

# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Friday, January 1

### 9:00 a.m. Hike – Voices, Visions, and Views of Alcoholic Pass

**3 Hours**

Hike Alcoholic Pass! Join Volunteer Naturalists Ron & Peg Poitras to experience and discover the prehistory, history, and present day journey of those who have used this trail for food, water, work, and fun. This is a 3 hour excursion into the pass. Meet at the north end of DiGiorgio Road. This is a strenuous but relatively short hike, bring water, snacks and wear hiking boots.

### 10:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

**45 Minutes**

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the visitor center as space is limited.

## Saturday, January 2

### \$\$ - Hike of the Month

**6 hours**

Instructors: Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund Fee: \$10

Welcome in the New Year on this exhilarating moderate hike! Call 760-767-4063 or visit [www.theabf.org](http://www.theabf.org) for time and details.

### 9:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

**3 Hours**

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for him as you hike to the palm oasis. As an experienced naturalist, he can answer many of your questions about the park. If bighorn are about, he is sure to find them! This is not a guided hike.

### 10:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

**45 Minutes**

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the visitor center as space is limited.

### 11:00 a.m. Display ♿ - Usefulness of Desert Plants

**3 Hours**

Stop by the visitor center and see the items made from desert plants. Volunteer Naturalist Marge Hatcher will be available for questions about the garden plants around the visitor center and elsewhere in the desert.

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ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE. PROGRAMS ARE HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. **DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.** ♿ DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED. PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.

# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Saturday, January 2 continued

- 11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - "Song Dog" ... The Wiley Coyote** **45 minutes**  
Have you heard them at night? Have you seen them...even during the day? Coyotes are increasing their range and increasing their numbers, and they're right here in Anza-Borrego and in town too. Join Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus as we explore the myths and realities of our desert neighbor.
- 1:00 p.m. Talk ♿ - Desert Hare or Our Furry Friends** **1 Hour**  
Come and discover the wildlife of the park with Volunteer Naturalist Rosemary McDaniel. Meet in the discovery lab.
- 2:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Hardy Desert Survivors** **45 Minutes**  
Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker as she introduces you to some unique and amazing hardy desert survivors in the garden, the desert plants. This is an easy walk around the visitor center garden. . If the weather is too bad or hot, Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

## Sunday, January 3

- 9:30 a.m. Talk ♿ - Ok, Now What Do We Do?** **1 Hour**  
Whether you are a first time visitor or one who has not had the opportunity to visit sections of the park, join Volunteer Naturalist Ron Shugan for a slide show presentation meant to provide an overview of the many activities and sights of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. This series of slides will make you want to get out and visit some of the many wonders of California's largest state park. Meet in the visitor center discovery lab.
- 1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Small World** **1 Hour**  
Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Hellyer for a 1 hour easy walk. Meet the Borrego Palm Canyon Trailhead.

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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Monday, January 4

- 11:00 a.m. Talk & - Cahuilla Medicine Chest** **45 minutes**  
Join Volunteer Naturalist Mike Bigelow to learn about the medicine chest full of effective treatments that the Cahuilla people utilized long before the first Europeans arrived.

## Thursday, January 7

- 9:00 a.m. Walk – Behind the Ghost Mountain Story: Facts and Fabrications** **3 hours**  
Learn about the Marshall South family and their experiment in primitive living on a remote mountain top. Join Volunteer Naturalists Mike and Jan Bigelow on this 2 mile round-trip, steep but scenic walk up Ghost Mountain. Bring water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Marshall South Home Trailhead in Blair Valley, 3.2 miles off Highway S2.
- 10:00 a.m. Hike – Mountain Palm Springs** **3 Hours**  
Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a moderate to strenuous 5-mile loop hike through several palm groves and Torote Bowl at the southern end of the park. Bring water, lunch, binoculars, hat, sunscreen and sturdy footwear. Meet at the entrance to Mountain Palm Springs on Highway S-2 at mile post 47.1.
- 11:00 a.m. Talk & - Camels, horses and sloths --ABDSP fossils** **30 minutes**  
In this 30 minute slide presentation investigate recent fossil finds with Volunteer Paleontologist and Naturalist Sandra Keeley. Meet at the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

## Friday, January 8

- 1:00 p.m. Garden Walk & - Small World** **1 Hour**  
Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Hellyer for a 1 hour easy walk. Meet at the visitor center.

