



An Interagency Volunteer Program

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Thank you for your continued support of the Southern Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program. The following newsletter contains information about upcoming events, current positions, highlights of your volunteer community and interesting information on our desert ecosystem.

Upcoming Events

National Public Lands Day- Post and Cable

Date: Saturday, September 29

Time: 8:30am - 1:00 pm

Audience: Suitable for adults.

Location: Desert National Wildlife Refuge

Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Volunteer Work Type: Restoration

We have the job for folks looking to do more than the usual litter clean-up. Defining parking areas is an important part of conservation management. Undefined parking implies no concern for the surrounding habitat or culturally sensitive area. If folks aren't shown or naturally directed to the best place to park in the back country, they logically assume that any place is as good as the next. Volunteers on this project will erect regularly spaced wooden posts and thread them with heavy-duty cable. No experience required. You just need a little elbow grease. It is recommended to bring a hat, sunscreen, work shoes (not sandals) and clothes that can get dirty. Water, snacks, gloves, tools, and a good time will be provided for all who attend!

[Click here to register](#)

NPLD Red Rock Canyon NCA

Date: Saturday, September 29

Time: 7:00 am – 12:00 pm

Audience: 16 and up. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult

Location: Oliver Ranch

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Volunteer Work Type: Clean-up

On Saturday, September 29 in celebration of National Public Lands Day, the Bureau of Land Management will be holding a clean-up at Oliver Ranch. Come help to remove unwanted material from a historical site. The environment will benefit greatly from your efforts! If you have any questions, please call Cal Howell at 702-515-5386.

[Click here to register](#)

National Public Lands Day- Lake Mead

Date: Saturday, September 29

Time: 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Audience: Families welcome. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult

Location: Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Agency: National Park Service

Volunteer Work Type: Clean-up

Come take part in the coast-to-coast National Public Lands Day at Lake Mead National

Volunteer Spotlight



Janis Kadlec, participant in first Red Rock hummingbird banding, removes a hummingbird from a net for banding.

Janis Kadlec is for the Birds

When most people think of bands in Las Vegas, hummingbirds don't come to mind. But don't tell that to the Bureau of Land Management, or Janis Kadlec. The newest banding site is Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area in Nevada. The biologist for Red Rock has been conducting these bandings to provide the information to gather scientific data. They gently collect the bird and then identify, weigh it, measure it, and then band it prior to release.

Janis was excited and nervous about handling the smallest of North American bird families, but with proper training and supervision, the event was safe

and enjoyable for all concerned. She has been working with the Association since 2001, and became the Program Director for the Red Rock Canyon Interpretive Association in 2009. As the Director, she oversees the Association's interpretive staff and programs; working closely with the Bureau's interpretive ranger staff to develop exhibits for the visitor center. Janis has been volunteering at Red Rock Canyon since October 2005.

Recreation Area by participating in a litter cleanup! We will be focusing on an area that has been heavily used over the summer months by Lake Mead visitors. National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. Each year over 150,000 volunteers build trails and bridges, remove trash and invasive plants, plant trees and restore our water resources. Individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to participate! For more information, contact Bryan Goodwin at 702-293-8717 or Bryan_Goodwin@partner.nps.gov. Register through Get Outdoors Nevada. Volunteers will receive a code word for free park entrance on the day of the event.

[Click here to register](#)

National Public Lands Day – Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument and Gold Butte ACEC

Date: Saturday, September 29

Time: Sign in 8-9 am; projects 9 am to 2 pm

Audience: Adults, Seniors, Groups, Families (There is an activity for folks of all ages and abilities)

Location: Whitney Pocket, intersection of Gold Butte Road and Nay Ranch Road in Gold Butte (21 miles south of the intersection of Nevada State Route 170 and Gold Butte Road)

Agency: BLM and National Park Service

Volunteer Work Type: Litter pickup, kiosk & sign installation, planting native plants, road & trail monitoring.

