



INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018

Sunday, April 1, 2018

7:30 a.m. Walk - Bird Walk

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars. Rain cancels.

2 Hours



7:30 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

Volunteer Naturalist Dan Leidecker will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for him in his volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

3 Hours

11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - Mystery Cat: Anza-Borrego's Elusive Mountain Lion

Join volunteer naturalist Don Endicott for a multi-media introduction to the natural history of the Park's seldom-seen apex predator. Don's talk will describe the amazing attributes and signature behaviors of our big cats, show how relationships between Mountain Lions and people changed over time, and outline their key contributions to a healthy wilderness environment. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

1 Hour

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Those Amazing Desert Plants!

Explore the Visitor Center garden with Park Interpreter Sally Theriault and discover some of the unique strategies that help plants survive here. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

1 Hour

Monday, April 2, 2018

8:30 a.m. Walk – Birding at Tamarisk Grove

Join Volunteer Naturalists Ann Keenan and Laura Webb for a walk around the Tamarisk Grove area looking for desert birds and those passing through. All birding levels welcome. Meet at Tamarisk Grove. Please bring binoculars. Rain cancels.

3 Hours



Tuesday, April 3, 2018

8:00 a.m. Hike – Big Spring Ramble

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian to discover an oasis in the transition zone and see what's blooming. Meet at the pullout at mile 11.3 on highway S-22 for an easy-paced walk to Big Spring in Tubb Canyon. Wear sturdy footwear, a hat, and carry water. This hike is rated moderate.

4 Hours

8:30 a.m. – Member Hike - Free ABF Member Hike

Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and other Park enthusiasts, these hikes will take you to little known but fairly easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park. These hikes are a free perk for ABF members.

4 Hours

Not a member? Ask about joining at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. Call 760-767-0446 or visit www.theabf.org/2016-member-hikes. No advance registration required.



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(OPEN DAILY 9 AM to 5 PM) ♿ DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED.

PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018



Wednesday, April 4, 2018

3:00 p.m. Talk ♿ – **Cosmic Recycling: Geological Highlights of the Anza-Borrego Region** 1 Hour
Southern California has a rich and varied geological history. Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian will relate some of the fascinating local lore and how it ties into the larger picture. Meets in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

Thursday, April 5, 2018

9:00 a.m. Hike – Torote Bowl

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a moderate to strenuous 5-mile loop hike through several palm groves and Torote Bowl at the southern end of the Park. Bring water, lunch, binoculars, hat, sunscreen and sturdy footwear. Meet at the entrance to Mountain Palm Springs on Highway S-2 at Mile Post 47.1.

5 Hours



1:00 p.m. Walk (or Talk) ♿ - Desert Drug Store

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker to discover the Native American drugstore, the creosote bush. This is an easy walk around the visitor center garden. If the weather is too windy or hot, Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

1 Hour

Friday, April 6, 2018

2:00 p.m. Talk ♿ - Solar Cooking Demonstration

You're probably familiar with solar cooking without knowing it! Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter to experience the ease and effectiveness of various solar cooking devices.

1 Hour

7:30 p.m. Lecture ♿ – Anza-Borrego : In Focus

Fire Followers in the High Desert of San Diego County

1 Hour



Tom Oberbauer will take us on a journey to discover the fire succession of the high desert environments here in San Diego County. We will touch on different species, the conditions that are conducive to various species, and much more! Lecture is at the UCI Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center (401 Tilting T Dr, Borrego Springs). \$5 at the door, no advance registration needed.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018

Saturday, April 7, 2018

5:25 a.m. Hike – Font’s Point Sunrise Rim Walk

4 Hours

Join State Park Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld for a slow, 3-4 hour nature & geology amble along the Font’s Point escarpment to watch the sun rise over the Borrego Badlands. We’ll explore geological processes, climate changes and desert life adaptations as we look down into a million years of history. This is a moderate 3-4 mile walk depending on weather, much of it cross-country (no trail) through cactus, over steep, rolling terrain. We’ll make lots of stops to enjoy the views and talk about what we’re seeing. Water, hiking shoes & hats are mandatory, no exceptions.

Four-wheel-drive is required (Terry has room for 4 passengers, first come, first served.) Meet at the entrance to Font’s Point Wash (mile marker 29.3 on Hwy S-22). Limited to 10 participants who must have pre-registered at the Visitor Center.

