

White River National Forest Ranger Roll Call

Chronological History of the White River National Forest completed on the WRNF Golden Anniversary 10/11/1941 by Walter Gallacher.

On October 16, 1891, President Benjamin Harrison signed a Proclamation setting aside public lands for the public good. The lands President Harrison set aside were called the White River Plateau Timber Reserve and were among the first lands established in support of a historic conservation movement. They were, in fact, the very first Timber Reserve lands established in the State of Colorado. There are five Ranger Districts: Aspen-Sopris, Blanco, Dillon, Eagle-Holy Cross and Rifle.

1897 June 4. Law enacted by Congress providing for the organization and management of the forest reserves and placing their administration under the General Land Office of the Department of Interior.

1902 June 28. President Theodore Roosevelt eliminated 68,160 acres and changed the name from White River Plateau Timberland Reserve to White River Forest Reserve.

1904 May 21. President Theodore Roosevelt eliminated 159,040 acres from the White River Forest.

1905 February 1. Administration of the forest reserves transferred from the General Land Office, U. S. Department of Interior, to the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

1907. The name "forest reserves" was changed to "national forests" by Act of Congress, to indicate that the resources of these areas are not locked up as "reserves" for a distant future.

1911 January 6. Supervisor's office at Meeker destroyed by fire and all records were lost. First range and timber survey work started on the forest.

1917 January 6. Supervisor's office moved from Meeker to Glenwood Springs, in Post Office Building.

1932 March 5. Flat Tops Primitive Area designated by Chief Forester R. Y. Stuart.

1941 October 11. Golden Anniversary of establishment of White River National Forest celebrated at Meeker, Colorado.

Battlement Mesa Forest Reserve within the now White River NF then to Grand Mesa National Forest

Ranger Districts:

Grand River Ranger District (2)

E. L. Davis	1921 - 1922
M. (H.) S. Hulse	1922 and 4/1924 - 4/1925
Henry Vance	10/1925 - 10/1928

Muddy Ranger District

Lakes Ranger District

J. B. Robinson	1923
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Mesa Ranger District

Walter A. Wagner	1923
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Collbran Ranger District

G. L. Sanders	1923
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Holy Cross Forest Reserve to Holy Cross NF then to White River NF

Ranger Districts:

Red Cliff RD

W. M. Scanlon	1921 - 1923
A. O. Harris	1927 - 1931
Paul E. Lemmon	1931
Donald G. Schaal	1931 - 1935
Levi M. Frost	1934 - 1940
Thomas C. Pender	1939 - 1941
Henry A. Payson	1941 - 1943
Earl E. Ericson	1943 - 1944
Everett H. Clocker	1944 - 1946

Avon RD

R. C. Prater	1921 - 1922
L. L. Segur	1922 - 1925
A. E. Harris	1925 - 1927
George A. Powell	1927 - 1928

Eagle RD

John B. Green	1906 - 1911
Marshall Fulford	1906 - 1911
K. J. Helmick	1911
John B. Green	1912 - 1913
Harry S. Dickerson	1914

John V. Nevitt	1915
Clarence L. Kerns	1915 - 1917
R. S. Rogers	1916
W. R. Shoemaker	1918
Harry S. Dickerson	1918 - 1920
F. W. Alvard	1920
H. H. French	1921
William S. Brown	1923 - 1934
Benjamin F. Rice	1935 - 1945

Cattle Creek Ranger District

V. C. Holcomb	1921 - 1922
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Frying Pan

V. C. Holcomb	1922 - 1925
James R. Ahl	1928 - 1929
Percy Ray	1929 - 1941
Thomas C Pender	1941 - 1945

Aspen

L. C. Shoemaker	1921 - 1934
Clarke A. Anderson	1935 - 1936
Clarence K. Collins	1936 - 1937
Fred A. Cook	1937 - 1945

Capital Creek Ranger District

R. H. Bailey	1921 - 1922
Harold B. Perkins	1922 - 1923
A.E. Harris	1923
Fay Franklin	1925

Crystal River

R. M. Bradshaw	1921 - 1926
S. Floyd Chappel	1926 - 1944
Joseph T. Radel	1944 - 1945

Leadville Forest Reserve then Leadville NF to White River NF

Ranger Districts:

Buena Vista RD

James L. Frame	1923 - 1928
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Leadville RD

Harry J. Smith	1923
Raymond O. Taylor	1928

Dillon RD

Edward F. Heaton	1921 – 1932
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Blue River RD

Stanley A. Mahan	1923
Harry J. Smith	1928

South Park RD

Raymond O Taylor	1923
Charles R. Towne	1928

Arapaho National Forest**Ranger Districts:****Dillon RD**

Edward H. Heaton	1930 - 1932
Paul G. Lundell	1932 – 1935
George K. Brown	1935 – 1937
Howard F. Harlan	1937 – 1942
Jacob Jauch	1942 – 1945
Clifford E. Skinner	1945 – 1953
Paul I. Hauk	1952 – 1957
George S. Gorsuch	1958 – 1960
Dale G. Gallagher	1960 – 1962
William F. Conklin	1962 – 1964
George F. Schreiber	1962 – 1964
Danny L. Peters	1964 – 1968
Herbert A Naumann	1964
Paul H. Wachter	1968 – 1972
Jerry Covault	1971 – 1972
James L. Hagemeyer	1972 - 1973

Dillon Ranger District Administered by White River National Forest starting in 1973

Clear Creek RD

Kenson J. Helmick	1939
Howard C. Lee	1945

Blue River (Transferred from Leadville NF to Arapaho NF in October 1929)

Stanley A. Mahan	1920-1923
S. F. Chappel	1923-1924
Ernest A. Foster Jr.	1924-Aug 15, 1926
Joseph A. Gibbs	1924-1924
W. E. Johnson	Sep 3, 1926-Apr 1, 1927
Charles R. Towne	Apr 3, 1927-May 1, 1929
Harry J. Smith	Apr 18, 1928—1929

Kremmling RD

Charles W. Stavely	1931 - 1936
Morley F. Brandborg	1939
Durward O. Johnson	1945

Fraser RD

John F. Johnston	1928
Durward O. Johnson	1931 - 1936
James G. Kaiser	1939
Rudolph J. Benson	1939
Henry Tiedemann	1945

Sulphur RD

Wm. L. Robb	1928
Paul G. Lundell	1931
Leslie A. Sample	1934
Durward O. Johnson	1939
J. Morgan Smith	1945

North Park RD

Paul G. Lundell	1928
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South Park

Charles R. Towne	1928
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Sopris National Forest - Forest Supervisors:

John McLaren	6/1909 - 3/1910
W. G. Baxter	4/1915 - 7/1916
W. G. Baxter	7/1916 - 10/1916
Arthur T. Upsom	10/1916 - 7/1919
Harry H. French	7/1919

White River Forest Reserve TO White River National Forest - Ranger in Charge and Forest Sup's

Charles W. Ramer	8/13/1898
W. L. Veatch	7/1905 - 12/1906
Harry Gibler	10/1905 - 11/1906
James A. Blair	12/1906 to 1928
Lewis R. Rist	1928 - 1935
Edward Wright	1935 - 1945
John V. Leighou	1945 - 1956
Edward H. Mason	1956 - 1964
Kenneth C. Scholz	1964 - 1966
James O. Folkestad	1966 - 1971
Thomas C. Evans	1972 - 1980
George A. Morris	1980 - 1981
Richard E. Woodrow	1981 - 1987

Thomas A. Hoots	1988 – 1991
Veto J. “Sonny” LaSalle	1992 – 1996
Martha J. Kettle	1997 – 2004
Maribeth Gustafson	2005 – 2008
Scott Fitzwilliams	2009 -

Ranger Districts:

Aspen RD

Fred A. Cook	1945
Charles E. Fifield	1948 – 1952
Carl F. Henderson	1952 - 1953
Gaillard E. Weidenhaft	1953 - 1958
Neil A. Edstrom	1958 - 1964
Harry R. Taylor	1964 - 1966
Michael J. Penfold	1966 - 1968
Walter D. Werner	1964 – 1968
David R.W. Hoefer	1968 - 1970
Jerry P. Lynch	1968 – 1971
John E. Burns	1970 – 1973
George A. Morris	1973 - 1976
Tommy E. Bell	1976 – 1979
Dennis E. Bschor	1979 – 1984
William Johnson	1985 – 1988
Vacant	1989
Gretchen Merrill	1990 – 1991
Yoichi Robert Iwamoto	1992 – 2000
Jim Upchurch	2000 – 2003
Bill Westbrook	2001 – 2007
(Westbrook started overseeing both Districts Aspen and Sopris RD)	
Irene Davidson	2008 – 2009
Scott Snelson	2010 – 2013
Karen Schroyer	2014 – 2019
Kevin Warner	2019 -

