

## Give a Little Help, Get a Lot of Satisfaction

# SATISFACTION

Nevadans have a long history of caring for their public lands. That fact was never more evident as it was last year when volunteers donated more than 107,000 hours to the BLM in Nevada.

In southern Nevada, where the population explosion is dramatic, volunteers truly make a difference. With 1.3 million people living in Clark County, the perfect spot to recreate somewhere close is the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (NCA), just minutes from Las Vegas. With more than one million visitors last year, recreating in this area is a quality

experience because of the great support of volunteers, especially the Friends of Red Rock. The 500-member Friends group donated more than 14,000 hours to run the Red Rock visitor center, to help educate visitors and to fund projects to enhance the NCA.

Two Red Rock volunteers, Chuck and Pat Williams, received a "Making a Difference" National Volunteer Award this year for their outstanding service and exceptional contributions to conservation and management of the public lands. Together they increased financial support for Red Rock, coordinated community events, issued grants, worked on school science kits and children's programs, and made improvements at the Visitor Center.

A special event at the NCA was the installation of memorial stones encircling the desert tortoise enclosure to honor victims of the

September 11 terrorist attacks. The Friends of Red Rock Canyon, the Red Rock Canyon Interpretive Association and the BLM shared the costs of installing the memorial stones, made of metaquartzite from a quarry near Goodsprings, Nev. A dedication ceremony was held after the installation was complete.

The Carson City Field Office and the Student Conservation Association (SCA), America's largest and oldest provider of national and community conservation service opportunities for

youth, established the Nevada Fire Education Corps to assist local fire departments implement fire education programs to teach citizens how to create "defensible space" on their private property. The Corps concentrated their efforts in areas where private property borders public lands. They worked closely with the fire staffs of BLM and Douglas and Storey counties, completing more than 350 individual home assessments last summer.

If exploring the history about cultural resources is one of your hobbies, then the Elko Field Office is the place for you. Last year, the Elko Field Office conducted two cultural resource field schools with the University of Nevada, Reno, the Desert Research Institute and the Great Basin Community College in Elko. These two field schools contributed 4,800 hours of volunteer research work for the BLM.

More than 200 school children from Ely area schools submitted



**Student Conservation Association volunteers assisted local fire departments last summer in implementing fire education programs to help citizens develop "defensible space" for more than 350 private residences.**

posters with the theme "Depot to Depot," to promote the Ely projects. The Ely Field Office, local citizens, businesses, and state and federal agencies joined forces at the historic Nevada Northern Railway Station and the White Pine County Museum to construct a picnic area, restore an old freight barn and replace a wooden walkway for the old Cherry Creek Depot. Students also attended "Backyard Conservation" and "Leave No Trace" workshops.

Tonopah Field Station employees and 18 Beatty residents joined together to remove Tamarisk from the Amargosa River corridor to improve habitat for the Amargosa toad.

Besides participating in all these events, people volunteer year after year to help take care of recreation sites such as the Ryholite Ghost Town and the Ash Springs hot springs recreational site. "Through their hard work and enthusiasm, volunteers make a huge difference on the nation's public lands in Nevada," said Nevada State Director Bob Abbey. "The value of their work is immeasurable."

**-Debra Kolkman**  
Nevada State Office

## National Public Lands Day Saturday, September 28, 2002

**National Public Lands Day is a day to promote shared stewardship of the nation's public lands by developing a strong conservation ethic through community participation and environmental education.**

**BLM Nevada will host six events:**

### **South Fork Humboldt River and Park Area**

The Bangin' Bones 4WD Club will place signs on closed and open motor vehicle routes and the Hasting Cut-Off Historic Trail. Eagle Scouts will plant tree seedlings along the river and volunteers are invited to help cleanup along the river. Remove noxious weeds at South Fork State Park with mechanical methods only, no chemicals will be used.

**JuLee Palette, 775-753-0255, Elko Field Office**

### **Black Rock Desert/High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area**

Restore two "ways" inside the Calico Mountain Wilderness Area using non-motorized hand tools. Repair several short sections of primitive road through High Rock Canyon. Remove abandoned vehicle and trash from the historic Sulphur town site.

**Joey Carmosino, 775-623-1500, Winnemucca Field Office**

### **Swan Lake Nature Study Area\***

Build new trail segment to link trailhead with existing trail, install interpretive trail signs and cleanup trash. \*This event will be held on Saturday, May 21, one week before National Public Lands Day.

**Walt Devaurs, 775-885-6150, Carson City Field Office**

### **Regional Trail near Ely and Cave Lake State Park**

Complete a new trail around Cave Lake State Park that includes public lands. The Ely event is one of the largest public events for NPLD in the country with numerous partners and a lot of community spirit. In addition to trail work, the event will feature environmental education programs, entertainment and a barbecue lunch.

**Jack Tribble, 775-289-1910, Ely Field Office**

### **Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area**

Clean up an old dump near the First Creek trailhead.

**Jim Cribbs, 702-363-1921, Las Vegas Field Office**

### **Hickison Recreation Site**

Paint and repair campground cabanas, work on the interpretive trail, repair sections of the perimeter fence, and maintain and expand exclusion barriers at the petroglyphs.

**Rob Perrin, 775-635-4034, Battle Mountain Field Office**