



VOLUNTEER TODAY



Dedicate Yourself to Caring for the Land and Serving the People
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles/volunteering/>

GREETINGS

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE

*“The Forest Service is about **sustaining the health, diversity and productivity of the nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.**”*

Chief Abigail Kimbell, January 2008

As my 5 year anniversary approaches, I realize that the Los Angeles River Ranger District Recreation and Human Resource Program have experienced major CHANGE. CHANGE, Webster’s Dictionary defines change: to make different in some particular

This year, I believe we’ll continue experiencing dramatic changes to our program:

- A) Relocation of our Volunteer Operation from Wildwood to Hahamongna Watershed Park Annex (tool storage/meeting room etc). Tentative schedule: March 6 present alternatives and staff recommendations to Hahamongna Watershed Park Advisory Committee and May 2008 City Council Project Approval/Certification of Environmental Document.**
- B) Altadena Crest Trail, 13 mile trail from Arroyo Seco to Eaton Canyon will become a reality under the jurisdiction of County of Los Angeles. The preferred alternative will utilize portions of existing Forest Service trails /roads (ie El Prieto, Sunset Ridge, Sam Merrill, Brown Mtn Road). Tentative schedule: May 2008 completion of Environmental Document**
- C) Mount Lowe Historic Site Interpretative Plan, will provide over-arching themes, goals, and objectives for interpretive messages and media for this destination.**
- D) Mt. Hillyer Mountain Bike Technical course. CORBA project.**
- E) The Baby Boom generation has started retiring therefore our Volunteer Program may benefit from this new infusion of individuals.**
- F) The Forest Service is kicking off a national “Get Outdoors” campaign. The campaign encourages children and their parents to take advantage of recreational opportunities on national forests and to develop a more active lifestyle.**

Thank you for your patience in implementing changes that have improved the recreation experience on the Los Angeles River Ranger District.

Have you accumulated 500 volunteer hours since January 1, 2007? If you have accumulated 500 volunteer hours, please let me know so that we can issue you an America the Beautiful – Interagency Annual Pass.

The volunteer program is open to all individuals and/or groups that are interested in assisting the Angeles NF in accomplishing natural resource management objectives. If you’re interested in assisting us in managing your National Forest or have questions about the Volunteer Program, please contact me at 818-899-1900 ext 229 or e-mail hokamoto@fs.fed.us

Again, THANK YOU for your dedication in providing a quality recreation experience on the Angeles National Forest.

/s/ Howard S. Okamoto
Angeles National Forest
Los Angeles River Ranger District
Recreation Officer

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**What we see in others
often reveals
something about us.**

Los Angeles River Ranger District

February 2008

Volunteer Events Calander

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 <i>Trail Mtnc Training</i> San Gabriel Trailbuilders Community Hiking Club CORBA OUTING
3 Habitat Works <i>Crew Leader Training</i>	4	5	6	7	8	9 TreePeople Habitat Works Wednesday Hiking Club
10 Habitat Works	11	12	13	14	15	16 JPL TRAILBUILDERS Bear Cyn Trail Mtnc San Gabriel Trailbuilders Community Hiking Club
17 TreePeople	18 PRESIDENTS DAY Habitat Works <u>PCTA</u>	19	20 CTUC Monthly Mtg <u>LARRD</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Volunteer Mtg</u>	21	22	23 Mt. Disappointment 50k/50r Habitat Works VHC WLACC BSA Trail Boss Training
24 Habitat Works VHC WLACC BSA Trail Boss Training	25	26	27	28	29	

Graffiti Hot line

County of Los Angeles Public Works
Department Graffiti Hotline:
1-800-675-4357, option 2
to report any graffiti along County
maintained roads (Tujunga Canyon Roads,
Angeles Forest Highway etc).

If you wish to get electronic copy of
this newsletter, go to
<http://www.mtlowe.net/VolunteerNews.htm>

General Information

What is a El Niño and La Niña?

El Niño was originally recognized by fisherman off the coast of South America as the appearance of unusually warm water in the Pacific ocean, occurring near the beginning of the year.

El Niño means The Little Boy or Christ child in Spanish. This name was used for the tendency of the phenomenon to arrive around Christmas. It is marked by a warming of equatorial waters, which pushes the jet stream south, bringing more rain to Southern California

La Niña means The Little Girl. La Niña is sometimes called El Viejo, anti-El Niño, or simply "a cold event" or "a cold episode". La Niña, or "girl child," usually brings drought to Southern California.

Safety Notes! Hypothermia Prevention

Hypothermia is dangerously low body temperature, below 95°F (35°C).

