



## Eastern Oregon youth put woodworking skills to use



*The old signs at the Delintment Lake Campground in the Malheur National Forest.*

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When staff from the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management heard about Eastern Oregon YCF's [plan for youth work crews](#), they asked Superintendent Doug Smith if youth could also be assigned to do maintenance work in the 1.7-million acre [Malheur National Forest](#).

Smith explained that the facility was not prepared to allow youth to do that kind of work yet, but that they could help by creating new, upgraded visitor signs for the forest in the facility's woodworking shop.

Youth Chris and Thomas proved their skills by crafting new signs for the [Delintment Lake Campground](#) (see before-and-after photos). Park rangers were so impressed that they asked the facility for more signs to be made for other sites in the forest.

"We have five more signs to deliver to the Forest Service," said Smith. "We have a meeting next week with them and they are talking about needing another 20-plus signs. We've already delivered 17 signs to the Bureau of Land Management. We are really pleased to be able to support the community in this way through our vocational programs."

Approximately 38 youth participate in Eastern Oregon's woodworking program, which is taught by instructor Shawn Horrell and supervised by Principal Ron Wassom.



*The new signs crafted by youth Chris and Thomas at Eastern Oregon YCF.*