

Mount Morris Dam and Recreation Area Celebrates National Public Lands Day

Great Lakes &
Ohio River Division

Event:

- Buffalo District's Mount Morris Dam and Recreation Area celebrated National Public Lands Day in September, in partnership with The Arc of Livingston-Wyoming.

Communication Objectives:

- National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the nation's largest single volunteer effort on public lands. Mount Morris Dam participates in national efforts like NPLD in collaboration with partners and volunteers.

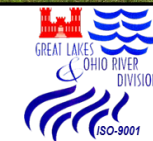
Activities:

- MMD Park Rangers and volunteers from the Arc of Livingston-Wyoming, a non-profit organization for individuals with developmental disabilities, worked on landscaping projects, and trail maintenance.

Key Take-Aways:

- Mount Morris Dam and Recreation Area LEVERAGES volunteers to maximize public benefits using limited resources.
- PARTNERSHIPS, like the one MMD has with The Arc of Livingston-Wyoming, are an essential component for Natural Resources Management programs.
- National Public Lands Day is celebrated across all public lands, including heavily visited USACE Parks and Recreation Areas.

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and Taking Care of People!



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2022 NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY PATOKA LAKE INDIANA

On 24 September 2022, Patoka Lake (CELRL-OPW-P) in partnership with the Patoka Lake Watershed Steering Committee hosted a National Public Lands Day Event from 0800-1200. Participants included 134 volunteers and USACE staff members. Volunteers collected 1,320 pounds of trash, 100 pounds of metal, 240 pounds of recyclables, and 15 tires from project lands. Multiple agencies participated including USACE, U.S. Forest Service, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Dubois County Solid Waste, Dubois County Soil & Water District, Crawford County Solid Waste, Crawford County Soil & Water, and Orange County Solid Waste.



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BRL Trashmasters Lakeshore Cleanup (September 17, 2022)

BRL Trashmasters :

- This year was the 35th Annual Trashmasters Classic
- Sponsored by Friends of Barren River Lake & Park
- Promotes National Public Lands Day
- 134 Volunteers (9 Pontoon Boats)
- 165 Bags of Trash and 18 Tires Collected

Communication Objectives:

- Promoting National Public Lands Day through the National Environmental Education Foundation.
- Rewarding to see the diversity of groups contributing their time to help keep the lake beautiful.
- Promoting Water Safety with mandatory life jacket wear during the event.

Activities:

- Shoreline clean-up followed by a lunch at the State Park Beach provided by the Friends of Barren River Lake & Park

Key Take-Aways:

- Promotes community engagement and involvement in protecting our Natural Resources and making a difference at Barren River Lake.



All photos courtesy of Matt Pedigo



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Nolin River Lake National Public Lands Day



NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY – YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER LAKE



Events:

- 24-SEP-2022 Youghiogheny River Lake, in partnership with the Friends for the Yough Lake, hosted a volunteer based National Public Lands Day tree planting event. In total, there were 30 participating volunteers. Volunteers consisted of dedicated members of the Confluence Boy Scouts, Menallen Girl Scouts, Friends for the Yough Lake, and also members from the local community.

Activities:

- Project staff along with 30 volunteers planted 32 trees throughout the Spillway Recreation Area.
- Participants planted, mulched and watered trees.
- Friends for Youghiogheny River Lake provided and prepared lunch for the event.

Key Take-Away:

- It is important to involve our partners and volunteers with environmental improvement projects such as our NPLD 2022 volunteer tree planting event.
- These trees will not only assist USACE by playing an integral role in supporting our mission of being good environmental stewards, but will also provide shade, nesting habitat, and will add beauty to the once barren landscape for future generations.





STONEWALL JACKSON LAKE CELEBRATES NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY 2022



Events:

- In celebration of National Public Lands Day, the US Army Corps of Engineers staff at Stonewall Jackson Lake partnered with Volunteer Birder, Davette Saeler and Lewis County – Blueprint Community to install twelve replacement bluebird nesting boxes

Activities:

- Corps staff and volunteers replaced twelve old bluebird boxes with new composite boxes to improve bluebird habitats to promote a healthy population



Key Take-Aways:

- Composite materials will last longer than conventional resulting in less maintenance and wear & tear from the elements
- Partnering with the local community
- Improve bluebird habitat and increase population
- Contribution to National Public Lands Day
- New boxes are easy to access to monitor and report progress on identifying species, eggs, and hatchlings
- Participants received FEE-FREE Day Passes for helping us keep our federal lands beautiful and healthy



BERLIN LAKE NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY 24SEPT2022



Events:

- Berlin Lake hosted a National Public Lands Day litter clean-up event which focused on the lake shoreline and other high visitation areas.

