

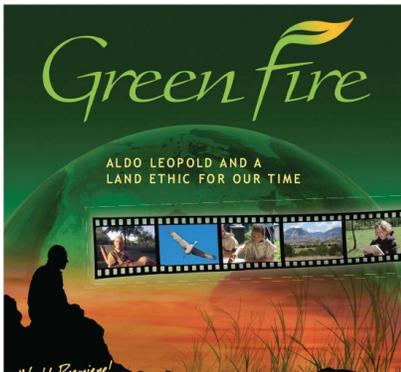


MONTHLY MEETING

Thursday, October 13, 2011 – 7:30 pm  
Manzano Mesa Center (map p3)

*Movie Night!*

**Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for our Time**



The first full-length, high-definition documentary film ever made about legendary environmentalist Aldo Leopold, **Green Fire** highlights Leopold's extraordinary career, tracing how he shaped and influenced the modern environmental movement. Leopold remains relevant today, inspiring projects all over the country that connect people and land.

The 70-minute documentary recounts the key experiences that shaped Leopold's world view and led him to develop the "Land Ethic," a cornerstone of the modern conservation movement. Structured in the manner of all compelling documentaries, the film integrates historical and modern photographs, film clips, music, narrated quotes from Leopold, and interviews with Leopold family members and respected conservationists and others who have been influenced by Leopold's writings.

If you missed the world premiere of **Green Fire** in Albuquerque this past February, you'll want to take this opportunity to see the film about the founder of Albuquerque Wildlife Federation and other important conservation organizations. We'll have popcorn and refreshments!

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Pat and I went to Cebolla Canyon on Thursday, September 29. We owe Bill Zeedyk for encouraging us to revisit this special area which has provided us with many wonderful memories. Our involvement with AWF started at Cebolla Canyon. We and our dogs enjoyed a beautiful day which included roaming up and down the canyon where we--AWF volunteers--have worked for the past four years.

Bill, Steve Carson, and cohorts started working in early September at Cebolla with funding from two grants which AWF, as long-term volunteers, helped the BLM attain. As part of the grant proposal, AWF made a commitment to perform two volunteer projects in 2012.

For encouragement, Bill told us that there had been at least one rainstorm every week in Cebolla Canyon since early July. Those of us who have done induced meandering riparian restoration know that without runoff nothing changes. He informed us that our structures were functioning and the results were exceptional.

On the way to rendezvous with Bill, we stopped and looked at the check dams constructed by the BLM this past June in Cebolla Canyon downstream from our usual camp area across from Lobo Canyon. I am not necessarily an expert or fair judge, but it appears to me that these structures are not functioning.

*continued on page 2*

Jim Hubert's *Notable Quote of the Month*

"When we invest in conservation and encourage people to reconnect with nature, we aren't just investing in the land, water and wildlife we love, but also in our economic future."

– Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, August 2011, speaking about storm-ravaged New England and the power of hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation to create jobs

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *continued*

We took a quick look at a couple of bank overlooks above our work and decided to take a closer look on the way out. Along the road, we encountered Steve Carson on a caterpillar tractor working on the road. Steve is a master at repairing poor roads. Steve was doing a wonderful job of placing structures to get water across to prevent erosion. He also had done substantial work on the steep, rocky sections between the Cebolla Crossing and Cebolla Spring. Under dry conditions, Hamish Thomson could probably get his Volkswagen camper into the spring area. Unfortunately, much of the road was built in the wrong location. So in spite of his mastery and magic, it is not possible for Steve to make silk from manure.

We found Bill and Matt Schultz, who works for NMED as project liaison and oversight. We are fortunate to have Matt working on this project. Also Nora, Matt's wife, is pregnant. They are excited.

We toured the work, which looks great. I like plug and pond structures. You will have to go and see for yourself. There is plenty of fun work for AWF around the Cebolla Springs. So plan on working at Cebolla next year, and check out all the years of work.

On our way out, we walked our recent work area. Bill was correct--the change we initiated is continuing in impressive fashion. The point bars increase and willow response is impressive. *(See photos at right.)*

*Gene Tatum*



These pictures are of the same location: above, an overview looking downstream, and below, looking upstream. Unfortunately, the comparison does not adequately display the change...willows now dominate.



## A Beauty of a Bear



Larry Dwyer took this great photo while hunting for elk in the Gila. He writes: "This bear was not going to back down...so I did."

## MEMBERSHIPS

Sorry, the treasurer didn't get to the AWF post office box in downtown ABQ in September, so we don't have new or renewed membership information. We'll get things updated in November.

## Volunteer Project #6

# UPPER CEDRO CREEK Gully Restoration and End-of-Season Celebration Saturday, October 15, 2011

In conjunction with the Quivira Coalition, restoration specialists Steve Carson and Bill Zeedyk, and the Cibola National Forest, AWF will be finishing up our 2011 project season with this one day hands-on gully restoration project along the headwater reach of Cedro Creek. The location will be accessed from the Juan Tomas Road, off Hwy 337 (South 14) in the East Mountains south of Tijeras.

We will build several types of structures, including Zuni bowls, rock rundowns, one rock dams, and baffles. You will also be able to see other gully treatments installed by Steve Carson and Jason Cathcart this past March, and observe how they have responded to this year's monsoon season.

Bring day packs with rain gear, lunches/snacks, and plenty of water. Wear a hat and appropriate clothing and footwear. We'll have snacks and water. Please bring a water bottle and sunscreen.