In the spirit of Public Lands Day many folks and user groups who love Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument and the Gold Butte region of Nevada are getting together to do a variety of service projects in these beautiful areas. Activities will be in the area around Whitney Pocket. All are welcome. If you want to make a difference, join us for Public Lands Day at Whitney Pocket. For more details call Kurt Kuznicki (775) 745-3119 or Carrie Ronning at 515-5143 or cronning@blm.gov.

[Click here to register](#)

National Public Lands Day –Preparing the Spring Mountains for the Fall

Date: Saturday, September 29

Time: 9:30 am to 2 pm

Audience: 16 and over. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult

Location: Visitor Center Area

Agency: U.S. Forest Service

Volunteer Work Type: Restoration

Volunteers will perform light trail maintenance along the more popular Spring Mountain National Recreation Area hiking trails. Work will consist of removing rocks, trash, and debris from the trail, pruning vegetation, and oiling signs. No prior experience is necessary. Please bring appropriate work clothes and water. Tools will be provided. Please bring a lunch as work may extend into the early afternoon. If you are interested in spending one last weekend up in the mountains before the fall season arrives, and want to give back to the land, then think about volunteering for your public lands!

[Click here to register](#)

Cottonwood Cove Eco Dive & Clean-up

Date: Saturday, October 13

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Audience: Families welcome. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult with a signed Lake Mead Parental Consent Form

Location: Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Agency: National Park Service

Volunteer Work Type: Clean-up

Forever Resorts and the National Park Service are co-sponsoring a beach cleanup and eco dive at Cottonwood Cove. Individuals, families and groups are welcome to participate in the beach cleanup. Beach cleanup and registration begins at 8:00 a.m. with the event beginning at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers will be asked to cleanup around the boat harbor and shoreline.

Divers must show proof of current diving certification at registration. To register for the dive portion of the clean-up, please contact Greg Carter at Cottonwood Cove Resorts at (702) 297-1464 or gcarter@foreverresorts.com. Registration begins at 8 am for divers with a briefing at 9:00 am.

Volunteers will return at 12 PM and participate in a lunch sponsored by Forever Resorts and prize drawing; therefore, we need a head count to ensure there is enough food for everyone.

For more information about volunteering and to register, please contact Chris Pietrafeso at 702-293-8711 or Christopher.Pietrafeso@nps.gov.

As a volunteer, she started out in Trail building and maintenance, worked the major events, and developed the Canyon Clean-up program through the Interpretive Association. She is a hard worker and a go getter that always puts a silver lining on anything she touches.

Janis attended the first banding session on July 21, 2012, and it went very well. The group caught 24 individual birds from three species (Anna's, Costa's and Black-chinned Hummingbirds), and most of the birds caught were hatched this year. Since then Janis has attended two more bandings with comparable results.

Written by Ranger James Cribbs

• Upcoming Trainings



Please note: Training sessions are open to those who have volunteered in the last year.

First Aid/CPR

Date: October 6, 2012

Time: 9 am to 1 pm

Location: Lake Mead Water Safety Building

Audience: All Volunteers

[Click here to register](#)

First Aid/CPR

Date: November 10, 2012

Time: 9 am to 1 pm

Location: Lake Mead Water Safety Building

Audience: All Volunteers

[Click here to register](#)

[Click here to view the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area training schedule.](#)

Make a Difference Day: Reily and Ford**Date:** Saturday, October 20**Time:** 8:00 am to 12:00 pm**Audience:** All are welcome. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult**Location:** At the intersection of Reily and Ford**Agency:** Bureau of Land Management**Volunteer Work Type:** Clean-up

Come assist the BLM for Make a Difference Day. The BLM will be beautifying Las Vegas and helping the environment by removing trash/litter from BLM lands located at the intersection of Reily and Ford Streets in the southwest part of town.