9:00 a.m. Field Class – Anza-Borrego : In Focus

Fire Followers in the High Desert of San Diego County

6 Hours



During this field tour we will be exploring an area that burned in 2017 in Culp Valley. Culp Valley is a very interesting location because it represents a high desert location with vegetation that is akin to a form of chaparral, but it also supports species that are obviously desert species. In fact, at least one species of plant has been found here with relatives that are a long way to the north. We will be looking for fire-following plants and any rare species that might be found. Registration includes Friday Lecture. \$60 Public/\$50 ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Briana for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 Ext. 1004.

11:00 a.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

1 Hour

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker who will take you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover some of our special desert plants.

2:00 p.m. – Junior Rangers

1 Hour

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited. Bring a sunhat and water.

8:00 p.m. Talk ♿ – Enjoy Anza-Borrego’s Dark Night Sky!

1 Hour

Spring nights are perfect for Stargazing in the desert! Explore constellations and learn what it means to be an International Dark-Sky Park. Bring binoculars if you have them (you’ll be amazed at the view!) and flashlight (red lens is preferable, to preserve night vision). Telescope viewing if weather permits. Join Interpreter Sally Theriault at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center. Rain or cloud cover will cancel program.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018

Sunday, April 8, 2018

1:00 p.m. Walk – Garden Walk

1 Hour

Join Park Interpreter Sally Theriault who will take you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover some of our special desert plants.

Monday, April 9, 2018

10:00 a.m. Talk – Botany Lecture: Ethnobotany A to Z

1 Hour

Join the ABDSP Botany Society for an ethnobotany talk by District Archaeologist Robin Connors, and learn how early people used local plants. Open to the public. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.



Tuesday, April 10, 2018

8:30 a.m. – Member Hike - Free ABF Member Hike

4 Hours



Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and other Park enthusiasts, these hikes will take you to little known but fairly easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park. These hikes are a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Ask about joining at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. Call 760-767-0446 or visit www.theabf.org/2016-member-hikes. No advance registration required.

Thursday, April 12, 2018

9:00 a.m. Hike -- Hike – Harper Flat

4 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund on a moderate 3-mile hike up Pinyon Wash to Harper Flat. There will be a few large boulders to negotiate at the beginning of the hike, but the wash provides enough water to support many beautiful desert plants. Meet at the intersection of Pinyon Wash and Highway 78 in order to carpool in 4WD vehicles for a few miles back to the trailhead.




Friday, April 13, 2018

10:00 a.m. Talk Paleontology Lecture

2 Hours

Join the Paleontology Society for their monthly talk by Jim Bowden, a Field Paleontologist at the San Bernardino Museum for nearly 20 years, overseeing surveys, excavations, and preparation. Jim has dodged 8-foot high tractor tires in the search for fossils. His talk will cover much of his work, including recovery of Mammoth skulls in the Diamond Valley reservoir and the many specimens recovered, on display at the Western Science Center in Hemet. Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018

Saturday, April 14, 2018

7:50 a.m. Walk ♿ - **Those Mysterious Holes – Discovering The Abundant Life of ABDSP** **1 Hour**
Join State Park Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld to do some detective sleuthing on a slow, easy nature walk around the Visitor Center gardens to discover what species of animals may have built those little holes along the trail. Along the way we'll examine different species of desert plants "up-close-and-personal" to find out how they survive drought, intense sun and 122°F heat. Meet in front of the Visitor Center. Limited to 12 participants; must sign up at the Visitor Center.

12:00 p.m. Hike – Discovering the Archaeological History of the 'Ehmuu Morteros **2 Hours**
Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Kumeyaay Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archaeologist and Naturalist Sam Webb to explore both rock art and historic milling features. This 1.5 mile hike is over uneven terrain. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Morteros trailhead in Blair Valley, about 3 miles off Highway S-2 on a dirt road (turn into Blair Valley near mile marker 23).

2:00 p.m. Walk – Junior Rangers **1 Hour**
Special California State Parks program for children only, ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited. Bring a sunhat and water.

7:30 p.m. Campfire ♿ - **Animal Songs** **1 Hour**
Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a lighthearted look at the sounds some of the Park animals make. You'll leave this interactive program with new appreciation for some of the Park animals and a song in your heart! Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

Sunday, April 15, 2018

7:30 a.m. Walk - Bird Walk **2 Hours**
Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars. Rain cancels.



