



Sloughs News

Autumn 2016



Stewardship Days



If you are interested in improving the refuge for visitors and for wildlife alike, join us at the Visitor Center for a stewardship project. We will do either a trash cleanup or a planting/weeding project. Dress appropriately for the task and for the weather. We will have gloves to lend and will provide the tools. Bring your own water bottle. Meet in the parking lot at the Visitor Center. Driving an additional 2.5 miles may be required since the project may be at a different location.

For more information, or to make reservations, call 510-792-0222 ext. 362.

October 8th 9:30 am - 12:00 pm and November 12th 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Potential Opportunities

Visitor Center Information Desk*

We are looking for individuals to help us man the visitor center by greeting visitors and keeping the center looking nice. You will be an important staple of our team!

Native Plants Nursery*

Work with our nursery doing weeding, pruning, and planting. Help make the refuge more beautiful!

Trail and Vegetation Maintenance*

We do not want to be sitting ducks! Become an important part of our team by looking for faults and fixing them, removing invasive species, taking care of graffiti and more!

*Attending Fremont Volunteer Orientation is highly recommended

*Questions? Please contact Leah Mould at 510-792-0222 ext. 362 or
Leah_Mould@fws.gov*

Volunteer Orientation
Saturday, October
22nd
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Remember our Volunteers of San Francisco Bay NWR Complex Facebook Page!

We created a Facebook Group for our volunteers to communicate with one another and for staff to communicate with you. Feel free to post questions about the Refuge Complex, photos of yourselves volunteering, or things you've been working on. This group is private and only members can see your posts. But, the public can see who are members of this group. Membership is by invitation and/or requests only. Join the group now! Find us at Volunteers of SF Bay NWR Complex.

Coastal Clean Up

Saturday, September 17th 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Dumbarton Fishing Pier Parking Lot Marshlands Rd, Fremont

Do you want to help wildlife and the environment? Join the thousands of people around the world for International Coastal Cleanup Day. At Don Edwards SF Bay NWR you can remove invasive weeds or pick up trash along the parking lot and trails.

We will supply plastic gloves (or bring your own) and trash and recycling bags. You supply energy, sturdy shoes, sun protection, and clothes you don't mind getting dirty. Bring a reusable water bottle.

Children under age 18 must have parental approval. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. To expedite the registration process, log on to https://www.fws.gov/refuge/don_edwards_san_francisco_bay/cleanup.html to download the forms. You may fill in the forms before the event and bring the information to the registration table. Forms are also available at the registration table.

For more information, call 510-792-0222, ext. 362 for the Visitor Services Intern or Paul Mueller at ext. 361. No reservations necessary!

Day on the Bay at the Alviso Marina

Sunday, October 9th 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

This year's Day on the Bay (hosted by Supervisor Cortese's office) will be held Sunday, October 9th from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm at the Alviso Marina. We are asking for volunteers to sign up for shifts at our booth. The duties/shifts available are:

- 9:30 am – 1:00 pm
 - Two volunteers to assist at the Don Edwards SF Bay NWR booth
 - Two volunteers to lead nature walks
- 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm
 - Two volunteers to assist at the Don Edwards SF Bay NWR booth
 - Two volunteers to lead nature walks

Nature walks will be approximately 45 minutes, and two per shift. The times are 11:00, 12:00, 2:00 and 3:00. The two volunteers for the walks will work together or split into two groups, depending on the number of people. Talking points will be provided.

A Doodle Poll has been created, the link is below. Please comment whether you are signing up to assist at the booth or lead a nature walk. <http://doodle.com/poll/seyasnnkhei3gbzz>

If you have questions contact Hope Presley at hope_presley@fws.gov or Genie Moore at genie_moore@fws.gov

If you have an interest in wildlife and their conservation, enjoy working with people, and are enthusiastic and dependable, the Environmental Education Center's Volunteer Program is for you! As a volunteer, you will receive on-the-job training from staff and other volunteers in the project area you choose.

Restoration Project Volunteers: Volunteers are needed to work on the EEC's ecotone habitat restoration project. In the fall and winter, volunteers plant natives and in the spring and summer volunteers pull various invasive species to ensure that the native plants have a chance to thrive!

