

**What: Alternative Spring Break** in cooperation with UNR Spring Break Club, Friends of Nevada Wilderness, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



FRIENDS of NEVADA WILDERNESS

**When:** March 18<sup>th</sup>—24<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** Desert National Wildlife Refuge (30 miles north Las Vegas)

**Transportation:** to be provided to all participating UNR students

**Cost:** \$20 per student. All meals will be provided except for travel days (cheaper than staying home!)

### Summary

This trip will take volunteers into the Desert National Wildlife Refuge. We will be camping Monday through Friday on undeveloped campsites about 30 miles north of Las Vegas. Friday we will drive to the Red Rock National Conservation Area—one of the treasures of the desert southwest. The work that volunteers will be expected to carry out will include using shovels and picks to dig holes and plant vegetation; pulling old fence posts; building new post and cable fence; and planting young trees. The work areas will be outside and exposed to weather for most of the week. Volunteers need to be prepared for a variety of conditions, see the equipment list below. The project leaders will make every endeavor to accommodate all participants. Volunteers 18 and above (without legal guardian) can participate.

### Goals

This season the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) will focus on wilderness protection near the Corn Creek Field Station on the Desert National Wildlife Refuge (DNWR). To protect the fragile resources of the largest refuge in the lower 48 states, volunteers will: plant trees, install barriers, and restore trails and naturalize roads. Additionally, interpretive or educational components will be included during the week along with a trip to Red Rock National Conservation Area. Mainly, the four projects we will be working on during the week are:

(1) Maintain 410 feet of trail; (2) Restore 5 miles of illegal roads; (3) Plant 80 Velvet Ash trees; (4) install 100 feet of fence. **But above the hard numbers we want trip participants to enjoy this one-of-a kind experience and feel like they have contributed to the greater health of Nevada's public lands.**

*Project partners*



General location of project:

Corn Creek Field Station (30 miles north of Las Vegas) is 420 miles and approximately a 7.5 hours drive. Google Map link: <http://g.co/maps/ypbrq>

### Equipment you need to provide

Group first-aid kits will be available, please bring any personal medications or treatment you might need for one week. We will provide all meals and stoves, cook pots, food and water filtration system will be provided for the trip. Please bring your own personal snacks to supplement group food. **Please do not bring any alcoholic beverages or recreational drugs. If you have a food allergy or preference (vegetarian, vegan) please notify Wes, Lyndsey, or Kurt as soon as possible so that we can plan our menu accordingly.**

*This project is in a very rugged location. Good sturdy shoes, long shirts, and thick, long pants are essential. Please note the equipment list, if you have concerns about what to bring please contact Wes or Lyndsey. We have a limited amount of gear that we can provide.*

#### Backpacking Gear

- Backpack
- Tent – stakes and guy lines
- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Pad
- Pillow

#### Clothing

- Quick drying pants/shorts
- Long sleeved shirt
- Wicking long sleeve shirt and underwear
- Insulating jacket/vest
- Waterproof breathable jacket and pants
- Hat, cap or headband (brimmed and warm)
- Gloves or mittens
- Boots or hiking shoes
- Wool/synthetic socks (3 pair)
- Bandana
- Soft-soled camp shoes

#### Kitchen

Please bring your own plate/bowl, cup, and eating utensils.

- Personal snacks and drink mixes

#### Personal Gear/Essentials

- Water bottles or hydration reservoir (2-3 liters capacity at least 2 containers)
- Toiletries
- Medications
- Sunscreen
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Knife or multi-tool
  
- Toilet paper
- Ziploc bags for trash while in the field
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Notebook, pen/pencil

### General itinerary

On most days breakfast will be served by 8:00 am; we will try to be on the project site by 9:30; each workday will end approx 4:30. Dinner will be served by 6:00 pm. On some nights an educational speaker will present on their specific field after dinner.

Project partners



**Sunday 3-18:** Meet in front of Davidson Academy (UNR); drive to project site; set up camp.

**Monday 3-19:** Introductions; safety talk; plant trees at Corn Creek. Educational speaker: Allison Manwaring.

**Tuesday 3-20:** safety talk; drive to project site. Restore road and remove old fence material. Return to camp.

**Wednesday 3-21:** Safety talk; two teams will drive to different sites and restore

**Saturday 3-24:** Break camp. Return to Reno

multiple roads; hike to see pictographs. Return to camp. Educational speaker: Spencer Lodge.

**Thursday 3-22:** Safety talk; split into two teams; drive to different sites; restore multiple roads; install natural barriers. Return to camp.

**Friday 3-23:** Drive to Red Rock NCA for sightseeing, day hiking. Return to Corn Creek.

**For additional information or to sign up, please contact:**

Wes Hoskins, Friends of Nevada Wilderness: 775 324 7667 or [wes@nevadawilderness.org](mailto:wes@nevadawilderness.org)

Lyndsey Bohall, UNR Alternative Spring Break Club: [lyndseybohalla@yahoo.com](mailto:lyndseybohalla@yahoo.com)

Kurt Kuznicki (Las Vegas), Friends of Nevada Wilderness: 775 745 3119 or [kurt@nevadawilderness.org](mailto:kurt@nevadawilderness.org)

*Project partners*

