

Salmon-Challis National Forest Ranger Roll Call

History - The Salmon-Challis National Forest covers over 4.3 million acres in east-central Idaho. In 1906 the Salmon River Forest Reserve was established; this was later renamed in 1908 to the Salmon National Forest to properly reflect the multiplicity of uses for the region. On July 1, 1908, the Challis National Forest was created. The Lemhi National Forest was established as the Lemhi Forest Reserve by the U.S. Forest Service in Idaho on November 5, 1906 with 1,344,800 acres. It became a National Forest on March 4, 1907. On October 8, 1938 the entire forest was divided between Challis National Forest and Salmon National Forest and the Lemhi National Forest name was discontinued. 1996 brought further change to these forests as the USDA and the National Forest Service began to streamline the administration of different regions. As part of a “pilot program” started in 1996, the Salmon National Forest, Challis National Forest, and a portion of the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness consolidated to become the Salmon-Challis National Forest; this consolidation became formally approved in Washington, DC in February 1998.

The Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness was established by congress in 1980; this area encompassed a total of 2.36 million acres extending across 6 national forests and 97 miles of the Salmon River to become the largest wilderness area in the lower 48 states. Rugged and remote, this country offers adventure, solitude, and breathtaking scenery. Passed into law on August 7, 2015, the Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness Area covering approximately 116,898 acres which is administered by the Forest and the BLM Challis Field Office. The Forest also contains Borah Peak, Idaho's tallest peak, the Wild & Scenic Salmon River and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. The area is a highly desired destination for hunting, fishing, white-water rafting, and many other popular recreational pursuits.

The Salmon-Challis National Forest in 2022 is composed of five Ranger Districts: Challis-Yankee Fork/Middle Fork Ranger District, Leadore Ranger District, Lost River Ranger District, North Fork Ranger District, and the Salmon/Cobalt Ranger District.

Salmon National Forest

Leadore Ranger District – Leadore, ID

Leadore District

Fred Chase	1915 – 1917
V. Olant	1919
D M. Casterlin	1920 – 1922
Thomas J. Jerrell	1923 – 1926
J. L. Phillips	1927 – 1947
Edward L. Noble	1948 – 1950
Joseph W. Ladle	1951 – 1954
L. T. Gutzman	1955
N. E. Poynor	1958
A. Orlo Johnson	1961 – 1968
Carlton P. Guillette	1969 – 1978
Clark B. Tucker	1979 – 1986
S. E (Lou) Woltering	1987 – 1989
J. Richard Ward	1990 – 2000
Dennis M. Hilliard	2004 – 2008

Kyra Povirk

Lemhi District (combined with Leadore District by 1957)

H. B. Weber	1907
George Ashton	1909 – 1919
Clarence D. Huestis	1920 – 1924
O. W. Slavin	1925 – 1927
Floyd Godden	1928 – 1931
Murle J. Markham	1933 – 1937
Clinton C. Quesnel	1938 – 1944
W. H. Lucas	1946 – 1948
Herbert C. Armstrong	1949 – 1951
R.B. Allison	1952 – 1953
E. Smith	1956

Gilmore District

H. B Weber	1915
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North Fork Ranger District – North Fork, ID

North Fork District

D.E. Marsolek	1958 – 1959
Richard E. Leicht	1960 – 1964
Ronald E. Averill	1965 – 1972
Franklin S. Elder	1973 – 1978
Richard M. Bacon	1979 – 1984
Rogers M. Thomas	1985 – 2000
Patty Bates	2004
Steve Kimball	2008
Ken Gebhardt	
Chris Waverek	2022 -

Indianola District (combined w/North Fork District in 1972)

R. W. Young	1909
R. E. Allan	1915 - 1918
Carlton F. Clark	1919 – 1925
Neale E. Poynor	1926 – 1943
Clinton C. Quesnel	1944 – 1945
U. Zuberbuhler	1946 – 1949
Melvin T. Hyatt	1950 – 1956
Waldemar Mueller	1958 – 1964
Archer W. Wirth	1965 – 1972

Hughes Creek District (becomes North Fork District by 1958)

Ora Cockrell	1909 – 1917
E. J. Caperon	1920
T. A. Jerrell	1921 – 1922
Allan H. Wheeler	1923 – 1947
P. Grossenback	1948
William J. Lucas	1949 – 1950
E. Rex Naanes	1951 – 1954

