

THE PINE CONE

Official Newsletter of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation



Albuquerque
WILDLIFE
Federation

conservationists since 1914

April 2016

100 Years of Bandelier National Monument, Thanks to the Antiquities Act

On February 11, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson designated Bandelier National Monument. The monument was named for Adolph Bandelier, an anthropologist who spent several years studying the ruins in Frijoles Canyon and advocated for their preservation. When he first visited the cliff dwellings in 1880, Bandelier reportedly said: "It is the grandest thing I ever saw."

Bandelier National Monument encompasses over 50 square miles, at the heart of which are Anasazi dwellings that were occupied from about 1150 to 1550 A.D. The monument has become a major destination for both tourists and locals, with close to 200,000 people visiting the monument last year.

The monument owes its protected status to an act that occurred a decade earlier, when President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Antiquities Act into law on June 8, 1906. This was one of the nation's earliest laws allowing for the legal protection of cultural and natural resources. Its goal was to protect rare and precious archaeological sites (like those at Bandelier, Mesa Verde, and Chaco Canyon) from vandals who were looting them for pots, jewelry and other artifacts to sell to collectors.

Today the Antiquities Act is most often used to preserve rare and precious landscapes from being raided for profit. As of the end of last year, seven Republican presidents had



established 63 national monuments and eight Democratic presidents had established 73. For example, during the last three administrations presidents of both parties have used the law to protect sizeable areas in northern and southern New Mexico (Rio Grande del Norte and Organ Mountains Desert Peaks monuments; Obama), marine sanctuaries (Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument; Bush), and dramatic canyonlands in Utah (Grand Staircase Escalante; Clinton).

Sadly, the Antiquities Act is under increasing attack. In January of this year, Representative Don Young of Alaska and Senator Mike Crapo of Idaho both introduced bills to strip presidents of their authority to designate national monuments. Similar legislation passed the House in 2013 and 2015. The outcome of this year's presidential and congressional elections could well determine the fate of the Antiquities Act.

One hundred years after Bandelier was protected, there is still urgent need to build on its legacy and protect precious public lands from the present-day "pothunters" who would destroy them. Urge your members of Congress and presidential candidates to defend the Antiquities Act!

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Kristina G. Fisher
AWF President

APRIL 15-17, 2016 SERVICE PROJECT: Cebolla Canyon

LOCATION: Cebolla Canyon in the El Malpais National Conservation Area, south of Grants, NM

THE PROJECT: This legacy project will build on work that AWF volunteers have completed at this site over the past fifteen years. Our work will focus on hand-building rock structures to restore and expand a spring-fed wetland as part of a comprehensive ecosystem restoration effort.

SCHEDULE:

Friday, April 15 - Meet at campsite. Dinner on your own.

Saturday, April 16 - Breakfast burritos and coffee/tea provided by AWF. Safety talk, project overview, and begin work on project. Lunch on your own; potluck dinner with burgers provided by AWF. Campfire/socializing.

Sunday, April 17 - Breakfast on your own (leftovers often available). Short work day for those who can stay until noon; leave as you need to.

GEAR: Bring everything you need for a weekend of camping, including warm clothes for the chilly evenings. For the work, don't forget gloves, hat, long sleeves, long pants, sturdy boots, sunglasses, and sunscreen.

FOOD: AWF will provide breakfast burritos on Saturday morning and bison or veggie burgers on Saturday evening. **Please bring something to share for the Saturday potluck dinner**, along with your own lunches, Friday dinner, and Sunday breakfast. Plenty of water is also essential!

TO SIGN UP: Contact Scial at rioscial@gmail.com or 505-480-2906. *Directions and further details will be sent to you once you sign up.*



2016 SERVICE PROJECTS CALENDAR

- March 12.....Day project at Valle de Oro
- April 15-17.....Cebolla Canyon near Grants, NM
- May 20-22.....Rio Mora Wildlife Refuge
- June 17-19.....Valles Caldera I
- July 22-24.....Valles Caldera II
- August 19-21.....Midnight Meadows near Questa, NM
- September 9-11.....Limestone Canyon, San Mateo Mtns
- October 8.....Day project on Glorieta Mesa
- October 15.....Day project in the Sandia Mountains

AWF BOARD 2016

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Glenda Muirhead
Michael “Scial” Scialdone
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NO AWF MEETING IN APRIL – SEE YOU IN MAY!