Activities:

- 15 volunteers along with project staff participated in this clean-up event.
- Staff at Berlin lake lead the effort by supplying trash bags, safety vests, gloves, and trash pickers.
- A substantial amount of trash was picked up at many different places around Berlin Lake.

Key Take-Aways:

- The event allowed volunteers to take part in our mission of environmental stewardship.
- Volunteers gained a sense of pride in the natural resources available at Berlin Lake.
- This event ensures that the high visitation areas at the project are kept clean, allowing the visiting public to come to a welcoming recreation site.



Raystown Lake Project

National Public Lands Day- Trashmaster Classic

OPERATIONS DIVISION, BALTIMORE DISTRICT



WHO: Raystown Lake USACE Staff, Partners & Volunteers
WHAT: Trashmaster Classic
WHEN: September 24, 2022
WHERE: Raystown Lake Project, Tatman Run Boat Launch, PA
WHY: Remove debris from the Raystown Lake shoreline to support our environmental stewardship and recreation missions

Summary: On Sept 24, the Raystown Staff celebrated National Public Lands Day by partnering with Loose Cannon Outdoors and the Friends of Raystown Lake to host the 2nd annual "Trashmaster Classic". This unique event turns shoreline litter cleanup into a fun competition, as teams have the chance to win prizes in various categories, such as most flips flops removed, most odd item found, etc.

More than 30 volunteers donated over 155 hours to the event, providing volunteer services worth nearly \$5,000. In total, volunteers removed 79 bags of trash, 45 tires, 118 flip flops, 1 fridge, 1 television, 1 propane tank, and several other hazardous items, totaling over 2 tons of garbage.

Volunteers were provided safety equipment and treated to a free lunch courtesy of our partners. Additionally, 21 local businesses provided prizes and coupons in support of the event!



Above: Friends of Raystown Lake (FRL) volunteers brought the FRL pontoon boat to support the event!



Above: Volunteers helped to remove this refrigerator from the shoreline, which is thought to have washed ashore during Hurricane Ida in September 2021.



Above: 45 tires were removed from the lake during the event!



Above: Park Ranger Scott Graham and Volunteer Charlie Gwinn working together to wheel some tires to the dumpster!



Above: This soccer ball with a plant growing out of it, affectionately named "Wilson", won the prize for being the most unique item found, aka the "catch of the day".



Above: This team won the category for "most tires removed" after collecting 12 tires total!



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT BUFFUMVILLE LAKE HODGES VILLAGE DAM

On 24 September 2022, Buffumville Lake & Hodges Village Dam hosted a National Public Lands Day Event from 0900-1200. There were 5 staff and 40 volunteers in attendance to work on four projects. 1) Long time residents assisted with a Privy rehab & trash cleanup on the Island at Buffumville Lake 2) Local cub scouts & their parents assisted in Invasives removal & trash clean up @ Hodges Village Dam, removing 10 pounds of invasive Bittersweet plants 3) Boy Scout Troop 273 of Dudley assisted with the South Fork Bridge replacement & installation at Buffumville Lake providing a much needed safe path of travel across the trail and river 4) Team Challenge members spearheaded the Disc Golf fairway clean up at Buffumville Dam allowing for ease of access from Hole #11 for Disc Golf recreationists. Thank you to all who lent a helping hand!



Giving Back Together



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2022 NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY AT BLUE MARSH LAKE



Top Right – A family plants native inkberry bushes together. *Bottom Right* – TCWA members work on digging holes for plants and cleaning out remaining unwanted plants and debris. *Middle* – Informational displays and materials presented to visitors and volunteers. *Left* – Native wild ginger leaf found within the garden to have housed a monarch butterfly during its transformation. The leaf was used to display the benefits of native plant species to pollinators.

24 SEPT 2022

Blue Marsh Lake hosted a National Public Lands Day event with their partners Berks Nature and the Tulpehocken Creek Watershed Association (TCWA). Volunteers worked on planting native shrubs as part of a native garden renovation project at the Blue Marsh Lake Visitor Center.

Other activities for volunteers and visitors included watershed and environmental education, native gardening benefits and practices for home, and water safety information.

In the spring, more native plants will be placed throughout the Visitor Center garden during an Earth Day event to complete the renovation project.



