



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Refuge Day

October 13, 2012

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge

Fun for the whole family

Explore the new exhibits in the Visitor Center! Exciting Lectures, Refuge Tours, Exhibitors, Kid's activities, "Drawn to Sevilleta" Poster Contest Awards Ceremony, Live Animals and Much More!

Approximately 230,000 acres in size, the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is a vast landscape in the heart of New Mexico. It supports four major ecosystems, touches two mountain ranges and embraces the largest river in the State. Its magnitude and austere beauty make the Refuge unforgettable, but its true significance lies in its function. The Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is managed for the natural processes of flood, fire, and succession that sustain this huge landscape's functioning ecosystems. Coming together within the Refuge boundaries are the Chihuahuan desert, shortgrass prairie, pinon-juniper woodlands, Colorado Plateau shrubsteppe and Rio Grande riparian woodlands. These varied habitats provide homes to a diversity of wildlife and plants, many existing at the edge of their geographical distribution.

Saturday, October 13

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge

A light snack will be provided. Tours will depart from the Refuge Visitor Center. Please arrive 1/2-hour early to check in. Expect some moderate hiking on most tours unless otherwise indicated. Please dress for the weather. Layered clothing, hiking boots, hats, sunscreen, sunglasses and cameras are recommended. Continental Breakfast available for suggested donation of \$3.00, lunch available from 11:30 AM–1:00 PM for a suggested donation of \$5.00.

Refuge Day Tours

Registration required. Cost \$10.00 per person, per tour. Please make checks payable to Amigos de la Sevilleta.

San Lorenzo Canyon Exploration

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

San Lorenzo Canyon is a place of unique scenic beauty. Join NM Tech Professor Bruce Harrison to explore the geologic structures of the Rio Grande rift, search

for birds and wildlife and enjoy the native plants. Moderate to strenuous hiking and some soft sand and steep climbing. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water & camera! Limit 22.

Geology of Sevilleta's West side

8:00–11:30 AM or 1:00 pm–4:30 PM

Explore the rugged diversity of the west side of Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge with geologist Dave Johnson from New Mexico Tech. Learn how geological formations that occurred long ago created the Rio Grande Valley. Be sure to take a camera for spectacular photos! Limit 19.

Bird Sevilleta

7:30 AM–12:00 PM

An excellent guided field trip for the avid birder. Travel through grasslands and hike up arroyos into the heart of the Los Pinos Mountains with Refuge Manager Kathy Granillo. Bring binoculars, water, dress in layers and be prepared to enjoying the beauty of Sevilleta. Moderate hike of 2-3 miles over uneven terrain. Limit 10.

Geology of Sevilleta's East side

8:00 AM–12:00 PM

Join geologist David Love of the NM Bureau of Geology for a fascinating geologic journey through Sevilleta NWR. Moderate to strenuous hiking on uneven terrain. Limit 22.

Bernardo Waterfowl Area

8:00–11:00 AM
Join Bill Howe, from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Migratory Birds for a tour of the Bernardo Wildlife Area, managed by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Enjoy fall colors and learn about how they prepare for arrival of the geese and Sandhill Cranes. Limit 14.

Research Tour

8:00–11:00 AM
Join a representative from the University of New Mexico's Long Term Ecological Research program for a tour of Sevilleta NWR with an emphasis on research. Learn how these projects are playing a vital role in gaining a greater understanding of climate change. Light hiking over uneven terrain. Limit 10.

History and Folklore

1:00 - 5:00 PM
Join former Deputy Refuge Manager Dennis Prichard for this memorable historic recollection of Sevilleta NWR and the surrounding area. Learn some interesting facts about Sevilleta and see some amazing scenery! Grab your water, camera and hiking boots! Moderate hiking over uneven terrain. Limit 14.

Walking tours

FREE—Reservations required.

Behind the Scenes at Sevilleta

10:00–11:30 AM, 1:00–2:30 PM

Join Tamara Coombs, past director of tours and programs at the Municipal Art Society of New York. Go behind the scenes at Sevilleta NWR to see where some 50 US Fish & Wildlife and UNM staff, researchers, students and volunteers work and sometimes live. Visit the spacious Pueblo-style Visitor Center with its new exhibit space and its original kitchen, one that would please a Top Chef. Tour the UNM Field Station, including a beautifully-sited building where the laboratory windows frame spectacular vistas. Check out the on-site lodging, which ranges from basic to handsome. Learn what works well and what doesn't, from the perspective of those who use the facilities.

Hike Sevilleta!