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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Saturday, January 9

### 8:00 am - \$\$ - Indio Hills: Mystery Park

8 hours

Instructor: Paul Johnson      Fee: \$45, or \$35 for ABF members

Hike to three palm oases hidden away in the Coachella Valley Preserve. Moderate hike. 4WD required. Advance registration required. Call 760-767-4063 for details.

### 10:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the visitor center as space is limited.

### 10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - Lifestyles of the Hot and Thirsty

30 Minutes

Cactus and succulents have some amazing adaptations that help them survive in extremely hot and dry climates. This talk will reveal some little-known facts about how cacti work overtime to stay alive. Volunteer Naturalist Don Rideout will discuss the most common cactus species of Anza-Borrego as we stroll through the Visitor Center garden.

### 11:30 a.m. Talk – Tracks Tell Tales

45 minutes

Tracks tell the fascinating stories of the lives of our animal neighbors in the Anza Borrego Desert. Meet our Volunteer Naturalist- Tracker Karin Vickars in the Discovery Lab, and start to learn to read these tales of life -- and death -- in the desert.

### 1:00 p.m. Talk ♿ - In Search of the Elusive Elephant Tree

30 Minutes

The seldom seen, endangered elephant tree survives in only a few scattered and isolated spots in California. Join Volunteer Naturalist Karen Cormier at the Visitor Center to find out how to identify these distinctive trees, hear why Native Americans valued the trees, and discover where you can look for elephant tree herds “in the wild.”

### 1:00 p.m. Hike – Discovering the Archaeological History of the Morteros

2 Hours

Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archaeologist and Naturalist Sam Webb to explore both rock art and historic milling features. This 1.5 mile hike is over uneven terrain. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Morteros trailhead in Blair Valley, 3 miles off Highway S-2.

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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Sunday, January 10

### 7:30 a.m. Walk - Beginner's Bird Walk

90 minutes

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for an easy walk around the Visitor Center Garden looking for the common birds of our desert. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. (This program will be cancelled if raining.)

### 9:00a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for him as you hike to the palm oasis. As an experienced naturalist, he can answer many of your questions about the park. If bighorn are about, he is sure to find them! This is not a guided hike.

### 11:00 a.m. – Talk ♿ -What Kind of Bird is That? Basic Birding in Borrego

45 minutes

There are over 300 bird species found in the park, but there are a few that visitors will almost always see. Join Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus in the Discovery Lab to learn about the most commonly seen birds in the park, as well as where to find them. Novice birders can easily learn 15 different species, and more experienced birders will learn some fascinating new insights into the behavior of some species they already know.

## Thursday, January 14

### 11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - Bats - Myths and Marvels

1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Norma Decker at the visitor center discovery lab for this intimate look at the wonders of bats.

## Friday, January 15

### 1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Desert Scents

1 Hour

Enjoy an easy stroll through the visitor center garden with Volunteer Naturalist Ingrid Coffin. Use your senses on this plant exploration program that meets at the visitor center entrance.

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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Saturday, January 16

### 9:00 am - \$\$ - Plant Communities of Anza-Borrego

7 hours

Instructor: Michael Wangler Fee: \$45, or \$35 for ABF members

Explore how climate, geology, and topography have helped to shape the plant communities we see in ABDSP today. This is part one in a 3-part Field Botany Series that will focus on field techniques for recognizing and identifying the plants of ABDSP, their flowers, and the communities in which they live. Sign up for all three and save \$10! Call 760-767-4063 for details. Advance registration required.

### 10:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the visitor center as space is limited.

### 1:00 p.m. - Talk ♿ - What Kind of Bird is That? Basic Birding in Borrego

45 minutes

There are over 300 bird species found in the park, but there are a few that visitors will almost always see. Join Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus in the Discovery Lab to learn about the most commonly seen birds in the park, as well as where to find them. Novice birders can easily learn 15 different species, and more experienced birders will learn some fascinating new insights into the behavior of some species they already know.

### 2:00 p.m. - Walk ♿ - Welcome to the Desert

45 Minutes

Allow 45 minutes for this easy walk that introduces you to the plants and animals of the desert. Meet a Staff Interpreter at the Visitor Center entrance.

## Sunday, January 17

### 8:00a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Joe Hopkins will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for him as you hike to the palm oasis. As an experienced naturalist, he can answer many of your questions about the park. If bighorn are about, he is sure to find them! This is not a guided hike.

### 11:00 a.m. Talk - Tracks Tell Tales

45 minutes

Tracks tell the fascinating stories of the lives of our animal neighbors in the Anza Borrego Desert. Meet our Volunteer Naturalist- Tracker Beth Shugan in the Discovery Lab, and start to learn to read these tales of life -- and death -- in the desert.