VOLUNTEERS – NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

KANSAS CITY DISTRICT, NORTHWESTERN DIVISION



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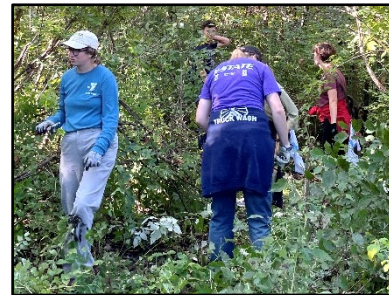
WHO: Kansas City District
Kansas State University

WHAT: National Public Lands Day Event

WHEN: September 24, 2022

WHERE: Tuttle Creek Lake
Manhattan, KS

WHY: NPLD is the nation's largest single-day volunteer event for public lands and engages volunteers in work projects directly benefiting public lands including USACE lake and river projects.



Summary: In recognition of National Public Lands Day, Tuttle Creek project staff coordinated with Kansas State University volunteers to complete trail work on the Blue River Trail (Outlet Park). Volunteers spent the day trimming and completing a much-needed reroute of the trail to improve longevity of the surface and reduce maintenance costs. Twenty volunteers provided 72 service-hours, valued at \$2,156. This is a great example of our ongoing partnership benefits with K-State.

Photos courtesy of Rangers and Volunteers, Tuttle Creek Lake



2021 WVP NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

OPERATIONS DIVISION, PORTLAND DISTRICT, NORTHWESTERN DIVISION



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WHO: Willamette Valley Project

WHAT: National Public Lands Day

WHEN: Saturday, September 25

WHERE: Pine Meadows Campground,
Cottage Grove Lake, Oregon

WHY: National Public Lands Day is a nation-wide event in which thousands of volunteers assist in projects to improve federal lands. 39 volunteers planted 93 trees and shrubs to improve the aesthetic and habitat in the campgrounds.

WHAT'S NEXT: Corps volunteers will water and care for the new plants until they are well-established. WVP rangers will continue to host NPLD events in future years, in a different location every year.



Park Ranger Jessica Corbett assisted a volunteer with his planting at the NPLD event.



How to properly plant trees and shrubs was demonstrated by Park Ranger Alena Kimble for Boy Scout Troop 60.



Group photo of the volunteers and Rangers who planted native trees and shrubs in Pine Meadows Campground.



Volunteers Mr. Oldham and grandson took a break from their hard work.

Summary:

On Saturday, September 25, a National Public Lands Day volunteer event was held at Pine Meadows Campground, Cottage Grove Lake. 8 Corps park rangers, 1 Corps botany tech, 4 Corps volunteers, and 35 community volunteers participated in the event. Volunteers planted 18 native trees and 75 native shrubs. The goals of the project were to add shade and visual barriers in the campground, improve aesthetic, and increase habitat for pollinators and wildlife. The value of service provided by the volunteers was about \$3995.

SEATTLE DISTRICT LAKE WASHINGTON SHIP CANAL FREMONT CUT NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

1 October 2022

Boy Scout Will Heaths' Eagle Scout Project.
Preserve, Protect, Maintain Historical Colonnade of
Poplar Trees

33 volunteers

144 hours of service

Remove and replace protective caging around 19
poplar trees in the historic colonnade along the
Fremont Cut.

Removal of invasive vegetation around tree trunks.

5 new trees planted, protected, and watered.

The Poplar trees are caged to help prevent beaver
damage. **Value of service \$4,312**



Vegetation removal



Safety brief



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NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY FORT DERUSSY CLEAN UP A SUCCESS...



Everyone did their part

In recognition of National Public Lands day Saturday, September 25, 2021, Park Rangers Jill Davis and Stephen Lawlor led the Honolulu District in the cleanup of Ft DeRussy Beach Park and the surrounding area. With staggered start times and separated target areas to clean, a whopping 82 people were able to participate in the effort while keeping in line with the State and County COVID safety mandates. MAHALO for the success POH OHANA!



This group is geared up and ready for instructions



Happy Participants!