9:30–11:30 AM, 2:00–4:00 PM

Join a refuge naturalist to learn some interesting facts about the landscape on a 3.8 mile journey that climbs the mesa west of the visitor center and skirts the mesa's edge before dropping back down into the valley. This trail provides some wonderful views of the Ladrones and surrounding mountains, as well as a wide diversity of awe-inspiring landforms. This is a moderate to strenuous hike.

"Drawn to Sevilleta" Awards Ceremony

3:30 PM - 4:15 PM
Winners of the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge "Drawn to Sevilleta" school poster contest will be recognized and prizes will be awarded. Come help us honor these young artists.

Presentations:

Registration is not required and there is no charge!

Nighttime is the right time for scorpions.

10:00–10:30 AM, 2:30–3:00 PM

Douglas D. Gaffin; Department of Biology, University of Oklahoma

Scorpions are mysterious, nocturnal animals that have captured human imagination for centuries. These misunderstood arachnids are found in everything from witchcraft to the zodiac to rock and roll. I will even bring some animals so you can get “up close and personal.” You still may not want to share your bed or boot with a scorpion, but knowing their biology makes them a little less scary.

Pollinators of New Mexico and Their Conservation

10:30–11:00 AM, 2:00–2:30 PM

Julie McIntyre,

Southwest Regional Pollinator Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

These hard-working animals help pollinate over 75% of our flowering plants, and nearly 75% of our crops. Often we may not notice the hummingbirds, bats, bees, beetles, butterflies, and flies that carry pollen from one plant to another as they collect nectar. Yet without them, wildlife would have fewer nutritious berries and seeds, and we would miss many fruits, vegetables, and nuts. Learn some interesting facts about pollinators in New Mexico and conservation efforts.

Mexican Gray Wolf

11:00–11:30 AM, 1:30–2:00 PM

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is host to one of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s captive wolf facilities. The Mexican gray wolf is the smallest, southern-most occurring, rarest, and most genetically distinct subspecies of gray wolf in North America. Join a biologist from the Mexican Gray wolf program to learn all about the program.

Little dogs on the prairie

11:30 AM–12:00 PM, 1:00–1:30 PM

The Gunnison’s prairie dog is a keystone grassland species that historically inhibited the refuge. Due to habitat loss, past extermination attempts, and disease, their numbers have declined by over 90% across their range. Reestablishing a population is another step towards restoring the native biological diversity of the refuge grasslands. Join a member of the Prairie Dog Pals and wildlife biologist, Jon Erz to learn more about their conservation efforts.

Exhibits

10:00 AM–3:00 PM

Staff from conservation organizations will be on hand to answer your questions about their work on behalf of wildlife. Many will include live animals, nature crafts and activities.

Hawk Watch International

Prairie Dog Pals

Avian Ambassadors

Snake Conservation Society

New Mexico Herpetological Society

Hawks Aloft

Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District

Talking Talons

U.S. Bureau of Land Management

Bosque Ecological Monitoring Program (BEMP)

New Mexico Fire District

Friends of El Camino Real

Directions

Sevilleta NWR is located 50 miles south of Albuquerque. Interstate 25 exit 169, go West 1/4 of a mile to the Refuge Visitor Center.

Sponsors

Amigos de la Sevilleta, Socorro County Chamber of Commerce, Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce, the University of New Mexico and New Mexico Tech.

Registration Form*Morning tours*

San Lorenzo Canyon Exploration

8:00 AM–12:00 PM—includes light snack

in party: _____ x \$10.00 = _____

Geology of Sevilleta’s West side

8:00 AM–11:30 AM—includes light snack

in party: _____ x \$10.00 = _____

Bird Sevilleta

7:30 AM–12:00 PM—includes lunch

in party: _____ x \$10.00 = _____

Geology of Sevilleta’s East side

8:00 AM–12:00 PM—includes light snack

in party: _____ x \$10.00 = _____

Research Field Trip

8:00–11:00 AM—includes light snack

in party: _____ x \$10.00 = _____

Bernardo Waterfowl Area

8:00–11:00 AM—includes light snack

in party: _____ x \$10.00 = _____

Afternoon tours

History and Folklore

1:00–5:00 PM—includes light snack

in party: _____ x \$10.00 = _____

Geology of Sevilleta’s West Side

1:00 PM–4:30 PM—includes light snack

in party: _____ x \$10.00 = _____

E-mail:

For confirmation purposes only!

Phone:

For confirmation purposes only!

Please return the registration form with your check:

Amigos de la Sevilleta
c/o Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 1248
Socorro, NM 87801

For Further Information

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 1248
Socorro, NM 87801
505/864-4021
505/864-7761 Fax

September 2012