



News Release

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Supervisor's Office
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FRIENDS OF NEVADA WILDERNESS RECEIVES NATIONAL BOB MARSHALL AWARD AS CHAMPIONS OF WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP

Sparks, Nev... The Forest Service today announced that the Friends of Nevada Wilderness has been honored with this year's national Bob Marshall Award as Champions of Wilderness Stewardship. Friends of Nevada Wilderness will receive their award at a ceremony in Washington D.C. on **October 15, 2008**. Award recipients are recognized for their contributions to wilderness stewardship, education, research, and **leadership in use of traditional skills and minimum tool use.**

"Friends of Nevada Wilderness is extremely deserving of this important award," said Ed Monnig, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Supervisor. "Our Forest has accomplished a tremendous amount of work in our 23 wildernesses, that's over 1.2 million acres, because of our partnership with Friends, and their dedicated efforts. This land is your land, and each and every one of us are benefiting from Friends' commitment to these special areas."

In 2007, 249 Friends of Nevada Wilderness volunteers completed 33 wilderness restoration and monitoring projects donating over 6,000 volunteer hours saving the federal wilderness managers over \$85,000. So far in 2008, Friends of Nevada Wilderness' 296 volunteers have restored many miles of illegal OHV routes in wilderness areas, maintained wilderness trails, cleaned up the recent graffiti in the Mt. Rose Wilderness and hand pulled bags and bags of noxious weeds.

"Winning the Bob Marshall Award for Group Champion of Wilderness Stewardship is so exciting, and only possible because of the dedication of our volunteers and the great partnership we have with the Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest," said Shaaron Netherton, Executive Director of the Friends of Nevada Wilderness. Netherton added, "our volunteers have been helping to take care of Nevada's wilderness areas for almost 25 years, and we intend to do even more in the coming 25 years."

Bob Marshall, who lived from 1901-1939, founded The Wilderness Society in 1935, an organization formed to save America's vanishing wilderness. Marshall was a Forest Service employee and a passionate outdoorsman. He summarized his wilderness pursuits in the following quote, "All we desire to save from invasion is that extremely minor fraction of outdoor America which yet remains free from mechanical sights and sounds and smell."

In Nevada, Mt. Rose, Mt. Charleston and the Ruby Mountains are some the most popular wilderness areas. Wilderness areas provide quality habitat for wildlife, help protect our cities watersheds and give Nevadans a place to enjoy the quiet beauty of the Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest.

For further information on this release, please call Christie Kalkowski, Public Affairs Officer, at 775-355-5311. Learn more about the Friends of Nevada Wilderness and upcoming volunteer opportunities, visiting their website at www.nevadawilderness.org, or their [Stewardship Blog at http://nevadawild.blogspot.com](http://nevadawild.blogspot.com), or by calling Wes Hoskins, Friends of Nevada Wilderness Trip Coordinator, at 775-324-7667.

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