

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Ranger Roll Call

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest is located in the Blue Mountains of northeastern Oregon and a small adjacent area of western Idaho. The Forest has experienced a number of land-area and administrative changes over the years. In 1905, the Wallowa, Chesnimnus and La Grande Forest Reserves were established by President Theodore Roosevelt. In 1907, the Wallowa and Chesnimnus Reserves were merged to form the Imnaha National Forest. In 1908, it was renamed the Wallowa National Forest to recognize the band of Nez Perce People who originally lived in the area. Also in 1908, the La Grande Forest Reserve became part of what, at the time, was the Blue Mountains National Forest.

In 1911, part of the Wallowa National Forest was detached and named the Minam National Forest. That same year, the Blue Mountains N. F. was dissolved and its land divided among four other national forests. This resulted in the La Grande Ranger District moving to the Umatilla National Forest and, sometime between 1945 and 1949, being moved to the Whitman National Forest.

In 1954, the Wallowa and Whitman were consolidated into the present-day Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Now included within the Forest are the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

Much of the early history is from an unpublished Forest Service report, "Historical Sketches of the Wallowa National Forest" by former District Ranger G. J. Tucker written in about 1954 and a book by Jon and Donna Skovlin, "Into the Minam," published in 2011. Jon is a retired Forest Service scientist who worked at the PNW Forestry Sciences Laboratory in La Gragrade, OR. Both documents are available through inter-library loans.

Wallowa National Forest (1908-1954)

Forest Supervisors

Howard K. O'Brian	1905-1908
Harvey W. Harris	1909-1921
Nelson J. Billings	1921-1931
F.W. Furst	1931-1935
Roland Huff	1935-1937
John F. Irwin	1937-1940
Charles M. Rector	1940-1944
Chester A. Bennett	1944-1954

District Rangers

Bear Creek Ranger District – Wallowa, OR

Joseph Harris	1907-1911
Oscar Pratt	1911-1918

G. Leroy Smith 1918-1919

Sled Springs Ranger District – Enterprise, OR

Newton V. Downs 1907-1909

Louis A. Carpenter 1910-1919

Bear Creek and Sled Springs were merged in 1919 into the Bear-Sleds District in Wallowa, OR.

Bear-Sleds Ranger District – Wallowa, OR

Louis A. Carpenter 1919-1939

Wade B. Hall 1939-1950

Victor L. Kreimeyer 1950-1954

Joseph Ranger District – Enterprise, OR/Joseph, OR

Sometime between 1945 and 1950, the district office moved from Enterprise to Joseph.

J. Fred McClain 1907-1939

Keith H. McCool 1939-1945

Charles F. Fogelquist 1945-1948

Otis W. Foiles 1948-1954

Snake River Ranger District – Imnaha, OR

J. Frank Winniford 1909-1915

Robert H. Harper 1916-1921

Imnaha Ranger District – Imnaha, OR

J. Fred McClain 1907-1908

Druary D. Davis 1908-1909

Newton V. Downs 1910-1915

Woodfred Grady Miller 1915-1920

In 1921, Snake River and Imnaha Districts were combined and moved to Enterprise, OR.

Imnaha-Snake Ranger District – Enterprise, OR

William Flournoy 1921

Woodfred Grady Miller 1921-1949

Gerald J. Tucker 1949-1954

Chesnimnus Ranger District – Enterprise, OR

Thomas E. Chidsey 1905-1906

Walter A. Fay 1907-1910

Tom Lathrop	1911-1913
Purl N. Stevenson	1914-1921
Robert H. Harper	1921-1925
Edward E. Birkmaier	1925-1931
Wade B. Hall	1931-1939
John M. Kucera	1939-1942
Charles F. Fogelquist	1942-1945
Lawrence D. Bailey	1945-1953
H. Donald Miller	1953-1954

Minam National Forest (1911-1920)

In June 1911, a section of the Wallowa National Forest was detached to form the Minam National Forest. In June 1920, the Minam Forest was disbanded, and its Districts were moved to the Whitman National Forest. Some District Ranger data are missing.