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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Monday, January 18

### 10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - In Search of the Elusive Elephant Trees

30 Minutes

The seldom seen, endangered elephant tree survives in only a few scattered and isolated spots in California. Join Volunteer Naturalist Karen Cormier at the Visitor Center to find out how to identify these distinctive trees, hear why Native Americans valued the trees, and discover where you can look for elephant tree herds “in the wild.”

### 11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - “Song Dog” ... The Wiley Coyote

45 minutes

Have you heard them at night? Have you seen them...even during the day? Coyotes are increasing their range and increasing their numbers, and they’re right here in Anza-Borrego and in town too. Join Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus as we explore the myths and realities of our desert neighbors.

### 9:00 a.m. Walk – Behind the Ghost Mountain Story : Facts and Fabrications

3 hours

Learn about the Marshall South family and their experiment in primitive living on a remote mountain top. Join Volunteer Naturalists Mike and Jan Bigelow on this 2 mile round-trip, steep but scenic walk up Ghost Mountain. Bring water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Marshall South Home Trailhead in Blair Valley, 3.2 miles off Highway S2.

## Thursday, January 21

### 9:00 a.m. Hike – South Palm Wash

3 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a hike up a wash then into a beautiful slot canyon up to a 20-25 foot dry waterfall. There is a rockfall about 100 meters before the waterfall that can be negotiated by those who choose. Meet at the overlook at mile marker 38 on S22 (at the phone call box near the Calcite Mine) for this moderate 4-mile hike.

## Friday, January 22

### 1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Small World

1 Hour

Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Hellyer for a 1 hour easy walk. Meet at Borrego Palm Canyon Trailhead.

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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Saturday, January 23

### 7:30 a.m. Walk - Beginner's Bird Walk

90 minutes

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for an easy walk around the Visitor Center Garden looking for the common birds of our desert. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. (This program will be cancelled if raining.)

### 8:00 am - \$\$ - Arroyo Tapiado Mud Caves

8.5 hours

Instructor: Paul Johnson Fee: \$45, or \$35 for ABF members Call 760-767-4063 for details. You won't want to miss this popular 4WD tour to explore fascinating geological features! Participants will also hike extensively in the mud caves. Advance registration required.

### 10:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the visitor center as space is limited.

### 11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - Solar Cooking Demonstration

1 Hour

Solar energy - the old/new technology. Volunteer Naturalist Eleanor Shimeall demonstrates solar oven cooking and explains why this technology is so important. Meet at the Nierenberg Amphitheater outside the Visitor Center.

### 12:30 p.m. Talk ♿ - Desert Hare or Our Furry Friends

1 Hour

Come and discover the wildlife of the park with Volunteer Naturalist Rosemary McDaniel. Meet in the discovery lab.

### 7:00 pm - \$\$ - 2010: A Celestial Preview (Desert Skies Outdoor Lecture Series)

2 hours

Instructor: Dennis Mammana Fee: suggested donation \$5 Call 760-767-4063 for details. An exciting new year of celestial events awaits! Popular astronomer Dennis Mammana enlightens and inspires us with the mysteries of the cosmos, followed by telescope viewing (weather permitting). Bring blanket and flashlight with red lens or covering to the Nierenberg Plaza at ABDSP Visitor Center. No registration required.

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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Sunday, January 24

### 8:30 am - \$\$ - Wreckage of Time: The Fish Creek Badlands

8 hours

Instructor: Paul Remeika Fee: \$45, or \$35 for ABF members

Explore the fascinating geology of Split Mountain Gorge and Sandstone Canyon. 4WD required. Advance registration required. Call 760-767-4063 for details.

### 9:30 a.m. Talk ♿ - Ok, Now What Do We Do?

1 Hour

Whether you are a first time visitor or one who has not had the opportunity to visit sections of the park, join Volunteer Naturalist Ron Shugan for a slide show presentation meant to provide an overview of the many activities and sights of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. This series of slides will make you want to get out and visit some of the many wonders of California's largest state park. Meet in the visitor center discovery lab.

### 11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - Bats - Myths and Marvels

1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Norma Decker at the visitor center discovery lab for this intimate look at the wonders of bats.

### 1:00 p.m. Talk ♿ - "Song Dog" ... The Wiley Coyote

45 minutes

Have you heard them at night? Have you seen them...even during the day? Coyotes are increasing their range and increasing their numbers, and they're right here in Anza-Borrego and in town too. Join Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus as we explore the myths and realities of our desert neighbors.

