



Friends of the San Pedro River

San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area

April, 2025 Events Calendar

HISTORY WALKS CONTINUE! See page 2!!

Nature Walks

San Pedro House, Saturdays, April 5 and 19, 2025, 8 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, April 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, 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.

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**

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

History Walk to Grand Central Mill, Saturday, April 5, 9 am

Take a walk to the ruins of the historic Grand Central Mill with FSPR docent Merle Kilpatrick. During the Tombstone silver boom, this stamp mill operated 24 hours a day, processing the ore brought in from Tombstone by wagons. Learn about the mining history of the area and take a three-mile round trip walk to the mill site. This walk follows an uneven dirt and gravel trail. There is limited shade, and it will be hot on sunny days. Please realistically assess your ability to do this walk. Wear a hat, sun protection, appropriate clothing, and sturdy shoes. Bring water and snacks. This tour meets at the Fairbank Townsite, which is along Highway 82, 10.0 miles east of the Highway 82/90 intersection in Whetstone. 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. The tour will meet near the Schoolhouse Museum just inside the Townsite. Park in the outer lot and use the fenced trail to walk to the schoolhouse. "Fairbank AZ" is directly searchable in Google Maps.

History Walk at San Pedro House, Saturday, April 12, 2025, 9 am

Join FSPR docent Gabrielle LaFargue for a tour of the San Pedro House. The San Pedro House was once the working center of one of the camps that comprised the Little Boquillas Ranch. Here a rancher and his family lived, tending the cattle in that part of the ranch, and performing the many maintenance tasks required. Gabrielle will discuss the history of the house and then lead a tour around the house looking at historic remnants from its time as a ranch house. The San Pedro House is 7 miles east of Sierra Vista on Highway 90. Look for a turn on the south side of the highway about 0.5 mile west of the San Pedro River. San Pedro House is searchable as "San Pedro House" in Google Maps.

History Walk at Fairbank Historic Townsite, Saturday, April 12, 2025, 9 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 Murray Springs Clovis Site, Saturday, April 19, 2025, 9 am

Join FSPR docent Dwight Long for a tour of the Murray Springs mammoth kill site. Vance Haynes led an expedition here in the 1970s that found the remains of megafauna that had been hunted, killed, butchered, and consumed by the Clovis Paleo-Indians 13,000 years ago. This is an easy walk of less than a half mile, though it does include dirt steps into and out of a dry 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. From E. Highway 90/AZ-90 in Sierra Vista, drive north on Moson Rd. for 1.28 miles and turn east. Meet the docent at the gate to the site. The entrance to the site is searchable as "Murray Springs Clovis Site" in Google Maps.

History Walk to Millville and Petroglyph Trail, Saturday, April 26, 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.