



WildPlaces' Mission

WildPlaces is a community based non-profit organization located in Springville, California in the foothills of the Southern Sierra Nevada Mountains. Our mission is to preserve, support, and protect California's natural and rural places and the people of these landscapes through volunteer driven habitat restoration, natural and cultural education, and career development.

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I. There's a New "Ian" in Town

Hi there, folks, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Ian Herrick and I am the new Program Coordinator here at WildPlaces. I share the first seven letters of my name with my predecessor, Ian Herdell, and am also an Americorps member with the Sierra Nevada Alliance. Though I will be working on some of the same projects, I assure you I am easily distinguishable from Mr. Herdell. You may have read in a previous WildUpdate that WildPlaces would be hosting two Americorps members in 2009; unfortunately one position was unable to be filled.

I come from San Jose, CA, where I have worked in the environmental education field since 2005. I have also worked in the Urban Forestry field for a non-profit organization called Our City Forest. When I'm not working, you may see me around town playing and singing some acoustic blues or peering into the tops of trees looking at birds. I look forward to meeting all of you and very glad to be living in the beautiful town of Springville.

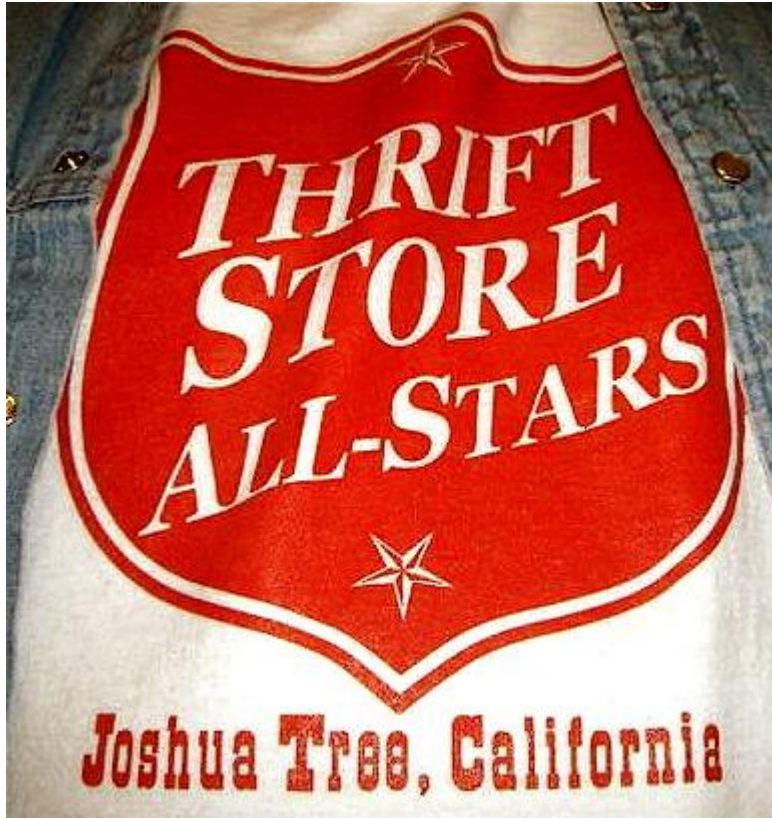


WildPlaces new AmeriCorp Member and Program Coordinator Ian Herrick. Photo by C. Springall.

PS Ian Herdell is now working for the Sequoia River Lands Trust and resides in Three Rivers.

II. WildAppreciation Concert March 28 2009

We'd be thrilled as pigs in a wallow if you all could join us at 6pm for our WildAppreciation Concert at the River Ridge Ranch. The Thriftsore Allstars will be performing, and I will contribute a few tunes as well. There will also be a silent auction and belly dancing! Free Camping. Laissez les bon temps rouler! Check out River Ridge Ranch at www.river-ridge.net



www.myspace.com/thriftstoreallstars

III. Southern Sierra Outdoor Educator Gathering May 2-3 at Camp Nelson

Our first Annual Outdoor Educator Gathering will be held on the first weekend of May at lovely Camp Nelson. Local and state-wide Outdoor Educators will be invited for two days of skill sharing, learning about Immersed in the Wild, recreation and Giant Sequoias. If you are an outdoor educator, we want you! We are currently in the planning stages, but will let you all know in a future Wild Update what *fun* activities we will have planned.

IV: Goldman Environmental Prize Ceremony in San Francisco

WildPlaces has been invited to bring 15 youth to the Goldman Environmental Prize Ceremony in San Francisco. We will organize 15 local youth and educators to attend the Ceremony and witness a world-wide community of grass-roots leaders. www.goldmanprize.org More information is forthcoming!

V. 2009 Spring Calendar

Mar 28: WildAppreciation Concert at River Ridge Ranch.

Mar 31: Cesar Chavez Day

April 18: Jackass Mail Run

April 19-25: National Volunteer Week

April 20: Goldman Environmental Prize Ceremony in San Francisco

April 22: WildPlaces' Earth Day Event

April 24-26 Springville Sierra Rodeo

April 25: National Arbor Day

May 2-:3 Outdoor Educator Gathering at Camp Nelson

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