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Don Siegel
September 2006

- PRESIDENT** *Don Siegel*
- V. PRESIDENT** *Tom Eastland*
- TREASURER** *Samantha Wait*
- SECRETARY** *Rita Perry*
- DIRECTORS**
 - Chet Chastain*
 - Linda Doyle*
 - Gerald Hurt*
 - Steve Letlow*
 - Bill Reboin*
 - Christa Eastland*
 - Aaron Matula*
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- ADVOCACY/
POLITICAL ACTION** *Gerald Hurt*
- CHAPTERS** *Tom Eastland*
- CLAIMS** *Chet Chastain*
- ETHICS/GRIEVANCE** *Gerald Hurt*
- MEMBERSHIP** *Linda Doyle*
- OUTING COORDINATOR** *Christa Eastland*
- TECHNICAL ADVISOR** *Steve Letlow*
- WAGON MASTER** *Wes Smith*
- WAYS AND MEANS** *Aaron Matula*
- WEB MASTER** *Mark Weber*

Bull Creek is always one of my favorite outings and I am glad that we're able to go there twice this year. Also being the closest claim to my house makes it the claim of choice the rest of the year. We were blessed with great weather, warm during the day and nice and cool at night, perfect. The only thing missing was the campfire, a lantern set in the middle of the circle had to do.

The next outing is the most important, with the elections to be held and your voice to be heard. And this year is our first go at absentee ballots. The board knows how hard it is to make the outings and felt that we were missing a lot of input around our elections from you the members. So take the time to get hold of Gerald Hurt to file your ballot, or come on out to Spanish Creek and join in on the fun and cast your vote.

Spanish Creek will have plenty of water for some cold water dredging. I plan on bring my power sluice and welcome anyone to share in the digging and the gold.

I want to thank Christa for her efforts at organizing events for the outings, and encourage everyone to come to the outings and have some fun.

Don

THE OUTING

We had another really good UPI outing. The turnout was good, the weather was good, and the potluck and raffle were really great as usual. Moreover to cap all of that off, there was elusive yellow metal found also. In fact yours truly was instrumental in helping Joel find some small stuff. The members were scattered all up and down the claims, upper, middle and lower. From what I was able to see the lower produced the best, but they all produced. I estimate that perhaps at least 25% of the members found Au in greater or lesser quantities and in larger and smaller pieces. There may have even been some pluckers and clinkers found, but no reports.

Like a dummy I went traipsing off without my mining equipment with the intent of walking up stream from the camping area to get pictures of members in action. All I had with me was the camera, Sam and a small bottle of water, traveling light. While walking up stream I was making mental notes of areas that looked good to prospect. I located some good-looking cracks in the country rock at the stream edges that continued on into the stream. Likely dredging spots. I also spotted some good-looking cracks and crevices that would be good areas for the panners of the group.

One spot that was located had a long crack in the bedrock that somewhat paralleled the stream and lead to what I call an inverted pyramid in solid bedrock. A great trap, with material directed right to it. Darn! Where's my pan? I located a stout branch and dug around a little bit and found the material hard packed and a good gradation of the material. I marked it for location and wandered further upstream figuring I'd lead somebody to it to work it. Joel was run into and I showed him the spot and he worked it out. It produced, but not the way it was hoped it would. Oh well you don't know if you don't try.

There was a good cross section of members there, but not so many that time couldn't be spent with a number of them and get to know them better.



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Outing & Board Meeting Schedule 2006

Oct. 6 - 8: Spanish Creek. Elections, be there. Board meeting at 9:00 AM Saturday, 10/7.
Nov. 10, 11 & 12: Coulterville 7th annual Pre-Thanksgiving. Board meeting at 9:00 AM Saturday, 11/1



The Old miner sez: It ain't heer yet but ya kin feelz it sorta! Purty soon wez be wishing it be spring an sumer agin!