Before you spend time outside in the cold,

- DO NOT drink alcohol or smoke.
- Drink plenty of fluid and get adequate food and rest.

Wear proper clothing in cold temperatures to protect your body.

- Mittens (not gloves)
- Wind-proof, water-resistant, many-layered clothing
- Two pairs of socks (avoid cotton)
- Scarf and hat that cover the ears (to avoid major heat loss through the top of your head)

Avoid:

- Extremely cold temperature, especially with high winds
- Wet clothes
- Poor circulation, which is more likely from age, tight clothing or boots, cramped positions, fatigue, certain medications, smoking, alcohol, and diseases that affect the blood vessels (such as diabetes)

Hike for Discovery is about finding cures.

Its about being in the great outdoors and helping people who are battling cancer.

As a Hike participant, you'll receive:

- Professional training for four to five months at your selected level of difficulty.
- Clinics on hiking techniques, hydration, nutrition, trail safety, first aid and equipment
- A personal Web page, online tips and advice from a mentor experienced in fundraising. The enjoyment of training, traveling and socializing with your group.
- Transportation, lodging and social events at your destination
- One year membership in the American Hiking Society.

Call 888-577-4868 or 310-216-7600 or visit

www.hikefordiscovery.org/los

Defensive Driving Refresher.

Fox Field:

February 19 and February 22, 1300 to 1500 hrs

SO: February 27, 2008 from 10:00 to noon at the SO in the large conference room.

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION (ANFFLA)

<http://www.anffla.org>

<http://www.angeleslookouts.org>

Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trailkeepers

Mark Gage mrgy33@hotmail.com

Hikers and Bikers working together on trails. We work on the trails almost every Saturday. Our focus trails are Lower Sam Merrill and Castle Canyon.

ANGELES MOUNTAIN BIKE PATROL (AMBP) mmcguirepoolspa@cs.com

●Feb 2nd Valley Forge trail

Our mission is to provide educational and a responsible image to all trail users. To encourage rider's to obey forest regulations and working to preserve and protect trails. A.M.B.P is here to serve and inform the public.

Altadena Crest Trail Restoration Working Group (ACTRWG)

www.altadenatrails.org 626-797-7243

Altadena Foothills Conservancy

Established to preserve and restore natural open spaces and associated trails and historic structures in the environs of Altadena.

www.altadenafoothills.org

nsteele@altadenafoothills.org

Alpine Training Services

<http://www.atsenviroaction.com>

E.A.D. is a new program from Alpine Training Services representing our "One Earth" philosophy -- that being there is only One Earth for us to live on, grow on, and make a future on. To learn more about Alpine Training Services and the programs we offer including our full course curriculums for canyoneering, rock climbing, kayaking, backpacking, & mountaineering, please visit our website at www.alpinets.com.

Antelope Valley Conservancy

Antelope Valley Conservancy is sponsoring a Trails Policy Project, to develop policies and procedures for trails on its lands and easements, and we invite you to participate.

This 2008 project is being conducted collaboratively, with various trails enthusiasts from across the Antelope Valley, and assistance from the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. Although the policies are for conservancy lands, other groups tasked with trails stewardship have expressed interest in adopting the policies as well.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Wendy Reed
Exec. Director

Antelope Valley Conservancy
P.O. Box 3133, Quartz Hill, CA 93586-3133
(661)943-9000
www.avconservancy.org

The Audubon Center at Debs Park

http://www.audubon-ca.org/debs_park.htm
(323) 221-2255

Audubon California announced its firm opposition to the potential closure of 48 state parks, which Gov. Schwarzenegger last week proposed as part of his annual budget proposal.

"The operation of the California State Park system is one of the core functions of state government – right alongside schools, prisons and highways – and it should not be subject to peaks and valleys of the state's financial situation," said Glenn Olson, executive director of Audubon California. "Not only would the closures greatly limit opportunities to preserve and enjoy California's rich outdoors, but they would diminish the essential character of the state as well."



BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

(BCTC) <http://www.outdoorsclub.org/>
Richard 626-285-0962

●Feb 16 Bear Canyon

Tell a friend!!! The work is very rewarding and we work in an environment that is absolutely beautiful. If you have never been to Bear Canyon, now is your chance!

Beyond Basecamp

info@beyondbasecamp.com
323 896-0123

Needs volunteers to help in the maintenance of Valley Forge, West Fork and Devore Trail Camps

Big Santa Anita Firesafe Council

cafiresafe@sbcglobal.net

Looking for volunteers to assist in fuel hazard reduction, trail maintenance and visitor information in Big Santa Anita Canyon.