M. Johannesen	1956 – 1957
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Shoup Creek District	
M. E. Mahoney	1915 – 1916

Salmon/Cobalt Ranger District – Salmon, ID

Salmon/Cobalt District	
Terry J. Hershey	2000 – 2008
Kyra Povirk	

Salmon District	
Ora Cockrell	1907
Wm. Swan	1909 – 1916
C. J. Kriley	1917 – 1919
R. E. Allan	1920 – 1922
D. E. Romano	1923 – 1925
L. C. Robertson	1926 – 1935
Otis W. Slavin	1936 – 1943
Neale E. Poynor	1944 – 1957
J. McFrederick	1958 – 1960
Orville E. Engelby	1961 – 1965
Wiley W. Daniels	1966 – 1968
W. K. Jensen	1969 – 1972
Donald H. Hooper	1972 – 1974
Alden R. Schuldt	1975 – 1978
Carlton P. Guillette	1979 – 1988
Robert A. Russell	1989 – 1996
Debbie Henderson	1997 - 1999

Cobalt District	
Lester T. Gutzman	1958 – 1960
Gilbert L. Farr	1961 – 1965
Ralph A. Finn	1966 – 1975
Ervin C. Burrows	1976 – 1978
James C. Lancaster	1979 – 1983
Clinton C. Groll	1984 – 1997

Forney/Copper Creek District (becomes part of Cobalt District by 1961)

E. M. Christensen	1907 – 1909
J. Gautier	1915
E. R. Gilbreath	1916
A. H. Wheeler	1920 – 1922
O. W. Slavin	1923 – 1924
R. E. Green	1925 – 1928
Glenn Bradley	1929 – 1937
Andrew R. McConkie	1938 – 1943
Lester T. Gutzman	1944 – 1957

Hat Creek District	
Wm. Swan	1915

Wild River District/River of No Return Wilderness Team	
Ricard D. Estes	1973
Ricard D. Estes	1981 – 1983

Challis National Forrest

Challis-Yankee Fork/Middle Fork Ranger District – Challis, ID

Challis/Yankee Fork District	
Ralph Rau	2008
Heath Perrine	

Challis District	
H. D. Gerrish	1907 – 1914
E. P. Huffman	1915 – 1917
Charles C. Shaw	1918 – 1919
Willard Frost	1920 – 1924
Lewis B. Koch	1924 – 1950
Geo. E. Lafferty	1950 – 1953 (on leave to U.S. Army 1951)
John M. Deinema (Acting)	1951
Bill K. Cooperrider	1954 – 1958
H. Reid Jackson	1958 – 1960
Howard R Koskella	1960 – 1963
Donis W. Owen	1964 – 1968
Sam E. Warren	1969 – 1972
Bryant L. Christensen	1972 – 1976
Val R. Gibbs	1977 – 1980
Nick Zufelt	1981 – 1985
Robert Gardner	1986 – 1997
Rene M Mabe	2000 – 2003
Ralph Rau	2004 – 2007

Clayton/Yankee Fork District (combined w/Challis District)	
George W. Smith	1910 – 1917
John R. Smith	1918 – 1919
John S. Malm	1920 – 1927
Chas. Daugherty	1928 – 1930
L. H. Garner	1930 – 1934
C. W. Scribner	1935 – 1936
Arthur M. Cusick	1936 – 1948
George E Lafferty	1948 – 1950
Bill Cooperrider	1950 – 1954
Robert B. Allison	1955 – 1956
L. E. Horton	1956 – 1958
Marvin H. Larson	1958 – 1969

Dan T. Pence	1970 – 1976
Joseph Kinsella	1977 – 1979
Barry Davis	1980 – 1983
Gregg Johnson	1984 – 1999
Rene M Mabe	2000
Tom Montoya	2004 – 2007

Bonanza District (consolidated w/ Clayton District in 1920)

Paul Walter	1909
Wallwin T. Job	1910
John T. Wood	1911 – 1912
John J. Boyle	1913
John A. Wood	1914 – 1915
Charkes C. Shaw	1916 – 1917
Jesse G. C. Elgan	1918 – 1919

Middle Fork District (Challis NF starting in 1973)

Sam E. Warren	1972 – 1978
Cliff Blake	1979 – 1981
Mac Thomson	1982 – 1983
Peggy Fox	1984
Gary Fullmer	1985 – 1990
Ray Cullinane	1991 – 1997
Rogers M. Thomas	2000
Patty Bates	2004
Tom Montoya	2008

