

## Kootenai National Forest Ranger Roll Call & Forest Supervisors

**History** -- The name, "Kootenai" comes from a nation of Indians (also known as Deer Robes) who lived in the area of northwestern Montana. The Kootenai was proclaimed a Forest Reserve on August 13, 1906. In 1907 it was renamed a National Forest. In 1908 land was acquired from the Lewis and Clark and loses land to create the Pend d'Oreille. In 1912 land was transferred to and from the Blackfeet, Flathead, Kootenai and Missoula. In 1931 land went to the Helena and in 1932 added the Jefferson. In 1935 a portion of the Blackfeet National Forest were added to the Kootenai. In 1954 a portion of the Cabinet National Forest was added to the Kootenai. The 2.2 million acres National Forest is located in the far northwestern section of Montana and a small area in northern Idaho. There are Ranger District offices in Eureka, Fortine, Libby, Trout Creek, and Troy, Montana.

### Forest Supervisors

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| David G. Kinney   | 1907           |
| Fremont N. Haines | 1907           |
| C. E. Schoonover  | 1907 - 1908    |
| Dorr Skeels       | 1909 - 1912    |
| W. A. Raymond     | 1912 - 1914    |
| Glenn Smith       | 1914 - 1918    |
| L. F. Vinal       | 1919 - 1922    |
| A. M. Baum        | 1922 - 1926    |
| Frank Jefferson   | 1926 - 1930    |
| C.S. Webb         | 1930 - 1936    |
| Karl Klehm        | 1936 - 1946    |
| Bill Guernsey     | 1946 - 1951    |
| Howard Ahlskog    | 1951 - 1958    |
| Robert Cron       | 1958 - 1964    |
| George Mahrt      | 1964 - 1973    |
| Floyd Marita      | 1974 - 1979    |
| William Morden    | 1979 - 1983    |
| James Rathbun     | 1983 - 1989    |
| Robert Schrenk    | 1990 - 1998    |
| Bob Castaneda     | 1999 - 2006    |
| Paul Bradford     | 2006.-.2014    |
| Chris Savage      | 2014 - 2018    |
| Chad Benson       | 2019 - Present |

## District Rangers

### Rexford District - Eureka, MT

The Ant Flat District was consolidated with the Fortine District and moved to Murphy Lake in 1963. The Rexford District was consolidated with the Eureka District and moved to Eureka in 1959. In 2010 the Rexford District and the Fortine District were consolidated forming the present Rexford District.

#### Ant Flat Ranger Station (1902 - 1963)

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Fred Herrig                    | 1902 - 1919 |
| Lon Beaman                     | 1919 - 1920 |
| E. Jensen                      | 1921 - 1925 |
| Albert "Bert" Cramer           | 1925 - 1929 |
| Ralph Space                    | 1929 - 1931 |
| Rolfe Fremming                 | 1932 - 1936 |
| Sam T. Billings                | 1936 - 1938 |
| Stanford H. Larson             | 1940 - 1942 |
| John Aemisegger                | 1941 - 1941 |
| Bill Gaffney                   | 1942 - 1942 |
| John Aemisegger                | 1942 - 1943 |
| C. James                       | 1943 - 1944 |
| Jesse Fox                      | 1944 - 1947 |
| Emerson Schuyler "Skip" Albert | 1947 - 1950 |
| Russ T. Cloninger              | 1950 - 1955 |
| Robert Beaubier                | 1955 - 1960 |
| Robert Feilzer                 | 1960 - 1963 |

#### Murphy Lake Ranger Station (1963 - Present)

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Robert Feilzer    | 1963 - 1964 |
| Jim Thomson       | 1964 - 1968 |
| Dean Weeden       | 1968 - 1978 |
| John W. Pritchard | 1978 - 1983 |
| Tom Hope          | 1984 - 1984 |
| Bill Boettcher    | 1985 - 1988 |
| Tom Puchlerz      | 1988 - 1992 |
| Jane Kollmeyer    | 1992 - 1996 |
| Ed Monnig         | 1996 - 2003 |
| Betty Holder      | 2003 - 2014 |

Murphy Lake District consolidated with Eureka District in 2012 and moved to Eureka