California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC)

Meeting - 5 p.m. meeting (3rd Wednesday)

To provide a forum for all trail users to discuss trail related issues, problems and alternative solutions; to assist in the planning, development, maintenance and patrolling of trails to enforce rules of the road; and to develop and maintain programs designed to educate users on proper use of trails and trail etiquette.

Looking for interested hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians to be a part of this Coalition. If interested come to our next meeting or check out www.ctuc.info.

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA)

<http://www.corbamt.com>
Telephone (818) 773-3555
trailwork@corbamt.com

●Feb 2nd Valley Forge trail

Worked the Valley forge Trail on January 20 and will continue working on this Adopted Trail.

Boy Scouts of America

The High Adventure Team – Los Angeles Area Training Council provides training opportunities for all interested individuals. For more information: www.boyscoutsla.org click H.A.T.

Blight Busters Trail Crew

Tired of seeing Graffiti on your favorite trails? Then you should take action and join Danny in graffiti removal.

Danny Treadway

E-MAIL : dayhiker86@yahoo.com

Graffiti Removal & Trail Clean Up.

For Information go to www.outdoorsclub.org.

Community Hiking Club

661-259-2743

email: zuliebear@aol.com.

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel

Trail Work opportunities are as follows: Placerita Nature Center, 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month from 8-12-Meet behind the Nature Center by Tool Shed at 8:00. Additional opportunities in Forest Service areas and State Parks on Saturdays and Wednesdays by arrangement with Dianne.

- Feb 2th-8:30 Santa Clarita Canyons-Santa Clarita Canyons is a beautiful proposed wilderness area.
- Feb 9th-8:30 Whitney Canyon-This is a wonderful hike along a creek to a series of local waterfalls that will be running with water, if we get some rain.
- Feb 16th- 8:30 Towsley Canyon Loop-This is a great hike with lots of great things to see. By February 16 the Pacific Chorus frogs should be serenading us along the trail while they seek out a mate (so appropriate for Valentine's Day!).
- Feb 23- 8:30 Elsmere Canyon-This area was recently opened to the public. It is a most pristine canyon waiting to be explored. There are remnants of ranching, oil drilling, and fossils among the many things to see.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Join One Today VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Community Hiking Club (cont)

The Community Hiking Club and the Sierra Club hosted a "Save the Condors" micro-trash clean up on Magic Mountain. Thirty five people, and one dog named Daisy took part in the event, picking up broken glass, broken tile, bottle caps, spent bullet shells, plastic, metal scrap, pottery, glass, and much more.

At the end of the day, they collected more than 500 pounds of trash, and covered more than 2 miles, but still have 6 more miles to go to the summit.

Micro-trash is one of the most dangerous human initiated hazards to Condors. Condors especially love glass because it glistens in the light. They are attracted to it just like kids love the sparkle of glitter. They pick it up and carry it back to their nests where they feed it to their chicks that die when they ingest the glass and bottle caps.

Equestrian Trails, Inc.

A non-profit organization dedicated to the Acquisition and Preservation of Trails, Good Horsemanship, and Equine Legislation. For event information and helpful tips for horse owners.

<http://www.etinational.com/>



**William S Hart UHSD Students
Installing a Water Bar**

High Country Riders

Forest wide equestrian volunteer group that patrols trails and can pack equipment, supplies etc to your worksite.

Jonathan Schultz 951-830-3400
maujds@earthlink.net

Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center

The Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center sits at the junction of the Angeles Crest Highway and Mt. Wilson Rd above La Canada, along the ancient trade routes from the desert to the sea in the San Gabriel Mountains. It is a landbase for Native people to share their culture with their families and with the wider non-Indian residents of Southern California.

We are open from Spring Equinox to Winter Solstice, weather permitting. We offer quarterly events and monthly workshops, and are available for school and youth groups as a field trip destination to learn about the five tribes of the San Gabriel Mountains, and about Native environmental principles and techniques. We are a project of Community partners, and a permittee of the Angeles National Forest, funded in part by the Seventh Generation Fund.

