



# The Roadrunner

Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley

[www.northfriends.org](http://www.northfriends.org)

September 2007

## **OCTOBER IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MONTH:**

Since 1991, the Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley have worked to preserve and protect the northern San Jacinto Valley, the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and Mystic Lake. We have been fortunate to see the wildlife area expand from the original 4,700 acres (1980, 1986) to 19,000 acres which includes the 10,000 acre Potrero Creek Unit.

The original wildlife area lands were acquired as partial mitigation for the loss of habitat when the state of California built the State Water Project—the project which brings water to southern California so all of us can live and work here. Over the years many small and large acquisitions have been added to the original acreage. The San Jacinto Wildlife Area is a cornerstone reserve in the Western Riverside County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), a county wide system of reserves which, in theory, are supposed to protect Riverside County's endangered plants and animals.

The Friends have spend the past 16 years writing comments, attending public meetings, and giving tours of the wildlife area. Our goal has been to share information about the wildlife habitat values of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and surrounding lands with our elected officials, decision makers and developers. We continue to ask for compatible lands uses on lands adjacent to the wildlife area boundaries.

This year has been a particularly busy one—many comment letters, meetings and a lawsuit. We ask you to take time and read our newsletter to get a feel for the onslaught of development that endangers this wonderful 'diamond' in the valley. Please take time and send in a membership donation and support the Friends' work so future generations can enjoy this wonderful valley, its sensitive and delicate plants, riparian 'highways', multitudes of birds and wide-open spaces. A donation form can be found at the end of our newsletter.

## **SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA News:**

### **TRICOLORS REMAIN IN JEOPARDY by Tom Paulek**

Tricolored Blackbird populations in Southern California appear to be in greater jeopardy than the much more abundant populations found in the Central Valley. In 2006, perhaps the largest remaining tricolored population in southern California nested in the San Jacinto Valley. That year, nesting failure was narrowly averted for the San Jacinto Valley population when the dairy wheat field the birds chose to nest in was purchased by conservation groups. This allowed the six to eight thousand breeding birds to complete the nesting cycle. In 2007, we were not able to locate the historic San Jacinto Valley nesting population. We attribute this to the ongoing drought which was manifest by a complete lack of spring green-up. Consequently, tricolor foraging conditions were largely nonexistent. Significant tricolor nesting colonies could not be found in Los Angeles or Orange counties either. A colony of eight hundred to a thousand birds was monitored in southern San Diego

County. This colony did produce some young. Adequate rainfall this upcoming rainy season will be decisive if southern California Tricolored Blackbirds are to rebound in 2008.

### **ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT VIOLATION—San Jacinto River Riparian Habitat by Tom Paulek**

On or about February 2007, Riverside County Flood Control District contracted for the removal of willow-cottonwood riparian habitat on the San Jacinto River. The work was performed upstream from Bridge Street to State Street, largely within the jurisdiction of the city of San Jacinto. In 2004, the Santa Ana Watershed Association documented two pair of Least Bell's Vireo, a federal endangered species, nesting at the Bridge Street location of the riparian habitat destruction. Prior bird banding studies indicate nest site fidelity is high among Least Bell's Vireo adults with many birds not only returning to the same territory but often placing nests in the same shrub used the previous year. In March/April, 2007, Least Bell's Vireo returning to the Bridge location and presumptively other Bell's Vireo returning to other nest sites included within the four to five miles of riparian destruction suffered harm in that their former breeding, feeding and sheltering habitat had been destroyed. Destruction of these essential habitat components constitutes a take of this endangered species which is a violation of Section 9 of the Federal Endangered Species Act. The Friends, Tri-County Conservation League and the Moreno Valley Group of the Sierra Club requested the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Law Enforcement Division investigate this apparent violation of law. Thus far no response from federal Law Enforcement, Riverside County Flood Control, the Riverside Conservation Agency or the city of San Jacinto has been forthcoming.

