



Ravalli County 4-H News

March, 2007

Hello 4-H members and families -

We have a wonderful opportunity developing for our 4-H program! The JC and JCT for camp have decided to organize a concert for camp fundraising. There is a strong possibility that this will be an annual occurrence for the youth, families, and citizens for our valley—offering good, clean fun. A bonus to the event: the concert is the capstone in Jackie Doyle, of the Archery Dawgs 4-H Club, Wildlife Independent Study 4-H Project. She plans to study wildlife in the Bitterroot valley with the Montana FWP. More details can be found in the 4-H Council Highlights on page 2.

Who: Everyone—4-H and non 4-H are invited to come to the concert. The building can hold 1000 people.

What: A concert showcasing a local country band. We are in the stages of confirming the band. We will have a dinner (probably a spaghetti or chili feed) prior to the concert to draw in other people with a possible auction/raffle. There might be a country western dance workshop in the afternoon for people who want to learn a few steps before the concert.

When: June 15, 2007—times are TBA depending on events

Where: The First Interstate Building at the Ravalli County Fairgrounds is booked for June 15th.

Cost: Concert tickets: \$10 before, \$15 at the door. May include the dinner cost depending on sponsors.

How you can help:

Sponsors: To reduce our overhead, it would be wonderful to have monetary sponsors as well as prize donors. We will have door prizes announced throughout the whole event. So far we have Sportsman’s Warehouse providing \$200 in door prizes and giving away \$10 gift certificates to the first 500 people to come to the event. Depending on the level of sponsorship, the business will receive plenty of recognition!

Committee: If you are interested in joining the committee, come to the planning meeting on March 26 at Victor School Cafeteria. Please RSVP to the Extension Office. The camp counselors are in charge of the manpower at the event, but we need plenty of help before hand. Please call or email with any suggestions.

This is a fun and new fundraiser for our county. We appreciate any support.

Have a great March -

Katelyn Andersen

Katelyn Andersen
MSU/Ravalli County Extension Agent



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EXTENSION



March

- Mar. 3: Doggie Olympics, Day 12:45-3, see p. 5
- Mar. 4-6: 4-H Citizenship Seminar, Helena.
- Mar. 8: Swine workshop, see p. 7
- Mar. 9: Carnival Tickets Due!
- Mar. 14: Small Animal Committee Meeting, 7PM, Farmers State Bank, Victor.
- Mar. 17: Carnival, Corvallis Gyms, 6-11pm
- Mar. 19: Gingher Order Due, see p. 8 for more information
- Mar. 19: 4-H Council Meeting, Stevi Main Street Association, 6PM
- Mar. 24: Tack Swap, 8-5, Sapphire Event Center
- Mar. 25: Dutch Oven Workshop, see p. 4
- Mar. 26: Rec Lab Deadline, p. 4 for info
- Mar. 26: JC/JCT Camp Planning—P. 8 for more info
- Mar. 26: 4-H Concert Planning, 6PM at Victor School Cafeteria, please RSVP to the Ext. Office
- Mar. 31: Beef Workshop, see p. 9

April

- New to 4-H Family Day! See p. 6 for more info
- April 7: Cat Get Together, See p. 4
- April 12: Quality Assurance, see p. 7 for more info
- April 17: Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, See p. 6
- April 20-22: Montana 4-H Rec Lab, Bozeman
- April 23-25: Phon-A-Thon; get your phone numbers ready! See p. 9

May

- May 1: Learning by Doing Picture Contest, p. 8
- May 11-13: Teen Retreat, see p. 3 for more info
- May 17: Fashion Revue, see p. 8 for more info.
- May 30: Sheep weight-in, 5-8 PM, Fairgrounds

4-H Council Meeting Highlights

Council met in the Extension meeting room on Monday, February 19th. Valerie Tummarello was installed as the new At Large representative. Valerie is a member of the Happy Hearts 4-H Club and lives in Stevensville. Jackie Doyle of the Archery Dawgs 4-H Club presented a proposal for her Wildlife Project. She has requested Council support in her efforts to raise funds to participate in helicopter flights to count mule deer and Bighorn Sheep in the Bitterroot. Council voted in favor of her Independent Study project - so, if Jackie approaches you with a raffle ticket - help her out! Various committee and project areas reports were reviewed. Katelyn Andersen and the Camp Counselors are organizing a fundraising concert in June at the Fairgrounds. This has the potential to be a really good time for everyone! Watch the newsletter for more information.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. The March Council meeting will be held at Stevensville Main Street Association to accommodate the upcoming election activity. This meeting will begin at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Remember, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Council Representative for your District or me.