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Wagon Master: Wes Smith, (925) 682-9059 or pacheocosmith@aol.com
Parliamentarian: Brenda Marsh, (916) 448-5847 or bluerosecompany@sbcglobal.net

VOLUNTEERS

Asst. Claims: Ray Budowich, PO Box 367, Coulterville, CA
Asst. Claims Plumas Co.: Johnny Lewis Jr., (530) 283-4787

Chapters

For Chapter meeting times please contact the representative indicated for your Chapter area.

Tom Eastland, Chapters Director, (925) 932-4288 or chapters@unitedprospectors.com



Alameda County, Chairperson; Steve Kleszyk, (925) 443-4993 or rattled88@aol.com
Meeting held at - - - Prospectors Claim Store
174 S. "K" Street
Livermore, CA

Auburn Chapter, including El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sutter and Yuba counties. Chairperson; Mark McDaniels, (530) 613-2654 or marksgold@sbcglobal.net



Contra Costa County, Chairperson; Ed Ozga, (925) 706-8193 or OzMiner@msn.com
Meeting held at - - - First Baptist Church Mansion
3033 Bonifacio St., Concord, CA

Fresno, Kings, Madera and Merced Counties, Chairperson; Harrold Lancaster, (559) 439-1117 or hskashmir@aol.com or Bill Poore, (559) 674-9756 or whp@netscape.com

Marin, Sonoma Counties, Chairperson; Brian Newhouse, (415) 898-8128 or bnewhouse3@verizon.net

Sacramento County, Open

San Joaquin County, Chairperson; Steve Letlow, (209) 986-6276 or sbletlow@comcast.net Call Steve for when and where. It is understood that meetings will be held at Terry Schoens shop.

Santa Clara County, Chairperson; Michael Phillips, (408) 595-9121 or kitfoxchumash@yahoo.com
Please call for particulars.



Stanislaus County, Chairperson: Don Siegel, (209) 551-9802 or dps0736@aol.com
Call for particulars



In all cases please call the Chapter Chairperson for where and when for meetings.

UNITED PROSPECTORS INC. (UPI)© THE TRAILS AND TALES OF UPI©

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NEWSLETTER©

LOCATING GOLD GEMS AND MINERALS©
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BOARD NOTES

September 2, 2006 – BULL CREEK

President Don Siegel called meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

Roll Call:

Officers Present: Don Siegel, President; Tom Eastland, Vice President; and Rita Perry, Secretary

Directors Present: Bill Reboin, Christa Eastland, Aaron Matula, and Gerald Hurt

Directors and Officers Absent: Samantha Wait, Steve Letlow, Wesley Smith, Chet Chastain and Linda Doyle

Members Present: Randy Huckabay, Charles Crippen, Dillard McKeever, William Roore, Don Lobach, Dale Newlin, Kit Perry and Denise Matula

Motion was motioned made needs to be corrected to Motion was made.

Motion was made by Brenda Marsh and seconded by Bill Reboin to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

