"Missoula Technology Development Center" logo

**Information Request**

**Traditional Skills** 

**Please complete and return electronically to** [**rbeckley@fs.fed.us**](mailto:rbeckley@fs.fed.us) **by January 19, 2007**

Attrition of skilled workers, lack of specialized equipment, and misinformation about the economic, effective, and safe use of traditional skills and tools is increasingly compromising agency credibility among some constituent groups, and integrity of the National Wilderness Preservation System. MTDC and the Carhart Center have launched an effort to address this issue. The long term vision is to, among other things; develop training standards and course curriculum tied to a Task Book similar in concept to that used by Fire. Training will be offered through a number of existing qualified sources to agency and non-agency employees, including volunteers, and this will build our capacity to accomplish work on the ground. We already know that the workforce has declined significantly. What we don’t know is, does the remaining workforce have the skills they need get work done on the ground. That’s where you come in. Please complete the following assessment so we can begin to figure out where best to focus our limited resources. Thanks in advance for your help.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **TRAVEL: Existing staff is sufficiently skilled in the ability to safely handle, properly use and care for:** | **For each TRAVEL skill, circle the number indicating the degree to which that skill is lacking among the existing workforce** (5 is most lacking and 1 is least) | **What are your highest priority TRAVEL skills to address?** (Rank the following. 1 is most important 4 is least important) | **Who are the people within and outside the agency who you consider to be expert in these TRAVEL skills?** (Please attach a separate piece of paper if necessary) | | |
| **Name** | **e-mail Address** | **Telephone Number** |
| * Livestock (horses, mules, llamas) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Watercraft | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Backpack | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Other (please list) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| **TASKS: Existing staff is sufficiently skilled in the ability to construct, maintain, or remove:** | **For each TASK skill, circle the number indicating the degree to which that skill is lacking among the existing workforce** (5 is most lacking and 1 is least) | **What are your highest priority TASK skills to address?**  (Rank the following. 1 is most important 4 is least important) | **Who are the people within and outside the agency who you consider to be expert in these TASK skills?** (Please attach a separate piece of paper if necessary) | | |
| **Name** | **e-mail Address** | **Telephone Number** |
| * Trails | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Bridges | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Structures (cabins, lookouts, shelters) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Campsites | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Water Impoundments (dams, guzzlers) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Other (please list) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| **TOOLS: Existing staff is sufficiently skilled in the safe handling, proper use, and maintenance of tools for:** | **For each TOOL skill, circle the number indicating the degree to which that skill is lacking among the existing workforce** (5 is most lacking and 1 is least) | **What are your highest priority TOOLS skills to address?** (1 is most important 14 is least important) | **Who are the people within and outside the agency who you consider to be expert in these TOOLS skills?** (Please attach a separate piece of paper if necessary) | | |
| **Name** | **e-mail Address** | **Telephone Number** |
| * Sawing (crosscut, hand, bow, pole saws) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Chopping (axes, hatchets) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Grubbing (Pulaski, combi tool, mattock) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Digging & Tamping (shovels, bars) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Brushing (shears, sickles) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Pounding & Hammering (sledges, hammers) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Lifting & Hauling (block & tackle, timber carrier) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Peeling & Shaping (bark spud, drawknife) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Sharpening (files, grinders, whetstones) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Drilling (hand drills) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Securing & Stabilizing (ropes) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Eliminating (explosives) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Travel (map & compass not GPS) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
| * Other (please list) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**What agency do you work for?** (Please check one)

* Bureau of Land Management
* Fish & Wildlife Service
* Forest Service
* National Park Service
* State Government
* Other

**Where do you spend 55% or more of your work time?**

* In the Office
* In the Field

**Anything else you’d like to share?**