## Thursday, January 28

### 9:00 a.m. Walk - Bill Kenyon Trail

2 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Mary Ekelund and Paul Larson for a 1.5 mile walk on uneven ground to a beautiful desert overlook. Meet at Yaqui Pass Campground, on Highway S-3, 1 mile north of Tamarisk Grove Campground. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring water.

### 10:30 a.m. Talk ♿ - Camels, horses and sloths --ABDSP fossils

30 minutes

In this 30 minute slide presentation investigate recent fossil finds with Volunteer Paleontologist and Naturalist Sandra Keeley. Meet at the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Friday, January 29

### 11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - Cahuilla Medicine Chest

45 minutes

Join Volunteer Naturalist Mike Bigelow to learn about the medicine chest full of effective treatments that the Cahuilla people utilized long before the first Europeans arrived.

## Saturday, January 30

### 9:00 am - \$\$ - Magical Mystery Tour: Salton Sea

7 hours

Instructors: Richard Orne and Ron Poitras Fee: \$45, or \$35 for ABF members

Enjoy a tour of the wondrous and sometimes mysterious sites surrounding the Salton Sea Basin. Advance registration required. Call 760-767-4063 for details.

### 10:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the visitor center as space is limited.

### 12:00 pm - \$\$ - Desert Sky Photography for Beginners

7 hours

Instructor: Dennis Mammana Fee: \$45, or \$35 for ABF members

If you enjoy photography and are fascinated by the night sky, this hands-on course is for you! Learn to capture sunsets as well as nighttime photos of the stars, moon and planets. Advance registration required. Call 760-767-4063 for details.

### 1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Desert Drug Store

45 Minutes

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker to discover the Native American drugstore, the creosote bush.. This is an easy walk around the visitor center garden. If the weather is too bad or hot, Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

### 7:30 pm - \$\$ - Forbidden Canyons (Lecture at BSPAC)

1.5 hours

Instructor: Ernie Cowan Fee: suggested donation \$5

Explore the beauty of the Carrizo Impact Area (off-limits to the public since 1942 due to the dangers of unexploded ordnance) through the magic of the photographer's lens! No registration required. Call 760-767-4063 for details.

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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Sunday, January 31

### 8:00 am – \$\$ - Southern Anza-Borrego

8 hours

Instructor: Robert Theriault Fee: \$45, or \$35 for ABF members

Four-wheel-drive is recommended for this trip to visit highlights of the State Park along County Road S-2. Advance registration required. Call 760-767-4063 for details.

### 11:00 a.m. Talk – Tracks Tell Tales

45 minutes

Tracks tell the fascinating stories of the lives of our animal neighbors in the Anza Borrego Desert. Meet our Volunteer Naturalist- Tracker Beth Shugan in the Discovery Lab, and start to learn to read these tales of life -- and death -- in the desert.

### 1:00 p.m. Garden Walk ♿ - Small World

1 Hour

Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Hellyer for a 1 hour easy walk. Meet at the visitor center.



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# January 2010 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## DESERT SAFETY

- ✓ **Carry water AND drink it**  
Saving your water for the hike back has led to death in Anza-Borrego. Drink plenty of water before you leave home, while you hike, and on the return route. If you feel thirsty, it is already too late. Drink lots of water and drink often.
- ✓ **Make sure your vehicle is desert-ready.**  
Equip your vehicle for the desert. You should always carry extra water, a shade tarp, a shovel, a tire pump, and extra food.
- ✓ **Prepare yourself.**  
In addition to carrying water, you should have protective clothing, sunscreen, a hat, a good map, food and a first aid kit which includes a comb and tweezers.
- ✓ **Have a plan.**  
Leave all your trip information with a friend. Tell him/her your destination, the route you intend to follow, your expected return time, a description of your vehicle with license plate number, and the time by which he/she should notify park authorities in case you do not return.
- ✓ **Do not split up the group**  
Stay together. Never leave anyone behind to rest.
- ✓ **Leave snakes alone.**  
Many venomous snakes live in the desert. If you threaten them, they may strike. It is illegal to harass, catch, or kill any snake within Anza-Borrego. If bitten, remain calm and seek immediate medical attention.
- ✓ **When emergencies happen ...**  
Stop. Stay calm. Seek shelter. If you are with your vehicle, remain there; do not leave it. Signal with mirrors, white cloth, whistle (three short blasts on a whistle, pause, then three more, repeat frequently), and put your hood up. It is much easier to find a vehicle in the desert than a person!!!

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