



# Friends of the San Pedro River

## San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area

### March, 2025 Events Calendar

**HISTORY WALKS CONTINUE! See page 2!!**

#### **Nature Walks**

**San Pedro House, Saturdays, March 1, 15, and 29, 2025, 9 am.** Join our FSPR docents as they guide you along the San Pedro River, one of the last free flowing rivers in the Southwest and home to one of the largest cottonwood-willow riparian forests remaining in Arizona. On this walk we will discuss the interactions of the components that make up the ecosystem of the river and its importance to the surrounding area. The walks are 1.5 to 2 miles long over easy to moderate terrain. These are slower paced than a hike and suitable for most adults and children. The San Pedro House is located 7 miles east of Sierra Vista on Highway 90, on the south side of the highway. It is searchable in Google Maps.

#### **FSPR Bird Walks**

**San Pedro House, Wednesdays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2025, 7 am.** The SPRNCA provides habitat for over 100 species of breeding birds. The San Pedro River is also a critical migration corridor that provides water, food, and shelter for another 250 migratory and wintering birds. Novice and experienced bird watchers attend our bird walks to view the diverse avian community of the area. We usually observe 30-60 species on these popular walks, which last approximately three hours. Bring water, a hat, and binoculars. These walks can be moderately difficult on uneven terrain. The San Pedro House is located 7 miles east of Sierra Vista on Highway 90, on the south side of the highway. It is searchable in Google Maps.

**Special Saturday Bird Walk, March 29, 7 am.** Meet at the Hereford Bridge Trailhead, searchable on Google Maps.

***For all walks: Free and open to the public. No reservations are required. Please realistically assess your ability to do these walks – some are in remote areas far from help. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes. Bring water and a snack. Well-behaved dogs on leashes are welcome on all but the birdwatching walks. Children are welcome but younger ones will have their patience tested.***

**For more information on these or other events, call (520) 508-4445  
or email [fspr@sanpedroriver.org](mailto:fspr@sanpedroriver.org)**

Explore the History of the San Pedro River Valley on one of our March  
**Friends of the San Pedro River *History Walks***

**History Walk to Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate, Saturday, March 1, 2025, 10 am.** Join a walking tour of the Spanish Presidio of Santa Cruz de Terrenate with FSPR docent Jeff Hustad. This fort was operational during the late 1770s, the centerpiece for a planned Spanish occupation of the San Pedro River Valley that failed. This is a three-mile round trip over trails and uneven ground. The return walk is gradually uphill. Please realistically assess your ability to do this walk. There is no shade, and it will be hot on sunny days. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes. Bring water and snacks. Meet at the Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate Trailhead, located 1.7 miles north of Highway 82 on the east side of In Balance Ranch Road. In Balance Ranch Road (N. Kellar Road on Google Maps) is a north turn off of Highway 82, 8.3 miles east of Whetstone, about 1 mile west of the San Pedro River. There is a large parking area at the Trailhead where the group will meet. "Presidio Santa Cruz Terrenate Trailhead" is searchable in Google Maps.

**History Walk at Fairbank Historic Townsite, Saturday, March 8, 2025, 10 am.**

Take a walk around Fairbank with FSPR docent Merle Kilpatrick. It's a good way to learn a little about the history of the area and enjoy some time outdoors. Fairbank dates to 1882 when it grew up around a train depot – the closest to Tombstone. The optional walk to the cemetery is about a one-mile round trip on a trail which includes a short uphill section with poor footing and loose rock. You are welcome to participate in the tour and not go to the cemetery. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes. Bring water and snacks. The tour meets in front of the Schoolhouse at the Fairbank Townsite. The entrance to the parking area is on the north side of the highway about 0.5 mile east of the San Pedro River bridge. Park in the outer lot and use the fenced trail to walk to the schoolhouse. "Fairbank AZ" is searchable in Google Maps.

**History Walk to Clanton Ranch, Saturday, March 15, 2025, 9 am.** Join FSPR docent Sandy Huesman for a walk to the Clanton Ranch. Here Old Man Clanton grazed (stolen) cattle in a large pasture along the San Pedro. This site was a key location in the Wyatt Earp vs. The Cowboys epic. A round trip to the site requires 1.5 miles of walking total. The trail is uneven gravel and dirt. The last 100 feet or so are up a gradual hill on a rocky, uneven trail. Make sure you are able to handle this walk. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes. Bring water and snacks. Meet at the Escapule Trailhead. Escapule Road intersects with Charleston Road 6 miles east of Sierra Vista. Turn south on Escapule Road and drive 1.3 miles south. Look for a dirt parking area on the left side. The docent will place a directional sign at its entrance, a left turn. This location is searchable as "Escapule Trailhead" in Google Maps.

**History Walk to Millville and Petroglyph Trail, Saturday, March 22, 2025, 9 am.** Walk this trail with FSPR docent Richard Bauer to visit Millville, location of two historic silver mills, and an adjacent Indian petroglyph site. The tour will focus on the history of mining and the mills which were active during the Tombstone silver boom. This is about a 2 mile walk on an uneven dirt and gravel trail that crosses through a deep wash. Please realistically assess your ability to do this walk. There is no shade, and it will be hot on sunny days. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes. Bring water and snacks. Meet at the Millville and Petroglyph Discovery Trail parking area. This trailhead is located 7.5 miles east of Sierra Vista on Charleston Road. This is not the parking area right by the river: look for the fire danger level sign on the north side of Charleston Road at the entrance to the parking lot, about .5 miles east of the river. Meet by the vault toilet. This location is searchable as "Millville and Petroglyph Discovery Trail" in Google Maps.

**History Walk to Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate, Saturday, March 29, 2025, 9 am.** Join a walking tour of the Spanish Presidio of Santa Cruz de Terrenate with FSPR docent Jeff Hustad. This fort was operational during the late 1770s, the centerpiece for a planned Spanish occupation of the San Pedro River Valley that failed. This is a three-mile round trip over trails and uneven ground. The return walk is gradually uphill. Please realistically assess your ability to do this walk. There is no shade, and it will be hot on sunny days. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes. Bring water and snacks. Meet at the Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate Trailhead, located 1.7 miles north of Highway 82 on the east side of In Balance Ranch Road. In Balance Ranch Road (N. Kellar Road on Google Maps) is a north turn off of Highway 82, 8.3 miles east of Whetstone, about 1 mile west of the San Pedro River. There is a large parking area at the Trailhead where the group will meet. "Presidio Santa Cruz Terrenate Trailhead" is searchable in Google Maps.