



FRIENDS of NEVADA WILDERNESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eighth Annual Wilderness Wingding Event Celebrates Volunteers

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Photo, Video, Interview Opportunity

Reno – December 1, 2014 Join Friends of Nevada Wilderness as we host our eighth annual Wilderness Wingding event to personally thank our supporters, agency partners, and the Northern Nevada outdoor community. The evening will also mark the year-end celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, as well as Friends of Nevada Wilderness' **30th anniversary** as an organization – that's 30 years of keeping Nevada's 68 Wilderness Areas, 64 Wilderness Study Areas, three National Conservation Areas, and nine Wildlife Refuges wild.

Every year, Friends of Nevada Wilderness volunteers are hard at work protecting and preserving America's public lands and improving wildlife habitat in Nevada. This year, over 500 volunteers donated over 5,000 hours on 100 individual restoration projects. Here are just some of the highlights from 2014:

- **Completed the removal of all 200 miles of barbed wire fence in the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge;** removing deadly barriers for migrating pronghorn within the Refuge.
- **Placed over 7,000 markers on fences in critical sage-grouse lek sites;** reducing fatal fence strikes by 83% and maintaining a healthy population.
- **Planted over 2,500 native plants** in areas affected by wildfires, creating habitat for wildlife like mule deer and sage-grouse to provide great hunting landscape for western sportsmen;
- **Removed over 11,000 invasive weeds** in the areas such as Mount Rose Wilderness, Reno's wild backyard and our community's outdoor classroom;

WHEN: Friday, December 5th, 2014. 6pm-9pm. Awards ceremony from 7pm-8pm.

WHERE: California Building at Idlewild Park: 75 Cowan Drive, Reno NV 89509.

The evening will provide live music from local artists, food, refreshments, silent auction, and raffle. This event is free and open to the public with a suggested \$10 donation at the door. An awards ceremony will recognize outstanding volunteers, as well as agency and business partners including **volunteers of the year:** Jim Neveln, Kevin Williams, and Susan Murphy.

Friends of Nevada Wilderness is the only statewide non-profit organization dedicated to preserving Nevada's wild lands. The organization works closely with the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Park Service to identify service needs in public lands and connect volunteers with those areas.

For more information on this event, please contact Shevawn Von Tobel at shevawn@nevadawilderness.org or call the office at (775) 324-7667. For more information about future projects with Friends of Nevada Wilderness, visit www.nevadawilderness.org.