### **MAJOR FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT by Tom Paulek**

A major flood control project is being recommended by the Riverside County Flood Control District and the city of San Jacinto. The project sponsors are advocating construction of five miles of new levee on the San Jacinto River within the city of San Jacinto. The project is intended to provide 100 year flood protection to two thousand acres of adjacent agricultural lands. Removal of these prime agricultural lands from the floodplain will facilitate urban and commercial development. It will also eliminate much of the present flood water storage capacity along this reach of the San Jacinto River. The project proposes to construct a 290 acre desiltation basin at its terminus which will preclude the natural transport of river sediments downstream to the Mystic Lake bed. The project envisions future flood flows will cross Bridge Street directly into Mystic Lake onto the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Friends' comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) expressed concern as to the loss of prime agricultural land this project will precipitate. We also noted that if this

project is constructed it appears in the future the entire upper watershed will, in large measure, rely on the Mystic Lake reach of the river for flood water storage. We questioned whether Mystic Lake will be able to provide sufficient flood water storage should we experience successive years of major storm events. We also asked that the Draft EIR examine the extent to which the proposed changes in river hydrology and sediment flow will conflict with plant and animal conservation objectives on the SJWA.

**BURROWING OWL SURVEYS by Sue Nash:** Burrowing Owls were hard hit this year. The numbers on the wildlife area were low due to the drought (down to 4 pairs this year from 10 pairs last year). This was prior to the beginning of the wetlands construction project in July. Unfortunately, as a result of the construction equipment burying one of the nests and disturbing one other nest, only two Burrowing Owl pairs were seen on SJWA as late as September. The Friends are working to insure that there is adequate mitigation for the destruction of Burrowing Owl habitat so that the population of Burrowing Owls on the wildlife area can be restored and improved

**BLUEBIRD HOUSE SURVEYS by Sue Nash:** We have not scheduled any surveying or cleaning of the 10 remaining bluebird boxes on the wildlife area at this time. Due to the recent California Waterfowl Association construction, five of the most productive boxes appear to be gone. We will try and replace and relocate these boxes. We assume the boxes will continue to be occupied by Swallows and will clean them and remove old bird and wasp nests before the spring nesting season begins. Please contact Sue Nash at: [snash22@earthlink.net](mailto:snash22@earthlink.net) or (909) 228-6710 if you are interested in helping clean the bluebird boxes at the SJWA.

#### **FRIENDS NEWS & PROJECTS:**

##### **FRIENDS OF THE NORTHERN SAN JACINTO VALLEY FILE LAWSUIT AGAINST THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND THE CALIFORNIA WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND DESTRUCTION OF HABITAT ON THE SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA**

**by Sue Nash:** On Saturday evening, June 30, 2007, the Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley discovered that heavy earth-moving equipment, working on the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, had buried a Burrowing Owl nest containing an adult bird and a nestling. The work on SJWA is being performed by the California Waterfowl Association (CWA) who is building additional wetlands. In February 2007, CWA was awarded a \$680,000 grant by the Department of Fish and Game Wildlife Conservation Board to restore and build additional waterfowl hunting ponds on this state-operated wildlife area. Destruction of a Burrowing Owl nest is against both state and federal law. This incident occurred on a state operated wildlife management area which is also a principal conservation reserve in the Western Riverside County Multiple-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP).

The Friends investigated DFGs compliance on the CWA wetlands project with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and determined that DFG did not comply with CEQA. The Friends made repeated phone calls and sent and e-mailed a letter to the DFG to halt the project until there could be compliance with CEQA by making a complete assessment of and mitigation for the negative environmental impacts of the project. The Friends' phone calls and letter went unanswered and we had no alternative but to file a lawsuit on August 9, 2007. The petition alleges that the

Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) failed to comply with CEQA when it awarded \$680,000 to the CWA for massive earth-moving on the SJWA without a proper CEQA review of and mitigation for the environmental impacts of the project; that the Negative Declaration prepared by DFG failed to identify or mitigate for the environmental impacts to protected plants and animals on the SJWA which could be negatively impacted by this project; and that CWA violated the Fish and Game Code when the Burrowing Owl nest was destroyed and a 1601 stream bed alteration permit was not obtained.