## **Cabinet District - Trout Creek, MT**

### **Cabinet National Forest (1905 - 1954)**

#### **Noxon District**

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Granny Gordon        | 1906 - 1908 |
| E. Clark             | 1908 - 1911 |
| B. Saint             | 1910 - 1920 |
| Albert "Bert" Cramer | 1930 - 1931 |
| G. Duvendak          | 1931 - 1936 |
| W. L. Clover         | 1936 - 1942 |
| H. Gill              | 1943 - 1945 |
| J. Meir, Jr.         | 1945 - 1947 |
| M. Tester            | 1947 - 1949 |
| B. Fry               | 1950 - 1951 |
| B. Pierce            | 1952 - 1954 |

#### **Trout Creek District**

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| J. S. Baird        | 1906 - 1907 |
| W. Ellis           | 1908 - 1910 |
| R. Older           | 1911 - 1911 |
| M. E. Skillman     | 1911 - 1912 |
| Justin K. Dwinelle | 1912 - 1915 |
| J. Adams           | 1916 - 1917 |
| R. Older           | 1917 - 1918 |
| H. K. Nickals      | 1918 - 1920 |
| H. R. Larsen       | 1920 - 1922 |
| N. Eplin           | 1923 - 1927 |
| W. W. Coleman      | 1931 - 1933 |
| A. Kramis          | 1934 - 1938 |
| N. Rice            | 1940 - 1941 |
| C. H. Seirbur      | 1941 - 1942 |
| W. H. Stillings    | 1943 - 1945 |
| R. F. Thugnum      | 1946 - 1948 |
| R. L. Gregson      | 1949 - 1954 |

### **Kaniksu National Forest (1954 - 1973)**

#### **Noxon District**

|                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| E. Cooley       | 1957 - 1958 |
| B. Graham       | 1959 - 1961 |
| B. Ward         | 1962 - 1967 |
| J. Lowell       | 1966 - 1967 |
| David A. Filius | 1968 - 1970 |
| R. Stoleson     | 1971 - 1972 |
| John Bushfield  | 1972 - 1973 |

#### **Trout Creek District**

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| J. O. Herron | 1955 - 1956 |
| A. Arvis     | 1956 - 1957 |

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| J. W. Brinkerhoff | 1958 – 1962 |
| L. K. Smith       | 1963 – 1972 |

### **Kootenai National Forest (1973 – Present)**

#### Cabinet District

##### Trout Creek Ranger Station

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| B. O'Brien         | 1973 – 1974    |
| D. Morton          | 1974 – 1979    |
| Ronald R. Humphrey | 1980 – 1983    |
| J. I. Mershon      | 1983 – 1999    |
| B. H. Avery        | 1999 – 2004    |
| J. Molzahn         | 2005 – 2008    |
| L. Kramer          | 2008 – 2011    |
| R. Hojem           | 2011 – 2012    |
| John Gubel         | 2012 – 2020    |
| Michael Fieger     | 2020 - Present |

### **Three Rivers District – Troy, MT**

#### Troy District (1907 – 1987)

##### Cabinet Ranger Station & Troy Ranger Station (1907 – 1939)

[Rangers moved back and forth between the two as needed.]

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| A. B. Claflin         | 1907 – ?    |
| Charles Dennis        | 1910 – ?    |
| David C. “Dave” Huson | 1914 – 1915 |
| Henry Lee Baker       | 1916 - ?    |
| Rufus E. Clay         | 1917 - ?    |
| Justin K. Dwinelle    | 1917 – 1919 |
| John D. Brooks        | 1918 – 1922 |
| John P. Baldwin       | 1923 – 1924 |
| Howard McGill         | 1925 – 1927 |
| E. A. Woods           | 1927 – 1932 |
| Ed Henrick            | 1932 – 1934 |
| Howard Matthews       | 1935 – 1936 |
| Ed Henrick            | 1937 – 1939 |

##### Troy Ranger Station (1939 – 1987)

[Cabinet Ranger Station consolidated with Troy Ranger Station in 1939.]