Forest Supervisors

Harvey W. Harris	1911-1913
Ephriam Barnes	1913-1920

District Rangers

Little Minam Ranger District

L. Blevins	1911-1912
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Wallowa Ranger District

Louis A. Carpenter	1913-1919
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Eagle Ranger District -- Medical Springs

J. J. McClain	1911-1912
John F. Irwin	1912-1918
W. D. Foreman	1918-1920

Whitman National Forest (1908-1954)

Forest Supervisors

Samuel S. Terrell	1906-1907
Henry Ireland	1907-1916
Robie M. Evans	1916-1922
William F. Ramsdell	1922-1924
John C. Kuhns	1924-1932
Walt L. Dutton	1933-1935
F. W. Furst	1935-1937
Lester Moncrief	1937-1940
Charles D. Simpson	1940-1951
Harold S. Coons	1951-1954

District Rangers

Districts below that existed from 1906 to 1911 were part of what was the Blue Mountains National Forest which was discontinued in 1911. Its districts were divided between the Whitman, Malheur, Umatilla, and Deschutes national Forests.

Sumpter Ranger District – Sumpter, OR/Baker, OR

The District office moved from Sumpter to Baker sometime between 1931 and 1934.

H. Rankin	1907-1910
Ephriam Barnes	1910-1912
I. E. Jones	1912-1917
J. T. Taylor	1917-1918
C. F. Groom	1918-1921
Roland Huff	1921-1930
Otto G. Koenig	1930-1934
John D. Moffit	1934-1937
Henry A. Harrison	1937-1941
Rolland C. Burgess	1941-1948

Sumpter Ranger District office was renamed Baker Ranger District in 1948.

Baker Ranger District -- Baker, OR

Wright T. Mallery	1948-1954
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North Powder Ranger District – North Powder, OR

Thomas H. Parker	1905-1912
Albert G. Angell	1912-1926
Walter E. Barnett	1926-1939
Arzy E. Kenworthy	1939-1948

No District by this name or in this location appeared in available Forest Service Directories after 1948. It most likely merged with the Baker Ranger District just to its north.

Pine Ranger District – Halfway, OR

Charles Black	1906-1909
G. W. Miller	1909-1921
W.D. Foreman	1921-1925
Robert H. Harper	1925-1954

Desolation Ranger District – Ukiah, OR

No data were found for this District prior to 1921. During the 1930s and early 1940s, Desolation headquarters were in Ukiah in winter and Dale, OR, in summer. In 1943, It was renamed the Dale Ranger District.

George O. Langdon	1921-1942
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Dale Ranger District – Ukiah, OR

Harry M. Wolfe	1943-1944
Avery E. Berry	1945-1946

In 1946, the Dale Ranger District was transferred to the Umatilla National Forest.

Blue Mountain Ranger District– Austin, OR

Dan W. Fisk	1907-1928
Clyde O. Bloom	1928-1942
Eugene D. Wilmoth	1942-1944
Harry M. Wolfe	1944-1950

This District is next listed in the available Forest Service Annual Directory in 1954 on the Malheur National Forest. Mr. Wolfe was no longer the District Ranger. Directory information for 1951-1953 was not found.

Burnt River Ranger District – Unity, OR

Earl W. Dunn	1908-1918?
Lloyd M. Judy	1918-1927?

George M. Palmer	1928-1935?
Jack I. Groom	1936-1940?
Laurence D. Bailey	1941-1949?

This District's name was changed from Burnt River to Unity sometime between 1946 and 1950. Exact dates for District Ranger service years and the change in District name could not be determined from available information.

Unity Ranger District – Unity, OR

V. J. Hughes	1950-?
Henry D. Harryman	1954?

Eagle Ranger District – Medical Springs, OR

Charles Black	1905-1908
Earl W. Dunn	1908-1909
John McClain	1909-1912
John F. Irwin	1912-1918
Clyde O. Bloom	1918-1928
Lloyd M. Judy	1928-1931
E.D. Wilmoth	1932-1934
G.M. Palmer	1934-1936
E.D. Wilmoth	1936-1942
C.O. Bloom	1942-1946
H. A. Harrison	1946-1947

Grande Ronde Ranger District – Cove, OR

Paul M. Ellis	1921-1926
Keith H. McCool	1926-1935

The Grande Ronde District merged with the Eagle District in 1935.

Eagle-Grande Ronde Ranger District – Cove, OR

Eugene D. Wilmoth	1936-1939
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By 1939, the District's name was changed to just Eagle District in Cove, OR.
By 1941, the District office was in Union, OR.

Eagle Ranger District – Cove, OR/Union, OR

Eugene D. Wilmoth	1939-1942?
Clyde O. Bloom	1943-1947?

In 1941, the Eagle Ranger District office moved to Union, OR, and was renamed the Union Ranger District.