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SAVANNAH DISTRICT:

Hartwell Project National Public Lands Day 2022



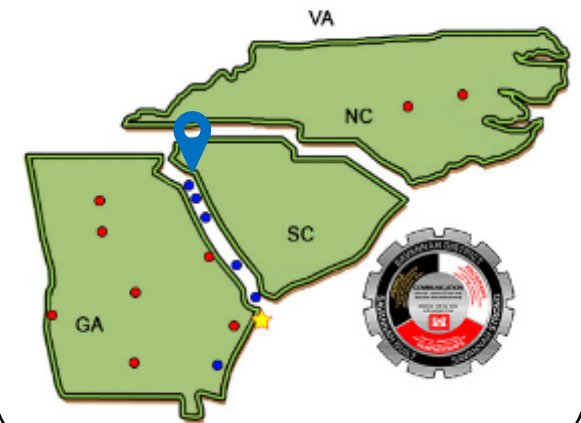
US Army Corps
of Engineers
Savannah District

In recognition of National Public Lands Day on Sept 24, over 70 volunteers invested their time and effort to keep Hartwell Lake clean and beautiful by collecting litter and other non-natural debris from the shoreline and islands. The Corps' Hartwell Project partnered with the Lake Hartwell Partners for Clean Water to organize and promote the clean up and to assist in the disposal of the trash collected. Hartwell is the second most visited Corps lake in the nation. This popularity and heavy public use, though desired, unfortunately results in increased litter along the 962 miles of shoreline and on the numerous islands of the project. Partnering efforts with willing organizations is vital to keep a project the size of Hartwell clean and safe for continued public enjoyment.



24 SEP 2022

Savannah District Boundaries



GOAL 3
Partnerships

SAVANNAH DISTRICT:

Richard B. Russell National Public Lands Day Cleanup 2022



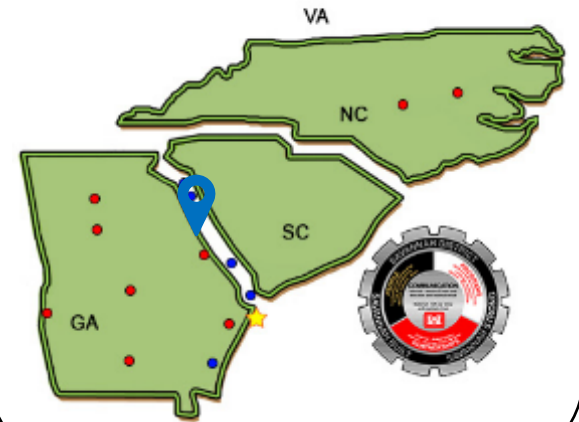
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Savannah District

Some of Russell's most dedicated showed up for a morning of volunteer service! Russell Rangers hosted 89 volunteers that picked up trash, assembled a hunting blind access ramp, and installed blue bird boxes. 120 bags of trash and 13 tires were collected weighing just over one ton! Volunteers were thanked with a t-shirt and lunch!



September 24, 2022

Savannah District Boundaries



GOAL 3
Partnerships

SAVANNAH DISTRICT:

J. Strom Thurmond Dam and Lake National Public Lands Day Cleanup

An outstanding day of service! 21 staff members and 199 volunteers accomplished 20 different missions around the project! Volunteers were thanked with a t-shirt, lunch, and a NPLD Day Use Pass!

We built:

- 34 Bird Boxes
- 40 fish attractors
- 4 Life Jacket Loaner Boards
- 3 Bulletin Boards

We Cleaned:

- 3.75 miles of roadway
- 6.5 miles of trails
- 7.75 miles of shoreline

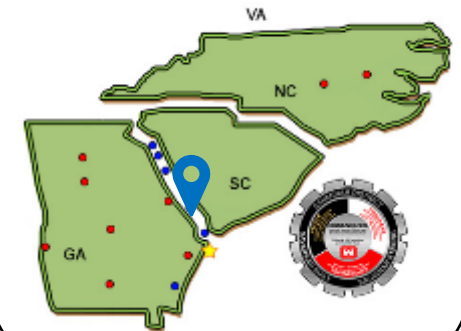
We Removed:

