



# Friends of Nevada Wilderness STEWARDSHIP DISPATCH

August/September 2012

## CELEBRATING THE BLACK ROCK DESERT-HIGH ROCK CANYON EMIGRANT TRAILS NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

### Volunteers Work On National Conservation Lands for National Public Lands Day

More than fifty volunteers headed out to the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area to celebrate National Public Lands Day on the playa.

“It’s gorgeous country, and we want to keep it that way,” said Pat Bruce, Stewardship Director for Friends of Nevada Wilderness. “These National Conservation Lands are important to us, to our volunteers, and to all Americans. We need to maintain and restore them as well as enjoy them.”

Teams tackled construction, addressed citizen science, and cleaned up popular recreation sites during the weekend event.

Forty volunteers built over 160 feet of buck-and-rail fencing to protect sensitive dune habitat – home to kit foxes and wandering pronghorn.

A team of volunteers also conducted citizen spring inven-



tories in the nearby Lava Beds, gathering information on crucial spring sources to pass along to the Winnemucca District Bureau of Land Management. After a day in the field, the citizen spring monitors in-training became full-fledged monitors and can schedule their own spring data-gathering trips to the Black Rock-High Rock National Conservation Area under the guidance of Friends of Nevada Wilderness.

Additionally, 8 cubic yards of

garbage was removed from the Trego Hot Springs area, along with 500 pounds of cable and other metal debris.

The weekend ended with a cowboy cook-off, with Brian Beffort’s Thai chicken curry taking first place in the main course category. Dutch oven novices swept the side dish and dessert category, with Renee Aldrich’s corn bread and Adam Willet’s pumpkin bread pudding winning top prize in their categories.

## CELEBRATING THE SANTA ROSAS

Volunteers Show Some National Public Lands Day Love for Northern Nevada Mountain Range



Volunteers with Friends of Nevada Wilderness and Nevada Outdoor School put some sweat equity into their public lands this September, and brought the kids

along for a little northern Nevada fresh air.

Twenty-eight volunteers spent a weekend removing unneeded fence in the Santa Rosa mountain

range north of Winnemucca, and enjoying crisp sunshine and autumn stars.

Two miles of barbed wire fencing was taken out, improving wildlife habitat along Mullinix Creek. A large mule deer herd call the area home, and raptors and upland game birds also number among its inhabitants.

While adults and teens worked clipping fence fasteners, rolling up barbed wire, and hauling out fence posts, Nevada Outdoor School hosted a Kids' Camp focusing on outdoor education.

"Getting that unneeded fence out was a huge accomplishment – the Santa Rosa Range is now just a little more wild, thanks to our volunteers!" said Wes Hoskins, Forest Project Coordinator for Friends of Nevada Wilderness.

### TOIYABE CREST NATIONAL TRAIL

Thirty Miles Maintained During 2012 Field Season!

