

Helena National Forest Ranger Roll Call

History: The Elkhorn and Big Belt Forest Reserves were established in 1905 and the Helena Reserve in 1906. In 1908 the Elkhorns and north portion of the Big Belts were combined with the Helena Reserve. Eventually a portion of the Elkhorn range and the southern portion of the Helena was made a part of the Deerlodge. The Lincoln district was a late addition - coming from the public domain and adjacent forests to the north in the 1920s. Small boundary adjustments have been made over the years. The Helena District now in comprised of the area along the Continental Divide, the west side of the Elkhorns and the north end of the Big Belts. The Townsend District is made up of the east side of the Elkhorns, the southern portion of the Big Belts as well as the Dry range to the east of the Big Belts.

Moose Creek District - becomes the Helena District 1921

Walt Derrick	1907?
David Lewis	1919? - 1920

McClellan District - added to Helena District 1927/1928

Albert Cole	about 1909
Bucher	?
E. A. Woods	19 teens
C. F. Martineau	1920 - 1927

Helena District

History: The existing Helena District is comprised of districts consolidated from the Elkhorns, the north end of the Big Belts, and area along the Continental Divide

David Lewis	1921 - 1927
Bertram Goodman	1928-1937
Herman O. Ficke	1938-1941
William K. Samsel	1942
Verne J. Edwards	1943
Walter H. Sundell	1944
Verne J. Edwards	1945
Eric P. White	1948 - 1954
William H. MacKenzie	1958 - 1977
Robert Meinrod	1978- 1979 (Helena and Canyon Ferry)
Maurice W. Anding	1980 - 1983 (Helena & Canyon Ferry 80-81)
Denis Hart	1983 - 1998
Duane Harp	1999 - 2011
Heather DeGeest	2013 2019
Kathy Bushnell	2019 Present

Blackfeet District became the Elliston District in 1935. Combined with Helena District 1936

Albert Cole	about 1907
Mel D. Mizner	1910 - 1932
Sam F. Harris	1934 - 1935

Checkerboard District – renamed Nelson District in 1921. Now part of the Helena District at the north end of the Big Belts

Charles Thompson	about 1911
Earl Welton	about 1912
Homer Barber	about 1918
Eustice A. Woods	1920 - 1921
Calvin E. Barrick	1921 - 1923
T. G. Mefford	1924
Carl F. Uhlhorn	1925 - 1929
Ray Kingsley	1931 - 1932

Benton District – became the Smith River district in 1921, no longer listed in the 1928 directory. Not sure if part of this area is on the Helena District now

C. J. Howard	about 1909
R. J. Smith	about 1916
W. R. Hocking	about 1918
Dana Mariott	about 1918
Ray Kingsley	1920 - 1921
John D. Gruar	1921 - 1922
John R. Jones	1923
Carl F. Uhlhorn	1924
Bertram Goodman	1925 - 1927

Duck Creek – the ranger station location was established here in 1909. shared a ranger with the Benton Gulch/Smith River District 1925-1927. Renamed the Canyon Ferry District in 1941.

C. O. Hanson	about 1912
Wayne Alexander	about 1914
Ray Kingsley	about 1915
Bertram Goodman	1920 - 1927
C. F. Martineau	1928 - 1932
Walter W. Wetzel	1934
John Fallman	1935 - 1939
Orin V. Clover	1940 - 1944 (see Canyon Ferry)

Canyon Ferry -1983 divided between Helena & Townsend Districts

Orin V. Clover	1942 - 1944
J. Robert Jansson	1945 - 1950
Willard R. Fallis	1951 - 1954
John Hinman	1958 - 1962
Noel E. Rosetta	1963 - 1966
Phil Schlamp	1968 - 1977
Robert Meinrod	1978 - 1979
Maurice W. Anding	1980 - 1983

Deep Creek District, became the Townsend District in 1935.

Dana Mariott	1909 -
Earl V. Welton	1920 - 1934

Glendale District - Becomes the Crow Creek District in 1921 and the ranger station relocated from Crow Creek /Glendale to Radersburg)

John Frey	1910
Guy Brandborg	1916
Charles Larson	1920
Ray Kingsley	1921 - 1929

Townsend Ranger District

History: originally formed from the consolidation of the Deep Creek and Crow Creek districts and in 1983 added part of the Canyon Ferry District

Earl V. Welton	1935-1937
Elmer Luer	1938-1943
Charles McGregor	1944-1949
Verne J. Edwards	1950-1954
Geoff Greene,	1955
McHaarg	1956-1961
John Antonich	1962
T.R. Ingersoll	1963-1976
Jerry V. Adelblue	1977-1987
Barbara S. Beck	1988-1990
George A. Weldon	1991-1999
Joni Packard	2000-2001
Michael L. Cole	2002-2010
Heather DeGeest	2011-2013
Corey Lewellen	2014-2017
Michael Welker	2018-2020

Lincoln Ranger District

History: The Lincoln district was established in 1928 and the first Ranger to be listed in the directories was in 1931. Several boundary adjustments occurred over the years with forests to the north

L.P. McKnight	1931-1936
H.O. Ficke	1937
Royal Turley	1938
Warren Ensign	1939-1944
Russell C. Fitzgerald	1945-1949
John Venrick	1950-1953
Laurence R. Olsen	1954 - ?
Bert Morris	1958-1964
Gerald G. Stern	1965-1967
Vacant	1968
Neil Peterson	1970-1977
James I Mershon	1978-1984

Ron Des Jardins	1985-1988
Tom Leipshire	1989-1993
Vacant	1994
Gilbert Zepada	1995 1998
Diana Bambi	1998 – 2003
Amber Camps	2003 2014
Michael E. Stansberry	2014 2021

Combined districts as of 1920

- 1924 – Benton Gulch combined with Duck Creek
- 1927-8 Moose Creek & McClellan combined to form the Helena District
- 1930s – Deep Creek & Glendale combined to form Townsend
- 1937 – Elliston (Blackfeet) added to the Helena District
- 1937 – Nelson added to Duck Creek District
- 19?? – Canyon Ferry district formed from Nelson/Benton/Duck
- 1940 – districts realigned
- 1983 - Canyon Ferry split between Helena & Townsend Districts

Missing Directories: pre-1920, 1930, 1947, 1955-1957, 1969, 1974, 1995-1996, 1998