Blanco RD

Waldemar A. Winkler	1959 – 1964
William Ripley III	1962 - 1964
Robert J. Miller	1963 – 1967
Dale L. (R.) Harthan	1968 – 1976
Larry D. Robinson	1976 – 1979
Wendy Milner Herrett	1979 – 1983
Vacant	5/1984
Bernard C. Spanogle	12/1984 – 1988
Vacant	1989
F. William Hahnenberg	1990 -2003

Glenn Adams	2004 - 2009
Ken W. Coffin	2009 - 2015
Curtis Keetch	2016 -

Dillon RD (new listing 1975) (1979 no longer added to Arapaho NF)

James Blankenship	1973 - 1975
Larry L. Larson	1975 - 1977
Elbert O. Reed	1978 - 1980
K. Terry Skorheim	1980- 1984
Benard Weingardt	1985 - 1990
Jeffrey E. Bailey	1990 - 1994
Tere O'Rourke	1995 - 1998
Jamie Connell	1999 - 2003
Vacancy	2004
Paul Semmer	2003, 2010 and 2011
Rick Newton	2004 - 2008
Jan Cutts	2009 - 2014
Bill Jackson	2015 - 2020
Bobbi Filbert	2021
Adam Blanchi	2021 -

Eagle RD to Eagle-Holy Cross RD 2005?

Thomas C. Pender	1945 - 1954
Thomas C. Evans	1954 - 1957
Donald E. Price	1957 - 1974 (5)
Charles S. Calkins	1962 - 1968
George A. Landrum	1974 - 1978 (5)
John W. Almond	1978 - 1982 (5)
Stephen K. Kelly	1982 - 1986 (5)
Michael Spencer	1986 - 1990 (5)
Thomas A. Portice	1991 - 1994
Vacant	1995 - 1996
Anne Huebner	1996 - 2000
Cathy Kahlow	2001 - 2004
Cal G. Wettstein	2004 - 2007
Brian Lloyd	2007 - 2010
David Neely	2010 - 2015
Aaron Mayville	2015 - 2019
Leanne Veldhuis	2020 -

Holy Cross RD

Ernest H. Clocker	1946 - 1948
Fred A. Cook	1948 - 1951
John P. Burke	1954
Joseph Zylinski	1954 - 1960
Ronald E. Averill	1960 - 1964

Karl F. Zeller	1962 - 1966
Don I. Campbell	1963 - 1972
Edwin R. Browning	1972 - 1975
Patrick H. Finney	1975 - 1976
Ernie Nunn	1976 - 1983
Vacant -	5/1984
David Stark	12/1985 - 1987
William A. Wood	1988 - 2000
Cal Wettstein	2004 - 2007

See under Eagle RD - both districts consolidated DR duties during Wettstein's term.

Rifle RD

Ben C. Holman	4/1948 - 1/1951
Harold (Hal) N. Watson	5/1951 - 1956
William L. Plourde	1956 - 1962
Lawrence P. Forman	1962 - 1973
Donald Bielefield	1973 - 1975
Jerry P. Lynch	1974 - 1976
Vacant	1976
Michael S. Edrington	1977 - 1979
James L. Mangan	1978 - 1982
James L. Simonson	1983 - 1987
Terry K. Wood	1988 - 1996
Denny L. Johnson	1997
Dave Silvius	2000 - 2005
Michael Herth	2005 - 2007
Glenn R. Adams	2009 - 2012
Sarah Hankins	6/2014 - 6/2020
Kelsha Anderson	2021 -

Sopris RD (name update 1973) Previously Crystal River (*no listings for 1964*)