1:00 p.m. Talk ♿ - **Garden Walk** **1 Hour**
Join Park Interpreter Sally Theriault who will take you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover some of our special desert plants.

3:00 p.m. Talk ♿ - **Solar Cooking Demonstration** **1 Hour**
You're probably familiar with solar cooking without knowing it! Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter to experience the ease and effectiveness of various solar cooking devices.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018

Monday, April 16, 2018

5:45 a.m. Hike - Sunrise Over the Mescal Bajada

2 Hours

Join State Park Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld for a slow 2-mile round-trip nature walk up a steep, rocky trail to the Bill Kenyon Overlook to watch the sunrise over the Mescal Bajada. We'll enjoy the sunrise, look for birds and Bighorn Sheep and examine different species of desert plants to see if we can figure out how they survive drought and intense summer heat. Bring water, hat, and hiking shoes. Meet at the south side of Yaqui Pass Campground on Highway S-3 at the Bill Kenyon Overlook trailhead sign, one mile North of Tamarisk Grove Campground. Limited to 10 participants who must have pre-registered. Sign up at the Visitor Center.

8:30 a.m. Hike – Cool Canyon

3 Hours

Join Brian and Susie Jones on a strenuous 3 mile round trip hike up Cool Canyon. We'll hike up some dry waterfalls in the higher country where the flora is different from that of the desert floor and observe some of the many lizards that live there (provided we have warm weather). Meet at the intersection of County Highway S-2 and the first dirt road to the west, ½ mile south of the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park boundary sign just beyond Shelter Valley. Approximate drive time is 45 minutes from the ABDSP Visitor Center. Four-wheel drive not required. Hike is limited to 15 people, please sign up at the Visitor Center. Bring water, a hat, snacks, hiking sticks (optional) and wear sturdy hiking shoes. Rain cancels.

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

8:30 a.m. – Member Hike - Free ABF Member Hike

4 Hours



Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and other Park enthusiasts, these hikes will take you to lesser-known but fairly easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park. These hikes are a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Ask about joining at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. Call 760-767-0446 or visit www.theabf.org/2016-member-hikes. No advance registration required.

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

8:30 a.m. Hike – Culp Valley Walkabout

3 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian for a walkabout in the transition habitat of Culp Valley and experience Pena Spring and its associated riparian area. Then follow a section of the Riding and Hiking Trail to an outstanding overlook before looping back to the start. Meet at the entrance to Culp Valley Campground between Mile Markers 9 and 9.5 on Hwy S-22. Hike is rated moderate.

1:00 p.m. Talk & Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness

1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future?

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018

Thursday, April 19, 2018

8:00 a.m. Hike – Little Surprise Canyon to Culp Valley

5 Hours

This moderately strenuous 6-mile hike will take us from the desert floor to the chaparral at about 3,600 feet. Join Volunteer Naturalist Paul Larson for this hike through the transition zone to observe the changes in the plant communities. We will car shuttle for the descent. Meet at the Hellhole Canyon parking lot on S-22, 0.7 miles west of the junction with Palm Canyon Drive. Bring water, snack and sturdy shoes.

Friday, April 20, 2018

11:00 a.m. Talk & Archaeology Lecture

1 Hour

Join the Archaeology Society for their monthly talk – speaker to be announced. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center. The public is welcome.

Saturday, April 21, 2018

7:50 a.m. Walk & Those Mysterious Holes – Discovering The Abundant Life of ABDSP 1 Hour

Join State Park Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld to do some detective sleuthing on a slow, easy nature walk around the Visitor Center gardens to discover what species of animals may have built those little holes along the trail. Along the way we'll examine different species of desert plants "up-close-and-personal" to find out how they survive drought, intense sun and 122°F heat. Meet in front of the Visitor Center. Limited to 12 participants, who must sign up at the Visitor Center.

8:00 a.m. Hike – Pinyon Ridge

7 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Paul Larson for a moderately strenuous (approx 6-9 miles) in the higher country with some great views and wildflowers. Wear sturdy shoes; bring a snack and plenty of water as this is a fairly strenuous hike. Meet at the Visitor Center parking lot. Four-wheel-drive (or all-wheel drive) is mandatory with some carpooling available.

