

AWF

ewsletter

FEBRUARY 2013

Please note
this program
will start
1 HOUR EARLIER
than usual!

Jim Hubert's Notable Quote of the Month

"As an avid hunter, I know all too well how important access to our federal public lands is to New Mexico's sportsmen. Outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing contributes a great deal to New Mexico's economy, particularly in our rural communities."

– Martin Heinrich, D-NM
November 2, 2012
Albuquerque Journal,
speaking of HR6086 which
he introduced in Congress
in an effort to gain access
for sportsmen to more
federal land

MOUNTAIN LIONS 101 For First Responders

Thursday, February 14, 2013 - **6:30 pm**
Manzano Mesa Center
501 Elizabeth SE, Albuquerque

LAW ENFORCEMENT - HUNTERS - CITIZENS



Guest Speaker: Robin Parks

Field Representative,
Mountain Lion Foundation

- Basic Cougar Biology and Behavior
- Myths and Misinformation about Cougars
- Safety Dos & Don'ts in Mountain Lion Encounters
- Shoot / Don't Shoot Criteria

Guest Speaker Robin Parks retired from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) in 2004 after a 25-year career in federal law enforcement. Robin's work required he work and live in various locations in the US, Europe, Mexico, and on US Navy ships at sea. A lifelong admirer of the great cats, he began doing volunteer work at animal sanctuaries in California and elsewhere in 1999 where he first encountered captive mountain lions. This later led him to the Mountain Lion Foundation (MLF) where he has been a field volunteer on several projects. He now is very much involved in reaching out to law enforcement agencies who are so often the first responders to cougar incidents. Robin's presentations provide basic cougar biology and general safety tips, and address "myths and misinformation" that surround cougars. He also will discuss various "shoot/don't shoot" considerations and scenarios geared to law enforcement personnel which show that killing a wayward cougar simply because it has wandered into human territory is rarely necessary and is often the wrong decision. Robin lives in San Diego.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Any of you that have been on an AWF

Volunteer Service Project (or those that work in restoration work in general) know Bill Zeedyk. He has pioneered many of the restoration techniques we use to restore streams and arroyos. After retiring from the Forest Service, he found that sitting idle wasn't for him when there was so much work to be done and the wildlife of New Mexico will be forever grateful for his decision to continue working. He is well respected among his colleagues. It is Bill's connections that tie us into most of the Projects that we do. He has the wisdom and patience to bring out of volunteers what is needed to build structures by conveying how they function in ways we can all understand.

So it was a real scare this past month when word came in that Bill Zeedyk was in hospital. Due to an accident, he wound up at St. Vincent Hospital in Santa Fe for about 2 weeks. When I stopped in to visit him and deliver a get-well card on behalf of AWF, it was a relief to see that he was doing OK. I am happy to report that he is home now, continuing to recover, and looking forward to getting back out in the field with us (but not as much as we look forward to getting back in the field with him!)

As nearly always in these messages, I put in a plug to join us on our Volunteer Service Projects. This year, the April, June, July, August, and October projects are directly tied to Bill and his leadership on restoration, so if you haven't seen his work, I hope this is the year that you do. Even the September project at Limestone Canyon, which is not one of Bill's projects directly, came to us through a Forest Service Biologist that was interested in using Bill's restoration techniques. It has been a fantastic success. I'm looking forward to kicking off the season next month. Bill and I hope to see you there.

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2013 AWF PROJECT SCHEDULE

MARCH 16

Local day project (location TBD, likely in the ABQ Bosque)

APRIL 19 to 21

Cebolla Canyon, SE of Grants, NM

MAY 17 to 19

TBD (possibly in Zuni Mtns or Jemez Mtns)

JUNE 14 to 16

Red Canyon on east side of the Manzanos

JULY 19 to 21

Valles Caldera

AUGUST 16 to 18

Valles Caldera

SEPTEMBER 13 to 15

Limestone Canyon in San Mateo Mountains

OCTOBER 19

Local day project – Sandia Ranger District

COMMUNITY EVENT

New Mexico Wildlife Federation Presents An Evening with Will Primos – February 24

Will Primos, founder and president of Primos Hunting, the world-renowned manufacturer of wildlife calls and other hunting accessories, started making duck calls at a young age and has since expanded into a line that includes decoys, blinds, clothing, instructional videos and his own TV show. He will be the guest speaker for an evening of fellowship, fun and fundraising.