- **Treasurer, Samantha Wait presented by President Don Siegel:** The checkbook balance as of July 29, 2006, was \$12,623.35; total income \$914.00 which leaves a total of \$13,537.35. **Total Expenses \$2,089.64.** August 27, 2006, Balanced Checkbook is \$11,447.71. Motion was made by Aaron Matula to accept the Treasurer's Report, Rita Perry seconded, and motion carried. Motion was made by Aaron Matula to accept the bills to be paid and Rita Perry seconded. Motion carried.
- **Membership, Linda Doyle, presented by President Don Siegel:** Linda tendered her resignation. She will continue to help the board and is willing help train the person that takes over her position. We have 1 honorary, 61 life, 334 regular, 13 subscribers.
- **Wagon Master, Wesley "Wes" Smith :** No report.
- **Outing Coordinator, Christa Eastland:** She will be setting up a panning table with 20 bags of concentrate with gold at \$5.00 each. Also, she will have horse-shoes set up if anyone would like to play to win a prize. Coulterville she will still be having a panning contest and a metal detector hunt.
- **Ways and Means, Aaron Matula:** He will set up a table for sellable goods and the price of t-shirts and hats go up January 1, 2007.
- **Political-Grievance, Gerald Hurt:** We had an executive committee action this morning and talked about a few things that were going on. Emails being a new generation thing for business communications, it is very easy to write things down and be misconstrued. He encourages everyone to reread before you send. Word selection is important and words need to be friendly. With the political victory up north, there are some claims being reopened.
- **Editor/Editor-in-Chief/Publisher, Bill Reboin:** Cindy Siegel will be helping Bill with the tri-folds. Joel Orona will be helping Bill with the historical data.
- **Chapters, Tom Eastland:** Michael Philips is doing a wonderful job with the Santa Clara Chapter.
- **Claims, Chet Chastain presented by President Don Siegel:** He will be paying the taxes on the claims when they come due. Still wants to discuss whether to allow Coarse Gold to take over Upper Bull with the reciprocal agreement of allowing UPI to mine their claim and have the use of Upper Bull.
- **Technical Advisor, Steve Letlow presented by President Don Siegel:** Make sure everyone has a spark arrester and a spill pad.
- **Treasurer, Samantha Wait: BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT.**
No bills were presented for payment.
- **Unfinished Business:** The election committee consists of Director Gerald Hurt, Denise Matula, and Kit Perry. Denise Matula was nominated for directorship.
- **New Business:** We need to get the tri-folds delivered to the people that need them.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Santa Clara Chapter Reports

Hi all.

Just want to say the chapter is growing and we have a very good group of prospectors. Our raffles have been doing very well. The store we have our meeting in, is expanding and one side of the building will be devoted to prospecting equipment sale the other side is metal detector sales, plus a trading post, a library and video training room. We also will have access to a large patio area where we will be able to put on training classes. Our meeting room is equipped with audiovisual equipment to show videos on prospecting.

Our chapter outing to the 16-1 mine was great They are working a quartz vein that is 65 ft. wide and is tall as a two story building. It was really something to look at. The quartz was white as milk. They are also using Whites and Minelab metal detectors for locating gold pockets.

Thanks

Mike Phillips Chapter Chair, 538 Brooks Ave. San Jose, Ca. 95125



When Boulders Attack!

A True Story by Member Rich Andrews

Seven is my lucky number and dredging one of the UPI claims with Rick Niemi's 4" Keene on the 7th was a lucky day for me, not for the gold found but for cheating death! Talk about a close call, you can go no closer to the other side and still walk away alive. An instant of hesitation would have had fatal consequences with no hope of rescue.

The weekend prior, a member opened a nice producing hole to bedrock. Before heading home, he invited us to jump in with our dredge. Upstream of his hole is boulder laden; one huge slab of native rock had all the earmarks of a gold trap-or so my mind led me to believe. My self appointed mission was to dredge around these boulders.

During the fifth hour of operation, I was dredging next to the big gold trap slab after working under it. Down about 5' and to my left, I came across a new smaller boulder buried in the streambed. As I moved in to suck around its base, the giant slab gave way and began sliding downstream! In an instant, my facemask was pinched between the two boulders. The boulder on my left is buried and going nowhere, the slab, weighing tons, was crushing my right temple with an unimaginable force. Instinctually, I placed my hands on the two boulders and pulled like no other! The facemask buckles stayed lodged for a moment as I jerked my head out, that's hella close!

Luckily, the only injury incurred was a sore noggin. Four days later the temples are still tender to touch and both slightly swollen. The Doc checked me out on Thurs, passed the exam with flying colors.

Rookie mistakes; undermined too much and did not have a hand on

(Continued on page 5)

NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS

This section is devoted to acknowledging and welcoming all new members and those renewing!

