

MOUNTAIN REPORT



Stewardship Coordinator Aaron Johnson (l) assists ESLT members Dave and Janet Carle at the Nov. 14 GPS Field Workshop. Photo by ESLT staff

ESLT gives lessons on use of GPS and GIS to many

GPS no substitute for knowing how to use a map

By Serena Dennis

Education and Outreach Coordinator, AmeriCrops/Eastern Sierra Land Trust

On a bright and crisp recent Saturday, 17 people gathered at the Crowley Hilltop Preserve, just outside of Crowley Lake, for a Global Positioning System Field Workshop.

Eastern Sierra Land Trust members, interested community members and ESLT staff enjoyed the big blue skies as ESLT Stewardship Coordina-

tor Aaron Johnson took them on a whirlwind tour of Geographic Information System theory and basic GPS navigation.

Johnson was assisted by ESLT volunteer Kim Forkner in taking participants on a journey with satellites, datums, grids and declinations.

After a brief lunch, participants took their newfound skills with their GPS units and set off on a GPS Walkabout, navigating a course through a series of stops, ending atop Crowley Hilltop Preserve, overlooking Crowley Lake.

"A focus of this workshop was getting people familiar with their units. I like to emphasize that knowing how to use your GPS is never a replacement for knowing how

to read a map," Johnson said.

Each participant walked away knowing how to navigate with their GPS, and a working knowledge of GIS theory.

"Due to the great interest generated in this event, we hope to continue to have similar events in the future," said Executive Director Karen Ferrell-Ingram.

Crowley Hilltop Preserve is a 33-acre preserve, purchased by Eastern Sierra Land Trust in 2008, in order to preserve the migration corridor for the Round Valley mule deer herd.

For more information on ESLT events in the future, visit www.eslt.org, or call the ESLT office at (760)-873-4554.

Bulletin Board

Audubon potluck

The Eastern Sierra Audubon Society will hold a holiday potluck at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec 9 and special program ("Dive into Winter with Penguins") at 7 p.m. at the White Mountain Research Station, 3000 E. Line St., Bishop. Attendees are asked to bring a little extra food and a beverage to share. After the potluck, Ed and Pat Nahin will present a slideshow of their images from several Antarctica trips and of multiple species of penguins. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, visit www.ESAudubon.org or call

Roberta at (760) 873-4554

Crowley Lake Birding

Members of the Eastern Sierra Audubon Society are invited to join the Society of the Eastern Sierra for a winter birding trip to Crowley Lake. Meet at the Green Church at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, Dec 12. Bring warm clothes, binoculars, scopes, water and a case of bad weather. The trip starts in Bishop at the Yucca Valley and ends at Tinnemaha. Bald Eagles and winter raptors are likely on this trip. For more information, contact Chris Howard at (760) 873-4554

Fall is here! Get out on the mountains, enjoy the views and trails are

'What I Did This Week'

The Inyo Register is seeking photos that reflect the beauty of the Eastern Sierra. Photos, photos, photos of any conditions or topos of any area, great or small, will inspire all. Thanks to all of our contributors and stories.

Please send or drop off submissions to: Inyo Register, 1000 N. St. Bishop, CA 93514; fax: (760) 873-3454; www.inyoregister.com