



NEWS RELEASE

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Bridgeport Ranger District
HC 62, Box 1000
Bridgeport, CA 93517

Contacts: Cheryl Probert, 760-932-7070
Annamaria Echeverria, 760-932-5824

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Fire Safe Councils Receive over \$250,000 in Grants

Bridgeport, California...The U.S. Forest Service today announced that the Twin Lakes and Swauger Creek Fire Safe Councils of the Eastern Sierra received 2010 Clearinghouse grants totaling \$251,218 to remove hazardous fuels and reduce wildfire risk. Work will occur on private property this summer and fall to provide defensible space for 175 homes, adjacent to the Bridgeport Ranger District on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. Clearinghouse grants are awarded annually by the Forest Service to Fire Safe Councils.

In Twin Lakes, a total of 70 acres of hazardous fuels will be treated; in Swauger Creek, 60 acres will be treated. Twin Lakes' fire risk was rated as "extreme," and Swauger Creek's fire risk was rated as "very high" in recent fire assessments.

"This is fantastic news for our Twin Lakes and Swauger Creek residents, as well as our Forest," said Cheryl Probert, Bridgeport District Ranger.

"It's been a pleasure seeing the Fire Safe Councils' efforts result in such positive outcomes, and having the opportunity to be part of their team," said Probert.

The Bridgeport Ranger District has worked actively alongside the Fire Safe Councils for the past six years to:

- Help create the councils;
- Advise and educate members/homeowners about the benefits of fuels reduction and the risk of wildfires; and,
- Help the Councils create their grant proposals.

Please contact Probert at 760-932-7070, or Annamaria Echeverria, District Fuels Specialist, at 760-932-5824, to learn more about this release.



Fire Safe Council grants will be used to remove overgrown brush and trees around houses. Is your home defensible?

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