



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Volunteers celebrate Arbor Day with tree planting at Norcross Campground

Approximately 20 volunteers ranging in age from nine years old to early 50s celebrated Arbor Day on April 25, 2009, by planting trees at the historic Norcross Campground on the Happy Camp/Oak Knoll Ranger District of the Klamath National Forest. They were joined by a 13-member backcountry trail crew from the California Conservation Corps (CCC), a state employment program for young adults. The day was the culmination of a collaborative project by the National Forest and AmeriCorps Watershed Steward Project (WSP).

Following a presentation on the history of the area and a safety brief, a total of 1,100 trees were planted. According to Todd Drake, ranger district reforestation specialist, volunteers and the CCC planted 800 douglas fir and incense cedar trees, and 300 canyon live oak and black oak trees. The tree planting will help to recover over 13,000 acres that burned in the area during a wildfire last October. The project will also help to restore campsites and provide shade to the surrounding riparian area.

The AmeriCorps WSP is a community-based watershed restoration program that places 44 members in 14 communities throughout northern California. A special project of the CCC, it is sponsored by California Volunteers and administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

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PHOTO OUTLINE

Volunteers and members of the California Conservation Corps listen to a safety brief before tree planting at the Norcross Campground.