The most important objective for the Friends in filing this lawsuit is to assure that this type of incident never again occurs on the SJWA or on any other state wildlife area.

##### **VILLAGES OF LAKEVIEW (Specific Plan 342)**

**by Ann McKibben & Sue Nash:** As you probably remember, this project proposes to build 11,000 houses and/or apartments just south of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area in the community of Nuevo/Lakeview. Up to 3,000 of those housing units are proposed to be built on the southern boundary of the SJWA (between the wildlife area and the Ramona Expressway). The project will be divided by what is presently Davis Road and the Ramona Expressway and will contain a school located very close to both the wildlife area and the proposed Mid County Parkway (an eight lane freeway). According to the Riverside County Planning Department, Lewis Homes is preparing their next screencheck specific plan and their screencheck EIR. Lewis Homes indicates these documents may be submitted as early as November 2007.

However, the most disturbing issue regarding the Lewis and the Motte Ranch projects (see below) is the General Plan amendment proposed by the County which would cover both of these projects and many acres of other agricultural land surrounding the wildlife area. The purpose of the GP amendment is to remove conflicts between these projects and the dairy farms in the area.

##### **MOTTE RANCH (Specific Plan 366)**

**by Sue Nash & Ann McKibben:** The Motte Ranch project proposes to build 3,500 housing units between the SJWA and the Ramona Expressway. In addition to the impacts to the wildlife area, this project sits directly on land which contains portions of the Casa Loma Fault and has a history of land fissures. These fissures, where the land literally opens up, were measured in the past by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in San Jacinto to be 15-20 feet wide and well over 25 feet deep. We believe the majority of the Motte Ranch project may not be suitable for building homes. The Riverside County Planning Department has indicated that the Motte Ranch developers anticipate their screencheck specific plan and environmental impact report will be submitted before the end of 2007.

##### **GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT**

**by Sue Nash:** At the February 21, 2007 Riverside County Planning Commission meeting for the Motte Ranch General Plan Amendment, the Commission expressed concerns with the proximity of the proposed high density development of the Motte Ranch and the dairies to its north and south. As a result, a number of meetings were held with County Planning staff, the Planning Commissioners, the advanced planning team and eventually two meetings with Supervisor Ashley, Planning Commissioner Zuppardo, Planning Director Goldman and several others. This group identified a number of problems to be addressed by either: 1) a county-led specific plan; 2) adding the dairies to the Motte Ranch SP; or 3) rolling the changes into the General Plan update for 2008. The problems to be addressed included: 1) insure that Motte

Ranch not be an island of development in the midst of dairies; 2) create a uniform community of homes where the dairies exist today; 3) insure that the Williamson Act contract would not interfere with this new housing community; 4) insure that the dairies can continue to operate until they are ready to leave the area; 5) insure that there are adequate buffers between the Motte Ranch project and the remaining dairies; 6) insure no development occurs in the flood plain. Although these meetings have continued since the July 11, 2007 Planning Commission meeting, the results of these discussions have not yet been made public.

As you can see, there is an assumption, before any environmental review has been done, that all of the agricultural lands surrounding the wildlife area (which acts as both a buffer and a source of habitat for wildlife on the SJWA such as Tricolored Blackbirds) will be converted into houses. Any of the solutions suggested will ensure that each individual project (which will include Lewis Homes and any others in an area whose extent is not yet known) will not be required to do an independent general plan amendment analysis, as is now required. When planning staff was asked why the San Jacinto Wildlife Area was not shown on the map and impacts to the wildlife area were not mentioned as an area of concern, we were told that because the houses would not be directly next to the wildlife area (a proposed thin strip of County Regional Park would run along the southern border of the wildlife area) the County has determined there will be no impacts to the SJWA or the many species listed in the MSHCP (Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan) which the SJWA protects. The County offered no factual basis for this assumption.

Plans to alter the General Plan amendment for the northern San Jacinto Valley (i.e. to convert it to a wholly urban area surrounding the SJWA) must and will be closely watched by Friends.