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Ed Henrick                | 1939 – 1942 |
| High Hand                 | 1942 – 1952 |
| Robert Smart              | 1953 – 1956 |
| Milton F. “Mitch” Philips | 1956 – 1958 |
| Robert Stiener            | 1958 – 1964 |
| Bob R. Lichlyter          | 1965 – 1969 |
| Gene A. Kalkoskie         | 1969 – 1974 |
| Robert Wynecoop           | 1974 – 1977 |

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Bjorn Dahl   | 1978 - 1980 |
| Larry Hudson | 1981 - 1987 |

Yaak District (1908 - 1987)

Upper Ford Ranger Station (1924 - 1942)

|                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| C. D. Sousley   | 1924 - 1929 |
| Ralph E. Fields | 1929 - 1930 |
| Bert A. Bealey  | 1931 - 1934 |
| C. A. Fenn      | 1935 - 1940 |
| Ray Hilding     | 1941 - 1941 |
| George Weyerman | 1942 - 1942 |

Sylvanite Ranger Station (1908 - 1987)

[Upper Ford Ranger Station consolidated with Sylvanite Ranger Station in 1942.]

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Frank Bening          | 1908 - 1909 |
| Henry Weidner         | 1910 - 1910 |
| Ed Weidner            | 1911 - 1912 |
| Bert Mooney           | 1913 - 1915 |
| David C. "Dave" Huson | 1915 - 1917 |
| John P. Baldwin       | 1918 - 1919 |
| John D. Brooks        | 1920 - 1920 |
| John P. Baldwin       | 1921 - 1923 |
| Alvin E. Beckwith     | 1923 - 1925 |
| C. A. Fenn            | 1926 - 1929 |
| Sam T. Billings       | 1929 - 1930 |
| E. A. Woods           | 1931 - 1935 |
| Gordon Cornell        | 1936 - 1941 |
| Ray Hilding           | 1942 - 1942 |
| George Weyerman       | 1943 - 1944 |
| Gene Grush            | 1944 - 1945 |
| Alfred A. Flint       | 1946 - 1947 |
| Russ T. Cloninger     | 1948 - 1949 |
| Bernard Abrams        | 1950 - 1950 |
| John R. Milodragovich | 1951 - 1952 |
| Glen A. Mariott       | 1953 - 1956 |
| Keith M. Thompson     | 1956 - 1958 |
| Thomas P. Farbo       | 1958 - 1961 |
| William R. Magnuson   | 1961 - 1968 |
| David M. Colclough    | 1968 - 1972 |
| John B. Dillon        | 1972 - 1978 |
| David R. Fischer      | 1978 - 1983 |
| John R. Righter       | 1983 - 1987 |

Three Rivers District (1987 – Present)

[Troy District and Yaak District merged to form Three Rivers District in 1987.]

Troy Ranger Station

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| John R. Righter   | 1987 – 1994    |
| Mike Balboni      | 1994 – 2006    |
| Mike Herrin       | 2007 – 2010    |
| Linda Ellett-Fee  | 2010 – 2012    |
| Kirsten A. Kaiser | 2013 – 2023    |
| Sam Martin        | 1923 - Present |

**Rexford District – Eureka, MT**

Rexford Ranger Station (1916 – 1959)

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Barney G. Mooney  | 1916 – 1919 |
| Peter H. Dierman  | 1920 – 1921 |
| L. H. Brown       | 1921 – 1922 |
| O. B. Parker      | 1922 – 1923 |
| C. R. “Bob” Byers | 1923 – 1928 |
| Charlie E. Powell | 1929 – 1936 |
| Oak A. Knapp      | 1937 – 1947 |
| Ernie J. Grambo   | 1947 – 1951 |
| Less R. Fulton    | 1951 – 1954 |
| Guss Verdal       | 1954 – 1958 |
| Charles P. Kern   | 1958 – 1959 |

Eureka Ranger Station (1959 – Present)

|                                                                            |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Charles P. Kern                                                            | 1959 – 1963 |
| John Johnson                                                               | 1964 – 1965 |
| John Hossack                                                               | 1965 – 1967 |
| John Bushfield                                                             | 1967 – 1971 |
| Terry Moore                                                                | 1971 – 1975 |
| Ed Schultz                                                                 | 1975 – 1978 |
| Dave Poncin                                                                | 1978 – 1983 |
| H. Drew Bellon                                                             | 1983 – 1994 |
| Robert J. Thompson                                                         | 1994 – 1998 |
| Glen M. McNitt                                                             | 1998 – 2010 |
| Betty Holder                                                               | 2010 – 2014 |
| Murphy Lake District consolidated with Eureka District and moved to Eureka |             |
| Bryan Donner                                                               | 2014 – 2021 |
| Seth Carbonari                                                             | 2021 - 2024 |

