BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MEDIA RELEASE

JERRY W. SMITH
SHERIFF-CORONER

DATE : **July 29, 2011**

RELEASED BY : **Sgt M. Rolph**

CONTACT # : **538-7389**

On July 29, 2011 the Butte County Sheriff's Office Special Enforcement Unit along with the Butte Inter-Agency Narcotic Task Force, North Office, raided a very large marijuana garden near Clear Creek, Magalia. SEU was able to enter the growing area undetected. While SEU was clearing the marijuana garden BINTF Agents encountered two suspects, both Hispanic, on a trail west of the garden. The BINTF Agents pursued the suspects but they were able to avoid capture.

The marijuana garden was located in an older clear cut which had been reforested. The suspects had cut down trees and cleared the hill side of all natural vegetation. The grow site was approximately 175 yards long and 75 yards wide. SEU Deputies located the suspect's makeshift camp site that included food supplies, a stove, propane tanks, and a small sleeping area. A total of 9,391 growing mature marijuana plants were removed from the site.

This is the sixth garden that the Butte County Sheriff's Office has eradicated this month (July), netting a total of 38,343 marijuana plants. The Special Enforcement Unit would like to emphasize the importance of being aware of your surroundings while enjoying outdoor activities in Butte County. If you come in to contact with a grower or believe you have found an area where marijuana is being grown, I.E. finding black plastic tubing, camp sites that are hidden, food supplies, or even walk into the grow site, leave the area immediately and call the Butte County Sheriff's Office SEU at 538-7389.

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