- 961 pounds of trash
- 75 pounds of invasive plants
- 5.5 Tires



24 SEPT 2022

Savannah District Boundaries

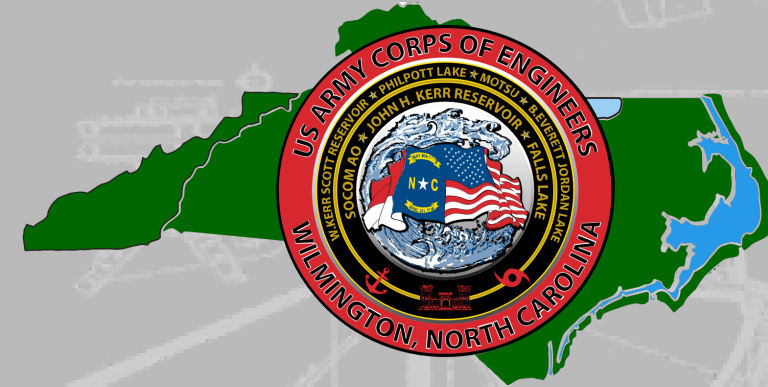


GOAL 3
Partnerships

WILMINGTON DISTRICT: John H. Kerr National Public Lands Day 2022



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On September 23rd and 24th John H. Kerr Rangers worked with volunteers for two National Public Lands Day Events. On Friday, the 23rd at the Joseph SJ Tanner Environmental Education Center rangers and volunteers placed landscape fabric and mulch in the pollinator garden to prepare the flower beds for planting natives in the winter and spring. On Saturday, the 24th rangers and volunteers picked up litter at Palmer Point Boat Ramp and Day Use Area including fishing line, plastic, Styrofoam, aluminum, glass, and more! In total 32 volunteer hours were recorded between the two events. John H. Kerr values the effort made by rangers and volunteers during the 2022 National Public Lands Day events to better parks, facilities, and educational spaces for present and future visitors.



AWARE presenting with American Kestrel



Top: Ranger Jones speaks about Great Backyard Bird Count
Bottom: Birding at Tailrace Park



Volunteers Doug & Nita speak about bird anatomy

Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow

WILMINGTON DISTRICT

National Public Lands Day Event at W. Kerr Scott Dam and Reservoir



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On 25 September 2021, W. Kerr Scott Dam and Reservoir hosted a National Public Lands Day event from 0800-1200. There were 58 staff and volunteers in attendance to work on three projects. 1) Northwest NC Mountain Bike Alliance completed sign installation and trail work on Dark Mountain trails system, completing 5 miles of work. 2) American Heritage Girls worked with WKS staff to spread two 18-ton truck loads of gravel on the walking paths at Fish Dam Creek and Dark Mountain parks. 3) American Heritage Girls and Project Lazarus helped staff remove mulch and unwanted plants from the native tree trail and backyard habitat behind the Environmental Education Center, pulling out 5 pounds of invasive plants and prepping the area for new seed to be planted this fall. Friends of WKS Lake provided lunch after a morning of hard work!

* Photos taken by WKS staff and volunteers.



Top Left: Volunteers raking mulch and weeds for ground cover to be planted.

Bottom Left: Volunteers pulling invasive species and Golden Rod out of pollinator plots to make way for more diverse native plants.



Below:
Volunteers spreading gravel on Fish Dam Creek Park's walking path.



Above: Members of the NW NC MTB Alliance installing signs on Dark Mountain Trail system.

Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow



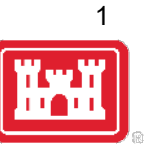
NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY AT ABIQUIU LAKE

Volunteers and staff from Abiquiu Lake completed several work projects on National Public Lands Day to improve recreation facilities and promote good stewardship of our shared natural resources. Projects included a shoreline cleanup, tree planting replacements, and a new flagpole.

Volunteers and rangers replaced trees around the visitor center.



Albuquerque District (24 September 2022)



Scouts from Cub Scout Troop 22 helped to mix cement to put up a new flagpole



After setting the base, Rangers and scouts raised a new flagpole in front of the boat ramp to fly the USA and Corps flags.



NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY



LOS ANGELES DISTRICT (24 SEP 2022)



Chief of Operations Division and his son volunteer their time to participate in debris cleanup of the San Gabriel Trail bike path.



Volunteers remove debris, shopping cart and household items from the area.



Children painted rocks to decorate the Kare Youth Center to emphasize community, art and environmental stewardship awareness.



40 cubic-yard dumpster was completely filled with 3 tons of debris which included shopping carts, tires and household items.

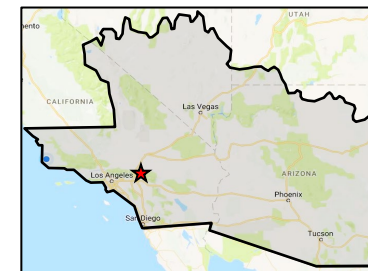
Who: Los Angeles District (SPL) Park Rangers, USACE PM/Homeless Encampment Liaison, Irwindale Police Department, City of Hope, Kare Youth League, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA), LA County Parks & Recreation.

What: USACE and partner groups put together the second National Public Lands Day for the Los Angeles District and had a small but mighty team. It was a great turnout as 15 community volunteers participated in debris cleanup and children were able to engage in rock painting. A 40 cubic-yard bin was filled with 120 55-gallon trash bags, 15 shopping carts, 8 tires and so much debris. An estimated 3 tons of debris cleared from 2 acres of land.

