

Youth Range Camp applications sought

BY SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT

Applications are now being accepted from high school students to attend the Nevada Youth Range Camp, June 20-26, at the U.S. Forest Service's Big Creek Campground in central Nevada. Applications must be postmarked by April 26.

"Range Camp is a teenager's best opportunity to learn about Nevada's desert and mountain rangelands," said Jim Gatzke, youth camp coordinator. The Society for Range Management operates the week-long camp for 14-18 year olds from Nevada and eastern California.

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*Jim Gatzke - Youth Camp Coordinator
Nevada Youth Range Camp*

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension is one of the six agencies that contribute staff and resources to organize and run the camp.

Campers will have the opportunity to learn from range management professionals who are knowledgeable in the ecology and management of the Great Basin's desert and mountain rangelands. Students learn basic surveying and map reading, identification and importance of rangeland plants, evaluation of sagebrush and woodland ecosystems, wildlife surveying techniques, evaluation of stream health, and many other topics related to rangelands. While the camp is educational, it also offers an enjoyable, outdoor experience with activities such as swimming, fishing, hiking, volleyball, horseshoes, campfires and photography.

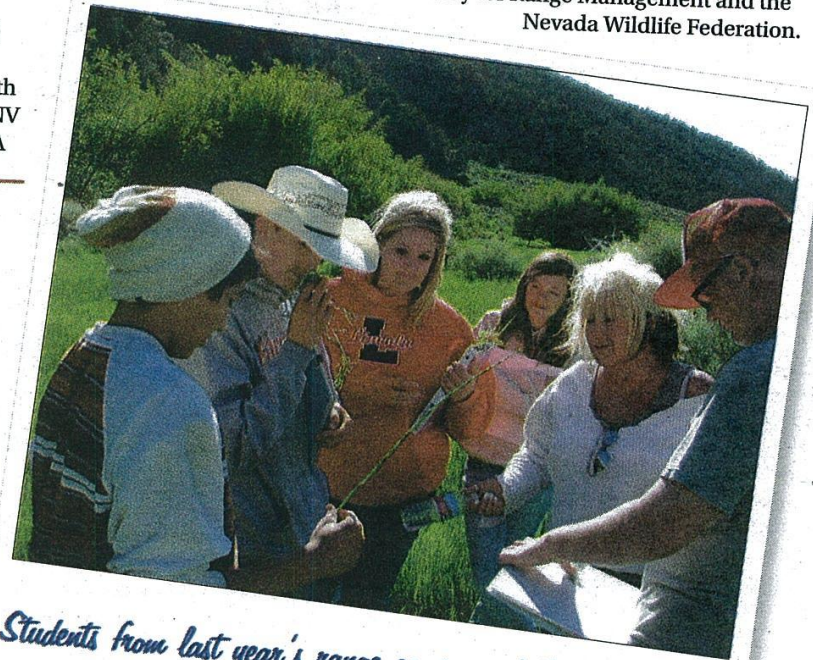
Interested students must submit an application and letter of recommendation from an adult other than

a parent or sibling. The cost to attend Range Camp is \$150, which includes meals and camp activities. Applicants can be sponsored to attend Range Camp by contacting their local conservation district or other organizations. Forms and information can be found on the Nevada Youth Range Camp Web site or by e-mailing Jim Gatzke or calling him at (775) 726-3101.

Completed applications with enclosures can be mailed to NV Youth Range Camp, c/o USDA

be in the Toiyabes when numerous wildflowers are in bloom and the vegetation is green from the recent snowmelt.

The financial sponsors of the camp are Nevada Bighorns Unlimited, Nevada conservation districts, the Nevada Society for Range Management and the Nevada Wildlife Federation.



Students from last year's range camp spent the week learning about range management, plants and habitat.

NRCS, P.O. Box 8, Caliente, NV 89008; or can be e-mailed to Gatzke at james.gatzke@nv.usda.gov. If sent by e-mail, letters of recommendation must be on the adult's official letterhead or must be a scanned copy of the adult's letter and signature. Applications must be postmarked or e-mailed by Monday, April 26. Approved applicants will be notified within two weeks.

Camp is held every June at the U.S. Forest Service Big Creek Campground in central Nevada's Toiyabe Mountain Range. The Toiyabes are one of Nevada's most impressive mountain ranges with several peaks over 10,000 feet in elevation. June is an ideal time to

Other agencies that contribute staff and resources to organize and run camp includes the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Nevada Division of Forestry, the Nevada Division of Conservation Districts, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service.