



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** 4-H and FFA Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program Judging Coaches, State Coaches, and National Committee Members

**FROM:** Jimmy Avery, Mississippi State University Extension Service  
Chair, Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program National Committee

Summer Eaton, New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service  
Co-chair for the 2010 National 4-H WHEP Invitational

**SUBJECT:** 2010 National 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program Invitational

**DATE:** April 27, 2010

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This is the official announcement for the 2010 National 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program Invitational. New Mexico is proud to host this national event in beautiful Los Alamos, NM!

**CONTEST REGION:**

The region that will be used for competition is the *Intermountain – Montane Zone* on pages 33-36 of the new national manual, updated version as of January 2010. This manual can be accessed from the website at <http://www.whep.org/index.html> please make sure you refer to this edition for the 2010 contest.

**LOCATION:**

The national event will take place in Los Alamos, New Mexico. Lodging, registration, some meals and various activities will take place at the Best Western Hilltop House in Los Alamos <http://www.bestwesternnewmexico.com/hotels/best-western-hilltop-house-hotel>

Other activities will take place in and around the Los Alamos area.

**DATE:**

The 2010 National 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program Invitational will be held Sunday, July 25 through Thursday, July 29. All participants should plan to arrive by 5:00 p.m. on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**COST:**

\$200 per person

127 Experiment Station Road, P.O. Box 197, Stoneville, MS 38776-0197  
Phone (662) 686 3242 • Fax (662) 686-3320

Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability or veteran status.

*Mississippi State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating*

Food and lodging will be provided during the Invitational through the sponsorship of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New Mexico State Cooperative Extension Service, New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute, Range Improvement Task Force, and New Mexico BLM. These costs will be provided for two coaches and four team members only.

**DEADLINES:**

June 1, 2010 – State’s intention to participate due

July 1, 2010 – Registration due

**REGISTRATION:**

Your state’s WHEP coordinator should notify us of your state’s intention to attend by **June 1<sup>st</sup>**.

You may do this through our website <http://www.whep.org/index.html> . If you have any questions about the National Invitational, travel plans, or event logistics, please contact, Summer Eaton at [seaton@nmsu.edu](mailto:seaton@nmsu.edu) or Phone: (575)646-2362 or Sam Smallidge [ssmallid@nmsu.edu](mailto:ssmallid@nmsu.edu) .

You must register your team for the national contest no later than **July 1<sup>st</sup>**. A state team consists of three or four senior 4-H members or FFA contestants and two adult coach/chaperones. Your state team can register online at <http://www.whep.org/index.html>

All forms will be available on the website as well. Please complete the online forms at <http://www.whep.org/index.html>.

**SPECIAL NEEDS:**

If you have any special needs or require special accommodations please notify Summer Eaton no later than **July 1<sup>st</sup>**. Special needs include but are not limited to diet, education, and lodging requirements. Please list and describe as best you can. You will be contacted by the contest committee for any clarifications.

**Forms to mail in with registration by July 1:**

- Copy of the online registration form
- Copy of Youth Combined Liability/Code of conduct/Medical Release form
- Copy of Adult Combined Liability/Code of conduct/Medical Release form

**Forms to bring to the Invitational (do not mail):**

- Copy of the online registration form
- Original Youth Combined Liability/Code of conduct/Medical Release form
- Original Adult Combined Liability/Code of conduct/Medical Release form

Have your check or money order made out to:

**National 4-H WHEP**

Please mail the check and a copy of your registration to:  
New Mexico State University  
Summer Eaton, Extension Animal Sciences & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 30003, MSC 3AE  
Las Cruces, NM 88003

#### ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE:

Teams flying to the event should plan to arrive in Albuquerque at the Albuquerque airport <http://www.cabq.gov/airport/>. Los Alamos is located 1 ½ hours from the Albuquerque airport. Limited transportation to and from the airport will be provided. There are a number of car rental companies available at the airport for those interested.

Please plan on arriving at the Hilltop House Best Western by early afternoon. Registration will take place at the hotel.

#### OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS:

We unfortunately cannot accommodate non-participants at this event. **Families and other individuals are not allowed to participate in any of the Invitational events.** Any family members who wish to attend the banquet on Wednesday, July 28 can purchase banquet tickets in advance of the event. A form for ordering these tickets is available on the website as well.

Please note that there are several hotels in Los Alamos and the surrounding area for family members.

- Best Western Hilltop House  
400 Trinity Drive  
<http://www.bestwesternnewmexico.com/hotels/best-western-hilltop-house-hotel>  
(505)662-2441
- Hampton Inn Los Alamos  
124 State Highway 4  
(505) 672-3838
- Holiday Inn Express  
1907 Trinity Drive  
(505) 661-2646
- Comfort Inn  
2455 Trinity Drive  
(505) 661-1110
- Canyon Inn Bed and Breakfast  
80 Canyon Road  
<http://www.canyoninnbnb.com/>  
(505) 662-9595

For more information on the town of Los Alamos visit: <http://www.visit.losalamos.com/>

#### COACHES TOUR:

The coaches' tour will take place on Tuesday, July 27 to Santa Fe, New Mexico. All coaches are required to participate in the tour. Coaches will not be allowed to remain at the hotel during contest day.

#### FUN DAY:

We have several fun day activities tentatively planned for the teams on Wednesday, July 28.

- A. Stream Fishing on the Valles Caldera National Preserve, and Bradbury Museum
- B. Hike at Bandelier National Monument, and Swimming in Los Alamos
- C. Rafting trip on the Rio Grande

#### THINGS TO BRING:

Your state flag (bring one with grommets)  
Share fair items (pins, stickers, mementos, unique items from your state, etc...)  
Field clothes and shoes/boots  
Dress clothes for awards banquet  
Clothes for fun day and swimming  
Sunscreen and hat  
Insect repellent  
Beach towel for swimming  
Light jacket, sweatshirt, or rain coat

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

Coaches are responsible for the actions of their youth and are expected to supervise them at all times except during the contest Tuesday, July 27. Coaches will need to have their team members at the appropriate places on time.

#### SURROUNDING ATTRACTIONS:

There are a number of attractions and sites worth visiting while in New Mexico. If you plan to stay longer or arrive earlier before the event, please visit our New Mexico Department of Tourism: <http://www.newmexico.org/> for more information.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

If you have any questions concerning the Invitational please contact: Summer Eaton at [seaton@nmsu.edu](mailto:seaton@nmsu.edu) or Sam Smallidge [ssmallid@nmsu.edu](mailto:ssmallid@nmsu.edu)