Request for Applicants to Serve on Jackson Demonstration State Forest Recreation User Group Task Force

Marc Jameson, Deputy Chief, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF) invites public involvement in the management of recreation in JDSF in Mendocino County. The JDSF Recreation User Group Task Force will share in the stewardship, development of policy recommendations, and other responsibilities related to recreation on Jackson Demonstration State Forest.

Mr. Jameson requests that persons interested in serving on the User Group Task Force apply by submitting a letter detailing their interest and relevant experience. Applications must be received or postmarked by (*April 3, 2009)* and should be sent to:

Jackson Demonstration State Forest
802 North Main Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
Fax (707) 964-0941

BACKGROUND

JDSF, the largest of eight Demonstration State Forests (http://www.fire.ca.gov/rsrc-mgt_sf.php), is located in Mendocino County. The 48,652-acre Forest is managed primarily for research and demonstration associated with a range of forest management purposes, including environmental stewardship, timber production, and recreation.

A new management plan for JDSF, adopted in January, 2008, proposes enhanced recreation and calls for user groups to advise the department in developing and implementing a plan to achieve this purpose. The management plan also established a Jackson Advisory Group to facilitate public input on a variety of management issues, including recreation. It is intended that interactions of the department, the Task Force, the Jackson Advisory Group, and the public will help achieve the recreational goals and objectives of the JDSF management plan.

MEMBERSHIP

The JDSF Recreation User Group Task Force members will be selected to represent a full range of interests in recreation on Jackson Demonstration State Forest. Members may include, but not be limited to JDSF neighbors, cyclists, equestrians, target shooters, teachers, hunters, hikers, campers, bird watchers, mushroomers, nature photographers, trail guide writers, and event organizers. Applicants should expect to be interviewed.

Applicants may represent themselves, an organized or informal user group, or an organization. Preference will be given to those representing organized user groups in those areas of recreation where such groups exist. Members are to represent the interests of the general public. Meetings of the Task Force will be public.

Membership on the Task Force will require a significant commitment of time. Initially, the Task Force will likely meet six to twelve times per year. After a period of initial plan implementation, meetings are likely to be less frequent, but at least once per year. Most meetings will be held in Fort Bragg, although occasional meetings may be held in other locations. There is no compensation for service on the Task Force.

For more information, contact CAL FIRE Deputy Chief Marc Jameson at marc.jameson@fire.ca.gov or Forester Craig Pedersen at craig.pedersen@fire.ca.gov or phone at 707-964-5674.