Welcome aboard for a year of fun.

Information is from 08/15/06 - 09/12/06

New Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Marland Dow Jones	Denair, CA
Cleveland Lowe	Chowchilla, CA
Dennis Mathews	Fresno, CA
Ric Mora	Campbell, CA
Robert Murray	Fernley, NV
David & Linda Snook	Campbell, CA

Renewing Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>City/State</u>
Tim Abbott	Fresno, CA
Bill & Carol Bowman	Citrus, CA
Christopher Gee	Fairfield, CA
Rob & Debbie Goreham	Columbia, CA

Raymond Jordan Jr.
Steven & Marie Kleszyk
Gary Nunes
Rudolf Reyes
Paul Rupf
Chuck Ucker

Quincy, CA
Livermore, CA
Visalia, CA
Freemont, CA
Pleasanton, CA
Rio Vista, CA

Members up for renewal . Oct. 31, 2006

Sandy Anderson,	Richard Andrews,	Phil & Shirley Coney,
Duane & Virginia Degner,	Pat Deitz,	Lou Edwards,
Tim & Roberta Horgan	David Kerber	Steve Letlow,
John & Lisa Ljuba,	Don Lobach	Tom Lutrel,
Aaron & Denise Matula	Dillard McKeever	Jeff Schall,
Dennis Smith,	William Sobo,	Joseph Steiner,
James West		

Welcome aboard for another year of enjoyment with UPI, the small-scale miners advocate. We need to see you at the outings and the Board meetings to help us guide the organization the way you would like to see it go.

Don't forget that the elections are at Spanish Creek this up-coming outing. Be there, participate.

Thank you!

(Continued from page 4) **Boulders**

the big boy to sense it's movement. I learned my lessons from the master teacher, lessons I will never forget.

May you always be swift when Boulders Attack!

Best of luck to y'all.

EIC/PUB NOTE: There is a notation in the Mining Rules section of the Guidebook that says, **FOR SAFETY REASONS PLEASE DO NOT DREDGE ALONE.** It has been observed that this suggestion is not regularly followed. It should be noted that if you are long arming it, it may not be necessary. However if you are using air it is highly suggested that you team up for safety.



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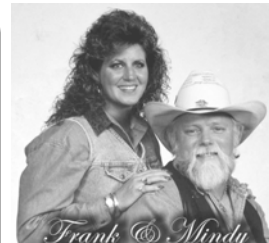
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OFFICIAL SAMPLE BALLOT

Vice President Vote for one (1)

Directors Vote for five (5)

Tom Eastland _____

Chet Chastain: _____

Write in _____

Denise Matula: _____

Treasurer Vote for one (1)

Aaron Matula _____

Samantha Wait _____

Sid Parrish: _____

Write in _____

Wes Smith: _____

Write in _____

Write in _____

THE OUTING!!



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Area Supervisor



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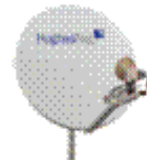


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Member Passing

It is with great sadness that I tell you of the death of our friend and mining partner, Jim Blake. Jim was an active member of UPI for many years. Jim's presence will surely be missed at the Contra Costa Chapter meetings as well as at the UPI outings.

From the Vallejo Times:

James D. Blake

01/08/1943 – 08/04 2006

James D. Blake a resident of Vallejo passed away Friday after a long illness.

Mr. Blake was self-employed. He was a member of the Vallejo PAL Soccer and Vallejo Gem and Mineral Club.

He is preceded in death by his parents, William and Mary Phyllis Blake; and brother, John P. Blake.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Barbara R. Blake; daughter, Deanna C. (Mickey) Thompson of Vallejo; son Warren M. (Denise) Blake of Tacoma, WA; brother William A. (Claire) Blake; and four grandchildren, Nichelle Neuner, Alyssa Gelpi, David Blake and Kaitlyn Blake.

