



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. Immersed in the Wild: Dolores Huerta Foundation at Quaking Aspen Campground.

WildPlaces Immersed in the Wild Program continues to inspire and educate youth and adults. WildPlaces Director Mehmet McMillan and Program Coordinator/AmeriCorps Member Ian Herrick were out of the office and in the high country from Aug 12-16th on an Immersed in the Wild with the Dolores Huerta Foundation (DHF) and Daughters of Tradition (DOT). The program owes much of its success to DFH/DOT organizer and trip leader Lori de Leon.

WildPlaces is also grateful for a hard-working corps of volunteer leaders, some of whom donated an entire week of their lives to this program and provided help with loading and unloading of gear, logistics, food preparation, educational activities, transportation, and moral support. They are John Picone, Carlos Gomez, Chico Garza, Ian Herdell, Sarah Vaill, Aaron and Cabrina Grubb, Brian Rouch, Kenny Straub, Matthew Cox, Robert Bergen, Joe Loehner, Margaret and Shidan Towfiq, Laura Howe, Scott Hitchins, Lucia Gonzalez, Laura Childers and Rena Monahan. Also many thanks to Judy Grenfell and all the folks at California Land Management who were able to get WildPlaces FREE camping sites at Quaking Aspen and to the folks at Bay Area Wilderness Training who provided gear! Enough words, enjoy the photos!



Volunteer Chico leads a cultural education session about native Mexica traditions and respect.



WildPlaces Board Member Carlos Gomez also speaking about native traditions and respect to students from Arvin and Lamont.



Lori de Leon teaches students about willows and proper collecting methods.



Students from Arvin and Lamont with WildPlaces Director Mehmet McMillan collecting willow cuttings for propagation in the Springville Native Plant Nursery and later planting Loggy Meadow in the Sequoia National Forest.



The WildPlaces truck filled with willow cuttings.



One of our champion rock-climbers.



More champion rock-climbers at Dome Rock!



Early tree care at Trail of 100 Giants.



WildPlaces Program Coordinator/AmeriCorps Member Ian Herrick teaches about Giant Sequoia seedlings and young tree health at Trail of 100 Giants.

II. Rio Limpio Number Three: 360 Pounds of Trash removed by 45 hard-working volunteers!

Volunteers at our latest river clean-up on Aug 22nd removed approximately 360 pounds of garbage from the Tule River as well as painting over graffiti at popular spots such as Peace Hole, the Stairs, and Wishon. Big thanks to all our hard working volunteers. Individuals and groups traveled from as far as Exeter and Visalia to participate. Participating groups included the Tulare Boys and Girls Club out of Visalia, the Tulare Athletic Club, and Boy Scout Troop 132.



The next clean-up will be on Sept 26. Volunteers will meet at 8:30am in the Springville Memorial Park before carpooling to clean-up destinations. WildPlaces' clean-ups are now part of the region-wide Great Sierra River-Clean up organized by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, who helping non-profits and other agencies to coordinate clean-ups on Sierra rivers in conjunction with the Great Coastal Clean-up which happens every September on beaches world-wide. Though we may not have a clean-up on the same date as other clean-ups, it is important to remember that this is a local AND world-wide effort to reduce garbage on our public and private lands. There will be a FREE barbecue after the event at a place to be named and a chance to swim in the river. If you would like further information about volunteering or to bring

a group to the clean-up, contact Ian Herrick at 559.539.5263 or e-mail ian@wildplaces.net.

III. Work Day at the Springville Nursery Sept 12 9AM-12:30PM

On Sept 12 we will be installing some new irrigation lines and emitters, as well as weeding and potting up native willows and oaks at our Springville Native Plant Nursery at the Forest Service Work Station. Anyone that wishes to volunteer should call Ian Herrick at 559 539 5263 or e-mail ian@wildplaces.net.

If you can't make the 12th, or would like to volunteer at the nursery on a regular basis, WildPlaces is looking for 1-3 people to provide care and oversight to our seedling nursery in Springville. We can provide training and assistance. Flexible hours, but should be 1-2 hrs/week in the summer, less in the fall, with opportunities to work with youth and the general public on Nursery Work Days (WP and USFS Staff will coordinate and manage work days and provide all training and equipment). Contact us today if you are interested!

IV Volunteers Needed During Apple Festival Oct 17th

Springville's Apple Festival will be on October 17th 2009 and WildPlaces will have an educational booth with fun activities for kids open to the public. If you would like to volunteer to hand out information and educate the public (and have fun) please call 559 539 5263 for more information.

Are you interested in volunteering? Do you have a group that needs a project? Or would you just like to work with plants for an hour or so? WildPlaces can accommodate you! In addition to needing volunteers for our nursery work-day (see section III), on our Rio Limpio (see section II) and during the Apple Festival, we are currently looking for someone to write and distribute press releases. Training is available. Contact ian@wildplaces.net or call 559 539 5263 if you are interested.

V Summer -Fall Calendar

Sept 4-6: CASSP Workshop at Kennedy Meadows

Sept 12: Nursery Work Day at the Springville Native Plant Nursery

Sept 26th: National Public Lands Day, [MyForest Summit](#), Rio Limpio IV

Oct 2-4: Immersed in the Wild Mule-Pack Trip to Cyclone Meadows.

Oct 16-18th: Sierra Nevada Alliance Conference, North Tahoe Conference Center in Kings Beach, CA

Oct 17th-18th: Springville Apple Festival

TBA: Restoration at Blue Oak Ranch with Sequoia Riverlands Trust and local youth

Nov 7th- 11AM-4PM Kaweah Lands and Arts Festival at the Kaweah Oaks Preserve in Visalia, CA

Are you on Facebook? Join the [WildPlaces Group!](#)

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