



SEPTEMBER 2018 REFUGE UPDATE

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Calendar

Moth night and friends

Saturday September 8, 4-8 pm

Join us for an evening focused on moths and other insects that call Sevilleta home. Program will be indoors and out-of-doors, dress for the weather, hiking will be over uneven terrain. See Pg. 4

Wildflower Hike

Saturday, September 15 9 am - Noon

Join us for this fall wildflower hike! Enjoy Ladron Vista Trail with Volunteer Naturalists and learn about the flowering flora and take in the views! Reservations not required

Geology of Cibola Canyon

Friday October 12, 9 AM – 3 PM

Take part in this program exploring the awe-inspiring geology of Cibola Canyon located in Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge. Learn some remarkable facts about the geology of the area while taking in some amazing scenery. Grab your hiking boots for some short hikes over uneven terrain. Pack your lunch and your camera! Space is limited, so reserve now by calling the Refuge at 505-864-4021.

Full moon photography

Wednesday, October 24, 2 – 8 pm

Join Refuge staff and naturalists for this opportunity to explore Sevilleta NWR under the Full Harvest Moon! Any level of photography is welcome, program will be hiking based. Hiking will be over uneven terrain, dress for the weather. No reservations required

Sevilleta Fall Family Day

Saturday November 3rd , 1-4 PM

Join staff, volunteers, and your friends for a fun day of family activities. Winners of the Drawn to Sevilleta competition will be honored. Kid Friendly

Geology of San Lorenzo Canyon

December 7th , 9 AM-2 PM

Join Refuge staff and a volunteer naturalist for the geologic exploration of San Lorenzo Canyon. Learn about the forces that shaped this beautiful landscape. Short hikes, so bring your boots. Lunch, water, camera and poles are necessary. Space is limited, so call the Refuge to reserve your spot. 505-864-4021.

Manager's Update

Kathy Granillo, Refuge Manager

We have a saying here at Sevilleta that if there is a problem, it surely involves water, electricity or phones or any combination of those three. And sure enough, on July 26, the northwest quarter of the refuge, including the Headquarters area, received about 2.5 inches of rain from a strong summer storm. The vegetation loved it, things are greening up, birds are singing, and bees are buzzing. But the rain did some significant damage to roads and trails in the area, the Visitor Center roof leaked, and we lost several hundred yards of boundary fence. The County road that runs from I-25 to Riley and on around the mountains to Magdalena had several wash outs, including most of the 2 miles that runs through the refuge just south of the Rio Puerco. This is adjacent to our new hunt area that opens September 1 for dove season, and the road damage is impeding our progress on getting the area ready for hunting season. The rains also took out about 1.5 miles (including 13 culverts) of the ATT road. This road provides access to permittees to a major communication tower in the foothills of Ladron Mountain. Volunteers have put the hiking trails back into shape, and Rich has fixed the wash outs around the headquarters area, but the fence and other roads remain a shambles. We are hoping to get some funding for the repair work, but we may have to wait until the new Fiscal Year starts October 1.

On a more positive note, the Drawn to Sevilleta poster contest is underway with 9 local Elementary schools. Two Amigos-supported Interns, Bryan and Alicia, are shepherding this event along and are already off to a great start. As many of you know, for the past several years we have held the awards ceremony for the poster contest in conjunction with Celebrate Sevilleta. This year we are morphing the event into a Fall Family Fair, where we will feature the poster contest awards, and have several family friendly events such as archery, guided hikes, wildlife games, live animal demonstrations and other fun things for families to do.

Instead of offering Celebrate Sevilleta this fall, we are offering more refuge tours and guided walks spread out through the fall and winter. We think visitors will enjoy the varied offerings and we look forward to seeing you at one or more of these events!