After the project activities are completed, we will have a POTLUCK meal with grilled bison and veggie burgers and brats at a nearby USFS group picnic area. Please bring a dish to share, as well as your own plate and cup.

If you can't make it to the project, try to get to the picnic!

Further directions and details will be provided once you have signed up. Come out and join us for a fun day!

### To sign up or if you have questions:

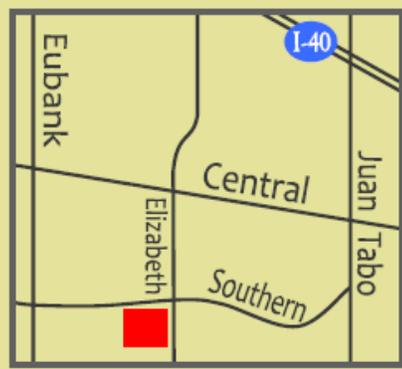
Contact Glenda Muirhead  
g.muirhead@usfamily.net  
telephone 505-293-5122

### 2011 PROJECT SCHEDULE

March 19	Montessori of the Rio Grande—Wetlands
April 29-May 1	Cebolla Canyon--CANCELED
May 20-22	Bear Trap Canyon—Magdalena RD
June 17-19	Rio de las Vacas
July 15-17	Valles Caldera--CANCELED
August 19-21	Valles Caldera I
Sept 23-25	Valles Caldera II
October 15	Cedro Creek + End-of-Season Celebration

### AWF MEETING LOCATION

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center  
501 Elizabeth SE at Southern



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President – Gene Tatum  
Vice President – Michael Scialdone  
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### ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION

PO Box 1234 | Albuquerque, NM 87103  
abq.nmwildlife.org

# Valles Caldera in September

by Gene Tatum

It was a great weekend. The evenings were cold in the low 20's while the days were sunny, beautiful in the mid to high 70's. It was a pleasure for all of us to work with Bill Zeedyk once again. Bill sets a high work standard for us. He was very pleased with the quantity and quality of our work. Over 30 structures were completed by our dedicated crew of 22 workers. We also need to thank Steve Vrooman for providing his knowledge and creativity.

We were working in the Valle Santa Rosa along the edge of the Las Conchas Wildfire. The recent rains had deposited an amazing amount of ash behind the structures we constructed three years ago in the Valle. The structures built this year will capture more of the ash, providing an improved growth medium for riparian vegetation. Bill suggests that there is work still to be done in the Valle and other locations which will assist with fire restoration. So plan on coming out again next year.

I must apologize to all for not taking any pictures, including a group shot. Fortunately, Kristina G. Fisher shared her photographs, below. I did take this photo (right) in Valle Santa Rosa on the way in. Interestingly enough, there were 21 elk and 21 volunteers.



- SEPTEMBER VALLES CALDERA PARTICIPANTS**
- Marcie Amendolagine
  - Vincent Amendolagine
  - Stephen Bohannon
  - Rachel Boothby
  - Phil Carter
  - Kristina G. Fisher
  - Peggy Gautier
  - Leslie Kryder
  - Trudi Martinez
  - Toby Rosenblatt
  - Michael Scialdone
  - Kevin Stillman
  - Marilynn Szydowski
  - Gene Tatum
  - Hamish Thomson
  - Steve Vrooman
  - Ann Wells
  - Robert Wells
  - Nina Wells
  - Jen Zawacki
  - Bill Zeedyk



# Mexican wolf to be reviewed for consideration as an endangered species

## Good news for species recovery and health of wild land ecosystems

The Mexican wolf might finally get the attention it deserves. A federal judge recently approved an agreement that would give the US Fish and Wildlife Service the green light to review the needs of this sub-species for consideration as an endangered species.

Altogether, the agreement includes 900 species, many of which have waited more than two decades for this consideration. The agreement will require decisions to be made by 2018.

The Mexican wolf is a critically important top predator that helps to keep other species in check and promotes healthy ecosystems around the Southwest. They help protect and restore ecologically functional wild lands and biodiversity within those lands, so their protection as a species is also closely tied to wild lands preservation.

With only 50 remaining Mexican wolves in the wild, including it in the Endangered Species Act would be a huge step in the animal's recovery. With New Mexico pulling out of recovery efforts just months ago, possible Endangered Species Act protection could be critical to restoration of the Mexican wolf population.

### PLUS: Five wolves to be released in northern Mexico

The Mexican government plans to release five Mexican wolves into the state of Sonora. Mexico, along with New Mexico, Arizona and parts of Texas, was part of this animal's historic range.

The Mexican release is a step in the right direction, as true recovery of the species requires several populations that have connectivity. The wolves released in Mexico should have full endangered species protections and should not be restricted in their movements by arbitrary boundaries.

Source: New Mexico Wilderness Alliance  
Wilderness Weekly, September 28, 2011



## AWF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation | PO Box 1234 | Albuquerque, NM 87103  
An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

I'd like to belong to AWF ONLY or  I'd like to belong to AWF + NMWF: Designate NMWF member(s) \_\_\_\_\_

name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

city, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_

phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Gift membership from: \_\_\_\_\_

Student [under 18 ----- \$10 (AWF membership only)

Individual ----- \$25

Family ----- \$35

Sustaining ----- \$50-\$99

Patron ----- \$100

Lifetime ----- \$500 (One-time payment)

Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_