9:00 a.m. – Social Hike – Hikes & Hops on the PCT near Lucky 5 Ranch

4 Hours

Join Executive Director Sara Husby for a moderate hike exploring the southwestern part of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. On this 4-mile hike with a 550 foot elevation gain, you will see beautiful vistas and perhaps even some of the wildlife who make use of this important corridor between Anza-Borrego Desert and Cuyamaca Rancho State Parks. \$20 Public/\$15 ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.



2:00 p.m. – Junior Rangers

1 Hour

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited. Bring a sunhat and water.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018

Saturday, April 21, 2018 (continued)

7:30 p.m. Campfire ♿ – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness

1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future? Bring a flashlight and meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

Sunday, April 22, 2018

12:00 p.m. Hike – Discovering the Archaeological History of the ‘Ehmuu Morteros

2 Hours

Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Kumeyaay Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archaeologist and Naturalist Sam Webb to explore both rock art and historic milling features. This 1.5 mile hike is over uneven terrain. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Morteros trailhead in Blair Valley, about 3 miles off Highway S-2 on a dirt road (turn into Blair Valley near mile marker 23).

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

8:30 a.m. – Member Hike - Free ABF Member Hike

4 Hours

Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and other Park enthusiasts, these hikes will take you to little known but fairly easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park. These hikes are a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Ask about joining at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. Visit www.theabf.org/2016-member-hikes or call 767-767-0446. No advance registration required.



Wednesday, April 25, 2018

11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness

1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future?

Friday, April 27 - 29, 2018

Field Class – Southwestern Desert Bats

3 Days

Discover what makes bats critical components of our desert ecosystem. Dr. Patricia Brown-Berry has conducted bat research for the past 50 years and will introduce participants to the world of bats and techniques used by scientists to study these amazing mammals. The 3-day class (Friday evening to Sunday noon) includes daytime lectures and nightly field work using ultrasonic bat detectors, mist-netting and night vision equipment to observe wild bats. Please visit the website for more details and registration. \$195 / \$175 for ABF Members. Advanced registration is required. Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Briana for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 Ext. 1004.



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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018

Saturday, April 28, 2018

2:00 p.m. – Junior Rangers

1 Hour

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited. Bring a sunhat and water.

Sunday, April 29, 2018

1:00 p.m. Talk & – Garden Walk

Join Park Interpreter Sally Theriault who will take you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover some of our special desert plants.



6:00 p.m. Talk & - Moon Features Come Alive

1 Hour

Have you wondered what the “Man in the Moon” really is? Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for this interactive program to discern the features of the Moon and see a demonstration of the Moon phases. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab. Followed immediately by The Moon Rises.

7:00 p.m. Talk & – The Moon Rises

1 Hour

Watch the sky during the hour of the Moon’s rising. Join us on the Visitor Center roof, “The Bridge” to watch the full moon rise. Bring binoculars if you have them.



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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2018

DESERT SAFETY

✓ **Carry water AND drink it**

Saving your water for the hike back has led to death in Anza-Borrego. Drink plenty of water before you leave home, while you hike, and on the return route. If you feel thirsty, it is already too late. Drink lots of water and drink often.

✓ **Make sure your vehicle is desert-ready.**

Equip your vehicle for the desert. You should always carry extra water, a shade tarp, a shovel, a tire pump, and extra food.

✓ **Prepare yourself.**

In addition to carrying water, you should have protective clothing, sunscreen, a hat, a good map, food and a first aid kit which includes a comb and tweezers.

✓ **Do not split up the group**

Stay together. Never leave anyone behind to rest.

✓ **Have a plan.**

Leave all your trip information with a friend. Tell him/her your destination, the route you intend to follow, your expected return time, a description of your vehicle with license plate number, and the time by which he/she should notify park authorities in case you do not return.

✓ **Leave snakes alone.**

Many venomous snakes live in the desert. If you threaten them, they may strike. It is illegal to harass, catch, or kill any snake within Anza-Borrego. If bitten, remain calm and seek immediate medical attention.

✓ **When emergencies happen ...**

Stop. Stay calm. Seek shelter. If you are with your vehicle, remain there; do not leave it. Signal with mirrors, white cloth, whistle (three short blasts on a whistle, pause, then three more, repeat frequently), and put your hood up. It is much easier to find a vehicle in the desert than a person!!!

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