Thank you,
Peg Andersen, President



PHONATHON

is coming up! The dates for this year's phonathon are April 23,24,25 at the Election Room in the basement of the Ravalli County Courthouse. This is a very important fundraiser for Ravalli County 4-H. It is also a great way for 4-H members to raise money for themselves to participate in 4-H activities. If you want to call or help out:

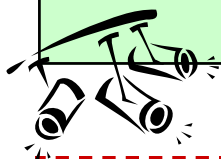
Mary Monahan at 961-4666
or
Nancy Hnizdil at 375-5040

Call soon to support your 4-H projects and the Ravalli County 4-H Program!!



The date, time, and location of any of these scheduled activities are subject to change. If you have any questions, please call the Extension Office for updated information (375-6611).

All items for the next months' newsletter must be submitted by the 15th of each month and be limited to one-half page. Newsletter items can be emailed to katelyna@montana.edu or delivered to the Extension Office. Check out the Ravalli County 4-H website: <http://www.homepage.montana.edu/~ravalli/>



Summerdale Rebels

Summerdale Rebels rock and that's all there is to it! Who are we? We are an active, caring and fun 4-H group consisting of 26 kids and 11 adult leaders. The kids strive to achieve the "4 Star" award each year that is given to them at our annual awards banquet in November. This award is given to the members who have participated in the 4-H Carnival, the hamburger stand, a community service project and a fundraiser. The Summerdale Rebels are a hardworking group of future generations.

We need to feature 4-H clubs each month, which means we will "showcase" each club at least once in a calendar year. This also means we need clubs to submit information!! Answer the following questions and we will put your club in the next newsletter:

What is your club's name?

How many members do you have?

What makes your club special?

What goals are you setting for this next year as a club?

What's Happening in 4-H?

4-H Ambassadors

It is time to select our new County Junior Ambassador!

Don't know? Take this simple quiz:

- Are you a 4-H member who is at least age 14 (as of 10/01/06)?
- Are you excited about 4-H and all the opportunities 4-H has to offer?
- Would you like to get other 4-H members excited about 4-H?
- Would you like to promote 4-H to the community?
- Do you want to meet and work with 4-H members from other Montana counties?

If you answered **YES** to all these questions consider applying to be the new Ravalli County 4-H Junior Ambassador.

The position requires a 2 year commitment (The Junior Ambassador becomes the Senior Ambassador the next year). Ambassadors attend **Fall Training** (lots of fun) during the October school break at Fairmont. They get to go to **Congress** and hang out with out 4-H members and ambassadors (even more fun!) They create a plan of action and then spend the year fulfilling that plan. The job requires commitment, enthusiasm, the desire to lead others, work hard and **HAVE FUN!**

If you think this is for you, contact the Extension office 375-6611 for application. Interviews will be set up some time in mid April.

District One Teen Retreat

May 11-13 (yes it is Mother's Day weekend – Mothers attend free of charge if they accompany a teen!), **Loon Lake 4-H Camp** – Big Fork MT. Call Extension 375-6611 to get on the list!

This event is for all 4-H members in District 1 who will be at least 13 by May 13, 2007.

District One includes Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli, & Sanders Counties.

Come join the fun as the 4-H Ambassadors and Teen Leaders put on a weekend of fun games, fun workshops, great food and of course the dance!

The **cost will be \$10** for registration plus transportation (probably carpools). We will do some community service by staining some cabin porches and benches and hauling the mattresses to the cabins.

This a great starting event for teens to see that 4-H extends outside of our county!

BITTERROOT 4-H ARCHERS

The Annual **Archery Project Completion Party** is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 13** at Flying Arrows Archery. We will have a Fun Shoot, hand out completion certificates and record books, watch a slide & movie show of you, and more! Please bring \$3 to help pay for Pizza!

The winter 4-H Archery Project is nearing completion. The Montana State 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational is coming up the first weekend in March. 27 Members are signed up to compete in 66 events.

