

OUTDOOR LIFE

EXPLORE THE OREGON COAST'S GREAT OUTDOORS IN THIS SPECIAL SUMMER SERIES

EXPLORE CAPE PERPETUA WITH RANGER TOURS

YACHATS — Do you want to take a hike with stunning ocean views under a canopy of giant trees or across towering sand dunes in the company of your very own guide?

Would you like to better understand subjects like coastal rainforest ecology, cultural history or dune restoration?

Are you looking for opportunities to connect children to the outdoors through meaningful educational and family oriented experiences?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then head to the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area and Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area this summer to find Siuslaw National Forest field rangers waiting to guide you on new adventures.

“Our field rangers create opportunities for visitors to make positive, memorable and lasting connections to their public lands,” said David Thompson, Siuslaw National Forest interpretive specialist and manager of the field ranger program. “This is also our chance to put a face to the efforts of those in our Forest who strive year-round to serve the greater good of the public through their efforts in recreation, restoration and community partnerships.”

The field ranger program, known as Valuing People and Places, is serving the public for its sixth year.

This year's crew hails from across the nation and the United Kingdom with degrees from the Universities of North



COURTESY PHOTO

A U.S. Forest field ranger makes a public presentation at the Cape Perpetua day-use area (right).

Carolina, Oklahoma, San Diego State, Saint Cloud-Minnesota, California-Santa Cruz, Eastern Kentucky, Keele-UK, and Amherst College.

Additionally, retired professionals who are Forest Service volunteers will join the group this summer.

Visitors can take advantage of ranger-led hikes and programs all summer at Cape Perpetua and the Oregon Dunes:

- Programs by request: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays through Tuesdays
- Junior Ranger Programs: 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays

“Ranger programs are great for those who want a more in-depth nature experience and a chance to really connect with these special places,”

Thompson said.

Field rangers can be found wherever Forest Service “welcome” flags are displayed along Highway 101.

Visitors also can inquire about field ranger programs and locations by calling the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center at 541-547-3289, or the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area Visitor Center at 541-271-6000.



Annual DuneFest to begin July 29 in Winchester Bay, Reedsport

WINCHESTER BAY — The Reedsport/Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce, along with Polaris, is proud to present DuneFest 2014, July 29 through Aug. 2.

This five-day event is filled with fun activities for adults and kids, including: Moto cross racing, free-style shows, sand drags, a pker run, a new Kids Treasure

Hunt, Show N' Shine, drive-in movie night, charity auction, evening entertainment featuring Rock The Dunes on Saturday night, a canned food drive to benefit the Reedsport Food Pantry, and many more activities.

DuneFest 2014 offers onsite sand camping and off-site camping, free parking and free shuttle bus service from

Winchester Bay, a Kid's Safe ATV riding area, and non-ethanol gasoline (premium fuel 92 octane) available in Salmon Harbor at the fuel dock.

Make camping reservations now; sites are filling up fast and only a few choice spots are left.

The Reedsport/Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce recognizes the

significance of the ATV and UTV industries and welcomes all participants, sponsors and vendors. With their help, and the help of hundreds of volunteers, DuneFest is one of the premiere ATV and UTV sand events in the country.

For more information, visit www.dunefest.com, or call the Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce at 541-271-3495.