

Francis, Ronald - Salt Lake City, UT

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NRCS CAREER ORIENTATION TO UINTAH RIVER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Nathaniel Todea, Utah State Hydraulic Engineer and National Civil Rights Committee American Indian male representative, helped present an NRCS career orientation to students at the Uintah River High School (<http://www.uteducation.com/index.aspx?c=22>) in Fort Duchesne, which is part of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation. (See accompanying



photo.) Activities were coordinated by Mark Monsen a soil conservation technician in the NRCS Roosevelt Field Office, managed by Brett Prevedel. Rachael Bytheway, a Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) student in the Utah NRCS State Office and currently attending the University of Utah studying

Civil Engineering, assisted in the one hour presentation. Rachael talked to the students about her experiences with USDA-NRCS, and was well received. Questions asked to Nathaniel and Rachael were:

- Does NRCS only work on disasters?
- Are your offices located locally, where are you offices?
- Why did you choose engineering?
- Did you know what you wanted to do when going to college?
- Do you work or how do you work with oil/gas companies?
- What kind of engineering do you like?
- How it felt to be a female in the engineering field?

The presentation that was given by Nathaniel Todea, at the all 2008 employee meeting, "Tying my Cultural Beliefs into my Everyday Life" helped Nathaniel and Mark to develop a relationship that led to the presentation at the Uintah River High School. "Over all the presentations were well received, we seemed to spark some interest in conservation, and hope to have some job shadowing with the American Indian students and NRCS," Nathaniel said. If you need assistance with presentations in your area, contact any Special Emphasis Program Manager or Civil Rights Committee member <http://www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov/about/CR/index.html> .

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