

SITE LINES

JULY, 2002

SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST SITE STEWARD PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

FIRE!

Mike Bremer spent several days the third week in June working at the BMG Fire in the Gallina Area near Llaves. The fire intensely burned 500 acres and at one point burned the lower part of Spring Canyon where the **treasured Nogales Cliff House Ruin** is located. Although Nogales is safe, the fire did burn through several other ruins monitored by the Gallina Team; Mike indicated that Site Stewards may be able to assist with stabilization efforts at these ruins once the Forest reopens.

NEW SITE STEWARD COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Site Steward Council has **added two new members from the SFNF Site Steward membership**. Terry Ballone (Jemez Team) and Zella Kay Soich (Garcia Team) were nominated and accepted the positions of one year term on the Site Steward Council. Terry and Zella are two of the longest standing Site Stewards for the Santa Fe National Forest. One vacancy remains – that of the Area Team Leader for the Caja del Rio. Welcome to Terry and Zella!

SITE STEWARD COUNCIL NEWS

Highlights of the June 18 Site Steward Council Meeting are as follows:

- Terry Ballone was welcomed as a new Council member.
- Council members approved and named Coordinators for the Function Organization Chart containing the functions/tasks the Council hopes to complete.
- Each category includes 6 or more “action items” to be completed in the revitalization of the Site Steward Program. Coordinators will be asking Site Stewards and Council members for assistance and involvement in achieving completion of these action items. Coordinators and examples of action items for each category are:
- Organization: George Gozigian & Lee Borduin – interface with the NM Monitoring program (New Mexico Site Watch), determine number of stewards currently active, assessment of need for new stewards, etc.
- Documentation: Jan & Ralph Stone – minutes, keeping manuals current, etc.
- Communication: Candie Borduin and Susan Scott – newsletter, e-mail/snail mail listings, web site, roster of stewards, etc.

- Education and Training: Coordinator Position(s) open – Training of new stewards, continuing education, certification of stewards, etc.
- Field Operations: John Mott, Curt Hawley & Terry Ballone – oversee Area Team Leader functions, training, field certification of stewards, etc.
- A Site Steward Training Manual compiled by Wayne Nelson that interfaces with the New Mexico Site Watch was distributed to members. John Mott and Susan Scott will be organizing the **late summer training session of new Site Stewards** with all Council Members and willing Site Stewards to assist.
- Minutes of Site Steward Council meetings, Function Organization Chart and current Projects Progress and Completion Log are available upon request. Please e-mail / call Jan Stone @ 505-829-3318 or stone@sulphurcanyon.com or Candie Borduin @ 455-2882 or borduin@att.net.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2002
SITE STEWARD COUNCIL MEETING
PLACE AND TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED
SANTA FE, NM
Open to all Site Stewards

MAINLINE NEWS FROM MIKE!

On Monday, June 24, during a break between wildfires, Mike Bremer and Lee Borduin (Council Vice Chair) met to review the status of staffing levels in the Site Steward program. Topics discussed included: steward distribution, target number of stewards per area, completeness of included sites, site monitoring priorities, list of recruits, and the need to select a Caja del Rio Area Team Leader. Overall, Mike indicated Forest priorities for monitoring sites within each area and **identified an immediate need for 12 to 14 additional stewards for the overall program**. This staffing increase would come from steward recruit training proposed for late summer. To date, about 12 new candidates are interested in becoming Site Stewards.

In addition, the urgent need to fill the Caja del Rio Area Team Leader position was discussed and volunteers are asked to contact Lee at 455-2882 or Borduin@att.net.

A revised site steward list by area complete with a list of monitored sites and priorities was developed to facilitate and summarize the staffing review. If you'd

like a copy of this current roster, please contact Lee or Candie at the above telephone number or e-mail address.

FRIENDS INTERESTED IN PROGRAM?

Please forward [Site Lines](#) to other interested folks who may be interested in becoming a SFNF Site Steward. Those interested in Site Steward Training may contact Mike Bremer @ mbremer@fs.fed.us or call 438-7846 or Curt Hawley @ askibum@aol.com or 474-3397

FINDING COMMON GROUND

Susan N. Scott

This is an article copied somewhat from the Albuquerque Journal Business Section, January 28, 2002, but so vitally important to the survival of land in New Mexico that I thought it worthwhile stealing and sharing with all of you.

It is about the “Quivera Coalition” here in Santa Fe, that says that, “If you lose your soil, you lose your freedom, and you lose your future options” (Range Consultant Kirk Gadzia).

You may wonder how this relates to what we do and how we visit and report on our sites, but I bet any one of you that the biggest change that you see from year to year on your sites is in the soil: erosion, intrusion, (animal and human), wind and drought (loss of that groundcover can cause the erosion).

In New Mexico the Quivera Coalition has helped old enemies, the ranchers and the environmentalists, find harmony on their diverse issues of land use and maintenance. For the past five years the Coalition has charted a new path for environmental moderates. They agree that everyone wants the health of the land and good ranching and good business go together. New ranchers were interested to manage their range land holistically, differ grazing patterns, fence cattle out of riparian areas or only graze them during dormant periods. The ranchers are working through the Coalition to take a look at the whole ecosystem and the people in it, and they realize that what they do on the land affects people, affects income.

The biggest enemy of any rancher is bare ground, not predators or environmentalists. This particular rancher made decisions about quality of life and set goals for productivity. With help from government agencies working with other ranchers and the Coalition, he increased the resource base and increased productivity.

The co-founder of the coalition, Courtney White says, “The Quivera Coalition is a prototype of a new environmental movement, it is more accountable,

adaptable and effective. The Coalition checks to see if they have restored this plant community or that diverse wildlife population, and if not, they can work with the ranchers and do something different, look at the soil and the roots start from the ground.

The Quivera Coalition feels we need to keep ranchers on the land, but they need to grow and change and they are showing that they can. If we chase them from the land, what are they to do, and what becomes of the rural economy in New Mexico?

If any of you care to get involved with this very worthy group, call Courtney White, at executive@quiveracoalition.org or 820-2044.

Some of their upcoming events are:

- Riparian Restoration Hands-On Workshop July 12-13
- NM Comanche Creek Work Days, Carson National Forest (If it reopens) 7/12-13
- Outdoor Classroom on Rangeland Health, CS Ranch in Cimarron, July 13-14
- Conservation Easement Workshop July 20th
- Resource Management 101, Lake Valley Ranch, NM, July 27th

Please contact the Coalition for more information

UPCOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVENTS

- Sun Mountain Gathering @ Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe. July 13 & 14. 476-1252 – see attached information
- Pecos Conference, August 8, 9, 10, 11, Pecos National Monument
http://www.swanet.org/zarchives/pecos/2002/2002_pecos_conference.pdf
- Santa Fe Archaeological Society, “Updated Look at the Valles Caldera” by Anna Stephan, Jemez Ranger District, SFNF 7:30 pm @ Courtyard by Marriott on Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe
- New Mexico Archaeology Fair, “Once Upon A Time in Southwestern New Mexico”, October 4 & 5, Silver City @ Gough Park. (505) 827-3989
- Santa Fe Archaeological Society, “Kivas are Corn Cribs”, Robert Adams, Underwater Archaeologist. October 21 @ 7:30 pm, Courtyard by Marriott in Santa Fe.

E-MAIL – SNAIL MAIL?

If your newsletter comes to you by “snail mail” and you have e-mail, please let us know so you can be added to the e-mail listing. **Save time, money and trees!** Contact Candie @ borduin@att.net Thanks!