Members of the U.S. Forest Service's Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers leadership team are pictured at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission roadside historical marker for Howard Zahniser. The marker is located two miles north of Tionesta within sight of two of the seven islands in the Allegheny Islands Wilderness (Baker Island and No Name Island).

Wilderness staff leaders hold retreat at Allegheny forest

From staff reports

Leaders from the U.S. Forest Service's Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers staff visited the Allegheny National Forest this week for a team retreat.

The staff members came from as far away as Washington, D.C., West Virginia, Mississippi, Montana, and the Boundary Waters Canoe Wilderness Area in Minnesota.

The first item on the agenda on Tuesday was to make a pilgrimage to Tionesta, along the National Wild and Scenic Allegheny River, to visit sites related to Zahniser's gravesite in Tionesta's Riverside Cemetery along the Allegheny River.

Society executive director and author of the Wilderness Act of 1964, Zahniser was a Wilderness Allegheny River to read favorite passages from the Wilderness Act and to discuss Zahniser's life work and what it means for America's National Wilderness Preservation System today.

Kirk Johnson of the Warren-based non-profit organization Friends of Allegheny Wilderness provided "tour guide" services for the afternoon.

Friends of Allegheny Wilderness was the lead sponsoring organization for the Howard Zahniser Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission roadside marker located north of Tionesta along the Allegheny River.

The marker was dedicated Aug. 13, 2001.