For more info – go to

www.haramokngna.org

call Kat at 310-455-1588,

or email katcalls@aol.com

All workshops have limited enrollment, and need reservations, paid in advance

HABITAT WORKS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Kim Clark 818-353-4653

Tom Persons 310-412-4986

Get details on our calendar page:

<http://www.habitatwork.org/calendar.htm>

- Feb 3rd On Location with the Condors
- Feb 9/10th Arroyo Toad Conservation
Hardluck, Los Padres NF
- Feb 23rd, Wildlife Watering Hole Restoration
Hungry Valley OHV Park
- Feb24th On Location With the Condors

Join One Today VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

JPL TRAILBUILDERS

<http://www.jpreclubs.caltech.edu/hiking/>

Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL)
626-798-7256 (home)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

- Next outing Feb 16th, March 8th, March 29th
We continued maintenance on Colby Canyon Trail, with a long hike up from Angeles Crest to get to where the brushing and trail widening is needed in the middle, then driving up to Josephine Saddle and working down. We will continue work on the Colby Canyon Trail, continuing with maintenance work— brushing and trail widening.

Mt Disappointment 50K/50M

Lead Person: Gary Hilliard, Director
e-mail: gary@mtdisappointment50k.com
Website: www.mtdisappointment50k.com

- Feb 23rd Newcomb's Loop

Mt. Wilson Observatory Association

<http://www.mwoa.org/tour.html>
PO Box 70076
Pasadena, CA 91117-7076

Is a volunteer organization supporting the Mount Wilson Observatory with membership is open to all interested persons.

Monrovia Canyon Park

http://ci.monrovia.ca.us/city_hall/public_works/canyon_park/canyon_park.htm

Need volunteers and trail maintenance work on Ben Overturff and Waterfall Trails 626-256-8282



Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA)

Spend 2-8 days hiking or horseback riding along the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

Meals provided

Check out PCTA Service Projects at www.PCTA.org

You'll be rewarded with daily exercise, great food, develop unforgettable memories, trail maintenance skills and long lasting friendships.

For additional information: ·

Suzanne Wilson

951-492-9836 swilson@pcta.org

Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Committee

Meeting on a bi-monthly basis at
Carvalho Sports Complex Activity Center.
Next meeting is March 27 at 6:30 PM

2007 Accomplishments

- Placerita Nature Center trail repaired for Trail Rides
- Elsmere Dedication (400 acres of Open Space)
- Hasley Canyon Equestrian Center

2008 Projects:

- High Country Trail
- Soledad Canyon Open Space Study – projected completion May, 2008
- Tapia Ranch
- Sand Canyon to Pacific Crest Trail

SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS

<http://www.sgmtrailbuilders.org/>

<http://www.crystallake.name/>

Ben White bwootenwhite@hotmail.com
626-303-1078

We are continuing to work on river access trails in the North and East Forks of the San Gabriel River. We will also continue restoring trails in the Crystal Lake basin. We work on the first, third, and fifth, Saturday of each month.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

Outward Bound – Los Angeles

<http://www.obainc.org>

Trail Crew completed work on Gabrielino NRT, 11 W14 and relocated to Devils Canyon Trail to end the season.

Phone: 626-564-0844

E-mail: obainc.sbcglobal.net

SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

<http://www.mtlowe.net>

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919

Emworks@verizon.net

TreePeople <http://treepeople.org/>

TreePeople mission is to inspire the people of Los Angeles to take personal responsibility for their urban forest - educating, training and supporting them as they plant and care for trees and improve the neighborhoods in which they live, learn, work and play

For more information:

Volunteering (818) 623-4879

Kristina Clark.

volunteer@treepeople.org

- Feb 9th Angeles National Forest
- Feb 17th Angeles National Forest

Wednesday and Granada Hiking Club

- Feb 9th outing

We're Korean-Americans, who love working in the National Forest. We work the 2nd Saturday of each month on maintaining the Sunset Ridge Trail, 12W18.

If you would like to join us or have any questions, please contact Ted Kim at infocus804@yahoo.com

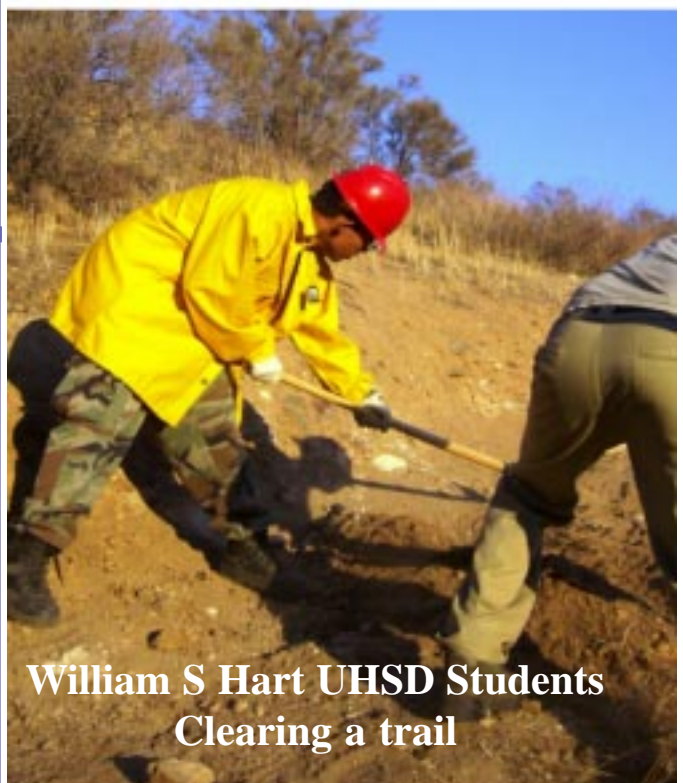
William S Hart UHSD of Santa Clarita ANF Crew 5130