Join us for our next meeting on May 12, 2016, when U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services biologist Melissa Mata-Gonzales will be speaking about the recent designation of critical habitat for the rare New Mexico meadow jumping mouse. We look forward to seeing you then!

NEARLY 50 PEOPLE ATTEND FIRST VOLUNTEER PROJECT OF 2016!

A huge crowd of nearly 50 volunteers braved the spring winds to participate in AWF's first volunteer service project of the season at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in the South Valley of Albuquerque!



AWF was joined by a team of enthusiastic students from the Jaguars for Positive Change Club of Atrisco Heritage High School, along with several of their teachers (volunteers are listed on the following page – apologies for any name misspellings!).

Everyone pitched in with activities that included weeding around the refuge center, spreading mulch, painting flower boxes, staining benches, and working to complete a pair of shade structures for park visitors. Some volunteers also worked on repairing one of the refuge's irrigation ditches and cleaning up an outdoor classroom area in the bosque.

It was wonderful to see what a team of volunteers from all ages and levels of experience was able to accomplish together. By the end of the project, the refuge was looking great and ready for the season! We look forward to continuing our partnership with Valle de Oro in future years.

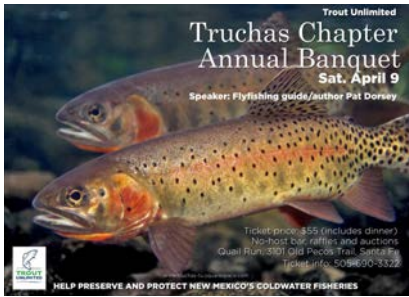
Thanks, Volunteers!

Gail Baker
Kalle Benallie
Paola Bojorquez
Armando Cabrera
Phil Carter
Mary Carmen Chavarria
Tanya Critchfield
Anna East
Laura Fernandez
Kristina Fisher
Hailey Gallardo
Karissa Jayde
Bruce Juniper
Daniel Kieffer
Letitia Kinloch
Cinthia Leon
Ashley Lopez
Yazmine Loya
Laurie Marnell
Sonia Macias
Marcela Mendoza
Dana Mireles
Clarizza Morales
Dennis Muirhead
Glenda Muirhead
Samuel Nayarez
Kannssa Offutt
Gary Oty
Alex Owen
Jenny Parsons
Andrea Reyes
Toby Rosenblatt
Martin Ruiz
Loretta Sandoval
Michael Scialdone
Brigid Smith
Marilynn Szydowski
Bob Tilley
Daniel Torres
Edna Torres
Tatyana Trujillo
Alejandro Vazquez
Cameron Weber
Erin Yane
Galen Yane
Lelia Yane
Patrick Tyler Young
Erika Zambrano
Karina Zavala



See more photos of AWF projects at: abq.nmwildlife.org!

UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST



Truchas Chapter of Trout Unlimited Annual Banquet

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2016

Quail Run, Santa Fe, NM

Join the Truchas Chapter of Trout Unlimited for its annual banquet! Truchas partners with other TU chapters, conservation groups, and state agencies on stream restoration, watershed preservation, native trout reintroduction, and Trout In The Classroom programs throughout northern New Mexico. Banquet tickets \$55. For more information: (505) 690-3322.

Volunteer Project: Aspen Mountain, Gila National Forest

APRIL 22-24, 2016

NEW MEXICO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE, Gila National Forest, NM

Help inventory this area to document naturalness; opportunities for solitude and primitive forms of recreation; human impacts and infrastructure; and the condition of certain Forest Service roads that may be eligible for decommissioning. Inventory data will be used as a part of the upcoming Gila National Forest Land Use Plan Revision, helping to influence management of the forest for the next 20+ years. For more information: <http://www.nmwild.org/events-outings/17-volunteer-service-project-aspen-mountain>

Volunteer Workshop Weekend at Quivira's Red Canyon Reserve

APRIL 28-MAY 1, 2016

QUIVIRA COALITION'S RED CANYON RESERVE, near Socorro, NM

At this workshop, volunteers will clean out wildlife waterers and conduct annual vegetation monitoring. Come learn the Bullseye Rangeland Health and Quadrant Frequency & Cover techniques! For more info or to sign up:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/red-canyon-ranch-workshop-registration-24020987420?ref=enivtefor001>



Raft the Rio with the Tamarisk Coalition!

