

Rescuers search for missing family

by UPI

INSKIP, Calif. -- Rescuers Wednesday combed a wooded area for a family that vanished on a Christmas-tree-cutting trek in the California mountains just before a fierce snowstorm. Frederick Dominguez, 38, and his children Christopher, 18, Alexis, 15, and Joshua, 12, were last seen around 5 p.m. Sunday heading into the woods near Inskip, Calif., with a saw and wearing light jackets, the Sacramento Bee said. Searchers hoped the family found shelter during the storm that dumped more than 3 feet of snow over 48 hours. Dominguez's ex-wife, Lisa Sams of Paradise, Calif., reported the family missing Monday after her children failed to show up at school. Friends and relatives are holding vigil with Sams. "We're trying to be as hopeful as we can," Barbara Sams, Lisa's mother, told the Bee. "Maybe they're huddling somewhere keeping warm. They're a very close family -- they wouldn't split up. Freddy is a good dad -- he'd give the kids the clothes off his back."

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