A memorial Mass was held at St. Catherine's of Sienna Catholic Church in Vallejo.

(Supplied by Ed Ozga, Contra Costa Chapter Chair.)



Bull Creek Outing, by the Eastland's

It was a very strange outing, the bugs were high and the water was low! I think Toby's Toy, Lower Bull Creek, produced the most gold this time.

Christa, Bill Poore, and friends dug around a rock that produced nice sized pieces in every pan. The brave ones that carried their equipment down stream carried back with them some nice gold.

Good Pot Luck, and as usual Don held a great raffle. Christa sold 18 bags of pay dirt that turned out to be very nice gold. Christa tells me that she will have more pay dirt at Spanish Creek!

The Bugs! Aaron, Denise, Jennifer, and Alex, had company! A large gathering of Daddy Long Legs took a liking to their tent.

I have never seen anything like that before! Hundreds of these bugs, arachnids, were attached to their tent, in a group with their bodies together and legs hanging out!

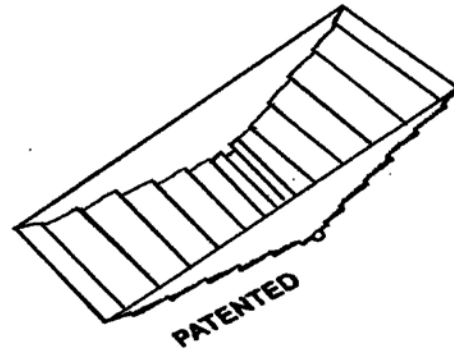


Above: Howard AKA net head, title of this pic by sender, Howwierd, and eat all He had fun going through everybody's trash looking for munchies.



Above left: Nugget winners at the Contra Costa PiPi outing in mid August. *Above right:* The Potluck from the same outing. *Sorry, this was the best I could do with these small files.*

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Contra Costa Chapter PiPi Outing

WOW, what a great outing. It sure was a lot of fun. We had a potluck with lots of great food and some big stories. Thanks to all the folks that came out to support the Contra Costa Chapter. We missed those who couldn't make it and we hope to see you at next years.

Some of "us" found gold and some folks didn't, here's a picture of some of the gold that was found. Also, there was a nice nugget found and some quartz gold that I didn't get a picture of. As usual our raffle was a hit! Some folks might not have found gold, but they went home with some anyway. There were four (4) big winners of Gold Nuggets (over 4 grams). We also raffled DVD's on mining, coins and more! Also, thanks to Jim Kelly for donating the 2 million candle power spotlight. Remember all the monies collected are spent on the next raffle, so come to the next meeting and check it out (**NOTE: There will be no September meeting**).

Thanks for all your support and May There Be Gold In Your Pan, Ed Ozga. Contra Costa Chair.





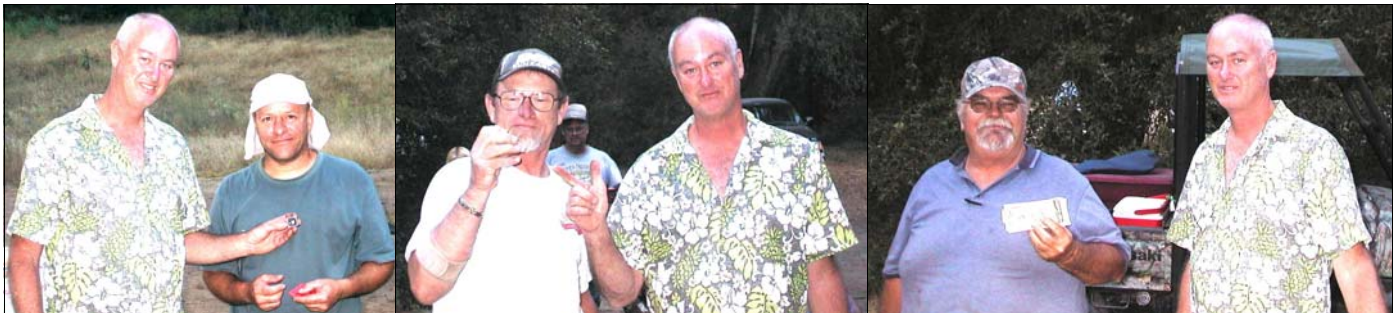
UPI ROLL CALL

List of members and guests present at the Bull Creek outing, Potluck and Raffle including the raffle results.