**MCANALLY ENTERPRISE CHICKEN RANCH (CUP3512)** by Ann McKibben: The proposed McAnally Enterprise Consolidation of Two Chicken Ranch Facilities (Conditional Use Permit No.03512) project is starting to show signs of life again. The developer may submit the first screencheck of the environmental impact report before the end of the year and the Draft Environmental Impact report for the project could be released during the first two months of next year. The project proposes to put 2.25 million laying hens in a new poultry facility located immediately adjacent to the San Jacinto River floodplain at Bridge Street. The project site immediately adjoins the eastern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and is also adjacent to Mystic Lake. The main concerns regarding the project are: spread of avian flu, water quality degradation, and locating an industrial scale poultry facility next to the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, a principle reserve in the Western Riverside County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan.

**MID COUNTY PARKWAY** by Ann McKibben: The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) accepted comments on a Supplement Draft Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Report /Environmental Impact Statement for the Mid County Parkway until August 31. The proposed parkway is a 32 mile 'freeway' between the city of San Jacinto and Corona with a possible future expansion to Orange County via a tunnel under the Cleveland National Forest. The Friends' comments included: 1) maps did not delineate the boundary outlines of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area; 2) consultation and coordination with 'trustee agencies' will not occur until a preferred alternative is identified; 3) the EIR/EIS should

include project impacts on Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan designated conservation lands; 4) three parkway interchanges in the northern San Jacinto Valley will impact MSHCP conservation lands (at the SJWA) and prime agricultural lands; 5) the impacts of the parkway crossing the San Jacinto River and effects on floodplain; 6) project impacts on the acceleration of Global Warming. The Friends have commented on this project for many years. The first version of the project was originally an 'expansion' of the Ramona Expressway, and then it was expanded to encompass both the Ramona Expressway and Cajalco Road ending in Corona. We understand that the RCTC has selected a preferred route (despite local residents' concerns). The final decision on the route will not be made until next year.

#### **FRAMED MYSTIC LAKE POSTER RAFFLE** by Sue Nash:

As we wrote last February, the Friends are offering a framed 16" x 24" poster of Mystic Lake. The photograph is made from the same slide of Mystic Lake that was used to make our Mystic Lake post cards. The drawing for this beautifully framed poster will be held at the December 2, 2007 Beginning Bird Walk at the SJWA. You need not be present to win, but we'll have the framed poster there for you to take home with you, if you are so lucky!

#### **FUNDRAISING EVENT—PERSONAL BIRDING TOUR OF THE SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA** by Ann McKibben

and Sue Nash: This is your chance of a lifetime to win an all day PERSONAL BIRDING TOUR of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area for up to four people. The tour will include snacks for breakfast and lunch, a birding book, and fancy binocular straps. The Birding Tour will be led by expert birders from the Friends' Board and will include information about the geology of the SJWA and surrounding areas plus information about the ecology of the SJWA from the retired manager of the SJWA. Mostly, this will be a wonderful opportunity to see as many birds as possible (we have found 99 on a super day) and visit all of the many habitats in which they live. The tour will take place in the spring of 2008 on a day selected by the winner and the Friends. The last date on which tickets can be **received** by the Friends is March 1, 2008.

You will receive a raffle ticket for each \$5.00 of your regular membership donation. The drawing for this day at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area will be held on March 2, 2008. You can make a membership donation by filling out the membership donation form in this newsletter. All items for the tour are being donated by Sue Nash, Tom Paulek, Ann McKibben and Mike McKibben.

**LINKS:** Friends NSJV: [www.northfriends.org](http://www.northfriends.org) ; San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society: [www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) ; San Jacinto Center for Environmental Education: <http://sanjacintocenter.blogspot.com/> ; Rare Bird Alert: <http://www.birder.com/birding/alert/index.html> (Click on 'California'; scroll to San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, click on a date.