Joseph T. Radel	1945
John R. Stevenson	1948 - 1952
Charles W. Meyers	1952 - 1954
Walter J. Litwicki	1954 - 1961
Carl B. Larsen	1961 - 1964
Waldemar A. Winkler	1964 - 1972
Jerry D. Covault	1973 - 1975
Victor K. Weyers	1975 - 1980
Jack C. Troyer	1980 - 1985
Vacant	1986
Gretchen Merrill	1988 - 1989
Vacant	1990
Kevin T. Riordan	1991 - 2000
Bill Westbrook	2001 - 2007 (combined Aspen & Sopris DR duties)
See Aspen RD above	

~Ranger Districts previously listed under the White River NF ~

Bear River RD (not listed 1928)

J. V. Seaman	1902
Elmer E. Stephenson	1921 - 1924
Elmer E. Stephenson	1923

Burns Hole RD (not listed 1957)

Felix E. Read	1921 - 1935
Felix E. Read	1923 Yampa 1928 - 1934
Gordon Van Buren	1935 - 1944
Philip Heaton	1944 - 1945
Gordon D. Harp	1943 - 1951

Burro Mountain RD (new listing 1928) (not listed 1962)

Walter L. Schipull	1928 - 1931
Eldred R. Ware	1931 - 1932
Earl E. Ericson	1932 - 1935
George S. Stadler	1935 - 1940
John A. Rundgren	1940 - 1945
Virgil Stephens	1946 - 1948
Morley F. Brandborg	1948 - 1957
Waldeman A. Winkler	1957 - 1959

Frying Pan RD (new listing 1945) (not listed 1972)

Paul W. Reedy	1945 - 1957
Earl E. Ericson	1957 - 1964
Richard G. Serino	1963 - 1965
Thomas E. Lonberger	1963
David L. Hessel	1966 - 1971
Jerry D. Covault	1972 - 1976

Glenwood RD (new listing 1928) (not listed 1972))

Rich R. Thomson	1923 - 1931
Raymond O. Taylor	1931 - 1939 Again 1945 - 1948
Robert O. Lewis	1948 - 1957
William Ripley	1961 - 1962
Paul W. Reedy	1956 - 1962
Joseph Mack	1960 - 1967
Anthony K. Quinkert	1964 - 1968
Donald Bielefield	1968 - 1972

New Castle RD (not listed 1928)

George A. Powell	1921 - 1927
Lewis A. Cummings	4/1924 - 1928

Mt. Sopris Tree Nursery (1975 name update from) Mt. Sopris Nursery (new listing 1966) (not on list 5/1984)

Sidney H. Hanks	1963 - 1967
David L. Vesterby	1967 - 1968
Darrel A. Benson	1966 - 1968
Rodney W. Ellis	1968 - 1976
John R. Scholtes	1976 - 1981
Daniel L. Finke	1981 - 1982
Vacant	1983

Miller Creek RD (*not listed 1928*)

Byron L. Groesbeck	1921 - 1922
James R. Ahl	1922 -1923

Red Cliff RD (*new listing 1945*) (*not listed 1950*)

Everett H. Clocker - Minturn 1945

Shoshone RD (*not listed 1928*)

R. W. McDonald	1921 - 1923
Rich R. Thomson	1923 - 1928
Raymond A. Taylor	1932
Charles E. Fox	1936 - 1937

Sleepy Cat RD (*not listed 1962*)

S. E. Alderson	1921 - 1922
Lewis A. Hahn	1922 - 1925
William F. Ogden	1925 - 1926
Charles W. Stavely	1926 - 1931
Favre L. Eaton	1931 - 1935
Benjamin F. Rice	1935 - 1936
Harry H. Peck	1937
Benjamin M. Whitehill	1937 - 1952
Philip L. Heaton	2/1943 - 3/1944
Donald M. Kennedy	1953 - 1956
William B. Roberts	1956
Tex Harp	1958

Timber Sales RD

Raymond Bennett	10/1941
Bruce Murdoch	1947-1948

1923 Williams Fork RD - Arapaho NF (*not listed 1957*)

Bert L. Miller	1921 - 1925
D. O. Johnson	1928
John J. Nealis	1925 - 1930
Edward L. Besondy	1930 - 1944
John S. Pomeroy	1944 - 1946

John L. Hammond	1946 - 1950
Andrew C. Wright	1950 - 1953
William J. Litwicki	1953 - 1954

White River National Forest Roll Call Completed by Elaine Langstaff - 2/2022