

Desert NWR Complex Fall 2010 Public Programs

September 15, 2010

Saturday, September 18, 2010

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Desert NWR

Bugs of the Mojave

The Southern Nevada Agency Partnership (SNAP) is presenting a program for the entire family on the insects of the Mojave Desert. Virginia Ramos-Barajas, Environmental Education and Outreach Coordinator with the Great Basin Institute, will lead an interactive exploration of the fascinating insects on the Desert NWR. Meet at the trailhead, next to the bathrooms at Corn Creek.

Saturday, September 18, 2010

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Moapa Valley NWR

Dragonflies and Damselflies– flying jewels of the insect world

There are many kinds of these big and colorful insects at the wildlife refuge and Bruce Lund will help participants discover them all. Expect to see Flame skimmers, Blue-ringed dancers, Kiowa dancers, American ruby spots and others as you walk along the trails and streams. Bruce will net a few up-close look and then let them fly free again. It's an easy walk, and cameras and binoculars are welcome.

Sunday, September 19, 2010

4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Desert NWR

Corn Creek Nature Photography

Explore Corn Creek through the lens during this introduction to nature photography. We will discuss equipment options, how to use your camera, and basic photography guidelines. Bring your own camera – digital or film – and practice various techniques at this desert oasis. Meet at the trailhead, next to the bathrooms at Corn Creek.

Saturday, September 25, 2010

National Public Lands Day

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Stewardship Saturday Volunteer Planting

Come celebrate National Public Lands Day by helping plant native trees and grasses along the restored Fairbanks Channel. Planting native species is an important part of the restoration process as native plants compete with exotic species, stabilize disturbed soils, and provide habitat for wildlife. The work is dirty and fairly strenuous, as planting requires repetitive bending and kneeling. Snacks and water will be provided. Planting ends at noon, and participants are invited to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy some games (with prizes) in the afternoon! Enjoy a day of fun, sun, and stewardship — and bring a friend!

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Desert NWR

Trail Improvements Volunteer Project

The USFWS needs volunteers to help trim and remove brush along existing trails and the proposed Birdsong Trail at Corn Creek Desert NWR. This project is the first step toward creating the new trail. Meet at the trailhead, next to the bathrooms at Corn Creek.

8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Desert NWR

Backcountry Road Clean-up

Help pick up litter along Mormon Well and Gass Peak Roads. High clearance vehicles are required. Registration at the visitor contact station is from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 2, 2010

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Moapa Valley NWR

Volunteer Project- Tidy Up

Over time various unwanted growth and unsightly debris has accumulated at the refuge. Fallen dead palm fronds have created a fire hazard, overgrown weeds have become unsightly, and some construction debris remains from recent activity. Please join the USFWS staff in tidying up the Moapa Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

Saturday, October 9, 2010

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Let's Explore Wild Birds

Calling all kids! Come enjoy a day of feathery fun! See real bird nests and eggs, hear from a local ornithologist, and find out everything you need to know to become a bird expert yourself. Borrow our binoculars and field guides and join us on a bird search around the Point of Rocks boardwalk. After your picnic lunch, we'll play some games, and you can even get your photo taken with Puddles the Blue Goose — the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service mascot. Participants **must register** by calling **775-372-5435** or sending an email to **alyson_mack@fws.gov**. The registration deadline is October 4, 2010. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday, October 9, 2010

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Pahranaagat NWR

Ell Spring Cattail Cutting Volunteer Project

Overgrown cattails and reeds will be cut along the banks of Ell spring. Removing cattails is an important part of the restoration process as they promote the existence of exotic species. Exotic species compete with the native Northern Leopard Frog. All participants should be comfortable in water and a muddy environment. It is recommended participants wear shoes and clothes that can get wet, and bring a change of clothes. The activity is for ages 12 and up.

National Wildlife Refuge Week October 10-16, 2010

Saturday, October 16, 2010

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Desert NWR

Refuge Week Twilight Walk

Come celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week with a twilight walk through Corn Creek trail. Explore the world of things that go bump in the night in a true desert oasis. Meet at the trailhead, next to the bathrooms at Corn Creek.

National Wildlife Refuge Week October 10-16, 2010

Saturday, October 16, 2010

2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Moapa Valley NWR

Interpretive Nature Walk

Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week with an interpretive walk focused on endangered species guided by a SNAP (Southern Nevada Agency Partnership) educator.