#### **NATURE WALKS AND FIELDS TRIPS AT THE SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA:**

**October 7, 2007, Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

##### **BEGINNING BIRD WALK**

Here is your chance to learn bird identification at the wildlife area. This morning walk introduces participants to basic birding techniques. Our goal is to find 10-15 species and learn what characteristics set them apart from others. Some

binoculars and bird books will be available to borrow for the morning. All levels of birders and children are welcome. With San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society. Check [www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) for more information or call Cathy Tobin at (951) 684-9613. Leaders: Jennifer & Michelle Tobin.

**November 18, 2007, Sunday, 7:00 a.m.**

**SAN JACINTO VALLEY FIELD TRIP**

With San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society. Join us for a day of birding in the northern San Jacinto Valley where we'll be looking for wintering birds of prey and waterfowl. It is possible to see 100 species on this fall trip so we'll see if we make our goal this year. We will meet in the SJWA parking lot. Leaders: Tony Metcalf (951) 242-7038 and Dave Goodward, (909) 783-2417. Check [www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) for more information.

**December 2, 2007, Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

**BEGINNING BIRD WALK**

Here is your chance to learn bird identification at the wildlife area. This morning walk introduces participants to basic birding techniques. Our goal is to find 10-15 species and learn what characteristics set them apart from others. Some binoculars and bird books will be available to borrow for the morning. All levels of birders and children are welcome. With San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society. Check [www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) for more information or call Cathy Tobin at (951) 684-9613. Leaders: Jennifer & Michelle Tobin.

**December, 2007, 6:00 a.m.**

**CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**

The Christmas Bird Count at the SJWA is sponsored by the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society and is part of a nationwide survey conducted by Audubon. All level of birders are welcome—we'll be working in small groups covering the northern San Jacinto Valley and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Check [www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) for more information or call Sue Nash at (909) 228-6710 or e-mail: [snash22@earthlink.net](mailto:snash22@earthlink.net) to confirm date and time.

**January 6, 2008, Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

**BEGINNING BIRD WALK**

Here is your chance to learn bird identification at the wildlife area. This morning walk introduces participants to basic birding techniques. Our goal is to find 10-15 species and learn what characteristics set them apart from others. Some binoculars and bird books will be available to borrow for the morning. All levels of birders and children are welcome. With San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society. Check [www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) for more information. Leader: Doug Karalun, (909) 425-5355.

**January 20, 2008, Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

**SJWA NATURE WALK**

We will be looking for birds at the reclaimed water ponds and visiting a variety of habitat on this nature walk. Also, we will talk about the geology and ecology of the wildlife area and the northern San Jacinto Valley. Join us for a fun day of birding and learning about the natural resources of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Leader: Sue Nash, (909) 228-6710

**February 3, 2008, Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

**BEGINNING BIRD WALK**

Here is your chance to learn bird identification at the wildlife area. This morning walk introduces participants to basic birding techniques. Our goal is to find 10-15 species and learn what characteristics set them apart from others. Some binoculars and bird books will be available to borrow for the

morning. All levels of birders and children are welcome. With San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society. Check [www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) for more information or call Cathy Tobin at (951) 684-9613. Leaders: Jennifer & Michelle Tobin.

**BEGINNING BIRD WALKS:** San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society organizes and sponsors Beginning Bird Walks (BBW) at various locations in Riverside County. We are fortunate that a number of the walks are held at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Please note that the BBWs start at 8:00 a.m. Please check their web site at: [www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) for information on dates and locations for all their Beginning Bird Walks. Or call Cathy Tobin at (951) 684-9613. **Thank you SBVAS!**

**FOR INFORMATION** on the Friends walks, call Ann McKibben at (951) 924-8150 or Sue Nash at (909) 228-6710. Our walks are free and open to all. Children are welcome and you do not need to be a member of the Friends to join us on any of our walks.

**WHERE TO MEET:** All nature walks meet at the appointed time in the parking lot of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters at 17050 Davis Road, Lakeview. There are picnic tables and restrooms available if you want to spend the day.

**FOR ALL WALKS:** Bring binoculars, camera (if you are interested), non-toxic insect repellent, sturdy walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, plenty of water, lunch, snacks, and wear appropriate clothing for the weather.