To warm up, 32 4-H Archery Members participated in the Lewis & Clark County 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational in Helena. Everyone had a great time. We brought home 5 First Place medals, 5 Second Place medals, 6 won the Bronze, and 2 Bitterrooters won Highpoint Overall in their bow class. We enjoyed seeing 4-H friends from all over Montana.

Then Six Members traveled to the Broadwater County 4-H Archery Tournament in Townsend and competed in 14 events. They brought home Six Gold medals, and 5 Bronze. The 3D event in 6" of snow was especially fun, with lots of camaraderie with members from other counties.

Bitterroot 4-H Archers Project Committee

Cat Club Get Together

The first meeting of the Ravalli County Cat Club will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2007. We will meet at the Ravalli County Animal Shelter in Hamilton at 1pm.

At our first meeting we will be handling the kittens, and we will learn how to choose a pet kitten that will fit nicely into your family. We will also be learning the purpose of the shelter, and the cat problem facing our county.

Any child who wishes to adopt a kitten at this meeting, must have a parent present.

The cat club will be meeting in April, May, June, July and August. There will be one meeting each in April and May and two meetings each in June, July and August. We are planning a visit to a vet clinic, perform a cat bath training, showmanship skills training, and we will observe an actual spay/neuter surgery. We will take a trip to a local pet shop followed by a picnic.

The first cat club member to call me with the answer to this question will win a \$5 gift certificate to the animal shelter or a local pet supply store.

"Why is it NOT a good idea to de-claw your cat?"

Please call me if you have any questions about this event or the cat program, or have any suggestions on what you would like to learn as a group.

Nancy Davis 777-2681
Cat Superintendent

*Dutch Oven Workshops*

Danica Loucks continues to offer Dutch Oven Workshops each month. They are open to all 4-H members. February's workshop was brunch. The group made Apple Cinnamon French Toast Soufflé, Easy Dutch Oven Breakfast and Streusel Coffee Cake. The best part of the workshops is the eating! Adult Leaders are welcome to participate as well. The next workshop will be on Sunday, March 25th, 2-4 pm. Please RSVP Danica, 363-1919 so she can have enough supplies. There is not a charge but a small donation to help cover the food expense is appreciated.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**Rockets and Sheep help is here!**

Scott Nicholson is putting together a group that will meet a few times over the next months until fair. Contact, 961-3633, for more information.

**Montana 4-H Rec Lab: LOTS of FUN**

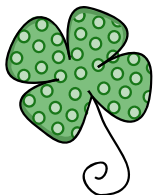
This event provides an opportunity for youth and adults to enhance their leadership, communication and team building skills in an action paced and interactive setting. Rec Lab programming is designed to provide participants with tips and tricks for being a better club, camp and community leaders.

Who: 4-H members 13+ **When:** April 20-22 **Where:** Bozeman
Cost: \$75 *depending on number of youth interested this will be paid for by 4-H Council*
Deadline: March 26, 2007

**ATTENTION LEATHERCRAFTERS OF ANY LEVEL:**

Our next meeting is on February 8 at the Corvallis Middle School Cafeteria along the Eastside Highway in Corvallis. The meeting will start at 6:30 pm and end 8 pm. Bring your leather tools if you already have some or can borrow tools from a family member or friend. If you do not have your own tools, some will be available to use. The workshop has \$2 charge to help cover the cost of supplies.

If you can't make it to this workshop, there will be more in the future. To be added to the email list, call Olive Parker, 777-1067.



Host a Youth!

Host a high-school student for a full year. Deadline: March 15, 2007. This year, Montana has two Japanese students coming and one student from a country in Eurasia. Host families do not need to have children of their own in order to host (although it is recommended) and families with children do not need to have children the same age as the delegate they host. High school delegates must attend a public high school, but in the past, delegates have stayed with homeschool families while they attend the public school. The 4-H Center's International Programs Coordinator as well as Japanese and Russian speaking counselors are available throughout the exchange to assist families.

Montana Heritage Award 2007

Sterling Silver belt buckle, designed by Don Rand, awarded to the boy and the girl who most exemplify rural life and the spirit of Western Montana. Don Rand is jewelry designer who believes 4-H and FFA is an important part of our valley. Awesome awards, contact the Extension Office for application information. Definitely worth the little work!!



