

# MARCH EVENTS 2015

## Friends of the San Pedro River



## River Walks

The San Pedro River features some of the richest wildlife habitat in the Southwest. Here you'll find 82 species of mammals, dozens of different reptiles and amphibians and nearly 350 species of birds. In addition, the river supports one of the largest cottonwood-willow forest canopies remaining in Arizona and is one of the last free-flowing rivers in the Southwest.

Join one of our trained docents on an **Interpretive River Walk** to discover why the San Pedro River is one of the top ten endangered rivers and named by the Nature Conservancy as one of the *Last Great Places*.

The interpretive river walks are usually  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 miles long over easy terrain. They are slower-paced than a hike and suitable for most adults and children.

#### Every Saturday: March 7, 14, 21, 28

River walks depart from the San Pedro House at 9:00am

# **Bird Walks**

The San Pedro River is considered one of the largest and most critical avian migratory corridors remaining in the western United States. The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (SPRNCA) provides habitat for over 100 species of breeding birds, and provides water, food and shelter for another 250 species of migratory and wintering birds.

Birders, novice or experienced, are invited to attend any of the listed bird walks to introduce them to the diverse avian community found in the SPRNCA. Observe 25 - 50 species on these popular 2 to 3 hour bird walks.

### Every Wednesday: March 4, 11, 18, 25 Saturday: March 28

Bird walks depart from the San Pedro House at **8:00am** 

# **Birding Hike:**

## Hereford Bridge Area

Spring Migration begins on the San Pedro River!

With the cottonwoods leafing out, enjoy exploring the river at Hereford Bridge and hiking the trails north in search of early migrants and breeding birds. We should see some Vermilion Flycatchers and Yellow Warblers, among birds that breed along the river, not to mention migrants like Wilson's Warbler and remaining winter visitors like White-crowned Sparrow.

Bring sufficient water and a snack. Wear a hat, sun protection, and trail shoes.

#### **Sat., March 7, 8:00am**

Meet at the Hereford Bridge Trailhead parking area on Hereford Road, west side of the river.

Wear appropriate attire for hiking and walking and current weather conditions. Bring at least one quart of water per person.

There is **no charge** for the walks; however, donations are accepted to support the docent programs.

**Environmental Operations Park** 

### **EOP BIRD WALKS**

The Sierra Vista Environmental Operations Park (EOP), also known as the Sierra Vista Wastewater Wetlands, has been opened to public tours on Sunday mornings at 8:00 am. The EOP is a 50-acre wetlands planted with aquatic plants, including cattails and grasses that attract migrating and nesting birds.

Tours are restricted to 22 persons (including docents) on a first-come, first-served basis. Other group tours can be arranged through SABO at (520) 432-1388 or sabo@sabo.org. Tours are free, although donations are accepted.



Every Sunday: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Meet at **8:00am** at the EOP viewing platform parking lot (Turn North off Hwy 90 between MM 324 and 325)

#### San Pedro House Books & Gifts

9800 E. Highway 90 Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 Open Daily: 9:30am - 4:30pm (520) 508-4445 sanpedrohouse@sanpedroriver.org

## Take a walk back in time ....

# FAIRBANK HISTORIC TOWNSITE

Fairbank was an important transportation hub during the silver boom in and around Tombstone. The tour of the townsite will include the restored schoolhouse, the mercantile building, the town cemetery and other remnants of this historic railroad town. Fairbank was the longest-lasting ghost town along the San Pedro River, with occupation spanning 1881 to 1972. The tour will focus on the many colorful events and personalities that wove the fabric of the town.

The walk will last approximately 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours and is about 1 mile in length.

#### Sat., March 21, 1:00pm Walk departs from the Fairbank Schoolhouse

(The Fairbank parking area is about 1/4 mile east of the San Pedro River, north side of Highway 82).

## MURRAY SPRINGS CLOVIS SITE

The Clovis people were the first humans to reach North America some 13,000 years ago. Come visit one of the premiere Clovis Cultural sites in the country. A docent will lead this walk, explaining the latest hypotheses on how they got here, how they lived, and what happened to them. You will have a chance to see replicas of Clovis artifacts found at Murray Springs and hear about the many large animals, most now extinct, that lived in the San Pedro River valley at the time.

The walk is only about 1/4 mile, but does include a few rough steps down into a wash. It will last about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours. Wear good walking shoes and a hat. Bring plenty of water.

#### Sat., March 28, 9:00am Meet at the Murray Springs Parking Area

(Off Moson Road, about 1 mile north of Highway 90)

## The Fairbank Schoolhouse Fairbank Historic Townsite

Hwy 82 east of the San Pedro River Open Fri, Sat, Sun: 9:30am - 4:30pm (520) 457-3062 schoolhouse@sanpedroriver.org

#### Friends of the San Pedro River, Inc.

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www.sanpedroriver.org

## 2015 SCHEDULE OF WALKS & HIKES

## INTERPRETIVE RIVER WALKS

**Every Saturday morning Departing from the San Pedro House** 

> 9:00am October through March 8:00am April through September

## HISTORY WALKS (all on Saturdays)

March 21 March 28		Fairbank Historic Townsite Murray Springs Clovis Site
April 11	9:00am	South Fairbank
May 9	9:00am	Murray Springs Clovis Site
Sept. 5 Sept. 19		Fairbank Historic Townsite Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate (tentative)
Oct. 10 Oct. 24		Murray Springs Clovis Site Clanton Ranch
Nov. 7 Nov. 14		Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate (tentative) Fairbank Historic Townsite
Dec. 5	9:00am	Millville Ruins & Petroglyphs

## HIKES (all on Saturdays)

8:00am Hereford Bridge Birding Tour March 7 9:00am Fairbank to Boquillas Ranch Nov. 14







## Guided Hike to the Charleston Ruins

Saturday, March 14, 9:00am

This guided hike is provided for members of the Friends of the San Pedro River. Join docent Richard Bauer for a hike to the ghost town of Charleston. The hike is just over 4 miles, should take about three hours and will entail one river crossing. Richard is our expert on the history of the San Pedro River valley and his walks are always very informative. Charleston was perhaps the wildest of the local ghost towns and this walk is a rare opportunity to visit the ruins with a expert guide. Meet at the Charleston Bridge parking area at 9:00am. Wear hiking boots and a hat. Be prepared to get your feet wet. Bring plenty of water and a

If you are not currently a member and would like to join, please visit our website at www.sanpedroriver.org or call (520) 459-2555.



Departing from the San Pedro House

#### March

Every Wednesday at 8:00am 4th Saturday at 8:00am

#### April

Every Wednesday at 7:00am 4th Saturday at 7:00am

#### May through September

2nd Wednesday at 7:00am 4th Saturday at 7:00am

### **October through December:**

2nd Wednesday at 8:00am 4th Saturday at 8:00am

## **EOP BIRD WALKS**

(SV Environmental Operations Park) Departing from the viewing platform

**Every Sunday morning** 

8:00am October through March 7:00am April through September



Schedule subject to change. Visit www.sanpedroriver.org