

Stewardship Dispatch

Friends Of Nevada Wilderness

THREE DAYS OF RESTORATION IN LOVELL CANYON

700 pounds is a lot of trash to haul out of Lovell Canyon in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area, but Friends of Nevada Wilderness volunteers in southern Nevada did just that over three days in January. Zappos.com, the Great Basin Institute, SHArchitecture, and UNLV's Public Lands Institute joined with Friends and the Forest Service, with 58 volunteers contributing 418 service hours restoring Lovell Canyon.

The team collected 32 bags and one pickup truck full of trash and 7 buckets of broken glass on Saturday, January 8th, the first day of work. On January 15th and 17th, volunteers erased over 475 feet of 15-foot wide illegal off-road track.

"Helping to clean up a beautiful area with so many good-hearted people made my weekend!" Volunteer Susan Murphy said after the event.



BEFORE



AFTER



Clockwise from top left: Loading trash on Jan. 8 (photo by Kurt Kuznicki); the group after a hard day of work on Jan. 8 (Kurt Kuznicki); an illegal off-road track before the team starts work (Chris Hensley); after is finished on Jan. 17 (Chris Hensley).

Katie LaCroix, Wilderness Stewardship Coordinator for Friends, was happy to see the great work the volunteers did in the area.

"We have all of these beautiful resources that are now being protected because there are people working in

these places," she said.

The Spring Mountains NRA begins 20 minutes from Las Vegas, and includes the Mt. Charleston Wilderness Area, La Madre Mountain Wilderness Area, and Rainbow Mountain Wilderness Area.

BIRD SONG LOOP TRAIL CONSTRUCTION AND OPENING



Volunteers from Friends of Nevada Wilderness joined the Red Rock Audubon Society, Friends of the Desert Wildlife Refuge, and the Southern Nevada Conservancy to build 3,200 ft. of the Bird Song Loop Trail in the Desert National Wildlife Refuge.

Over 80 volunteers donated 435 hours during the three days of trail construction! The official opening of the trail was held on January 22, 2011 with a guided bird hike on the newly-opened trail, a ribbon-cutting ceremony, and Paiute blessing.

IN 2010, WE HAD...

- 1,267 VOLUNTEERS**
- 145 PROJECTS/MONITORING TRIPS**
- 13,053 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE**
- \$272,934 OF IN-KIND LABOR**