

## Firefighters Offer Help to Refuge on their Day Off

When the U.S. Forest Service Black Mountain Hotshot crew decided to spend a well- deserved day off at Nevada’s Pahrana gat National Wildlife Refuge Campground in June 2006, both the refuge and the citizens of nearby Alamo benefited.

The fire crew offered to help the refuge, and its manager Merry Maxwell had something specific in mind. The campground was in need of fuel reduction as dead trees known as 'widow makers' leaned threateningly over the road leading into the campground. The hotshot crew spent their entire day falling trees, cutting it into firewood and stacking it in neat piles.

Last September, when temperatures began to drop, refuge staff offered the wood to local senior citizens to help them warm their homes in winter.

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U.S. Forest Service firefighters cut hazardous dead trees at Pahrana gat National Wildlife Refuge, which donated the firewood to local senior citizens.