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Chadrad Communications, Inc.
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com

(S.D.)-Friends Help Remove Fencing At Wind Cave National Park

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 10/09/2012 11:03 AM

Photo: Friends of Wind Cave National Park recently helped remove interior fencing as part of National Public Lands Day at the park. (NPS photo)

(WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK)-Volunteers from the Friends of Wind Cave National Park recently helped park staff remove over 3,300 feet of barbed wire fence on National Public Lands Day. Three sections of interior fencing on the former Sanson Ranch were removed as part of the country's largest single-day volunteer event for public lands.

Park superintendent Vidal Davila says "National Public Lands Day is an opportunity to give back and support the lands that celebrate the country's heritage and scenic values. We'll be recycling this fencing material and using it to replace a fence destroyed in last summer's Myrtle Fire."

The 22-person crew worked throughout the morning taking down barbed wire strands and removing the posts. The fences were located north of the Sanson Buffalo Jump, inside the existing boundary fence.

Lon Sharp, president of the Friends group, says, "This event offered a chance for local volunteers to work with park personnel by removing interior fencing and improving the scenic vista within the new land. One of the key functions of the Friends of Wind Cave National Park is to enhance appreciation and awareness of the park. We did this while working amidst some beautiful scenery and enjoying perfect fall weather."

Anyone wishing to join the Friends of Wind Cave National Park is encouraged to visit their Website at http://friendsofwindcavenp.org.

More than 170,000 volunteers at 2,100 sites, from every state in the union, participated in National Public Lands Day events this year.

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