Where: Santa Fe Dam, Kare Youth League & Spillway

Why: Homeless persons/ encampments & debris present biohazard, fire hazards, safety, security, and environmental issues.

What's Next: Park Rangers will continue to coordinate community event opportunities to engage the public and encourage environmental stewardship at all USACE properties.



Lake Mendocino
NEEF National Public Lands Day
Clean-up & Activities



"Giving Back Together"

Saturday, September 24th
9 am - 11 am
South Boat Ramp

Come join us for a day of service and celebration of public lands!
Help clean up the lake and check out some other family fun activities put on by various local organizations.

Hope to see you there!

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

Lake Mendocino 2022

Thank you to the National Environmental Education Fund (NEEF), California Department of Fish and Wildlife, City of Ukiah Recreation, Ukiah Valley Fish and Wildlife Club, Ukiah Valley Trail Group, and Ukiah Waste Solutions for their support and contributions to Lake Mendocino's National Public Lands Day!

Achievements:

- 31 participants picked up at least one garbage bag full of trash from the south end of Lake Mendocino and received a fee-free coupon provided by NEEF for their service.
- An estimated 200 lbs. of trash removed in only 2 hours!
- 15 trail group volunteers performed hours of vegetation management on the popular Manzanita Trail
- Strengthening relationships with existing partners
- Creating new partnerships with the City of Ukiah Recreation Department and their associate Ukiah Waste Solutions who provided water and snacks for volunteers
- Educated young anglers about the importance of LEAVE NO TRACE principles using an in-house interpretive fishing game.



TOP: VISITORS PICK UP TRASH ACROSS FROM THE COYOTE VALLEY DAM

BOTTOM: YOUNG VOLUNTEERS LENDING A HAND AT LAKE MENDOCINO'S SOUTH BOAT RAMP

TOP: VOLUNTEERS TOMMY, JOE AND UNDY FROM THE UKIAH VALLEY FISH AND WILDLIFE CLUB ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT ALL THINGS STEELHEAD

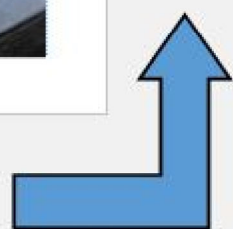
BOTTOM: A YOUNG ANGLER CATCHES AND IDENTIFIES A (PAPER) BLUE GILL!

TOP: REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CITY OF UKIAH RECREATION DEPT. AND UKIAH WASTE SOLUTIONS PROVIDE SNACKS AND INFORMATION TO VOLUNTEERS

BOTTOM: USACE EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS (JOURA & RODNEY PUTMAN; RANGERS KEVIN HANEY, SADIE PARKER AND TAYLOR BAUGHN) SMILE TOGETHER AFTER A SUCCESSFUL PLED!

TOP: CDFW GAME WARDENS NEIL ALTIMARI AND ZACH MACDONALD WITH THE COOLEST COUGAR IN MENDOCINO COUNTY.

BOTTOM: A KIND REMINDER FROM AN ARTISTIC VISITOR





National Public Lands Day 2022

Wright Patman Lake

On October 1st, Wright Patman Lake staff and volunteers from the surrounding Texarkana area, gathered to work in North Shore Park. Together they were able to install 3 new grills, stabilize 2 existing grills, restripe the parking lot pavement, touch up existing signage with paint, assemble and install 2 new “Do Not Enter” signs on the one-way roads, spread gravel on 3 of the pads for the new fitness trail, and begin work on installing the parallel bars.

- 24 Volunteers
- 96 Volunteer Hours



Northern Area - Keystone Lake National Public Lands Day Appalachia Bay



Keystone Rangers organized a Public Lands Day event at Appalachia Bay. Over 30 Volunteers collected trash and other debris from the ORV Area.



Northern Area - Oologah Lake National Public Lands Day



Oologah Lake hosted an Annual National Public Lands Day event at Verdigris River Park.

East Central Area - Eufaula Lake National Public Lands Day



Eufaula and Wister Lake staff participated in NPLD event where they constructed fifty fish habitat structures. Staff also removed large amounts of Styrofoam and refuse from various areas around the lake.

East Central Area - Ft. Gibson Lake National Public Lands Clean-up Day



Ranger Josh Glazebrook organized National Clean Up Day at the Snug Harbor Area. Fort Gibson Lake Association and Wagoner City Commission assisted with efforts.