Sunday, February 24, 2013, at 6:00 PM – Faith Lutheran Church - 10000 Spain Road NE, Albuquerque, NM

Tickets are \$25 each. All proceeds will be equally divided between Albuquerque Rescue Mission and New Mexico Wildlife Federation. Each ticket holder can enjoy dessert and coffee beginning at 6 p.m., followed by Primos' presentation from 7-8 p.m. Attendees are also eligible for two fabulous drawings: \$1,000 gift certificates from The Archery Shoppe and from Sportsman's Warehouse. (Must be present to win.) Tickets purchased online will be available at the door of the event.

If you have any questions, please email NMWF at nmwildlife@nmwildlife.org or call (505) 299-5404.

A better gateway to the Rio Grande

Rio Grande Corridor at Buckman

Excerpts from an article by Julie Ann Grimm | The New Mexican | Jan 16, 2013

Santa Fe County's only public access to the Rio Grande would undergo environmental restoration and get improved facilities if a proposed project gets the green light from federal officials this spring. ...**The New Mexico Wildlife Federation and Rio Grande Return** already have spent about \$200,000 of private and public money on plans for what it calls the Rio Grande Corridor at Buckman.

The aim, said project manager Alan Hamilton, is to help the local community re-establish its connection to the river on land that is already in the hands of the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Another main goal of the project, he said, is to cut down on litter from visitors who use the area as a party spot.

Planned amenities are intended to help hikers, rafters, rock climbers, horseback riders and others who want to enjoy the natural world with minimal impact.

At Diablo Canyon, plans call for designated camping areas and a gravel parking lot to replace a sandy network of places where motorized vehicles have torn up the landscape near the mouth of the canyon. A kiosk for trail maps and other information would be constructed. Restoration in the canyon itself would include removing invasive species from near natural springs there, and rearranging boulders to provide erosion control and to protect the canyon from all-terrain vehicles.

At the area near the Buckman Direct Diversion intake for Santa Fe's community water system, access roads would end at another gravel parking lot, and a boat launch would be installed. About 18 acres of riparian bosque area would see habitat restoration, including planting of native cottonwood trees and willows, and removal of salt cedars, elms and Russian olives.

Thank you to AWF member Phil Carter for forwarding this article.



RENEWED MEMBERS

Floy Barrett
John Dickel

Richard E. Leonard – *Patron ++*
Cliff & Joyce Mendel – *Sustaining*
Robert S. Jenks

Gene Tatum & Pat Hester – *Patron*
Dewey Moore & Shelley Roberts – *Patron*

LIFE MEMBER

Larry Dwyer

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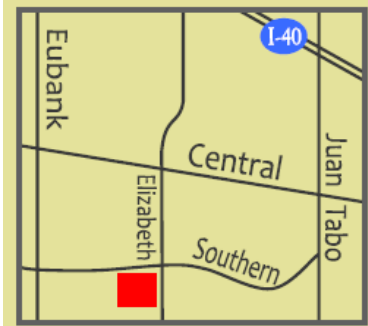
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ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION

PO Box 20225 | Albuquerque, NM 87154
abq.nmwildlife.org

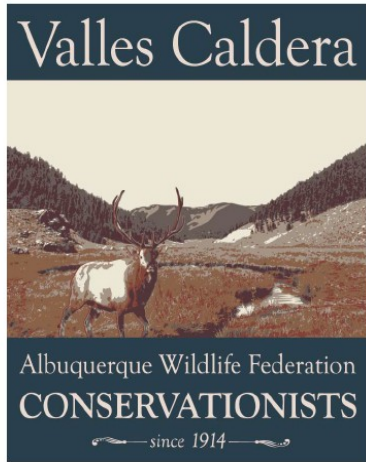
AWF MEETING LOCATION

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
501 Elizabeth SE at Southern



AWF's Limited Edition Valles Caldera Long-Sleeved T-Shirt

Designed by Stephen Bohannon. Organic cotton shirt in sizes S, M, L, and XL. \$25. Available at AWF meetings.



COMMUNITY EVENT

ABQ Open Space Visitor Center

6500 Coors Blvd NW 87120

(between Montano & Paseo del Norte at end of Bosque Meadows Rd)

SPECIAL FILM SCREENING: "Stories of Wolves"

Saturday, February 23

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Includes a discussion with the filmmaker and snacks

"**Stories of Wolves,**" a documentary about the recovery efforts for our Mexican Gray Wolves, the most endangered land mammal in all of North America. Just as much as it is a film about wolves, it is about the role of humans in making the recovery program a success or a failure. Ultimately it is about the vanishing wildness inside and outside of us... We all belong in the Web of Life. Please register to reserve a seat: call 505-897-8831. Info also available at:

www.cabq.gov/openspace

Produced by Elke Duerr & the Web of Life Foundation

AWF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation | PO Box 20225 | Albuquerque, NM 87154
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 \$ _____