

NEWS RELEASE



United States
Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Clearwater National Forest

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 22, 2008

Local contestants place well in Idaho Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl poster contest

Orofino, ID—Students from Kamiah, Kooskia, Nezperce and Weippe are among the top finishers in the state of Idaho Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl poster contest.

The contest is sponsored annually by the National Garden Clubs in cooperation with the Forest Service. It is open to students in grades 1-5.

In the fall of 2007, Clearwater National Forest Fire Prevention Specialist Courtney Couch visited local classrooms to discuss the competition and teach basic composition and illustration techniques. Students then developed and illustrated posters featuring either Smokey Bear with a theme of “Remember, Only You Can Prevent Wildfires” or Woodsy Owl with a theme of “Lend a Hand—Care for the Land.”

Local entries were sent to the state level for judging. Four of the top five 1st place finishers are from the local area.

First place for the state of Idaho:

- 1st Grade: Kevin Jaxson Carpenter, Nezperce Elementary, Nezperce, ID
- 2nd Grade: Emma Lyons, Clearwater Valley Elementary, Kooskia, ID
- 3rd Grade: Megan Kelly, Kamiah Elementary, Kamiah, ID
- 4th Grade: Tianna Leitch, Nezperce Elementary, Nezperce, ID
- 5th Grade: Hayden Lee Dines, Marsing Elementary, Marsing, ID

Second place for the state of Idaho:

- 2nd Grade: Josh Kolb, Clearwater Valley Elementary, Kooskia, ID
- 4th Grade: Zack Baldwin, Clearwater Valley Elementary, Kooskia, ID

Third place for the state of Idaho:

- 2nd Grade: Spencer Sedgwick, Clearwater Valley Elementary, Kooskia, ID
- 3rd Grade: Dakota Evans, Timberline Schools, Weippe, ID

Regional winners will soon be determined from contestants in Alaska, Hawaii, Montana, Utah, California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho. The regional winners will then compete nationally.

A \$100 U.S. Savings Bond will be awarded to first place national winners from each grade level. The grand prize winner will receive free round-trip airfare and accommodations for four to Washington, D.C.

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For additional information, contact Courtney Couch (208)926-6426.