Saturday, October 16, 2010

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Pahranaagat NWR

Interpretive Nature Walk

Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week with an interpretive walk focused on endangered species guided by a SNAP (Southern Nevada Agency Partnership) educator. Meet at the campground near the covered picnic area— three (3) miles north of the refuge headquarters.

Saturday, October 23, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Stewardship Saturday Volunteer Planting

Help refuge staff plant native trees and grasses along the restored Fairbanks Channel. Planting native species is an important part of the restoration process as native plants compete with exotic species, stabilize disturbed soils, and provide habitat for wildlife. The work is dirty and fairly strenuous, as planting requires repetitive bending and kneeling. Snacks and water will be provided. Planting ends at noon, and participants are invited to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy some games (with prizes) in the afternoon! Enjoy a day of fun, sun, and stewardship — and bring a friend!

Saturday, October 23, 2010

8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Desert NWR

Birdsong Trail Construction Volunteer Project

Join the USFWS, Friends of the Nevada Wilderness, Friends of Desert NWR Complex, and Red Rocks Audubon Society as they begin the first of three days of trail work at Corn Creek. This is your chance to be a part of history by working on the Birdsong Trail at Corn Creek. The trail will compliment the new visitor center at Corn Creek and will be enjoyed by present and future generations. Meet at the trailhead, next to the bathrooms at Corn Creek.

12 p.m. – 3 p.m. Desert NWR

Friends Potluck and Membership Drive

Bring a dish, have lunch, meet the Friends of Desert NWR Complex, and join them for some fun educational activities at Corn Creek. You may even be inspired to pitch in and help construct the Birdsong Trail. Meet in the administrative area at Corn Creek.

Saturday, October 23, 2010

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Moapa Valley NWR

Small Mammals, Birds, and Fossils

At night, the wildlife refuge is alive with a variety of small mammals that emerge from their underground burrows to feed. Visitors rarely see these nocturnal critters. For this walk, Bruce Lund will put out live traps so that participants can have a close-up look and talk about some of these neat little critters. Lund will then release them back to their burrows. Throughout the walk, visitors can also watch for fall/winter birds and for fossils that are all around them. It's an easy walk, and cameras and binoculars are welcome.

Saturday, October 30, 2010

Make a Difference Day

Time: TBA Ash Meadows NWR

Point of Rocks Grand Opening

This event celebrates the completion of an interpretive boardwalk designed to showcase the habitat restoration and recovery process at the Point of Rocks. New interpretive displays highlight the many endemic species found at Ash Meadows, including naucorids, spring-loving centaury, and pupfish, as well as the rich cultural history of the area. Face painting, giveaways, presentations and more will make this an event to remember. Please call **775-372-5435** or email **cyndi_souza@fws.gov** to RSVP.

Saturday, October 30, 2010

Make a Difference Day

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Desert NWR

Birdsong Trail Construction Volunteer Project

Join the USFWS, Friends of the Nevada Wilderness, Friends of Desert NWR Complex, and Red Rocks Audubon Society as they begin the second of three days of trail work at Corn Creek. This is your chance to be a part of history by working on the Birdsong Trail at Corn Creek. The trail will compliment the new visitor center at Corn Creek and will be enjoyed by present and future generations. Meet at the trailhead, next to the bathrooms at Corn Creek.

Saturday, November 6, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Stewardship Saturday Volunteer Cattail Cutting

Help cut back overgrown cattails and reeds in the stream waters of King's Pool. Removing cattails is an important part of the restoration process as they slow stream flow and promote the population of exotic crayfish. These crayfish, among other exotic species, eat the endangered Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish and compete with them for habitat. All participants should be comfortable swimming in water up to five feet deep. It is recommended participants wear shoes and clothes that can get wet and dirty, and bring a change of clothes. The cutting project will end at noon, but volunteers are welcome to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy some fun games (with prizes) in the afternoon.

Saturday, November 6, 2010

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Desert NWR

Birdsong Trail Construction Volunteer Project

Join the USFWS, Friends of the Nevada Wilderness, Friends of Desert NWR Complex, and Red Rocks Audubon Society as they begin the third and final day of trail work at Corn Creek. This is your chance to be a part of history by working on the Birdsong Trail at Corn Creek. The trail will compliment the new visitor center at Corn Creek and will be enjoyed by present and future generations. Meet at the trailhead, next to the bathrooms at Corn Creek.

