

December 3, 2009

Dear Leaders,

We have a great program planned for Utah WHEP this year. We will be conducting our WHEP contest at the annual Envirothon contest, in Park City, April 30th- May 1st. If you have some students that will be competing at Envirothon, now is a great opportunity to get them involved in WHEP, so that they can participate in this event while they are there.

Getting started with WHEP is easy. The manual is located on the National website (www.whep.org). Additionally, training materials are located on our 4-H website (<http://utah4h.org/htm/featured-programs/whep>). **This year the WHEP zone is INTERMOUNTAIN SUB-ALPINE.** Winners of the Utah WHEP contest will be eligible to attend the National WHEP contest in New Mexico, July 2010.

This year, students can participate in the contest at the Envirothon contest as onlookers. We will allow students who are curious about the program to sign up for the contest as a non-competitor. In this way, they can participate in the program and decide if they are interested.

I understand that beginning a WHEP team can be rather intimidating for many people and I would like to offer help to those interested in creating teams. Please don't hesitate to call with questions or requests for assistance in getting started. My contact email is nicki.frey@usu.edu and my phone number is (435) 586-1924.

Please share this information with the appropriate youth leaders and staff in your county. I encourage all counties to participate this year, even if you are just starting out. It is a great way to prepare for future competitions and understand what is expected of the teams. Thank you for all you do to engage Utah's youth.

Sincerely,
Dr. Nicole Frey
Wildlife Specialist