Rain damage from storm on July 26



Popatosa Road Sign



Fence Damage



ATT Road Damage

Amigos Board News

Ann Adams, Board President

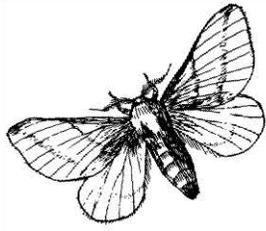
Hola Amigos! In case you missed it we've had hummingbird banding and butterfly counting in the past month. The weather was great for these events and good numbers of folks came to Sevilleta to observe and/or participate. For the hummingbirds, more people (35) than hummers (12) showed up. Somehow those little rascals figured out that something was up when we took down all the feeders in the area but one. For the first hour of banding on 8/18, plenty of juvenile hummers entered the trap and allowed themselves to be measured, weighed and awarded new ID bracelets. About 9am, the birds started to wise up and avoid the trap altogether. Numbers dropped and we spent open time waiting for new arrivals by answering lots of questions about hummers: how to tell their ages, how long do they live, and where do they go in the winter?



Hummingbird Pre Release

Counting butterflies was a completely different enterprise! Butterflies range from under an inch high from the tip of their top wing to the trailing edge of their bottom wing (pygmy blues come to mind!) to some really big ones at 4"-5" top to bottom like swallowtails. Unlike hummers, butterflies might be hiding out in a group on a single plant or flitting about individually among a number of medium to tall plants, laying eggs or looking for nectar. About 15 of us trekked about on the refuge for 4 hours on 8/25, looking for all sorts of butterflies and we were rewarded with monarchs, queens, viceroys and many more! Catching them is a pretty athletic undertaking...they don't fly straight AND you have to be quick!! This was the 3rd annual butterfly count at Sevilleta. The data we gathered will be combined with data from other sites to build a large database for studying the long-term aspects of butterfly's lives. The more data we can collect, the easier it will be to spot trends such as the effects of climate change on these fascinating creatures. Plan to join us next year when we count them again.





Moth Night and Friends!

Join us for an evening focused on moths and other insects that call Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge home.



I-25 Exit 169

**Reservations NOT
required!**

Saturday, September 8th

This program will be both indoors and outdoors!

- ✧ Dress for the weather
- ✧ Hiking will be over uneven terrain

4 PM – 8 PM

For more
information call
505/864-4021

Come and experience the wonders of Sevilleta at dusk!

Sevilleta Fall NWR Interns

My name is Alicia Oberg, and I am currently an intern at Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge. I graduated from Wichita State University with a B.S. in Biological Science with Ecological/Environmental emphasis. Although it was not my intention to make it a career, following the advice to do what makes me happy, I recently finished working for two years at a Nature Center in Kansas. Although I have no specific job which I would like to do in the future, I hope to continue to educate others about nature and inspire the same love for it that I hold. I enjoy spending most of my free time outdoors, either hiking or hunting for insects to photograph, but I also like curling up with my cats and a good book.



My name is Bryan Marquardt and I am originally from Stillwater, Minnesota. I majored in zoology at North Dakota State University. After working at several places around the country I came to Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge. Having never lived in the desert before I didn't know what to expect but now I've been here, I've discovered the desert is full of surprises! My goal one day is to be a park ranger at either a National Wildlife Refuge or a National Park. My interests include: hiking, fishing, birding, reading, and photography.



Amigos de la Sevilleta Nature Store



New items: Bookmarks, Bug Jars,
Guides for Big and Small !

T- Shirt Sale: One for \$15.00 Two for \$25.00
do you have one or two?

HOW YOU CAN HELP SEVILLETA

The Amigos de la Sevilleta provide valuable support to this unique refuge. There are several ways that you can help.

Consider increasing your membership contribution to the next level or higher.

Give an Amigos membership to a friend or family member.

Make an annual or semi-annual donation.

Include the Amigos de Sevilleta in your will.

Donate appreciated property or stock.

If you are 70½ or older you can donate a part of your required minimum IRA distribution and avoid paying taxes on it. Your broker can handle all the paperwork for you. You will need the Amigos' tax ID number (06-1819138) and the mailing address (Amigos de la Sevilleta, Box 1248, Socorro, NM 87801.)

Since the Amigos are a 501c(3) organization, all donations are tax deductible. Your generosity will ensure that Sevilleta continues its mission to provide for the wildlife in this spectacular refuge.

Susan Richards is now our Facebook page administrator. THANK YOU Susan for taking this on!

Amigos Contacts

Amigos Web Site

<https://www.amigosdelasevilleta.org/>

Amigos On Face Book

<https://www.facebook.com/amigossevilleta/>

Refuge Web Site

<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta/>

Jeannine Kimble

Visitor Services Manager

505/864-4021 X 106