March Dog Days

See www.geocities.com/ravallidogs for full information, pictures, and help with your project. Questions? Call Kimberly 961-6936. Upcoming Events:

Doggie Olympics

March 3 from 12:45 to 3:00 at Daly Gym, Hamilton. No experience necessary. Counts as a competition outside of fair. Fun games and team work. Bring training treats. Must have copy of current rabies on file to participate. CGC visit to follow at 3:30 at Valley View rest home.

CGC Test

April 28 at Hot Cha Kennels (Victor). Register at 12:00. Open to 4-H and non-4-H. Test fee for project dogs is covered. Other dogs may be tested for \$10.00 each.

Beginner Day

May 19 at Ravalli Co. Fairgrounds. For members of all levels. Older members will instruct newer members in beginning requirements for obedience, agility, and showmanship summer classes. 12:45 to 3:00. CGC visit at 3:30.

Plan Ahead

Summer training classes at Ravalli Co. Fairgrounds on Tuesdays beginning June 12 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. No new members accepted at classes beginning in July if you have not attended in June. Minimum of 5 full agility classes required for fair.



Need Project Animals?

Feeder Pigs

A list of possible sources are at the Extension Office. Call 375-6611 and we will mail or fax you the info.

Sheep

25 lambs—Hampshire X Suffolk are available through Mary Hudson, 244-0150.

Got Beef Plans?

find out here....

Beef leaders have set up a weigh-in day for members to learn how their steer has grown since the first weigh-in.

This weigh-in is not required but is meant to help members and parents figure out daily gain to date and if their steer needs additional feed or is on track toward the desired finish weight.

Steer can be brought loose and not haltered but this could be a deadline to have them leading, controllable and gentle.

Date and Place To Be Announced in April Newsletter

COACHES—Leaders will be on hand to advise members on what their finish weight is, ration and feeding ideas and daily gain needed.

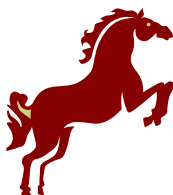
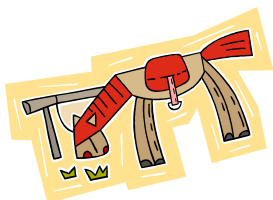
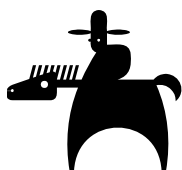
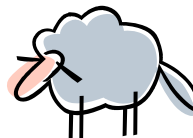
A Fitting Clinic was discussed for the end of June with members actually doing the fitting. Check it out in future newsletters!

Sheep, Getting Ready for An Active Season—

A letter will be in sheep members mail soon with suggestions for lamb projects with the goal of helping more members have success by answering several questions.

Docking and tail length is of concern since very short tails can lead to prolapse of the rectum, a serious problem. **Lambs tails should docked be no shorter than 1.25 to 1.5 inches. This length will result in tails averaging .70 inches when the lamb is finished at Fair time.**

Lamb weigh-in is scheduled for May 30, a Thursday evening, 5 - 8 PM at the Fairgrounds.



Horse Committee Action....

County Horse Guidelines are being updated and will go into affect next year. Only minor changes are anticipated, most will be clarifications.

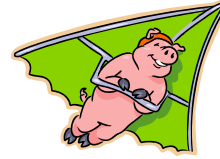
Members are encouraged to write an essay to enter the competition for the weanling being donated by Dr. Jack Ward. General guidelines were in the February 4-H Family Newsletter.

Deadline for essays will be March 31 in the Ravalli Extension Office. Members should plan to discuss the following in their essay:

- Why you want a weanling?
- How you will take care of this young horse?
- Who will help you with this project?
- What type of facility and feed do you have?
- What other projects are you taking?
- Financial need is an aspect of selection.

Questions? Call the Extension Office.

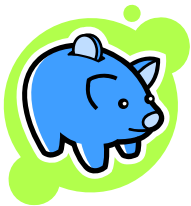
Pig Passion!



