



**Smokey Bear,
James Arness**

1950, Radio, English

Sons of the Pioneers: [Sing] Smokey the Bear, Smokey the Bear...

Smokey the Bear: Hello there, folks. This is Smokey, the forest fire-preventing bear. Those singing friends of mine, The Sons of the Pioneers, have a song for you. But first, how about joining us on a little visit to a big star. Today, it's James Arness. And here he is taking time outta his busy schedule as "Marshal Matt Dillon" to talk a bit about forest fires.

James: You know, Smokey, I've seen some mighty bad forest and range fires in my time and I know what the fellows who had to fight them meant when they said, "If we could just get our hands on whoever let this fire get away..." There's no tougher, more frustrating job than fighting a wild running forest or range fire. We outta keep this in mind every time we strike a match outdoors, whenever we light up a smoke or whenever we use a campfire. Wildfires caused by carelessness kill not only the grass and the trees but wildlife too, and sometimes human beings as well. Carelessness with fire is bad business and it's against the law, so all of us should keep this in mind too.

Smokey the Bear: Thank you, marshal. I mean, Mr. Arness. Carelessness with fire is bad business. Everyone pays for such carelessness one way or another. Now, The Sons of the Pioneers here are gonna sing an old favorite of yours, "Whispering Wind".

Sons of the Pioneers: [Sing] All day through there's an oo-oo
Like the sigh of a soul in distress
Night time too brings a oo-oo,
As it sings off of loneliness.
Just like a prayer set adrift in the air
Calling me home again
Whisperin' wind comes a wing and a melody,
To welcome me there.
Whisperin' wind keep us singing
And coming to, someone who cares.

Stars ashine in the prairie skies,
Guide my steps onto paradise.
Whisperin' wind
Softly callin',
Oh, weary one
Hurry on home.

Smokey the Bear: Well, that's it for now, folks. Thanks a lot for spending this time with us. You know it's your own State Forestry Department along with the Forest Service,



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U.S. Department of Agriculture, and this station you're listening to that make these get-togethers possible. Until we say "hello there" again and pay another little visit to another big star, this is Smokey and his pals, The Sons of the Pioneers, asking you to always remember, only you can prevent forest and range fires.

Sons of the Pioneers:

Smokey the Bear, Smokey the Bear
Prowlin' and a growlin' and a sniffin' the air.
He can find a fire before it starts to flame.
That's why they call him Smokey.
That was how he got his name.

[End of Audio]

Duration: 5 minutes