Union Ranger District – Union, OR

Harold A. Dahl 1947-1954

The Meacham District of the Umatilla National Forest was transferred to the Whitman National Forest sometime between 1945 and 1950 and renamed the La Grande Ranger District.

La Grande Ranger District – La Grande, OR

Glenn C. Charlton 1945?-1954?

Sumpter Ranger District– Sumpter, OR/Baker, OR

H. Rankin	1907-1910
E. Barnes	1910-1912
I. E. Jones	1912-1917
J. T. Taylor	1917-1918
Roland Huff	1921-1930
Otto G. Koenig	1930-1934
John D. Moffit	1934-1937
Henry A. Harrison	1937-1941
Roland C. Burgess	1941-1948

Sumpter District was renamed the Baker District in 1948.

Baker Ranger District – Baker, OR

Roland C. Burgess	1948-1952
Wright T. Mallery	1952-1954

North Powder Ranger District – North Powder, OR

Thomas H. Parker	1905-1912
Albert G. Angell	1912-1926
Walter E. Barnett	1926-1939
Arzy E. Kenworthy	1939-1948

No further information was found for North Powder District. Most likely, it was assimilated into the Baker District just to the north.

Desolation Ranger District – Ukiah, OR

George O. Langdon 1921-1941

Desolation District's name was changed to Dale sometime between 1941 and 1943.

Dale Ranger District – Ukiah, OR

Harry M. Wolfe	1943
Avery E. Berry	1945

The Dale District and Ranger Berry were transferred to the Umatilla National Forest in 1946.

Austin Ranger District – Austin, OR

Dan W. Fisk	1921-1926
Clyde O. Bloom	1931-1936?

Austin District's name changed to Blue Mountain sometime between 1931 and 1936.

Blue Mountain Ranger District – Austin, OR

Clyde O. Bloom	1936-1943?
Eugene D. Wilmoth	1943-1945
Harry M. Wolfe	1945-1950

Burnt River Ranger District – Unity, OR

Lloyd M. Judy	1921-1926
George M. Palmer	1928-1931
Jack I. Groom	1936-1939
Lawrence D. Bailey	1941-1945

Pine Ranger District – Halfway, OR

W. D. Foreman	1921-1923
Robert H. Harper	1926-1950

The Eagle and Grande Ronde Districts had a series of name changes, consolidation, and location changes. Briefly, the District name was changed to Eagle-Grande Ronde.

Eagle Ranger District – Medical Springs, OR

Clyde O. Bloom	1921-1926
Lloyd M. Judy	1928-1931

Grande Ronde Ranger District – Cove, OR

Paul M. Ellis	1921-1923
Keith H. McCool	1926-1936?
Eugene D. Wilmoth	1936-1938

Eagle Ranger District – Cove, OR/Union, OR

Eugene D. Wilmoth	1939-1941
Clyde O. Bloom	1943-1945

La Grande Ranger District – La Grande, OR

Glen C. Charlton	1950
Eugene H. O’Keefe	1954

District alignment changed between 1945 and 1950. Based on location: Eagle-La Grande District became the Union District and Burnt River became the Unity District.

Union Ranger District – Union, OR

Harold A. Dahl	1950-1954
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Unity Ranger District – Unity, OR

V. J. Hughes	1950-1953?
Henry D. Harryman	1954?

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest (1954 – Present)

Forest Supervisors

Harold S. Coons	1954-1957
John B. Smith	1957-1961
John L. Rogers	1961-1975
Albert G. Ord	1975-1981
Jerry G. Allen	1982-1987
Robert M. Richmond	1987-1997
Karyn L. Wood	1997-2004
Steven A. Ellis	2004-2010
Monica Schwalbach	2011-2012
John Laurence	2013-2014
Tom Montoya	2014-2021
Schaun McKinney	2021-present

Ranger Districts

Baker, Bear Sleds, Chesnimnus, Imnaha/Snake (changed in 1954 to the Imnaha), Joseph, La Grande, Pine, Union, and Unity (Burnt River) were the original Ranger Districts that merged to form the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in 1954.