[Click here to register](#)

The Go Mt. Charleston Fall Festival**Date:** Saturday, October 20**Time:** 8:30 am to 8:00 pm**Audience:** 16 and over. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult**Location:** Middle Kyle Canyon Lot**Agency:** USFS**Volunteer Work Type:** Logistical

On Saturday, October 20th the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area will be holding The Go Mt. Charleston Fall Festival. This is an all day festival (10am-7pm) that will include forest education booths, family activities, food, and more. An event like this takes a variety of volunteers to make it a success. This is a great opportunity for volunteers to celebrate the arrival of the fall season and give something back to the community. Volunteer positions include: Help with Set-up & Clean-up, Welcome Table, Activity station/Booth Host, Photographer, Food Assistant (must have food handler permit), Art Assistant, and Parking Lot Attendant. Volunteers do not have to work the whole event; shifts are available and are based on volunteer availability. You do not need to have prior event volunteer experience to help out! Please indicate in the comments which volunteer positions you are interested in (up to three positions) and what your availability will be (e.g. 8am-2pm). Lunch and a t-shirt will be provided for all volunteers.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Cody Dix at volunteer@gomtcharleston.com or call 702-515-5408.

[Click here to register](#)

Las Vegas Boat Harbor Eco Dive & Beach Clean-up**Date:** Saturday, October 27**Time:** 8:00 am to 12:00 pm**Audience:** Families welcome. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult with a signed Lake Mead Parental Consent Form**Location:** Lake Mead National Recreation Area**Agency:** National Park Service**Volunteer Work Type:** Clean-up

Join Las Vegas Boat Harbor and the National Park Service in some Halloween fun by cleaning up Lake Mead! Scuba divers, individuals, families and groups are welcome to participate in a beach cleanup near the Lake Mead Marina shoreline. Beach cleanup and registration begins at 8 AM with the event beginning at 9 AM. Divers must show proof of a current certification card in order to participate in the Eco-Dive. Registration for divers begins at 8AM. Las Vegas Boat Harbor will be providing lunch for all participants, so registration is a must! RSVP to Bryan at 702-293-8717, or via email at Bryan_Goodwin@partner.nps.gov.

Make a Difference Day: Lake Mead National Recreation Area**Date:** Saturday, October 27, 2012**Time:** 8:00 am to 12:30 pm & 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**Audience:** Families welcome. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult with a signed Lake Mead Parental Consent Form**Location:** Lake Mead National Recreation Area**Agency:** National Park Service**Volunteer Work Type:** Plant projects

After a major renovation, the Lake Mead Native Plant Nursery is asking volunteers to help with native plant projects. Nursery staff needs volunteers in the morning and

afternoon for various duties that could include preparing beds for plants, replanting, seed cleaning or other native plant projects. Volunteers are welcome to participate in the morning and/or afternoon projects; although, registration is required for both time slots. This will be an excellent opportunity to meet nursery staff and other volunteers who are knowledgeable and willing to share information about the native plants of the Mojave Desert.

For more information about volunteering and to register, please contact Chris Pietrafeso at 702-293-8711 or Christopher_Pietrafeso@nps.gov.

Make a Difference Day: Salt Grass Salvage

Date: Saturday, October 27, 2012

Time: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

Audience: Suitable for adults. Minimum age of 12. Please supervise all children, and have them accompanied by an adult at all times.

Location: Desert National Wildlife Refuge

Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Volunteer Work Type: Restoration

Awesome volunteers will assist Refuge staff in salvaging salt grass from an area within the construction footprint of the new visitor center. Fun-seeking volunteers will create a potting medium by combing native soil with peat moss and water. Gardening-gear volunteers will dig up the salt grass roots and underground stems to create plugs. This is a good project for children. No experience required and you'll gain some garden skills. It is recommended to bring a hat, sunscreen, work shoes (not sandals) and clothes that can get dirty and muddy! Water, snacks, (adult-sized) gloves, and an amazingly great time will be provided for all who attend! You may bring your own shovel or garden trowel, or we will provide on for you. Kids should bring their own sized gloves.

[Click here to register](#)

Callville Bay Marina Clean-up

Date: Saturday, November 3

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Audience: Families welcome. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult with a signed Lake Mead Parental Consent Form

Location: Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Agency: National Park Service

Volunteer Work Type: Clean-up

Come join Callville Bay Resort and the National Park Service clean up Callville Bay! Volunteers are needed to help keep Lake Mead National Recreation Area beautiful by picking up litter around the marina, shoreline and desert. Individuals, families and groups are welcome to participate. Beach cleanup and registration begins at 8 AM with the event beginning at 9 AM.