**TO VISIT THE SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA:**

**Hours:** The wildlife area is open seven days a week from Dawn to Dusk. You are welcome to visit on your own at any time. There is an Information Kiosk on the east side of Davis Road adjacent to the parking lot.

**FALL HUNTING HOURS:** The San Jacinto Wildlife Area is owned by the state of California and managed by the Department of Fish and Game. Hunting fees which are collected at facilities throughout the state are used to manage wildlife habitat throughout the state.

**Waterfowl Hunting: October 20, 2007 to January 27, 2008; Youth Waterfowl Hunt, February 2, 2008.** There will be ALL DAY waterfowl hunting on all Wednesdays and Saturdays. **The Wetland Areas at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area will be closed ALL DAY ON WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAYS** for non-hunting public use during the waterfowl season.

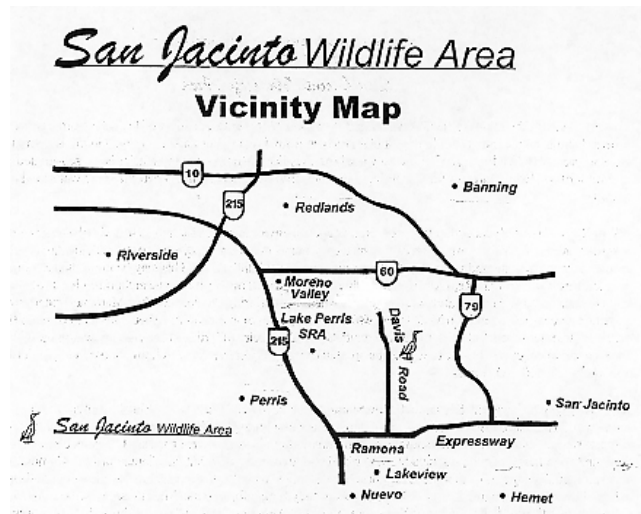
**Pheasant Hunting: November 12, 19, 26, and December 3, 10, 17, 2007 (ALL Mondays),** there is ALL DAY pheasant hunting throughout the wildlife area on the Mondays listed. Please keep these dates in mind when you schedule your visits to the wildlife area and call the area staff at (951) 928-0580 during regular work hours if you have any questions regarding which areas might be closed.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA:**

San Jacinto Wildlife Area, 17050 Davis Road, Lakeview. Telephone: (951) 928-0580. **DAVIS ROAD IS CLOSED FROM MORENO VALLEY.** Please use one of these alternate routes to visit the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. From Moreno Valley: go south on Perris Boulevard to the Ramona Expressway; go east on the Ramona Expressway to Davis Road in Lakeview; go north on Davis Road 2.3 miles to the

headquarters. From Hemet/San Jacinto Area: take the Ramona Expressway west to Davis Road in Lakeview; go north on Davis Road 2.3 miles to the headquarters. From Highway 215: take the Ramona Expressway east to Davis Road in Lakeview (traffic signal); go north on Davis Road 2.3 miles to the area headquarters.

**PLEASE USE CAUTION WHILE DRIVING ON DAVIS ROAD IF THERE HAVE BEEN RECENT RAINS.** Do not drive on Davis Road if it is muddy or it is raining. During the rainy season, please call the wildlife area headquarters, (951) 928-0580, during regular work hours to ask about road conditions.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS:** The Friends realize that we are fortunate to have supporters who continue to make donations to our organization year after year. Thank you for making it possible for the Friends to go forward with their work!

**THANK YOU** Margie Breitreuz, Ann McKibben and Sue Nash for folding, labeling, and sealing our spring newsletter.

**WAIVER FORM:** The Friends will be asking all walk participants to sign waiver of responsibility forms. Please be aware that minors (under the age 18) cannot sign the waiver. The signator must be a parent or other responsible adult. If you will not be with or are dropping off a minor at one of the Friends' nature walks, please call Sue Nash at (909) 228-6710 or e-mail her at: [snash22@earthlink.net](mailto:snash22@earthlink.net) for a copy of the form so you can sign it and have the minor bring it with them. The form can also be found on our web page.

