

January 11, 2010

Mr. Lou Romero  
Mr. Jim Golden, President, National Association of Forest Service Retirees  
Mr. Gray Reynolds, President, National Museum of Forest Service History  
Mr. Beryl Johnston, Chair, 2009 Forest Service Reunion

A small group of retirees here in the Rocky Mountain Region met recently to consider whether to make a bid to host the next Forest Service Retiree's Reunion. After much consideration and thought we would like to make such a proposal. It's been nearly twenty years since this Region hosted the first such reunion in 1991 at Glenwood Springs, Colorado. We are excited about the possibility of doing this again and would propose that the event be held in mid-late September during the peak of the fall display of aspen color while the elk bugle over on the ridge.

We have a great group of retirees who have the energy and the will to put forth the commitment and effort needed to make this sixth reunion a great success. The Regional Forester, the Rocky Mountain Station Director, and the National Job Corps Center Director are all very supportive of the proposal and understand the importance of being fully committed to this effort. We are proposing that this next reunion be held in 2012, which is just a short two and a half years away. We believe the three-year cycle is much more appropriate given the number of retirees and importance of this event to most retirees around the country.

We already have many great ideas for program and field visits. Our intent now would be to focus on options at a location in the mountains (Winter Park, Breckenridge, Keystone, or Copper Mountain, etc.) since it is would be after the busy summer and before the beginning of the ski season. Our preliminary checks indicate that accommodations are available that would meet our needs.

We recognize that there may be other regions that may be considering or have interest in hosting the next reunion and offer to keep the door open for a couple months pending submittal of other proposals. We do believe, however, that a decision needs to be made by April 1<sup>st</sup> if we are to take this on for 2012, which we are committed to do. We are ready to begin planning and organizing to make certain that 2012 is a memorable year for the Forest Service and for retirees.

/s/ Tom L. Thompson  
Tom L. Thompson

cc:  
Retirees in Regions 1,3,4,5,6,8,9, 10  
Job Corp retirees  
Research retirees  
Washington Office retirees