Training: Volunteer orientation and on the job training is required.

Questions: Please contact Julie Kahrnoff at 408-262-5513 ext. 104 or julie.kahrnoff@sfbws.com

Additional Requirements:

Individuals and groups of all ages are welcome to do physical work, primarily outdoors.

Hours: Tuesday from 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

Saturday Information Desk Volunteers: Volunteers are needed to tell our story to visitors, answer questions, answer phones, and check out our discovery packs and binoculars to visitors.

Training: Volunteer Orientation and a one hour information desk training is required.

Questions: Please contact Julie Kahrnoff at 408-262-5513 ext. 104 or julie.kahrnoff@sfbws.com

Additional Requirements: Two half days per month for a six-month commitment is required.

Hours: Shifts are from 10:00 am - 1:30 pm and 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm on Saturdays

Butterfly Garden Manager: An experienced volunteer in California native plants is needed to keep the education center's demonstration garden thriving. This position will require nursery management and developing a plan for the 1.5 acre garden.

History: Volunteers established this garden to provide a critical habitat for songbirds and butterflies. The garden demonstrates how to garden for wildlife using beautiful California native plants, without the use of herbicides. It contains mature specimens of Ceanothus, fuchsia-flowered gooseberry, pink flowering currant, buckwheat, toyon, and black sage in a naturalistic setting.

To Apply: Please send a resume and letter of interest to Julie Kahrnoff at julie.kahrnoff@sfbws.com.

Additional Requirements: You will need one day a week for a three month commitment.

Hours: Flexible

Volunteer Orientations
11:00 am to Noon
 Meet in the auditorium of the Environmental Education Center in Alviso. Applications provided at orientation.
Saturday, October 1st
Saturday, November 5th
Saturday, December 3rd

Volunteer Requirements

- You must attend a volunteer orientation.
- You must attend the scheduled trainings.
- You must meet the age requirements for the program.

Warm Springs Docent: Volunteers are needed to give public tours of the Warm Springs Unit of Don Edwards SF Bay NWR (Warm Springs). Warm Springs is a vernal pool grassland in south Fremont with beautiful vernal pool flower blooms in April. This area is otherwise closed to the public.

Training: Docents will be trained by Warm Springs staff and will attend at least two tours prior to leading a tour.

Questions: E-mail Ivette Loreda, Wildlife

Refuge Specialist at ivette_loredo@fws.gov.

Additional Requirements: We are looking for docents who can lead two - four tours on weekends (two tours can be done in one day) in mid-April and make at least a two year commitment. Tours are two hours long and limited to 20 participants.

Hours: Typically tours are offered at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm and last two hours.

Outreach Volunteers: Help us get out into the community and spread the word about one of the bay area's best kept secrets - the Refuge!

Training: We offer volunteer orientation, outreach training, and Refuge 101 training.

Questions: Please contact Julie Kahrnoff at 408-262-5513 ext. 104 or julie.kahrnoff@sfbws.com.

Additional Requirements: One event per quarter (four total) for a one year commitment.

Hours: Hours can vary depending on the event.

Citizen Scientists Plant Monitoring Program: Help us monitor plants, birds, monarchs, reptiles, and/or the weather!

Training: Volunteer orientation consists of one hour of instructional and in the field training with biologists and experienced volunteers.

Questions: Please contact Julie Kahrnoff at 408-262-5513 ext. 104 or julie.kahrnoff@sfbws.com.

Additional Requirements: Volunteers must be 15 and up and monitor one field per month.

Dates and Hour: Dates and hours are flexible

The following training opportunities are open to all San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex Volunteers.

Casa Grande and the Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum
21350 Almaden Road. San Jose
Tuesday, October 25th 2016 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join us for a tour of one of California's largest mercury mines. The museum presents visitors with an interesting array of exhibits about the history of mercury mining and the lifestyles of mining communities at New Almaden. A mine diorama duplicates the interior of a mine shaft, giving visitors a feel for working underground. Other exhibits explain the changing technology of how the liquid mercury was extracted from mined cinnabar ore. Artifacts from Cornish, Mexican and Chinese mining families depict the diversity of people that once lived and worked together on "the hill." Casa Grande's antique-furnished parlor, library and drawing room reflect the lifestyle of a mine manager's family. There will be carpool from the EEC.

