



FRIENDS of NEVADA WILDERNESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Sheldon Rendezvous volunteer stewardship project gives back to Nevada's wild heritage.

People who love the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge are gathering for a fun filled weekend to labor for wildlife. On June 20th, volunteers will help the refuge by removing unneeded barbed wire fencing near Big Springs and Catnip Reservoirs. Removing old barbed wire protects wildlife from tangling up in fences. Volunteers will also be signing refuge boundaries. A barbeque and campfire talks about the refuge will happen Saturday evening, with refuge tours available on Sunday.

“The volunteer weekend is exciting to us at Sheldon-Hart Mountain National Wildlife Refuges,” says Paul Steblein, Project Leader for the refuge. “It brings many people together from different organizations to learn about a place they care for, and make it better for everyone to enjoy.”

“Wildflowers should be fabulous, and wildlife watching rewarding, so bring your binoculars and plan to have a great time,” says Pat Bruce from Friends of Nevada Wilderness, who is helping to coordinating the event.

The Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge sits on the Oregon border in remote northwestern Nevada. High volcanic tables of grass, sage and wildflowers rise above the surrounding valleys like castles, dotted with small lakes and archaeological wonders. Designated in the 1930s, the Sheldon comprises 572,876 acres and is one of the last remaining healthy tracts of sagebrush steppe ecosystem. The Refuge is manage primarily to provide habitat for pronghorn antelope, bighorn sheep, sage grouse and other wildlife

The Sheldon also offers incredible opportunities for wide-open solitude, remote beauty and primitive and unconfined recreation.

To sign-up as a volunteer and get more details about the project, contact Pat or Sheena from Friends of Nevada Wilderness at (775) 324-7667. Space is limited so get your name in soon.

**For more information about Friends' Wilderness Stewardship program, log onto:
www.nevadawilderness.org**