



NEWS RELEASE

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Supervisor's Office
1200 Franklin Way
Sparks, NV 89431

Contacts: Christie Kalkowski, 775-355-5311
Wes Hoskins, 775-324-7667

For Immediate Release on July 23, 2009 - Stop Date is August 15, 2009

Forest Service and Friends of Nevada Wilderness to Focus on Stewardship and Trails' Work in Central Nevada

Sparks, Nevada... Ed Monnig, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Supervisor, and Shaaron Netherton, Executive Director, Friends of Nevada Wilderness, signed an agreement today to work together to improve wilderness stewardship of the Alta Toquima and Table Mountain Wildernesses in central Nevada. The two wilderness areas are located on the Austin/Tonopah Ranger Districts of the Humboldt-Toiyabe. Friends' work will begin in early August and run through the fall.

"The Friends of Nevada Wilderness continue to provide much needed support and maintenance of these special areas," said Monnig. "Most of the public probably doesn't realize the huge amount of work that Friends' accomplishes towards improving and enhancing their wilderness experiences."

Friends' staff and volunteers will collect visitation and resource information, assist with trail and sign maintenance, and conduct resource restoration projects in and around these congressionally designated jewels of the Toquima and Monitor mountain ranges. The two areas include more than 128,000 acres – Friends will help monitor and maintain over 130 miles of its trails.

"There's a second important story to tell that will greatly improve another important trail in addition to today's agreement with the Forest Service," said Netherton. "Friends of Nevada Wilderness just received a \$46,000 Recreation Trails Program grant for the Toiyabe Crest National Recreation Trail from the Nevada State Parks." The funding will provide a supervisor and 5-person crew to restore sections of this 72-mile trail (30 miles of this trail is within the Arc Dome Wilderness), and add new trailhead kiosks and needed signs.

Learn more about this release by calling Forest Public Affairs Officer Christie Kalkowski at 775-355-5311, or by calling Wes Hoskins from Friends of Nevada Wilderness at 775-324-7667, or by visiting their website at www.nevadawilderness.org.

-END-



A hiker enjoys the Arc Dome Wilderness on the Toiyabe Crest National Scenic Trail. Photo contributed by Kurt Kuznicki.



Friends of Nevada Wilderness volunteers assist the U.S. Forest Service in maintaining the Toiyabe Crest National Scenic Trail. Photo contributed by Angie Dykema.



Group Photo of Friends of Nevada Wilderness volunteers who assist the U.S. Forest Service in maintaining the Toiyabe Crest National Scenic Trail. Photo contributed by Angie Dykema.