Team Citizen Scientists
Environmental Education Center, Alviso
Saturday, November 19th 2016 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Become a citizen scientist! Are you interested in plants, birds, monarchs, or reptiles and want to take time to slow down at the EEC? We will go out in the field and learn firsthand the effects of restoration and climate change in the life cycle of plants and animals. Ages 15 and up are welcome.

Ohlone Cordage Making Class
Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont
November 18th OR December 16th Time TBD

Have you ever wondered what life was like for the Ohlone Native Americans? Come join your fellow volunteers as we visit our neighbors at Coyote Hills Regional Park to learn Cordage Making, a skill from the past, with Dino Labiste. See and learn the effort that the Ohlone people put into some of their most impressive natural craft work.

*Contact Julie Kahrnoff at 408-515-1889, Julie.kahrnoff@sfbws.com
for questions and to register.*



Help Count Lange's Metalmark Butterflies!

It is time once again for the Lange's metalmark butterfly counts at Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge! We will be counting butterflies for several weeks in September and we can use your help.

We will be conducting counts until **ZERO** butterflies are seen, whenever that may be in September. You will be briefed on what to do and what to look for on each day of the count, so first-timers are welcome as well as veteran counters!

As you might guess, Antioch in summer is challenging. Temperatures can be very warm to hot, often with a nice breeze, and the terrain can be uneven and sometimes steep. There are many plants to step over, under and around, as well as prickly plant parts that will want to go home with you.

However, if you are of the hardy variety, the payoff is fabulous and worth it! Lange's Metalmark Butterflies are found nowhere else in the world, except at the Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge!! Do not miss this opportunity to see this gorgeous endangered species!!!

Meet for training at 9:30 am, surveys last through until 4:00 pm. Dates are September 8th, 15th and 22nd if butterflies are still active.

Interested? Contact Susan Euing at 510-521-9717 or Susan_Euing@fws.gov

Track birds for citizen science!

Help the Environmental Education Center in Alviso track birds! As the restoration of ponds moves forward, data on bird use of the waterways will be extremely helpful to understand if bird use of waterways changes over the course of the management projects.

The San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory has developed a bird monitoring protocol for the data collection. Individuals will submit their observations on-line to <http://www.eBird.org> from home. Or, if you have a smart phone, you can enter the data from the refuge by using the Wi-Fi service offered by the San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society.



Call for Maintenance, Labor, and Habitat Volunteers

Available and interested volunteers are requested to assist the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge in the greater San Francisco Bay Area from one to two weeks at a time between **September 2016 and April 2017**. Volunteers will conduct work on Southeast Farallon Island, located approximately 30 miles offshore of the city of San Francisco.

Duties: This is a general call for volunteers to assist with management of the Refuge. The Refuge is home to a permanent biological research station that requires regular maintenance to the facilities. As such, we are specially looking for anyone with carpentry, plumbing, electrical, or masonry skills to assist with maintenance. If you do not have any of these skills, there may be a need for volunteers with the ability to lift, move, and stack cargo, to and from boats, and around the island. Also needed are volunteers interested in assisting with invasive plant control activities.

Team Spinach 2017: Coming in early 2017 will be a call for five to seven volunteers to participate in Team Spinach for a week in late March/early April and for a week in late July/early August. The majority this time will be spent controlling the invasive plant New Zealand Spinach, while working on rocky and often steep terrain.