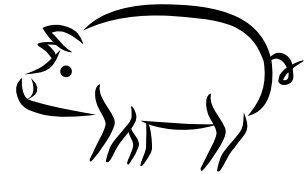
Plans are in place to build an automatic nipple watering system in the Swine Barn at the Fair. This will improve watering and help make the isles cleaner and dryer. Costs are estimated just under \$450 and clubs or individuals are encouraged to donate to the 4-H Council for this great improvement.

Pig Skill-A-Thon

A third session is planned in April featuring a Skill-A- Thon in all livestock project projects. Leaders are developing questions from the project materials members have on hand. More information will be coming.



The first swine training meeting was well attended and the next training will be March 8, a Thursday evening at 7 PM in the Victor School Multi Purpose Room Dr. Bodner will cover feeding and swine nutrition for really great project pigs.



Quality Assurance Workshop

Thursday, April 12
6:30-8:30 PM
Stevensville High School Ag Shop

This will be the last QA offered. For those members who've not attended QA workshop, this is the one-time make-up at the above location.

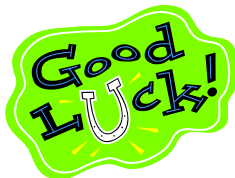
Also, if you have not enrolled your market animal by the add/drop date: May 1, you will not be able to sell at fair. If you plan to add a market animal, you must go to a QA workshop!

REMEMBER, IF YOU DID NOT ATTEND QA, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SELL YOUR ANIMAL AT FAIR—NO EXCEPTIONS.

QUALITY ASSURANCE EXTRA INFO...

Quality Assurance Training is just about complete for members in livestock with 58 attending the session last week at the Fairgrounds.

The Small Animal Committee will be organizing similar training in May and June coupled with fitting and showing clinics. Dates will be decided at the March 14 Committee meeting, 7 PM at Farmers State Bank in Victor.



THE "RECORDS MADE EASY" ROAD SHOW

The Show has six more clubs to visit in March and one in April. Ravalli County 4-H Rocks! Clubs are all very different yet each meeting seems familiar. Members are conducting efficient yet creative meetings. I have learned about baby bunnies, barrel racing, origami and saddling horses. Everyone is talking about Carnival. I have received a very warm reception from every club and have gained a few pounds partaking in snacks and even had a meal with the Silver Spurs! It is amazing how many youth are being reached by the 4-H program in our county. My hope is that when we all join together at Fair this year our collective record books will have lots of entries which will show the active involvement of 4-Hers! - Patrice Loucks, Ravalli County Key Leader

4-H Steer and Heifer Seminar

Who: All 4-H member in beef projects

What: Amazing workshop to expand your knowledge on steers, breeding projects. Everything from choosing a proper steer or heifer, how to fee your animal, how to properly fit , show and for your animal. Plus a vet to talk about herd health and info on shots!

When: Saturday, March 31, 2007, 10-3pm

Where: Missoula Livestock Yards

Cost: \$3.00 but lots of door prizes

Lunch: One hour break, bring a sack lunch or purchase a cheeseburger for \$3.50

Instructor & Coordinator: Jon Bouma, 396-0313, Professional Cattle Fitter and 4-H Leader for Ravalli County in the Lucky Horseshoe Club.



Youth Trapper Camp June 8-10, 2007

The 9th Annual Youth Trapper Camp sponsored by the Montana Trappers Association, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and Montana 4-H will be held June 8-10 in Beaver Creek Park south of Havre at the Jim and Fran Buell cabin site. The fee for the camp is \$40.00 per camper which includes adults. There is a \$20 scholarship available for the first 60 youth who send in their applications. Those under the age of 10 or with special needs must be accompanied by an adult. The camp is open to all youth. The fees include all meals, snacks, and drinks. The camp teaches ethical trapping methods, trapping rules and regulations, trap setting and fur handling. Adults are encouraged to attend. To request an application, contact Jim or Fran at 376-3178 or 7mbuell@ttc-cmc.net or visit the following site:

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

2007 Fair Photo Awards

Its time to think about collecting sponsors to pay for the Photo Awards, which go to the Champion and Reserve Champion in each class at the 4-H fair horse show. Champion photos are an 8x10 with sponsorship being \$20.00 and Reserve Champion is a 5x7 with sponsorship being \$15.00. The photos come matted. If you would like to sponsor a class contact Coral Maxwell at 821-3413 for available

**All accepted JC/JCT
Loon Lake 4-H Camp 2007**

Reminder: Meeting on March 26, 2007 7pm at Victor School Cafeteria. Remember to bring your calendar, brains, and your part in our taco bar.