Callville Bay Resort will be providing a BBQ lunch and a raffle ticket for all participants, so registration is a must! RSVP to Bryan at [702-293-8717](tel:702-293-8717) or via email at

Bryan_Goodwin@partner.nps.gov.

Placer Cove Clean-up

Date: Saturday, November 10

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Audience: Families welcome. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult with a signed Lake Mead Parental Consent Form

Location: Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Agency: National Park Service

Volunteer Work Type: Clean-up

Come join the National Park Service and GR8 DIVN in cleaning up Placer Cove! Volunteers are needed to help keep Lake Mead National Recreation Area beautiful by picking up and disposing litter along the shoreline and natural environment at Placer Cove. Individuals, families, and groups are invited to participate! For more information or to register, please contact Bryan Goodwin at 702-293-8717 or

Bryan_Goodwin@partner.nps.gov.

Divers, please contact GR8Divn for more information. You will need to show proof of diving certification in order to participate.

Bureau of Land Management

Landscaping Team -Red Rock Canyon NCA (Las Vegas, NV)

Time Commitment & Duration: 2 days (12 to 14 hours total) per month. This is an ongoing position.

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Loop Ambassador -Red Rock Canyon NCA (Las Vegas, NV)

Time Commitment & Duration: 9/10/2011—9/30/2012

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Natural Resource Team -Red Rock Canyon NCA (Las Vegas, NV)

Time Commitment & Duration: One or two days per month, generally weekends. This is an ongoing position.

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Trail Monitor -Red Rock Canyon NCA (Las Vegas, NV)

Time Commitment & Duration: 4 hours per month preferred. This is an ongoing position.

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Hummingbird Banding in Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

Date: Saturday, May 16 - May 2013

Time: will vary

Audience: 16 and up Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and must have a signed BLM Parental Consent form.

Location: Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Visitor Center

Come help staff gather important information on hummingbirds in Nevada. BLM will be starting a banding station at RRCNCA to gather information on migration, demographics, longevity, and pollination of local hummingbirds. Primary volunteer duties would fall into two categories feeder maintenance and banding activities. Feeder maintenance includes mixing nectar for feeders, filling feeders and cleaning feeders on an as needed basis. Banding activities would include, trapping hummingbirds, recording data, feeding and weighing hummingbirds. Banding sessions will be every other week for five hours. For more information about volunteering, please contact Amelia Savage at 702-515-5278 or asavage@blm.gov.



Clean Up at Sloan

September 8, 2012

Sloan Canyon NCA-BLM

Three groups of volunteers worked to remove at total 150 cubic yards of trash from Sloan Canyon. 27 Eagle scouts removed 60 cubic yards from one area, 50 volunteers removed 60 cubic yards from another area, and a group of shooters removed 30 cubic yards.

USFWS

Maintenance Assistant - Desert National Wildlife Refuge

Time Commitment & Duration: 3/1/2012 - 5/9/2013, Ongoing need, No housing available, 1 - 2 days per week, 2 month minimum commitment

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Naturalist/Interpreter - Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge

Time Commitment & Duration:- 6/4/2012 - 6/4/2013

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Administrative Assistant -Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge

Time Commitment & Duration: 2/1/12 - 6/28/201.

