



Currents

Friends Group Supports Parkwide Projects



Island Ford- Learn how you can help support park volunteers and education projects across CRNRA with our nonprofit friends group, the CPC: <http://bit.ly/PM5wW8>

On Saturday, April 5, the Chattahoochee Parks Conservancy (CPC), official friends' group of CRNRA, hosted a picnic for park volunteers at Island Ford. This will be the first annual spring picnic for anyone interested in volunteering at CRNRA, including both present and future volunteers! The CPC also supports our fall volunteer awards banquet, helps train volunteers in the EXOT weed eradication protocol, and supports the volunteer site stewardship program.

Superintendent's Corner **Thanks Partners!**

Outfitters, educators, conservation groups, and government cooperators all contribute to the national park experience at CRNRA. But more than any other partner, the Chattahoochee Parks Conservancy (CPC) supports this park's mission. CPC works on several specific projects each year, selected by park management and the CPC Board. As the CPC grows, so does their ability to help the park. I urge anyone who is interested in supporting CRNRA to learn more about the Chattahoochee Parks Conservancy.

--Bill Cox,
Superintendent, CRNRA

“Sweep the Hooch” Nets 7.3 Tons of Trash

Bowmans Island to Paces Mill--On April 12, 580 volunteers descended on the Chattahoochee River for the fourth annual “Sweep the Hooch” cleanup, a cooperative project among **Chattahoochee Riverkeeper**, CRNRA, and **Trout Unlimited**. CRNRA Volunteer Coordinator Dave Thomas said, “Sweep the Hooch was a big success this year, thanks to the volunteers. We had more people than ever and we picked up twice as much trash as last year.”

Volunteers show how much trash they scooped out of the river at Powers Island! Photo by Erik Voss for Riverkeeper.



UPCOMING RANGER-LED PROGRAMS

- April 25, May 2 and 16: Frog Frolic**, Sope Creek (Sibley Pond), 8:00-10:00 PM
- May 3 and 24, June 14: Kids Fishing**, Island Ford pond, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- May 31: Paddle with a Ranger**, Powers Island to Paces Mill, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Reservations required for all programs: call 678-538-1200.
For a complete list, check our website at <http://www.nps.gov/chat/planyourvisit/events.htm>

New Places and Faces

Welcome Matthew Ibbetson! Matthew will be joining our seasonal maintenance workforce for the first time this spring. Welcome aboard Matthew!

Welcome back Joe Hodges! Joe did great work for us last summer as a seasonal maintenance worker and we are glad to have him back on board in time for the busy season!

Welcome back Justin Eikenberry! Our former volunteer intern is back for a very short time as an emergency hire in the fee collection program.

Farewell from your correspondent, Rudy Evenson, Chief of Visitor Services! Yes, it's my last issue of **Currents**. I'm taking a public affairs position with the Nevada state office of the BLM in my hometown of Reno. Thanks to everyone in the Hooch family for a fantastic two years!



New Sope Creek Logo by Robbie Jordan

Sope Creek-Congratulations to park visitor Robbie Jordan for winning our Sope Creek logo design contest on the [park Facebook page!](#) Robbie's design will grace t-shirts, magnets, and other items sold to benefit the park. This is the second in a series of visitor-designed logos that will eventually feature designs from all 17 CRNRA units.

Check out the new park bird list, compiled by volunteer Rhett Smith. <http://1.usa.gov/1nknmNZ>
This week is National Park Week! Learn more at [www.nps.gov/npweek/!](http://www.nps.gov/npweek/)

Park Offers Spring Break Day Camps

Island Ford and CREEC--During the weeks of April 1-4 and 8-11, CRNRA education staff presented 1-week day camps for students from Rivers Eve and Powers Ferry elementary schools. Students worked with park rangers and volunteers to dissect decomposing logs (right); identify aquatic macroinvertebrates such as crayfish, tadpoles, and mayfly nymphs; learn to fish using a cane fishing rod; paddle a canoe; and make s'mores. The camp was a great example of the type of work that won this year's **Georgia Environmental Education Association award!**



GDOT Clears Giant Logjam Under I-285 at Powers Island

Powers Island--In January and February, 2014, Georgia Department of Transportation contractors cleared 17 large (40-cubic yard dumpsters) of logs and 220 large construction bags of trash from under the I-285 bridge over the Powers Island channel. The work was done to prevent the logjam from damaging the bridge. Thanks GDOT!

"Before." (The channel last fall.)



"During." (GDOT contractors.)



"After." (The channel now.)