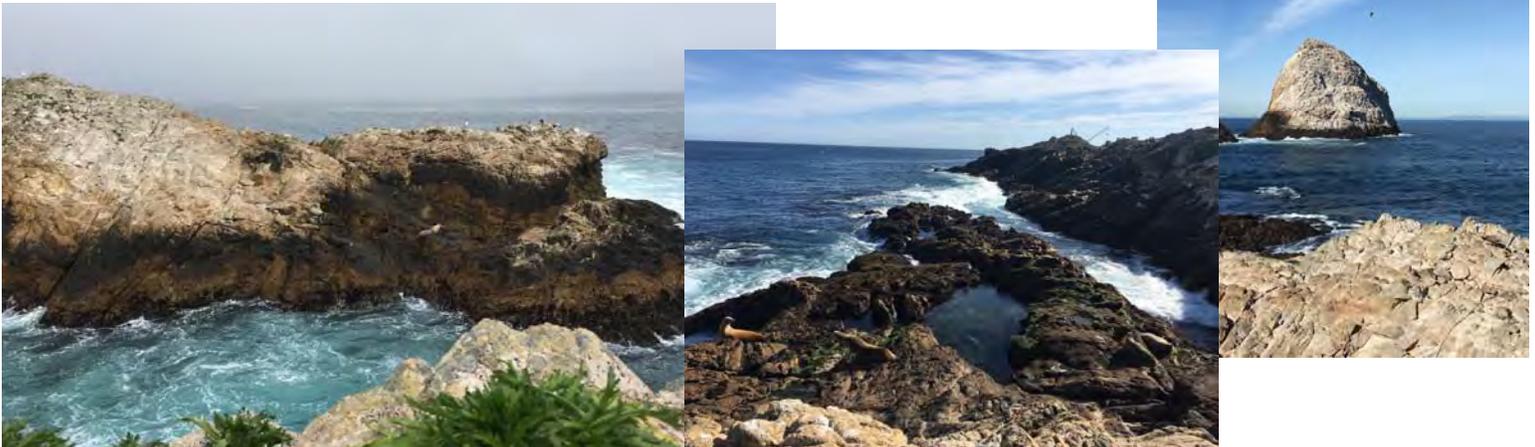
Work Environment: The volunteer must be able to adjust to isolated duty, live compatibly and in close association with other people. The volunteer will live and work up to two weeks at a time at a remote island field station located on Southeast Farallon Island. Accommodations and chores will be shared. Work and transportation plans are often affected by weather factors, sea conditions, and limited availability of transportation. Transport to the island will occur on a boat and can take from two to six hours, depending on the type of boat and sea conditions. Weather on the island is often cool, windy and wet, so appropriate water proof and cool-weather clothing is a must.

Required: All volunteers will need the ability to endure up to several hours on a boat in rough sea conditions. The ability to step or leap to/from a larger transport boat to a smaller shuttle boat in rough ocean conditions. The ability to perform physical labor that requires extended periods of bending, kneeling, lifting, and the physical ability to use varied equipment and tools to complete work.

Housing: Shared housing is provided at the field station on Southeast Farallon Island.

How to volunteer: Please contact Jonathan Shore, via email or phone at: Jonathan_Shore@fws.gov or 510-792-0222 ext. 224.

Photos by Ross Nichols





San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society (SFBWS) is the not-for-profit Friends Group supporting the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex, and providing support to Fish and Wildlife Service volunteers.

SFBWS Volunteers are needed to:

- 1) Help with our Nature Stores, working the front desk at the Fremont Visitor's Center and Alviso Environmental Education Center, and
- 2) Work on Board Committees, such as the: Volunteer Recruitment and Coordination Committee, Marketing and Communications Committee, Nature Store Management Committee, and 30th Anniversary Event (Fundraising) Committee.
- 3) Some Board positions will be opening up this fall, especially for those with management and accounting experience.

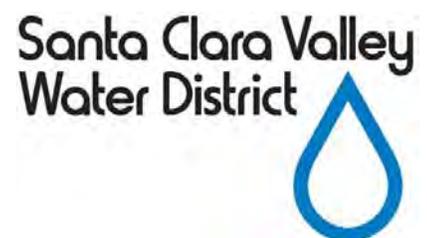
If interested, please contact: mary.deschene@sfbws.com, 510-792-0222 ext. 364

Join us in Litterati Clean Up

San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society has started work on our Trash Clean-up and Pollution Prevention Education effort funded by the Santa Clara Valley Water District's Safe Clean Water Program. To see the comprehensive Safe Clean Water Program please visit <http://www.valleywater.org/SafeCleanWater.aspx>; this project falls within Priority B, to reduce toxins, hazards and contaminants in our waterways. Our activities will

