

# RAC-TIVITY

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
SHASTA COUNTY RESOURCE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Volume 1, Issue 2

Spring/Summer 2004

Available in Adobe format at:



[Http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/home-page/rac.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity/home-page/rac.shtml)

## WHAT WE DO

We are proud to present our second edition of Rac-Tivity, the Newsletter of the Shasta County Resource Advisory Committee. In case you missed our first edition, it is available at the website at the upper right of this page.

### Committees Duties:

- ⇒ Annually calls for project proposals that will enhance the forest ecosystem and health of the forest.
- ⇒ 50% of projects must be for road maintenance or watershed improvements
- ⇒ Recommends these projects to the Secretary of Agriculture for funding.
- ⇒ Evaluates and monitors projects for project status and completeness
- ⇒ Provides public outreach about the RAC process and projects

## Reduced Fuel Loads

Collection sites will be set up in four areas around the National Forest in Shasta County. Residents can bring woody debris to one of these sites where field crews will operate a chipper to dispose of the material. The debris is then chipped and blown into small trucks and transported to a wood-fired power plant for disposal.

Benefits to the community include improved fire safety, improved access to properties by fire truck, and a lower risk of catastrophic fire.



*Photos courtesy Western Shasta RCD*



## Learn about Volcanoes

Hat Creek Ranger District received 2002 Funding to provide a welcome entrance for the Spattercone Interpretive Trail.

Located at Hat Creek on the Lassen Scenic Byway and the Volcanic Legacy Scenic Byway, tourists can follow a 1.5 mile trail that takes them through the origin of the Hat Creek Lava Flow. 30,000 years ago Hat Creek Valley was covered with large volumes of fluid lava pouring from a series of fissures. The spatter cones along the trail mark the approximate locations of these fissures.

*Photos courtesy of Hat Creek RD*



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West Valley High School



West Valley High School



Happy Valley Elementary



Turtle Bay Mobile Learning Center

Shasta County Fire Safe Council  
(Title III Funds)

Members and invitees attended their first RAC fieldtrip of 2004 on April 14. Participants were chauffeured to West Valley High School and Happy Valley Elementary courtesy of the schools' shuttles.

The purpose of the field trip was to visit two RAC awarded projects. West Valley High School included a tour of their agricultural department, with a preview of the RAC funded construction of a greenhouses that will be used for the propagation and study of native riparian and rare plants.

After touring West Valley High School, the group traveled on to Happy Valley Elementary School to view the final stages of construction of their greenhouse.

Funds for the greenhouse projects

totaled \$350,000 and were awarded in 2001 and 2002. These projects were joint efforts between the two schools and Sierra Pacific Industries.

Also on hand for viewing was Turtle Bay Exploration Parks' mobile learning center *Sustainable Forests-Sustainable Communities*, funded with RAC funds in 2003.

This mobile unit is intended to provide educational support to local schools in the county, and to help develop knowledge and understanding of forest ecosystem health, watershed processes, and fish and wildlife habitats. These goals are achieved through student participation in interactive exhibits, lectures, and educational materials.

Shasta County Fire Safe Council displayed its fire safe education

## Shasta County Resource Advisory Committee Group Field Trip April 14, 2004

mobile unit, which was funded by Shasta County from Title III funds. The unit is a self-contained mobile "kiosk" that is easy to set up and transport by car or truck. An interactive display takes the visitor through a defensible fire space lesson. The model illustrates different types of terrain and vegetation in Shasta County, and tells a story about how to achieve defensible space. 🌲

For more information on these projects or agencies, please view their web-sites:

Western Shasta RCD  
<http://www.westernshastarc.org>

Turtle Bay Exploration Park  
<http://www.turtlebay.org>

Sierra Pacific Industries  
<http://www.sierrapacificind.com>

RAC-TIVITY FACES



Shasta County RAC members attended the National RAC Workshop held in March at Sparks, Nevada.

Members from left to right : Emmett Burroughs, Ted James (chair), Brenda Haynes, Gennie Seely, and RAC Coordinator Mike Odle.

**R**ecipient Spotlight:  
Mary Schroeder  
Western Shasta RCD



Mary Schroeder, District Manager, received a B.S. degree in Forest Industries Management from The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. She has over 20-years business management experience in natural resource and wood products industries. Mary's specialty is contract negotiations, financial management, grant writing and grant management. She is a leader in working with local groups collaborating on natural resource issues. As chief administrative officer of the District, Mary responsible for managing and directing the District's business and field operations consistent with the strategic plan.

RAC funds awarded to WSRCD have benefited residents and their watersheds, wildlife, fisheries, and Forest Service land throughout the District through the construction of fuel breaks in high risk areas to decrease the risk of catastrophic wildfire; identifying the location of *Arundo Donax* and other noxious/exotic weeds on Stillwater Creek, which invade the creek and use 80% more water than native plants; and environmental education programs for children in the District. WSRCD is a not-for-profit special district of the state, whose mission is to work with willing landowners for the conservation and restoration of natural resources in western Shasta County.

2003/2004 Approved Projects



Community Clean Up Days  
and Fuel Clearance  
4 Communities  
\$30,843 (combined)  
Western Shasta RCD



Northwoods Fuels Reduction  
\$75,000  
USFS- Shasta-Trinity



Noxious Weed Eradication  
Highway 5 and 151  
\$39,040  
Shasta County Dept. of Agriculture



Shasta Lake Fish Habitat  
Improvement  
\$21,000  
USFS- Shasta-Trinity



Shasta Forest Fuel Break  
\$69,992  
Western Shasta RCD



Squaw Valley Creek Trail  
\$32,500  
Mt. Shasta Trail Assn.

**Shasta County Resource  
Advisory Committee Contacts**

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Shasta-Trinity National Forest  
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**COOL LINKS**

More on Lassen volcanoes:

<http://www.lassen.volcanic.national-park.com/info.htm>

**How do I apply for a RAC grant?****Forms are available on line at:**

<http://www.fs.fed.us/projects> — Select the payment to states link and select Title II Propose a Project.

If you do not have internet access, please contact Mike Odle at 530-226-2494 and an application will be sent to you.

**Grant Requirements:**

- Projects must be within the Shasta County boundary.
- Projects must provide a benefit to National Forest Lands.
- Environmental studies and federal laws must be followed.
- Projects are limited to:
  - Road, trail, and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration
  - Soil productivity improvement
  - Improvements in forest ecosystem health
  - Watershed restoration and maintenance
  - Restoration, maintenance, and improvement of wild-life and fish habitat
  - Control of Noxious and exotic weeds
  - Re-establishment of native species
  - Recreation and National Resource Education
- 50% of projects may be for road maintenance/obliteration or watershed improvement/restoration.
- Preference will be given to projects with matching funds.

**Shasta County RAC****Members**

Bob Allen  
Chip Arenchild  
Emmett Burroughs  
Jim Chapin  
Trish Clarke  
Irwin Fust  
Brenda Haynes  
Ted James—*Chair*  
Wendy Johnston—*Vice Chair*  
Sylvia Milligan  
Gary Nakamura  
Sharol Schaefer  
Dan Scollon  
Gennie Seely  
James Taylor

**Forest Service Representatives**

Kristy Cottini  
Mike Odle  
Deb Romberger

**Shasta County Dept. of Public  
Works Representatives**

Dan Kovacich  
Sue Crowe

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