Sept. 2006

1. Brenda Marsh (and Bootsie) won a chisel with glasses (Donated by Armour fire), gold fever book
2. Dale Newlin won the large UPI Nugget
3. Bill Johnson
4. Terry and Mike Shoen
5. Michael Brickwadel
6. Don Lobach
7. Ray Budowich won a black pan (donated by Armour Fire)
8. Bill Greymont won a head light, travel care set (donated by Armour Fire)
9. John Melling won a Maddox, treasure shovel (donated by Dale Newlin)
10. Aaron, Denise, Jennifer, and Alex Matula won a blue gold pan)Donated by Bill Reboin) A MRE with a pot cleaner and mess kit, Grizzly Pan, a pan/broom combination, snffer bottle, fire extinguisher (Donated by Armour)
11. Don & Cindy Siegel won a treasure scoop, plastic trowel set (donated by Armour Fire)
12. Charles Crippen won a purple classifier
13. Earl McKeever
14. Don and Linda Reed won a small nugget, knife with stone, flashlight with batteries (donated by Dale Newlin) and a bottle holder
15. Ken Liddle
16. Joe and Gloria Sul
17. Joel, Laura, Brittany, and Ashley Orona won a tweezers/magnifier, maritime set (donated by Armour Fire)
18. Kit and Rita (alias Carson) Perry
19. Tom and Christa Eastland (and Howard) won a rock hammer, wonder bar, Vandonite crystal, coffee and cups (donated by Armour Fire)
20. Dan and Kathy Short
21. Bill Poore won a radio shack detector (donated by Terry Shoen), pry bar, painted saw blade, fire extinguisher (Donated by Armour Fire.) On top of all of this Bill also won a pocket pry bar and the 50/50 raffle.
22. Bill Reboin (and Samantha)
23. Randy Huckabay, Dave, Jewelie, Karri, and Michael Rickman won a flashlight, upi hat, quartz crystal, grab bag, loop, cigar box with tubes, and digging utensils
24. Charles Lebebach won a Morgan dollar, Sacajuia dollar, Susan B. Anthony dollar, knife and holder (donated by Dale Newlin)

Well I come up with 42 members and guests present for the Bull Creek event. Not too shabby at all. The weather was great the folks were great!



Above were the Raffle Winners in the Nugget an 50/50 categories at Bull , in each case pictured in the floral print with UPI President Don Siegel. Left to right: Big Nugget Dale Lewin, Don Reed the Small Nugget, and Bill Poore, the 50/50! Well done folks!!!

More of the Raffle!



Overview of the raffle by Christa to left.

MORE OF THE OUTING!



Almost forgot these raffle winners!!



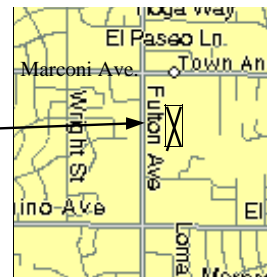
Check out the batch of raffle prizes, left, there was. A really good variety and good count! See what you missed out on.



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POTPOURRI

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST©

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Your responses to this column and the newsletter in general may play a part in the content of the newsletter and the way I vote as a Director. Please feel free to contact me.

Note: The beginning of this story was run several months ago in this publication. This is a win for all forest users!!!!



Bill Reboin, Ed/Pub and his pooch Samantha.

