



Wild Recovery

Nov 2024 – Feb 2025

Every other Saturday at 10AM www.wildrecovery.org

November 21-24, 2024 - Hosts: Mary S & Anna J MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE FALL RETREAT

Various Levels: Over rocks, sand dunes and Joshua tree forest

*Mojave National Preserve was established by the 1994 Desert Protection Act. The 1.6-million-acre park encompasses much of the Mojave Desert, as well as transitional elements of the Great Basin and Sonoran Desert. We will be staying at Black Canyon Group Camping Ground. Amenities: covered picnic tables, fire rings, BBQs, toilets and potable water. RSVP with Mary 831-431-3491 or Anna 408-806-7675 **Directions:** Take 101 South; Exit 231B toward 46 East, Fresno; left onto 46; 5 South; Exit 263 toward Buttonwillow, turn left; left onto Seventh Standard Rd; take 99 South; Exit 24 onto 58 East, continue onto Bakersfield-Tehachapi Hwy, then Barstow-Bakersfield Hwy (still 58); 15 North toward 40 to Las Vegas; Exit 184A to 40 East toward Needles; Exit 107 to Goffs Road; Left onto Goff's Rd toward Historic Route 66; Left onto 40 West; Exit 100 onto Essex Rd; Right onto Essex Rd toward Mitchell Caverns; Right onto Black Canyon Rd; Campground about 10 miles on right. **Drive Time: 8 hours – Camping: \$10 pp – No park entrance fee – Dogs Allowed on leash***

December 7, 2024 - Host: Johanna J.

ALMADEN QUICKSILVER COUNTY PARK

Level: 2 (Moderate) - Miles: 3.5 - Elevation: 912'

Almaden Quicksilver County Park is a 4,147-acre park that includes the grounds of former mercury (quicksilver) mines. The Ohlone people used cinnabar, a bright red mercury ore, for body paint and trading: The Ohlone ground cinnabar into a powder, mixed it with water, and applied it to their bodies. They called the cinnabar mohetka, which means "red earth". The Ohlone used the paint in religious ceremonies and dances. The Ohlone traded cinnabar with coastal tribes as far away as Puget Sound. Cinnabar was a highly sought-after trade item, and expeditions to the New Almaden area of Santa Clara County came from as far away as Walla Walla, Washington.

Save the Dates

Fall Retreat: Nov. 21-24, 2024 MOJAVE DESERT

Winter Retreat: Feb. 28-Mar. 2, 2025 LAKE CACHUMA

WILD RECOVERY HIKE SUGGESTIONS

ALL hikes are scheduled to leave from the trailhead promptly at 10 AM unless noted otherwise, so PLAN ACCORDINGLY!

Bring something to eat during the meeting and drink PLENTY OF WATER.

EACH HIKER SHOULD BRING 2 LITERS (70 oz) OF WATER MINIMUM.

Weather can be unpredictable at all parks, so layered clothing makes sense for ALL hikes.

Bring along sunscreen or a hat for the hotter, less shaded trails.

Bring something to sit on during the meeting (i.e. tarp or bed sheet).

Stay on the marked trails. Pick up a trail map before heading out.

Follow all park rules & regulations.

What you bring in, bring out (this includes trash, food items, etc.).

Smoking, including the use of electronic vaping devices, is not permitted on any trails, or during the meeting.

Please refrain from smoking or vaping within the campsites on our retreats.

Watch out for poison oak, snakes, bees and the like. Please respect wildlife.

If you bring children or pets, please supervise them at all times, and be sure they have enough water.

Please adhere to all park regulations regarding dogs. If required, keep dogs on leash.

Cameras are encouraged but ask permission first if taking someone's picture.

PLEASE NOTE: Since Wild Recovery is a part of the Greater San Jose Area fellowship, all driving directions and times start from San Jose.

GRATEFUL TO BE OF SERVICE

Co-Secretaries: Johanna J. (831) 332-3533 & Mitch B. (510) 523-5166

Treasurer: Phil W. (510) 504-1446 / Assist. Treasurer: Diane T. (831) 462-0262

GSR: Melissa D. (669) 888-4437 / Alternate GSR: Todd G. (408) 529-8142

Business Chair: Sonya M. (408) 455-6633

Business Recording Secretary: Nancy S. (831) 419-5318

Website: Rob D.- info@wildrecovery.org & (415) 596-4114

Flyer: Anna J. (408) 806-7675 / Comm. Coordinator: John R. (831) 462-0262

HIKING LEVELS

1 = Easy / 2 = Moderate / 3 = Challenging / 4 = Hard / 5 = Very Difficult

Please note miles & elevation when considering a hike.

www.wildrecovery.org has pictures, maps, much more information, and any needed updates and corrections to our printed schedule.

