



FRIENDS of NEVADA WILDERNESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Las Vegas Celebrates 50 Years of Wilderness

Family fun event with picnic, formal presentation, and birthday cake

Contact Jose Witt at (702) 515-5417 or jose@nevadawilderness.org.

Photo, Video, Interview Opportunity

Las Vegas, NV—Friends of Nevada Wilderness, the only statewide environmental organization dedicated to Nevada's wild lands, will be hosting a family-friendly picnic to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act. The event is one of hundreds taking place across the country throughout 2014 to recognize the continuing benefits of America's wilderness legacy.

"In 1964, the Wilderness Act was passed protecting just over 9 million acres. This year as we celebrate its 50th birthday, more than 100 million acres of wilderness have been preserved," said Friends of Nevada Wilderness' Executive Director, Shaaron Netherton, "As a result, families have more opportunities to get outside, communities' water and air is cleaner and a bit of nature has been saved for future generations to enjoy." For five decades, the Wilderness Act has protected many of America's greatest and most breathtaking lands, including areas like the Mt. Charleston Wilderness in Nevada.

To celebrate the Anniversary of the Wilderness Act's passage, the organization is inviting the public to take part in a special stewardship and educational program based in one of Las Vegas' most popular wilderness destinations, Mt. Charleston. In the morning, participants can help improve components of the South Loop and Cathedral Rock trails. Those interested in volunteering for trail work must RSVP in advance with the organization. To follow, Friends of Nevada Wilderness will host a potluck picnic and educational presentation at the Cathedral Rock Picnic Area at the base of the South Loop trailhead.

Founded in 1984, the organization has been instrumental in successfully protecting over 3 million acres of Nevada's wild lands by leading efforts in the expansion or designation of all 68 wildernesses in the state, including the creation of Mt. Charleston Wilderness. Over the past thirty years, Friends of Nevada Wilderness has also grown a nationally recognized and award-winning Wilderness Stewardship Volunteer Program, generating over \$1 million of in-kind services to benefit Nevada's public lands.

WHEN:

Saturday, September 6th, 2014 from 1pm-3pm.

WHERE:

Cathedral Rock Picnic Area, Spring Mountains National Recreation Area. From Las Vegas, Nevada, take Highway 95 north to junction with Highway 157/Kyle Canyon. Turn left and travel approximately 21 miles to the picnic area at the end of the highway.

To get more information on this event, please contact Jose at jose@nevadawilderness.org or call the office at (775) 515-5417. Get information about future projects with Friends of Nevada Wilderness at our website www.nevadawilderness.org/calendar_of_events.

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