



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Willamette National Forest
McKenzie River Ranger District

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McKenzie Bridge, Oregon 97413
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Date: May 12, 2015

**Re: Natural Resource Education Talks and Field Trips
The F5 Experience: Fur, Feathers, Fins, Flames and Flora: Connecting Youth to the Outdoors**

To: Pre-school, Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle and High Schools, and Science, Geography Classrooms; Other Community Organizations with a focus on Natural History, Biology, Science, and Geography

Dear Teachers, Instructors and Coordinators:

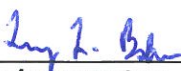
The Willamette National Forest is excited to again be able to offer some amazing talks, field trips and activities as part of our Natural Resource Education program. Activities are available for pre-school, kindergarten, elementary, middle and high school and may be of particular interest to Biology, Science, Conservation Education, Chemistry, and Geography classes.

One of our Naturewatch programs, **The F5 Experience**, emphasizes providing outdoor learning opportunities to youth through field trips and active restoration projects. The 2015 theme for this program is **Hummingbirds Forever!** These small workers buzz around and pollinate flowers. What is the role of pollinators? Where could we find hummingbirds? Our programs will focus on these questions, with the connection of having a South African biologist share experiences from his home country.

Our 2015 visiting Wildlife Biologist is Peter Hamming from South Africa, who will be coordinating and implementing much of the program. He graduated from Tshwane University of Technology in South Africa. His background includes camps with school groups, as well as training camps for veterinary and wildlife management students. He has assisted moving some of Africa's game animals from one area to another. Apart from bird banding, he has focused his attention on birds and protecting their habitat to preserve biodiversity.

During the past eight years that we have been offering these education programs, many schools and organizations have taken advantage of them, including Bauman's Tree Farm, Lane County Audubon Society, McKenzie, Springfield and Eugene 4J School Districts, including Buena Vista Elementary, Edison Elementary, River Road, Jefferson, Camp Creek and Oakhill Schools, as well as Lane Community College, University of Oregon, and Oregon State University.

The attached program flyer provides more information about our programs. Please do not hesitate to contact us for more details, or if you have any specific requests. We may be able to also offer programs about other topics such as **fisheries, water, botany, archeology, forestry, and fire management**. These programs can be offered at your school or organization meeting place, or as field trips on the Willamette National Forest. For more information please contact Peter directly at 541-822-7251 email: phamming@fs.fed.us or Ruby Seitz ruseitz@fs.fed.us.



/s/Terry Baker
District Ranger