The WS Hart Trail Program has been working in Elsmere Canyon, cutting new tread for the MRCA since November. Work will resume on an adopted 8.7 mile stretch of the PCT from the Indian Canyon Trailhead (Soledad Canyon) to North Fork Station on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 3-7pm beginning March 5th.

For more information on how you can help, contact: Kevin Sarkissian at ksarkiss@hartdistrict.org



William S Hart UHSD Students
Installing a mesh wall



William S Hart UHSD Students
Clearing a trail

Welcome 2008!

Volunteers celebrating the arrival of the New Year with a breakfast on Mt. Lowe.



Angeles Volunteers greet the New Year



Couger seen in the Arroyo Seco

Photo taken by JPL employee Matthew Dickie, At 8:45 A.M. January 16, looking down into the Arroyo Seco from the bridge from the JPL east parking lot to the JPL campus.



Los Angeles River Ranger District
12371 North Little Tujunga Canyon Road
San Fernando, CA 91342

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter Los Angeles Times July 13, 2007 email: info@tundracomics.com



Volunteer Today

Send this in Right Away to
Howard S. Okamoto—12371 N. Little Tujunga Canyon Rd
San Fernando, CA 91342

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # (hm) _____

e-mail _____

Interests

Indicate what you would like to do. Circle area or enter your interests.

Campground Host/ Visitor Information/ Smokey Bear - Fire Prevention/

Recreation Aid / Forest Patrol /Resource Management / Computers/

Research-Librarian / Office Clerical / Tour guide/ Fire Lookout/

Conservation Education

Other: _____

A message from the Mount Wilson Bicycle Association

Greetings:

Thank you to all that have supported the Mount Wilson Bicycle Association in the past, MWBA has a long and significant history in the Angeles National Forest. As we move forward in 2008 we have some updates that we would like to share and at the same time offer an invitation to all and any one you may know, personal or business contacts that can help the MWBA move forward along side other groups active in our forest.

**First thing is we are now a 501(3)c non-profit organization under Pasadena Forward-
www.pasadenaforward.org :this arrangement will help us develop some strong business partners to achieve service project goals and develop community awareness for all groups.**

Pasadena Forward is a nonprofit organization established to promote and support the growth of charitable, civic and education-advancing organizations in the City of Pasadena. Pasadena Forward enables these groups to focus on developing and expanding their programs and growing their support base by providing organizational and back-office services.

Pasadena Forward's funding will come largely from the annual Pasadena Marathon beginning in 2008 as well as from direct charitable contributions.

This letter is to make you aware of several items

- 1. We have formed a group of people to organize and lead MWBA towards its future goals.**
- 2. Our Annual Pancake Breakfast will be on Sunday April 27th at the Cobb Estate, Keith Bontrager and Gary Fisher will be on hand to lend to the excitement and success of the event- Stay tuned!**
- 3. We will also have an event on Saturday April 26th- Bike ride in the am with Keith and Gary and a BBQ that evening to get to know our guests and mingle a bit.**
- 4. We are in need of any volunteers to join MWBA as organizers(All talents are welcome and needed) or trail working groups.**
- 5. Our main goals for 2008 are to select service projects that will enhance the outdoor experience for others. Continue trail working projects in collaboration with other groups when possible to have the greatest impact on finishing them in a timely manner.**
- 6. Please join/ volunteer/sponsor the MWBA and be a part of the changes we all enjoy.**
- 7. Please forward this to anybody, friends, bike shops, businesses that you feel may have an interest in the MWBA.**
- 8. Respond to this letter if you want to be added to the e-mail list.**

**Thanks for your continued support!
MWBA supporter
Tom Purnell**