**FRIENDS' WEB PAGE:** Please check out the Friends' web page at: [www.northfriends.org](http://www.northfriends.org) for information about our nature walks and updated "Take Action" information. Our "Take Action" section has our comment letters on the proposed Villages of Lakeview Project, the MacAnally Enterprise Poultry Farm, and other information.

**OTHER NEWS:**

**WHERE WE'VE BEEN SEEN:** The Friends attended the May 19 Idyllwild Earth Fair held in Idyllwild where they hosted an information table about the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Sue Nash hosted the table, talked to visitors and gave handouts to those who stopped by. Thank you to Sue for

spending the day at the festival and getting the word out about the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and the Friends!

**SELF-GUIDED AUTO TOUR:** a self-guided auto tour is available for visitors to use at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. These reusable guides follow a series of signs and explain what can be seen at each of the seven stops. You can pick them up from a box which is adjacent to the entrance kiosk. You will find a "return" box for the guides sitting on the other side of the road as you leave the wildlife area.

**TIRED OF OUR NEWSLETTER?:** The Friends would be happy to remove your name from our mailing list if you no longer want to receive our newsletter. Send your name and address to: Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley, P.O. Box 9097, Moreno Valley, CA 92552-9097; e-mail: [northfriends@northfriends.org](mailto:northfriends@northfriends.org) or call Ann McKibben at (951) 924-8150 to have your name deleted. Our current newsletter is posted on the Friends' web page at: [www.northfriends.org](http://www.northfriends.org)

**UP-COMING EVENTS:**

OCTOBER 20 (noon to 5 p.m.) & 21 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.), 2007 – PLANT SALE, UCR Botanic Gardens. Information: (951) 784-6962. [www.gardens.ucr.edu](http://www.gardens.ucr.edu)

NOVEMBER 16, 17 & 18, 2007 – WILDLIFE ART FESTIVAL, San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. Information: (909) 307-2669.

JANUARY 26, 2008 (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.) – DUCK DAZE, Hidden Valley Nature Center, 11401 Arlington Avenue, Riverside. Information: (951) 785-7452.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

Bluebird Box Volunteers: Please see information in our article about Bluebird Boxes at the SJWA to find out how you can help maintain healthy boxes at the SJWA.

San Jacinto Center for Environmental Education Volunteers: The center needs volunteers to help with teaching stations when school classes come to the SJWA. Please contact: Susannah Buchanan at [shiloh58@earthlink.net](mailto:shiloh58@earthlink.net) and (951) 849-8426 or Sue Nash at [snash22@earthlink.net](mailto:snash22@earthlink.net) and (909) 228-6710 for more information.

**FRIENDS OF THE NORTHERN  
SAN JACINTO VALLEY**  
P.O. Box 9097  
Moreno Valley, CA 92552-9097

e-mail: [northfriends@northfriends.org](mailto:northfriends@northfriends.org)  
web page: [www.northfriends.org](http://www.northfriends.org)

Board Members: Greg Ballmer, Jane Block, George Hague, Ann McKibben, Sue Nash, Tom Paulek, Paul Prado

The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley is a local conservation group dedicated to preserving and protecting the northern San Jacinto Valley, San Jacinto Wildlife Area, and Mystic Lake. We are a 501(c)(3) organization.

The Roadrunner comes out twice a year in February and September. It is written and edited by Ann McKibben, Sue Nash & Tom Paulek.

MEMBERSHIP FORM – Please enroll me as a contributing member of the Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley. I will contribute:

\$10.00  \$20.00  \$50.00  \$100.00  Gift  
Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley

Mail to: Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley  
P.O. Box 9097  
Moreno Valley, CA 92552-9097  
e-mail: [northfriends@northfriends.org](mailto:northfriends@northfriends.org)

The Friends is a 501(c)(3) organization.

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**“Return Service Requested”**

**Membership Renewal**