



NEWS RELEASE

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Supervisor's Office
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Fire Prevention Program Held at the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows on May 6

Sparks, Nevada...Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest staff, in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows, hosted a two-hour fire prevention program for around 170 kindergarten-through-sixth graders yesterday afternoon at the Club's Ninth Street facility in Reno. In addition to learning fire prevention basics from Forest Service wildland firefighters, the kids also:

- Tried on firefighter's protective clothing and gear;
- Climbed into wildfire engines, a prevention patrol truck, and a Forest ranger's law enforcement vehicle;
- Practiced spraying water from hoses on grass, and turned on the engine's sirens and lights;
- Met Smokey Bear; and
- Received Smokey Bear goodies such as pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners, wrist bands, and Frisbees.



The kids had to make difficult choices on which type of Smokey Bear goodie they'd like

"We are very grateful to the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest staff for bringing this program to our kids", said Casey McMullen, Education Director for the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows. "It is always a fun-filled day when other organizations come to educate our kids on important issues such as this."

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“Children learn so much about fire safety at these events, as well as about their National Forest that’s really just in Reno’s backyard,” said Christie Kalkowski,

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Public Affairs Officer. The event was held to provide ongoing education and awareness of important fire prevention basics for children during Nevada’s Wildfire Awareness Week, which is May 3-9, 2009. Go to <http://www.livingwithfire.info/> to learn more providing defensible space around your home.



Forest Service staff and a few participants take a minute to pose for a photo in front of the Smokey Bear fire prevention trailer.

If you have additional questions about this release, please contact Christie Kalkowski, Public Affairs Officer, at 775-355-5311, or Laurie Gorris, Director of Development, the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows, at 775-331-3065, ext. 204.

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