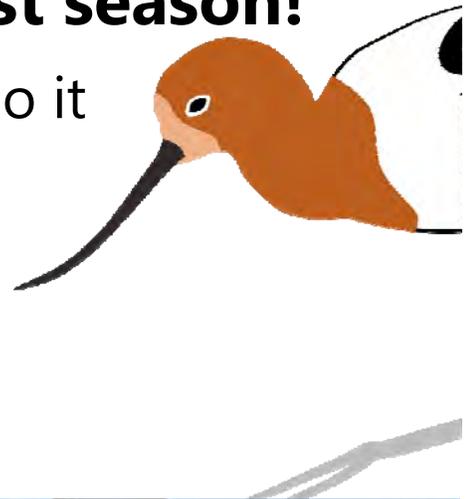
continue from Fall 2016 into the new year, and will include use of the Litterati™ app to photograph and record trash data, with work by San Jose Conservation Corp, and outreach efforts into the community. Please look at litterati.org for some amazing pictures, download the app, and let us know if you would like to arrange training for groups that may be interested in participating. **The goal is a litter-free world.**

Watch for future event announcements on the San Francisco Bay NWR Complex Facebook page and join us in cleaning up whenever you visit. Uploaded photos are tracked by location and time, showing the patterns of where litter was found, and showing the types of litter as recorded by users. Just download the app, tuck a bag into your pocket on your way out for a walk, and track the progress along with us.



Thanks to our volunteers this past season!

We couldn't do it without you!



Omron employees help in Fremont weeding and clearing unwanted vegetation around Fremont. Photo Credit Cindy Lubinski



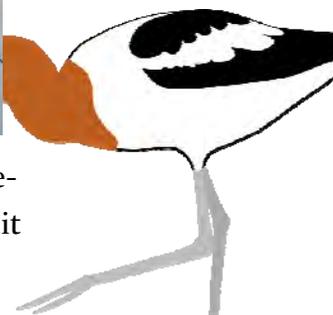
Hands On the Bay helped pick up debris from our levees and got a whole truck load of trash! Photo credit Brian Higgins



Volunteers (and Paul!) at our tidal pool outing to Fitzgerald Marine Reserve enjoying the beautiful weather! Photo credit Rachel Lam



Fireeye volunteers helped Paul clean up vegetation around the visitors center. Photo credit Ed Reed.



Team Planet Dell helped out clearing vegetation around the Fremont Visitors Center! Photo Credit Erica from Dell.



Celebrating 10 years of Habitat Heroes!

By Hope Presley, Summer Camp Coordinator

This year we celebrated the tenth anniversary of the Habitat Heroes program at Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge! Habitat Heroes are a vital part of the Marsh-In Summer Camp held at the Environmental Education Center in Alviso each year. Marsh-In Summer Camp provides children with a different learning environment where they can explore outside the standard classroom. Our goal is to teach them about the natural habitats that surround the bay, why they are important, and what they can do to protect them. We hope their experience with us leaves a positive impact on them and the world.

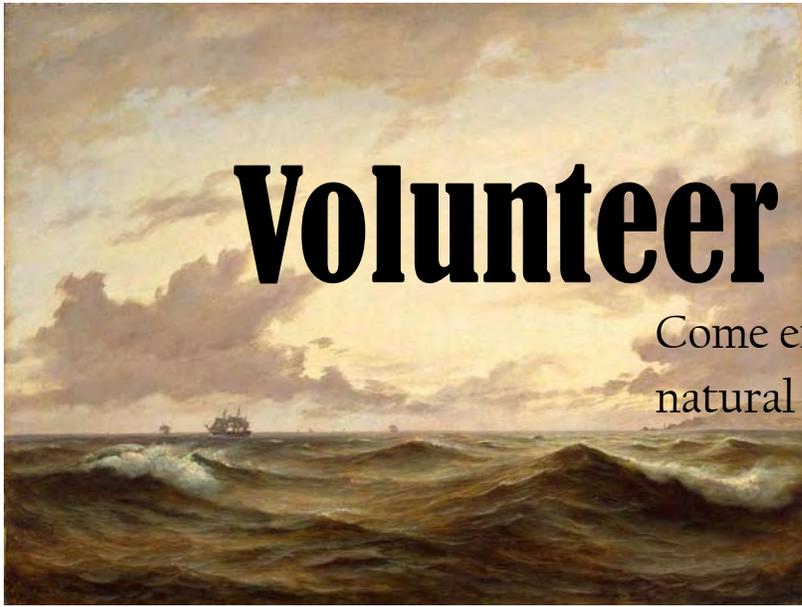
Habitat Heroes are 7-12th graders that apply to the program run by Tia Glagolev, FWS Environmental Education Specialist. Many return each year, volunteering up to six years and hundreds of hours of work. These young conservationists are a very important part of summer camp, leading camper groups and daily activities. They participate in a training week each year, learning the new schedule and activities for camp week. Their work with the campers is extremely influential, not only for themselves, but for the campers as well. Many young campers idolize the Habitat Heroes, looking to them for guidance and knowledge, leaving camp exclaiming they want to be a Habitat Hero too!

