



NATIONAL FOREST RECREATION ASSOCIATION

Responsible Recreational Use of America's Public Lands and Waters

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mike Kenealy Honored as 'Ranger of the Year'

WOODLAKE, CA – The National Forest Recreation Association (NFRA) is very proud to announce that Mike Kenealy has been selected as the 2017 'Ranger of the Year.' Mike is the Recreation Special Uses Program Manager for the White River National Forest in Colorado. NFRA President Steve Werner stated he is pleased to recognize Mike for his outstanding accomplishments in working successfully with private sector partners to provide recreation services on the America's public lands.

Eric Mart, owner of California Land Management, a campground concessionaire on the White River, nominated Mike for the award. "Mike is one of those rare individuals who has devoted his entire career to the enjoyment of others on our national forests. He is truly a pleasure to work with and is extremely dedicated to his profession," stated Mart. "Mike clearly exemplifies the best of what a partner should be."

In addition to accolades from the private sector, Mike is also well respected by Forest Supervisor Scott Fitzwilliams. "Mike is most deserving of this award as he has spent the better part of two decades working in partnership with our concessionaires and permittees to deliver the highest quality recreation experience to the public. His collaboration has resulted in improved facilities and higher quality experiences for guests," stated Fitzwilliams. "In summary, I cannot think of a Forest Service employee more deserving of this recognition."

Eric added that, "the honor of this award is befitting for Mike as he will soon be retiring from a long, distinguished career with the Forest Service of over 43 years."

Mike will be honored at an awards ceremony at NFRA's 2017 Conference and Trade Show, October 24th in Reno, Nevada. NFRA congratulates Mike on his accomplishments in his career, and wishes him well in his upcoming retirement.

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.

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