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For Immediate Release

FEDERAL COURT FINDS ARIZONA FOREST SERVICE FEE PROGRAM IS ILLEGAL. Hiking and Parking Fees Are Not Authorized In Fee Law

A mild-mannered, churchgoing, Tucson legal secretary has pulled the legal rug out from under a major Forest Service fee program, and potentially from hundreds of similar programs nationwide.

When Chris Wallace decided to fight the two tickets she received last September for going on backcountry hikes on Mt Lemmon without displaying a \$5 access pass on her parked car, the Forest Service got more than they bargained for. With the help of California attorney Mary Ellen Barilotti, she challenged whether the Forest Service has legal authority to charge the fee.

On September 5, United States Magistrate Judge Charles R. Pyle agreed with Wallace. He dismissed both her tickets because the Mt Lemmon fee does not meet federal requirements. The Court found that:

- The legal prohibition on fees for certain activities applies even within a High Impact Recreation Area
- The Forest Service does not have authority to charge a fee for parking along roads, or for undeveloped, minimally developed or semi-developed sites
- The Forest Service has no authority to charge fees for trails, trail sides, or developed trailheads

The agency is prohibited from charging for camping at undeveloped sites.

Wallace's case hinged on the restrictions spelled out in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA), which was passed by Congress as an appropriations rider in December 2004. The FLREA repealed the unpopular Fee Demo law and replaced it with a permanent, but more restrictive, fee authority for the Forest Service, BLM, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and Bureau of Reclamation. The FLREA specifically prohibits fees merely for parking, for hiking

through Forest Service lands, or for access to undeveloped backcountry.

After passage of the FLREA, the Forest Service issued internal guidelines that allow parking, hiking, and access fees in areas designated as "High Impact Recreation Areas" or HIRAs. Under these guidelines, fees are being charged nationwide for parking at undeveloped areas, trailheads, and along state highways and county roads.

The Western Slope No-Fee Coalition has challenged the concept of HIRAs, pointing out that they are not authorized in the FLREA and in fact are being used to skirt the restrictions in the law. A WSNFC Report to Congress documenting widespread non-compliance with the FLREA by the Forest Service was published in October 2005, in conjunction with a hearing by the Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests. The Mt Lemmon fee area was one of many identified in the Report as non-compliant with the FLREA. The Report can be read at http://www.westernslopenofee.org/NoFee/WSNFC_Survey_Report.pdf



It is believed that there are a number of USFS civil servants that would love to see all forests posted like this.

Following the Senate hearing, Undersecretary of Agriculture Mark Rey produced for Congress a list of 1,339 sites located within HIRAs. Of those, 739, or 75%, do not qualify individually for fees under the FLREA. The Wallace case challenged whether the Forest Service has authority to ignore the law's restrictions just because a site is within a HIRA.

Judge Pyle's ruling confirms that they do not. The ruling says, "With respect to the 20 developed trailheads [on Mt Lemmon], never in the 42 year history of fee-charging on federal lands has fee-charging for trailheads ever been contemplated by Congress. . . Of the 48 sites identified by the USFS, only nine picnic areas are appropriate for a standard amenity recreation fee, the fee at issue in this case, assuming they are in fact developed sites, and not roadside picnic tables and trash cans."

Other similar fee programs that are potentially affected by the ruling include Mt Evans in Colorado, Sandia Byway in New Mexico, American Fork Canyon in Utah, the Northwest Forest Pass in Washington and Oregon, and the Adventure Pass in Southern California.

"For them to continue to charge fees for parking, hiking, and backcountry access after this ruling is inexcusable," said WSNFC President Robert Funkhouser. "This decision confirms that the Forest Service is not above the law."

Judge Pyle's ruling concurs, stating "The USFS needs to abide by the constraints of Congress and allow reasonable access to dispersed areas for low impact activities."



Left: Is this laid back or what? Not sure what is going on here, maybe just getting things sorted out before the mining begins.





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See you at Spanish Creek!

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