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Middle Republican Natural Resources District

1/28/2008

For Immediate Release

Area High School Students Prepare for Upcoming Environmental Contest

Curtis – Nearly 30 area schools have been invited to compete in this year’s Mid Plains Regional Envirothon scheduled for February 27th at the Nebraska College for Technical Agriculture in Curtis. The Mid-Plains Region includes 16 counties from Cherry County south to Dundy, Hitchcock and Red Willow Counties.

The Envirothon is a program for 9th-12th grade students to learn more about our natural environment. Teams may be composed of FFA students, science students, 4-H members, or any student interested in natural resources. The contest tests students’ knowledge on subjects such as soils, aquatics, forestry, wildlife, range, environmental policy, and one special topic of national interest. This year’s special topic is “Recreational Impacts on Natural Resources.” In order to qualify for the Nebraska Envirothon Contest, 5-member teams must first compete at a regional contest. The winning teams from each regional, plus eight wildcard teams, are invited to the Nebraska State Envirothon Competition. Winners of the State competition, held May 3, will advance to the Canon Envirothon in Arizona.

Last year, 8 schools and 11 teams participated in the Mid-Plains Regional Envirothon. Wauneta-Palisade entered two teams and one of those teams went on to the State competition and finally to Nationals held in New York.

Registration for the 2008 Mid-Plains Regional Envirothon begins at 8:45 AM Central Time on the 3rd floor of the Agriculture Hall. Teachers must register with the MRNRD ahead of time by

calling (800) 873-5613 or going to our website www.mnrnd.org/education.html and clicking on the Envirothon heading.

Sponsors for the Envirothon program are: Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nebraska Forest Service, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, Society for Range Management, University of Nebraska IANR, Nebraska Department of Education and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

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For more information:

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