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2016

TAMARISK COALITION, Algodones-Corrales

While enjoying the beautiful scenery that the Rio Grande has to offer, this 9.5 mile, one-day float trip will provide attendees with a "behind the scenes" look at the work being done to rejuvenate the treasured Bosque (riverside ecosystem) near Albuquerque. Proceeds from the trip will help fund organizations working to restore sites once damaged by invasive, non-native plants. Tickets are \$95. **Register by April 15!**

For more information: <http://www.tamariskcoalition.org/about-us/events/raft-the-rio>

Planting for Pollinators

MAY 6-8, 2016

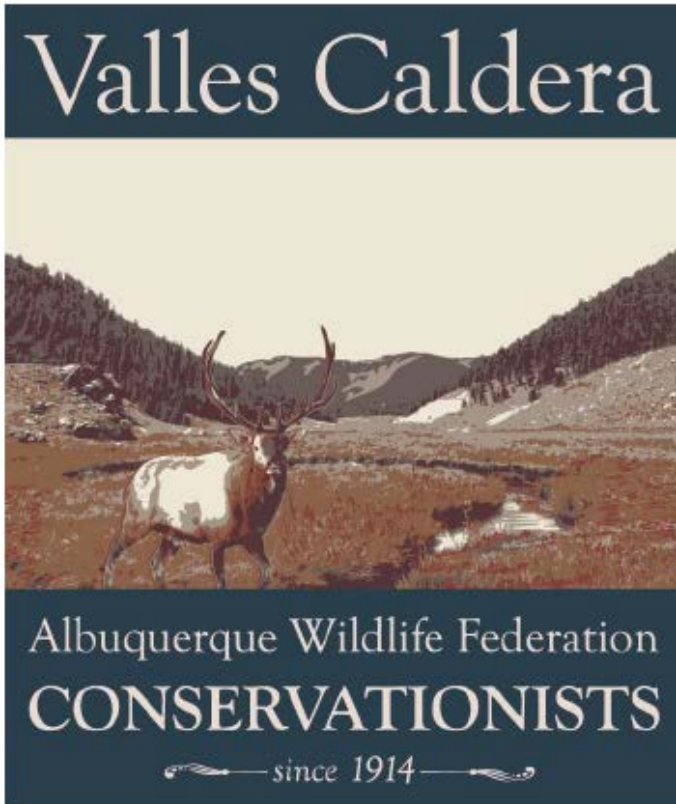
SKY ISLAND ALLIANCE, Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument

Sky Island Alliance is teaming up with the National Park Service and Borderlands Restoration to plant native vegetation that will help stabilize a recently burned hillside, as well as provide nectar and pollen for wildlife. For more info: <http://www.skyislandalliance.org/event/planting-for-pollinators-at-gila-cliff-dwellings-nm>

Send your event information to: abqwildlifefederation@gmail.com!

MAKE THE NEXT 100 YEARS POSSIBLE: JOIN THE ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION!

The Albuquerque Wildlife Federation has survived and thrived for over a century thanks to the dedication and generosity of generations of members. We encourage you to join this proud legacy by becoming a contributing member and helping support AWF's restoration service projects, monthly environmental education presentations, and other special events.



Along with becoming a member, you can support AWF's work by purchasing one of our Valles Caldera commemorative T-shirts, designed by graphic artist and AWF board member Stephen Bohannon. It is printed on an organic cotton shirt and available in sizes S, M, L, & XL.

Get one while they last - supplies are limited!

Price: \$20 Shipping: \$5

To order, mail in the form below or email your order to: abqwildlifefederation@gmail.com



AWF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation | P.O. Box 20225 | Albuquerque, NM 87154

Yes, I'd like to join AWF! This is a gift membership from: _____

name(s): _____

address: _____

city, state, zip: _____

phone: _____ email: _____

- Student (under 18) _____ \$10
- Individual _____ \$25
- Family _____ \$35
- Sustaining _____ \$50-99
- Patron _____ \$100
- Lifetime _____ \$500 (*one-time payment*)

Dues: \$ _____
 Extra Contribution: \$ _____
 T-shirt & Shipping: \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____