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Trail Rover / Interpreter - Desert National Wildlife Refuge

Time Commitment & Duration: 6/4/2012 - 6/4/2013, 3 - 5 hours per month

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

NPS

Administrative Assistant - Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Time Commitment & Duration: 3/5/2012--12/31/2012

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Cactus Garden Volunteer - Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Time Commitment & Duration: 3/5/2012--3/5/2013

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Visitor Center Volunteer - Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Time Commitment & Duration: 3/5/2012--3/5/2013

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Field Trip Educator - Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Time Commitment & Duration: 10/1/12 - 4/30/13

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Desert Princess floating Classroom Educator- Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Time Commitment & Duration: 10/1/12 – 5/15/13

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Water Safety Educator in Schools - Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Time Commitment & Duration: 10/1/12 – 5/15/13

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Lake Mead Native Plant Nursery - Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Time Commitment & Duration: 10/1/12 – 10/1/13

[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

Hike Leader or Hike Assistants - Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Time Commitment & Duration: 10/1/12 – 5/1/13


[Click here for more information and to apply online.](#)

USFS

Trail Hosts Needed

It is summertime and the temperatures are starting to heat up in Las Vegas. Head up to the mountain to cooler temperatures to volunteer in the Mt. Charleston area. Help out at the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area Visitor Center and on the hiking trails. Enjoy being in this beautiful landscape while helping visitors learn about and protect the forest. Meet and work with other volunteers that have similar interests and contribute to a team focused on providing service to their community. Through this, develop a greater understanding of the mountain environment.

This is our first year of having Volunteer Trail Hosts. These volunteers provide assistance to hikers to help them have a positive, safe hiking experience. They communicate with hikers in a friendly manner to promote safety, forest protection, learning about the forest ecosystem and geography, and trail user courtesy. They also monitor and report information about trail conditions, forest ecosystem happenings, and visitor use and provide light trail maintenance including picking up litter and clearing trails of rocks, branches, etc.

Trail Host


Trail Host



Black chinned Hummingbird

Red Rock Debuts as Banding Site

When most people think of bands in Las Vegas, hummingbirds don't come to mind. But don't tell that to the Bureau of Land Management, a local Conservation Area is now part of the Hummingbird Monitoring Network (HMN). The HMN is an international effort to monitor the populations, migration, demographics and diseases of hummingbirds. The HMN has more than 30 banding sites in the USA, Canada and Mexico.

The newest banding site is Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area in Nevada. Amelia Savage, the biologist for Red Rock has been conducting these bandings to provide the information to the HMN. They gently collect the bird and then identify, weigh it, measure it, and then band it prior to release.

The first banding session on July 21, 2012 went very well. The group caught 24 individual birds from three species (Anna's, Costa's and Black-chinned Hummingbirds), and most of the birds caught were hatched this year. BLM was fortunate to have five volunteers and two members of the Red Rock Canyon Interpretive assist with the first banding. Since then two more bandings have occurred with comparable results.

Hummingbirds don't just drink nectar to survive, they also eat little gnats and other small insects to give them the energy needed to maintain their fast paced life. These Hummingbirds are extremely territorial and provide aerial entertainment for those watching them dogfight with each other while protecting their feeding ground.

Written by Ranger James Cribbs

Conservation Project Spotlight



Fall is Landing

Desert Ecosystem Spotlight

It is September and the dog days of summer are waning and fall is almost upon us. The calendar says 22 September, that's the day when hours of day and night are roughly the same. School has started, the temperature has dipped below the hundreds, and the locals are starting to return to Red Rock.

The return of the locals is not the only movement; bats are getting ready to leave, following the food south, or they're stocking up on their food intake before they bed down for the colder months. The bird population is also changing. Some are going south for the winter while others come in from the north escaping the really cold weather of the northern latitudes. Even the plant life changes, the trees in Red Springs can be seen preparing by the color of their leaves when they turn yellow and fall to the ground. Other plants also go into dormancy and will save their energy to survive the darker, colder months, when day seems to lose the battle to the night. Fall is the season of change, temperature, people, animals, and the plants all change.

Even though the wildlife is changing this is one of the busy times of the year for the Conservation Area. Cooler weather means more hikers, climbers, bikers, runners, walkers and more events. Two of our largest events occur during this time; National Public Lands Day and Make A Difference Day. Then comes Black Friday, one of our busier days, the Holidays and then Christmas Bird Count. By this time it has gotten colder and we hope we have had some good October - November rains; followed by some nice snow fall to restore our depleted water levels and revive the plants and ready them for their next big curtain call in the spring, ah Spring...

Written by Ranger James Cribbs

Thank you again for supporting our public lands.