Loon Creek District (combined with Challis District by 1957)

Ross Tobias	1909
Allan Williams	1910 – 1917
Ned Foster	1918 – 1923
Chas. Daugherty	1923 – 1927
John S. Malm	1928 – 1929
Warren K. Bolles	1929
Arthur Buckingham	1930 – 1935
Jay B. Hann	1935 – 1938
Archie A. Murchie	1938 – 1943
Herbert J. Freece	1943 – 1945
Otto H. Tschamp	1946
Robert E. Latimore	1946 – 1950
R. E. Newcomer	1950 – 1952
Geo. Lafferty	1954
Melvin Shepard	1955 – 1957

Stanley District (transferred to Sawtooth NRA after 1973)

C. J. Kriley	1915
Edgar P. Huffman	1909 – 1914
Leslie Dodge	1915 – 1917
Edgar P. Huffman	1918 – 1924

R. E Allen	1924 – 1927
Merle G. Markle	1928 – 1936
Charley J. Langer	1936 – 1943
Paul A. Grossenbach	1943 – 1945
Dean C. Rowland	1946 – 1952
Robert E. Newcomer	1952 – 1961
Harold E. Wadley	1961 – 1967
George L. Presley	1968 – 1970
Thomas J. Kovalicky	1970 – 1973

Rapid River District (created in 1923, combined w/other districts in 1950's)

Chas. Daugherty	1923
M. G. Markle	1924 – 1927
R. E. Allen	1928 – 1933
C. W. Scribner	1933 – 1934
H. H. Hinkley	1936
A. A. Murchie	1936 – 1937
Herbert J. Freece	1938 – 1943
Gerald J. Hall	1943 – 1944
Marvin H. Larson	1944 – 1956

Middle Fork/Yellowjacket District (Part of Salmon NF, Combined w/other Districts prior to 1961)

Roscoe E. Green	1923 – 1924
N. E. Poynor	1925
Russel M. White	1927 – 1928
L. T. Gutzman	1929 – 1943
Kenneth Call	1945 – 1946
Henry L. Ketchie	1947 – 1951
Waldemar Mueller	1952 – 1954

Lost River Ranger District – MacKay, ID

Pahsimeroi/May/Lost River Ranger District

F. C. Haman	1915
Oscar F. Cusick	1923
Arthur M. Cusick	1928 – 1935
J. M. Hockaday	1936 – 1940
Claude Morin	1940 – 1943
Milton C. Sill	1943 – 1950
Robert E. Latimore	1950 – 1952
Richard N. Hickman	1953 – 1958
Melvin G. Long, Jr	1958 – 1962
George T. Zugger	1962 – 1969
Grant Thorson	1970 – 1981
Jim McKibbean	1982 – 1987
Martin Prather	1988 – 1989
Dave Aicher	1990 – 1992
Dave Fallis	1993 – 1999
Carol Eckert	2004 – 2008
Jonathan LeBlanc	

MacKay District

Milton C. Siill	1956
Lester Fluckinger	1956 – 1960
Phillip S. Moffett	1961 – 1970
Garth E. Baxter	1971 – 1972

Medicine Lodge District (combined w/other Lost River Districts in 1940's)

Geo. A. Miller	1923
Nathan C. Schulze	1928
H. H. Van Winkle	1931 – 1934
L. H. Garner	1936 – 1939

Little Lost River District (combined w/other Lost River Districts in late 1950's)

Robert B. Johnson	1923
Geo. A. Miller	1928 – 1943
Claude Morin	1943 – 1944
John M. Wick	1944 – 1950
Milton C. Sill	1950 – 1956

Antelope District (combined w/ Wildhorse District 1935)

J. L. Phillips	1923
Jesse H. Olsen	1928
Oscar F. Cusick	1931 - 1934

Wildhorse District (Combined w/other Lost River Districts in late 1950's)

Carrol C. Pelton	1923
Oscar F. Cusick	1928 – 1936
S. R. Justice	1936 – 1943
Archie A. Murchie	1943 – 1947
Allen H. Wheeler	1947 – 1950
Bill Cooperrider	1950
John M. Wick	1951 – 1957

Additional Early Rangers, location unclear:

Monte Buster	1907
F. W. Carl	1907
R. W. Young	1907
Jas. M. Ryan	1907
Wm. Shanafelt	1907
Harry Long	1909
Ray Dryer (Leesburg)	1914 – 1917
C. Nelson	1915