



NATIONAL FOREST RECREATION ASSOCIATION

Responsible Recreational Use of America's Public Lands and Waters

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Marily Reese, Executive Director

Hern Crane Selected as the '2012 Ranger of the Year'

WOODLAKE, CA – The National Forest Recreation Association (NFRA) is very proud to announce that Hern Crane has been selected as the winner of the 2012 'Ranger of the Year' Award. NFRA President Warren Meyer stated that Hern represents the true spirit of a public-private partnership by his professional demeanor, high quality standards, and strong emphasis on caring for both the land and for the visitors to the forest. Hern is currently the South Zone Recreation Manager for concession operations on the Inyo National Forest in California.

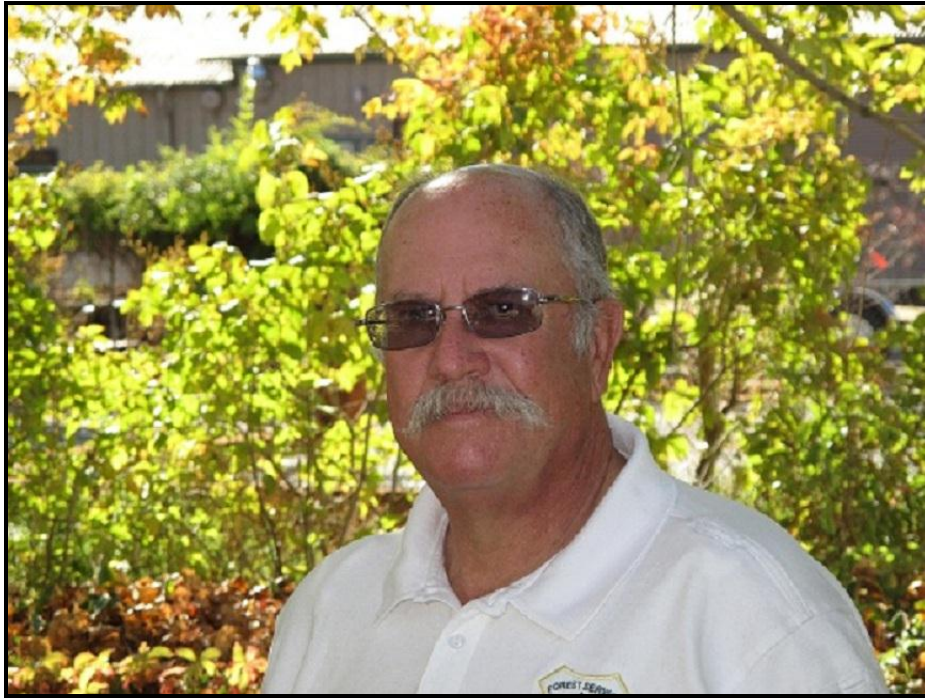
Kelly Moffitt, from Recreation Resource Management, nominated Hern for the award. "Our company is privileged to work together with Forest Service districts across the country, and we truly feel that Hern Crane exemplifies the spirit of cooperation and teamwork that is necessary for a partnership to be successful." Moffitt further stated that, "We believe his exemplary contributions to the US Forest Service, to his community, and to the campground concession industry make Hern highly deserving of this award." Will Newman of WESTrek Services echoed these comments. "I think he is a model FS representative for managing campground Special Use Permits."

Hern began his Forest Service career in 1981 on the White Mountain Ranger District, Inyo National Forest, trail crew. He worked with some of the first campground concession operations in the country, and has assisted with the preparation of numerous concession prospectus offerings for the Inyo. Hern is the recipient of several Certificate of Merit awards from the Forest Service for his outstanding achievements in recreation management.

Hern will be honored at the National Forest Recreation Association's 64th Annual Conference, on November 8th, in Reno, Nevada.

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. "We congratulate Hern on this well-deserved recognition for his hard work and dedication."

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



2012 Ranger of the Year - Hern Crane
White Mountain Ranger District
Inyo National Forest