



# **NATIONAL FOREST RECREATION ASSOCIATION**

Responsible Recreational Use of America's Public Lands and Waters

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **John Cameron Selected as the '2011 Ranger of the Year'**

WOODLAKE, CA – The National Forest Recreation Association (NFRA) is very proud to announce that John Cameron has been selected as the winner of the 2011 'Ranger of the Year' Award. NFRA President Warren Meyer stated that John has been a staunch supporter of private businesses working in partnership on the National Forests. Meyer said, "John is a true friend to NFRA. He has been a consistent and persistent voice defending those who are involved in the reservation service. He is open to ideas and is always willing to explore ways to better the system."

Several campground concessionaire companies were involved in nominating John for this award. Steve Werner from American Land & Leisure said, "John involves the concessionaire in the decision-making process, offering insight and the 'big picture' for win-win situations. He listens and values the concessionaires' input." Bud Kahn from Thousand Trails Management Services stated, "It is my pleasure to recommend John for the 2011 Ranger of the Year Award. John has functioned as both a service problem solver and a systems analyst. He continues to excel in the role of a manager, and does so with a positive attitude. Throughout the term of the reservation system contract, I have been continually impressed with John's patience and professionalism. John has gone above and beyond to resolve serious issues." Eric Mart from California Land Management Services also added that "John's willingness to help - and his always being available are very much appreciated by all of the concessionaires." Everyone agrees that his sense of humor and down-to-earth manner make him a pleasure to deal with.

John has worked for national recreation agencies since before graduating from college. He graduated from Michigan State in 1978 with a B.S. in Park and Recreation Resources. He went on to earn a Master of Forestry degree from Duke University. John has been directly involved with the concessionaires and the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) since 1997. In his current position as the Forest Service Agency Technical Representative, he works directly with the public, concessionaires, Forest Service personnel, and ReserveAmerica.

John will be honored at the National Forest Recreation Association's 63rd Annual Conference, on November 3, 2011, in Scottsdale, Arizona. Jim Bedwell, Director of Recreation for the Forest Service, will help present the Award in partnership with NFRA President Warren Meyer, and NFRA Members Bud Kahn, Steve Werner, and Eric Mart.

NFRA's 'Ranger of the Year' Award has been presented annually since 1982 to individuals who show personal dedication in the realm of recreation management, and exhibit a true sense of partnership with recreation service providers. "This is our opportunity to show our appreciation of outstanding individuals who work 'above and beyond' to provide better recreation service to our visitors," stated Meyer. "John is well deserving of this award."

NFRA is comprised of businesses that provide camping, lodging, skiing, horseback riding, marinas, youth camps, rafting and other services and facilities to the public on National Forest lands.