Saturday, November 6, 2010

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Pahrnagat NWR

Interpretive Nature Walk

Join a SNAP educator for an interpretive walk focused on raptors. Meet at the campground's covered picnic area – three (3) miles north of refuge headquarters.

Saturday, November 13, 2010

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Let's Explore — Quest for the Bighorn

Ready for an adventure? Join the staff of Ash Meadows NWR and Death Valley National Park on a backcountry expedition from Point of Rocks to Devils Hole — straight through bighorn territory! Participants will find out what they need to know to hike safely in the backcountry, make their own field journal to take along, and try out their navigational and animal-tracking skills along the way. Staff members are hoping to find the elusive Desert Bighorn Sheep, but who know what other surprises await! Participants must be 13 years of age and up to register. The registration deadline is November 8, 2010. Call **775-372-5435** or send an email to **alyson_mack@fws.gov** to register.

Saturday, November 13, 2010

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Desert NWR

Interpretive Nature Walk

Join a SNAP educator for an interpretive walk focused on endangered species. Meet at the trailhead, next to the bathrooms at Corn Creek.

Saturday, November 13, 2010

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Moapa Valley NWR

Small Mammals, Birds, and Fossils

At night, the wildlife refuge is alive with a variety of small mammals that emerge from their underground burrows to feed. Visitors rarely see these nocturnal critters. For this walk, Bruce Lund will put out live traps so that participants can have a close-up look and talk about some of these neat little critters. Lund will then release them back to their burrows. Throughout the walk, visitors can also watch for fall/winter birds and for fossils that are all around them. It's an easy walk, and cameras and binoculars are welcome.

Saturday, November 27, 2010 (Thanksgiving weekend)

10a.m. - 12 p.m. Moapa Valley NWR

Interpretive Nature Walk

Join a SNAP educator for an interpretive walk focused on the human history at the wildlife refuge.

Saturday, December 4, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Stewardship Saturday Volunteer Cattail Cutting

Help improve pupfish habitat - and get wet feet doing it. Cut back overgrown cattails and reeds in the waters of Crystal Spring and its outflow. Removing cattails is an important part of the restoration process as they slow stream flow and promote the population of exotic crayfish. These crayfish, among other exotic species, eat the endangered Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish and compete with them for habitat. All participants should be comfortable swimming in water up to five feet deep. It is recommended participants wear shoes and clothes that can get wet and dirty, and bring a change of clothes. The cutting project will end at noon, but volunteers are welcome to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy some fun games (with prizes) in the afternoon.

Saturday, December 4, 2010

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Pahranaagat NWR

Interpretive Nature Walk

Join a SNAP educator for a nature walk focused on endangered species. Meet at the campground's covered picnic area – three (3) miles north of refuge headquarters.

Saturday, December 11, 2010

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Let's Explore — Time Travelers

Travel back in time to the days before Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge existed and meet some of the people who were living here. Sit in the Longstreet Cabin and listen to the stories of the infamous Jack Longstreet, taste an edible wild plant, try your hand at an old game of chance, find the medicinal plants growing in the desert, look at old photographs from days past, and imagine what it was like to live out in the desert before air conditioning and Nintendo DS. To register send an email to alyson_mack@fws.gov or call **775-372-5435**. The registration deadline is December 6, 2010.

Saturday, December 11, 2010

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Moapa Valley NWR

Interpretive Nature Walk

Join a SNAP educator for a nature walk focused on raptors.

Saturday, December 18, 2010

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Desert NWR

Interpretive Nature Walk

Join a SNAP educator for an interpretive walk focused on the human history at Desert NWR. Meet at the trailhead, next to the bathrooms at Corn Creek.

For volunteer events, please register online at **www.getoutdoorsnevada.org**.

For more information on events at Desert NWR, or to register for educational programs, contact Ida Castillo via email at **ida_castillo@fws.gov** or by phone at **(702) 879-6110**.

For more information on events at Pahrnagat and Moapa Valley NWR, contact Karyn Barnett at **karyn_barnett@fws.gov**.

For more information on events at Ash Meadows NWR, or to register for the educational 'Let's Explore' programs, contact **Alyson_Mack@fws.gov** or call **775-372-5435**.

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