**Fisher River District – Libby, MT**

First located at Fairview in 1908 and operated until 1923 as the Pleasant Valley R.D. and later as the Raven R.D. The Raven R.D. was later consolidated with the Swamp Creek R.D. in 1928 and renamed the Fisher River R.D. The Fisher River R.D. was moved into the newly constructed Raven Ranger Station in the 1930’s and 1940’s. The district headquarters were moved to Canoe Gulch in 1972 in a consolidation with the Warland R.D.

## **Raven Ranger District - Libby, MT**

### **Swamp Creek District**

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| F. Pillsbury | 1919 |
| K. A. Klehm  | 1921 |
| E. A. Woods  | 1923 |
| C. W. Powell | 1927 |
| R. Fields    | 1927 |
| C. A. Fenn   | 1929 |

Swamp Creek and the Pleasant Valley Districts were consolidated in 1928 to form the Fisher River District

### **Fisher River/Raven District**

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| C. E. Powell         | 1928        |
| District not listed  | 1929        |
| C. A. Fenn           | 1931 - 1934 |
| Bert A. Bealey       | 1935 - 1942 |
| Kermit W. Miller     | 1943 - 1945 |
| Vacant               | 1946        |
| District not listed  | 1947        |
| Thurman H. Trosper   | 1948 - 1950 |
| E. Schuyler Albert   | 1951 - 1954 |
| Ray D. Hunter        | 1958 - 1960 |
| Orville D. Grossarth | 1961        |
| George W. Summerside | 1962 - 1963 |
| Jimmie L. Hickman    | 1966 - 1968 |
| Philip C. Cowan      | 1968 - 1971 |
| Vacant               | 1971        |

District consolidated with Warland District in 1972 and moved to Canoe Gulch

### **Warland Ranger District- Warland**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| R. Hess        |        |
| C. N. Lawrence |        |
| R. E. Clon     |        |
| E. J. Weidner  | 1910's |
| E. Wagner      |        |
| L. E. Tripp    |        |
| K. A. Klehm    |        |
| S. Billings    | 1940's |
| W. Ensign      |        |
| L. Lake        |        |

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| Ed Laven | 1965 - 1972? |
|----------|--------------|

Fisher River and Warland Districts consolidated in 1972 and moved to Canoe Gulch

**Fisher River District, Libby, MT**

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Robert L. Brown     | 1972 - 1979 |
| Vacant              | 1980-       |
| Kenneth A. Strauss  | 1981 - 1987 |
| Lawrence A. Froberg | 1988 - 1994 |

District consolidated with Libby District 1994

**Libby District Rangers, Libby MT**

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| C. Sutton                | 1915        |
| C. Marshall              | 1917        |
| P. Rogers                | 1920        |
| G. Blackwell             | 1925        |
| W. Gregg                 | 1928        |
| C. Byers                 | 1933        |
| C. Powell                | 1937        |
| E. Hendricks             | 1941        |
| G. Gaugharty             | 1943        |
| Albert C. Austin         | 1944 - 1948 |
| Jesse W. Fox             | 1949 - 1951 |
| Thurman H. Trosper       | 1951-1952   |
| Herbert Flodberg         | 1952-1953   |
| John R. Milodragovich    | 1954-1958   |
| George W. Summerside     | 1958-1960   |
| E. Del Mar Jaquish       | 1960-1961   |
| William Joseph Fredeking | 1962-1965   |
| Paul D. Weingart         | 1966-1968   |
| James R. Thompson        | 1970-1973   |
| David M. Colclough       | 1975-1976   |
| David M. Spores          | 1977-1980   |
| Gary Rahm                | 1981-1989   |
| Darcy J. Pederson        | 1990-1994   |

(1994 the year Libby & Fisher River Ranger Districts combined)

|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Lawrence A. Froberg | 1994-1998    |
| Malcolm R. Edwards  | 2000-2014    |
| Nathan Gassman      | 2015-present |