Feed & Farm Opportunity

The "Feed & Farm" stores in Stevensville and Hamilton have initiated a new program for 4-H members to help with feed costs associated with their project animals. To participate, the 4-H member is responsible for saving the feed tags from 50# bags of feed purchased at either "Feed & Farm" store for their small and large 4-H livestock.

During the Ravalli County Fair, members must bring their project book along with their saved tags to Dennis Ross at the "Feed & Farm" booth. Members will be reimbursed \$1.00 per tag; in addition, \$.50 per tag will be donated to the member's 4-H Club.

2007 Fashion Revue

Dazzling Designer Showcase

Get your sewing machine ready! Enter your quilts and garments into the 2007 Fashion Revue. Members can enter pieces created between May 2006 - May 2007. Competition will be held May 17, 2007 and senior 4-Hers who qualify can go to Congress 2007!! One Junior 4-Her will go to camp 1/2 off—YEAH! Judging

The fashion show will also have fiber art pieces from Katelyn Andersen's college work, and journal/art quilts from In Good Company, Hamilton. We will need 12 helpers to show these eye-tantalizing treats in the fashion show!

Lots of prizes, lots of fun, lots of recognition. Even if you are not a sewer, make it a family event and come to the fashion show at The Bedford Building Ballroom, Hamilton at 7:30 pm for entertainment and refreshments.



GO FOR THE GREEN!

Mark your calendars! The 4-H Carnival will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2007 in the Corvallis Gym.

GET YOUR TICKETS TURNED IN!

Remember to get your tickets to your org leader by March 9!

Any child that sells 150 tickets will receive ½ campership. Any child that sells 500 tickets will receive a full campership. The club that sells the most tickets will be given first choice of which time they would like to work the Hamburger Stand during fair, and a 20% return on their sales. Children who sell over 50 tickets will be given the opportunity to participate in the Pie Toss – with Katelyn as the target! Fun!



Improve Your Sewing Corner

Ginger Order! In college, our textile students were given an educational discount on Ginger scissors. This discount also applies to Extension Agents. They are *amazing* scissors and cut heavy material like butter. Once you try them, you will be hooked. The discount is approximately 50% off the retail price and FREE shipping. Contact the office to place your order by March 19.

3rd Annual Tack Swap Barnyard Bunch 4-H Club

When: March 24, 2007, Saturday

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm—drinks and food served

Where: Sapphire Event Center—Indoors, Eastside Hwy, Corvallis

Call to drop off your items prior to March 24th. The earlier the better. The items will be tagged and made ready for the sale. A consignment of 20% will be charged to consignors when your item(s) sell. No charge if your items do not sell. *Vendors Welcome.*



ATTENTION ALL 4-H MEMBERS:

Free riding and trail lessons at the 3rd Annual 4-H Tack Swap, Saturday, March 24. First session 10-Noon, second session 1-3 PM. Bring your own horse. Call Theresa Pendergast to sign up—777.3000.



The New Animal Resource Books

Limited Copies of these books will be available for sale (\$15) at Carnival. Stop by the Ambassador's 4-H Promotion Table to see them. These are a great resource for a club or project group to own!



4-H The Power of YOUth



RAVALLI COUNTY EXTENSION
215 SOUTH FOURTH STREET,

Phone: 406-375-6611

Fax: 406-375-6606

mail: katelyna@montana.edu

MSU/Ravalli County Extension Agents

Bob Johnson

Katlyna Anderson



Community Service Opportunities



Youth Leaders:

If you want to help but not sure how, consider being the contact person for your projects. Some new 4-Hers need help with simple questions, you could help them by being offering your help to the Extension Office. Call us for more details.

BITTERROOT FOREST SERVICE

The Forest Service is looking for a few members or clubs to adopt a service project that would have a lasting effort on the community and our National Forests!

Apple Orchard: Many years ago the Bitterroot Valley promoted an apple industry. Even today there are many ruminates of the apple orchards and one is on the Forest Service! The Forest Service has offered the orchard to a club who would like to adopt the orchard and learn to take care of apple trees! Contact the Extension Office for more information.