Our Habitat Heroes keep in touch with fellow participants and refuge staff, updating us on their continued schooling and work, in and out of environmental fields. Many past participants have been accepted into colleges and universities such as Harvard, MIT, and the University of California! These bright young adults are the future of our society. We hope they carry their experiences at Don Edwards with them throughout their lives and continue to shape other lives in the process.

We could not be prouder of our current and past Habitat Heroes! You have all been a wonderful addition to Don Edwards. Here's to another 10 years!

To learn more about the Habitat Heroes program, contact Tia Glagolev at tia_glagolev@fws.gov. To learn more about the Marsh-In Summer Camp program, contact Genie Moore at genie_moore@fws.gov.





Volunteer Field Trip!

Come enjoy California's artistic and natural beauty

Date: Saturday, October 29th

When: Meet at 1:00 pm at the Fremont Visitors Center to carpool.

Where: We will go to Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University, followed by a snack and a visit to the Baylands Nature Preserve.



We will start at the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University with a private guided tour of the exhibit *California: The Art of Water*, featuring art and photography of many of California's natural water resources. Next, we'll grab a snack nearby, followed by a visit to the Baylands Nature Preserve.

Please join us! Contact Leah at Leah_Mould@fws.gov or call 510-792-0222 x 362 to RSVP



Calendar of Events



Autumn 2016

Date	Event	Page	Location
9/8	Butterfly Count	6	Antioch Dunes NWR
9/15	Butterfly Count	6	Antioch Dunes NWR
9/17	Coastal Cleanup Day	3	Visitor Center, Fremont
9/22	Butterfly Count	6	Antioch Dunes NWR, if butterflies are still active
10/1	Volunteer Orientation,	4	EEC, Alviso
10/8	Stewardship Day	2	Visitor Center, Fremont
10/9	Day on the Bay	3	Alviso Marina
10/22	Volunteer Orientation	2	Visitor Center, Fremont
10/25	Casa Grande and the Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum	5	21350 Almaden Road. San Jose
11/5	Volunteer Orientation	4	EEC, Alviso
11/12	Stewardship Day	2	Visitor Center, Fremont
11/19	Team Citizen Scientists	5	EEC, Alviso
12/3	Volunteer Orientation	4	EEC, Alviso

**Visitors Center
2 Marshlands Rd, Fremont**

**Environmental Education Center (EEC)
1751 Grand Boulevard, Alviso**

Sloughs News is edited by Leah Mould, with Laura Mello. Contributions came from Genie Moore, Mary Deschne, Hope Presley, Jonathan Shore, Susan Euing, Paul Mueller and Carmen Minch. Cover Photo: Road to Nowhere on Farallon, by Ross Nichols.

Please remember our new hours at the Visitor Center in Fremont and Environmental Education Center in Alviso effective September 1, 2016.

- Visitor Center in Fremont: Wednesday-Saturday, 11:00 am – 4:30 pm Federal Holidays: Closed
- Environmental Education Center in Alviso: Saturday, 10:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday-Friday/Non-Field Trip Days: Open 9:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday-Friday/Field Trip Days: Closed Federal Holidays: Closed

Trails remain open sunrise to sunset.