Check the website before you head out to a hike.

Donations can be made, and retreat fees can be paid using Venmo,

@WildRecoveryTreasurer

Directions: We will be parking at the Hacienda entrance on the east side of the park and hiking the English Camp Loop trail. From San Jose, take I-280 N to CA-87 to Almaden Expy to Almaden Rd. Follow Almaden Rd to your destination: 21785 Almaden Rd., San Jose, CA 95120. **Drive Time from San Jose: 20 min – Parking: Free – Dogs Allowed on Leash**

** We will have a business meeting after the hike. ** Location TBD

December 21, 2024 – Host: Sonya M

SARATOGA GAP LONG RIDGE

Level: 3 (Challenging) – Miles: 10.2 – Elevation: 1,440'

This loop is a good mix of shaded trails and points where you're walking across an open hillside with views. Traversing two open space preserves (Saratoga Gap and Long Ridge) this trail travels along both the Skyline to the Sea trail, and the Bay Area Ridge Trail – two iconic trails in the Bay Area. You will pass Two Moon Lake along the way, a pretty, small lake.

Directions: From San Jose, take 280 N for 9 miles, take exit 13 to Foothill Expressway. Take Foothill Blvd to Stevens Canyon Rd. Continue for 17 miles. Turn left onto redwood Gulch Rd. After 1.4 miles turn sharp right to CA-9 (Big Basin Way). Destination will be on the left in 6.1 miles, just past Hwy 35. **Drive Time: 35 minutes from San Jose. Dogs not allowed.**

January 4, 2025 - Host: Melissa D.

HARVEY BEAR RANCH COUNTY PARK

Level: 3 (Challenging)– Miles: 8.5 – Elevation gain: 926'

This 6,695-acre regional recreation area is nestled in the hills east of Gilroy, CA. Trails wind through cool oak forests and along breezy ridge lines with wonderful views. This was a favorite place to hike for me and my son and I enjoy sharing it with others. The park is close to home yet feels like a world away! We will begin the hike on the western side of the park, Harvey Bear Trail which is more exposed to the sun then make our way to the eastern side of the park which designates the shadier side of the park with views of coyote lake. We will have our meeting near the lake and take willow springs trail back to the parking lot.

Directions: From San Jose Take Highway 101 south to Los Angeles from 101 take Exit 362 San Martin Ave exit. Proceed EAST on San Martin Ave for 2 miles. The entrance to the park is on the left, 0.25 mile east of Foothill Avenue. **Drive Time: 30 minutes – Park Entrance Free - Dogs allowed on leash.**

January 18, 2025 – Host: Phil W.

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Level: 3 (Challenging) - Miles: 9.5 - Elevation: 958'

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area is a U.S. National Recreation Area protecting 82,116 acres of ecologically and historically significant landscapes surrounding the San Francisco Bay Area. The Morning Sun Trail is a short series of uphill switchbacks. From the top it offers great views of San Francisco, Bay Bridge, Alcatraz and Angel Island. We will hike 4.6 miles along the ridge passing the north west side of the Golden Gate Bridge and slowly descend downhill to our meeting place on Rodeo Beach. Then continue the loop back for 4.5 miles. It will be a bit more challenging hiking uphill on the way back.

Directions: 101-N or 280-N over the Golden Gate Bridge. Take Monte Mar Dr/Spencer Avenue Exit, Turn Left on Spencer Ave/101-South (going under the freeway), Then a quick right into the parking lot. **Drive time: 1 hour 15 min – Parking Free –There are limited parking spaces so carpool is recommended - No Dogs Allowed.**

February 1, 2025 - Hosts: Troy and Amy

BRUSHY PEAK REGIONAL PRESERVE

Level: 2.5 (Moderate) - Miles: 6 - Elevation: 1,010'

Brushy Peak stands out among the surrounding bare hills near Livermore due to a grove of live oak trees on its 1702-foot summit. The peak and the adjacent Vasco Caves area have been recognized as sacred for generations of native Californians. During the Gold Rush period its sandstone rock outcrops served as hideouts for bandits such as the legendary Joaquin Murietta. Today the turbines of the Altamont wind farm tower along the eastern edge of the preserve. The most obvious wildlife species here is the ground squirrel, whose burrows are inhabited by amphibians, reptiles, badgers, burrowing owls, and the San Joaquin Kit Fox. The squirrels are prey for the many raptors that hunt in the open grasslands. We will hike counter clockwise from the staging area circling the entire, relatively small 2,000 acre preserve.

Directions: Take I-680 North to I-580 East. In Livermore exit at Vasco Road north and immediately turn right on Northfront Road. In approx. one mile turn left on Laughlin Road and proceed to the staging area at the end the road. **Drive time: 1 hour - Parking Free - Dogs ok on leash**