

From: **Ben Wickham** info@friendsoftheinyo.org
Subject: News & Upcoming Events - Friends of the Inyo
Date: March 5, 2016 at 1:20 PM
To: jasdesign@earthlink.net

BW

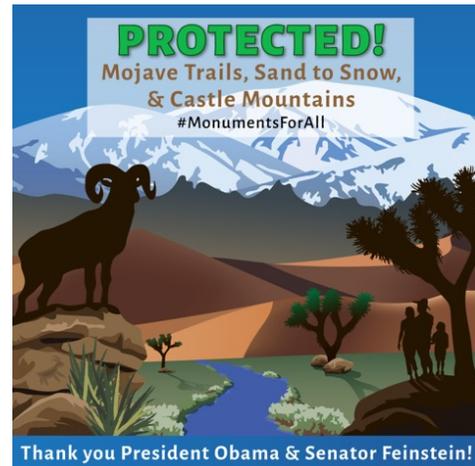


Dear Juliann :

On a ski-tour up Rock Creek last weekend, the snow on the Hilton Bench was melting fast and reminiscent of the past four drought-stricken winters, yet higher up, the Little Lakes Valley still felt like winter. This can serve as a reminder of how we should view what's going on with our public lands right now. We can be overcome by the ugly side of the threats, politics, and divisive rhetoric surrounding our public lands, or we can use this opportunity to get involved and speak up for places we care about. This month, Friends of the Inyo offers several ways you can get involved and make a positive difference on the east side of the Sierra Nevada. Join us on an outing to discover a special place. Participate as a volunteer with us. Add your voice by commenting on the Inyo National Forest Planning process. Today, the weather maps optimistically forecast a return to winter and a Miracle March. Bring on the snow - Ben

3 New California Desert Monuments

Just a few weeks ago, President Obama established the Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and Castle Mountains National Monuments, which at 1.8 million acres will protect important wildlife habitat for mountain lions, bighorn sheep, California desert tortoises and more than 250 species of birds as well as incredible natural features including year-round streams, rugged mountains, extinct volcanoes, and sand dunes. The designation comes on the heels of years of work by Senator Dianne Feinstein and other desert advocates, particularly the Mojave Desert Land Trust and the Amargosa Conservancy. This region welcomed almost 4.2 million visitors to areas managed by the Bureau of Land Management and more than 3.2 million visitors to the three desert national parks. The designation of these National Monuments will enhance public recognition for these areas, while bringing more attention and visitors to the area. Thank you President Obama, Senator Feinstein, and all organizations and individuals who worked to protect these desert public lands.



Short Canyon Wildflowers March 12



MARCH 12

Join us and the California Native Plant Society on a wildflower exploration of Short Canyon, an Area of Critical Environmental Concern with spectacular botanical resources at the edge of Owens Peak Wilderness. Take the opportunity to explore, with a skilled botanist, a canyon where nearly 300 species of plants have been described. This outing is limited to 12 participants. To RSVP [email](#) or call (760) 873-6500.



Buttermilk Clean Up March 19

Join us in cleaning up climbing areas in the Buttermilk this winter. It's a busy time of year for recreation in the Buttermilk, so come help minimize impacts to the fragile desert ecosystem. We will meet at 8:30am at the main parking area. Please come prepared for a few hours of work with closed toe shoes, long pants, water, and sun protection. For information visit our [website](#).



2nd Owens Lake Bird Festival April 22-24

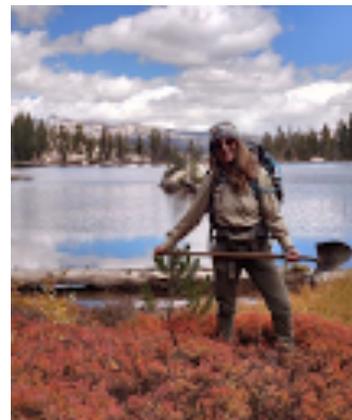
The 2nd Annual Owens Lake Bird Festival is just around the corner. Explore designated Owens Lake Important Bird Area as migrating birds travel between continents. Registration is open to everyone, and trips are starting to fill up. Registration includes Friday evening reception, Saturday and Sunday continental breakfast, and guided outings with local experts. Additional items include Saturday evening dinner reception with guest speaker, T-shirt, and stay tuned to hear about silent auction items. Visit our [website](#) for details or register [here](#).



Sierra National Forest Wilderness Intern

Want to spend your summer working in the Sierra Nevada back country for the summer? The Sierra National Forest is looking for a wilderness intern to help patrol the John Muir, Ansel Adams, and other wilderness areas. Spend nine days at a time exploring one of the most beautiful places in the world while providing support to the Sierra National Forest.

Check Friends of the Inyo's [website](#) for info or contact [Micki Didier](#).





Dynamite Starfish

Dynamite Starfish, an artist founded clothing company, has partnered with Friends of the Inyo. Each shirt gives back to the "crag" or outdoor area that inspired it with a 5% donation of profits. Make sure you visit their [website](#).



Help Your Public Lands

You can invest in the future of the places you love by supporting Friends of the Inyo. Every donation helps Friends of the Inyo maintain trails, restore habitats, and protect wild places throughout the Eastern Sierra. We can't do it without you. Thank you for making a difference for our public lands.



[Donate Now](#)

Caring for the Eastern Sierra's Public Lands

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STAY CONNECTED:



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