Baker Ranger District – Baker City, Oregon

Wright T. Mallery	1954-1957
Robert L. Bjornsen	1957-1960
Donald L. Strong	1960-1965
W. Dale Heigh	1965-1970

Art Schimke	1970-1976
John Hughes	1976-1977
Frank Rassmussen	1978-1985
Glen McDonald	1985-1988
Ken Koon	1988-1993
Chuck Ernst	1993-2002

Unity (Burnt River) Ranger District – Unity, OR

Henry D. Harryman	1954-1962?
Richard M. Lemon	1962-1967
Robert W. Metlen	1968-1975
Edward Allen	1976-1978
Bronson Flint	1978-1990
Jim Golden	1990-1992
Debbie Schmidt	1992-2002

Pine Ranger District – Halfway, OR

John L. Wahrgren	1954-1961
Edwin B. Abbott	1961-1962
Albert H. Leuthauser	1962-1968
Glen E. Hetzel	1968-1975
Lunn E. Andrews	1975-1977
Dennis Holtus	1977-1980
Leonard Farr	1981-1985
Mary Peterson	1985-1989
Jon Vanderheyden	1989-1992
Orlando Gonzales	1992-1996
Dave Schmidt	1996-2002

In 2022, the Baker, Burnt River (Unity), and Pine Districts were combined to form the Whitman Unit, consisting of the Baker, Pine, and Unity Offices led by a District Ranger based in Baker, OR. More recently, the name has been changed to "Whitman Ranger District."

Whitman Ranger District – Baker, OR

Richard Haines	2003-2005
Ken Anderson	2006-2010
Jeff Tomac	2011-2019
Kendall Cikanek	2019-2023

This position is to be refilled in 2024

Bear-Sleds Ranger District – Wallowa, OR

Victor L. Kreimeyer	1954-1955
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Robert L. Bjornson	1955-1957
Bennett O. Pearson	1957-1961
Thomas L. Griffith	1961-1965
Roy R. Sines	1965-1976
Frank W. Olson	1976-1980

No further entries were found for this District.

Imnaha-Snake Ranger District – Enterprise, OR

Gerald J. Tucker	1954-1962
Walter V. Johnson	1963

No further mention of this District in the Forest Service Directories. Most likely, it merged into the Chesnimnus District because their offices were in the same town.

Union Ranger District – Union, OR

Harold A. Dahl	1954-1957?
Vaughn E. Livingston	1958?-1972
Truman G. Puchbauer	1972-1980
Jack R. Krieger	1980-1985

Sometime in late 1985, the Union District merged into the La Grande Ranger District.

La Grande Ranger District – La Grande, OR

Eugene H. O’Keefe	1954-1957
John M. Wick	1957-1971
Richard G. Dearsley	1972-1976
Roy R. Sines	1976-1979
Robert L Schrenk	1979-1985
Jeff D. Blackwood	1985-1988
Abigail R. Kimbell	1988-1992
Rob Rainville	1992-2000
Kurt. R. Wiedenmann	2000-2011
Bill Gamble	2011- 2022
Stephaney Kerley	2023- Present

Chesnimnus Ranger District – Enterprise, OR/Joseph, OR

H. Donald Miller	1954-1957
Orville A. Withee	1957-1961
Blen C. Holman	1961-1964
David R. Bishop	1964-1968

Keith W. Zobell	1968-1975
Raymond J. Evans	1975-1977
Robert Casey	1979-1980?

Joseph Ranger District – Joseph, OR

Glendon K. Jefferies	1954-1960
H. Donald Miller	1961-1975
Robert W. Metlin	1975-1978
Ben Cottman	1978-1980?

The Chesnimnus and Joseph Districts were combined in 1980 or 1981 and reconstituted as the Wallowa Valley District.

Wallowa Valley Ranger District – Joseph, OR/Enterprise, OR

The District office moved to Enterprise, OR, in 1993.

Frank Olson	1981-1989
Jim Golden	1989-1993
Glenn McDonald	1993-1995
Jimmy Roberts	1996-2004?
Meg Mitchell	2004?-2005
Barbara Van Alstine	2005-2008
Ken Gebhardt	2008-2013
Kris Stein	2013-2020
Brian Anderson	2021-Present

The Eagle Cap Wilderness was formally established in 1964 by Act of Congress. Hells Canyon National Recreation Area was established by Congress in 1975. In 1981, each became led by District Rangers. Beginning in 2013, both entities, while maintained as separate units, were placed under the leadership of the Wallowa Valley District Ranger.

Eagle Cap Ranger District – Enterprise, OR

Robert Casey	1981-1988
Lloyd Swanger	1988-1994
Kendall Clark	1995-2004
Mary De Aguero	2004-2013

Hells Canyon National Recreation Area – Enterprise, OR

Alan Defler	1981-1989
Ed Cole	1989-1997
Vacant	1997-2000
Kendall Clark	2000-2004
Mary De Aguero	2004-2013