

Bush surveys wildfire devastation

by UPI

BRUNSWICK, Ga. - U.S. President George Bush Tuesday commiserated with those affected by the Georgia and Florida wildfires, visiting a fire station in Brunswick, Ga.

Bush, accompanied by Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff and Homeland Security adviser Fran Townsend, as well as Sens. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., and Mel Martinez, R-Fla., also participated in a simulated border-crossing exercise.

Bush said wildfires had destroyed "a lot of good country" and said he fears the only way to stop the destruction is for the weather to change.

"It's a very difficult period for the people, particularly in southeast Georgia and north Florida. A lot of lives are being affected," Bush said. "I've come down to let the people know that we are concerned about their livelihood and I'm fully aware of the nature of these fires, that we strongly support the efforts being done here to fight these fires, and we wish the people all the best."

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