

# **Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month Activity – Saturday, March 17, 2012**

## **Archaeological Site Tour: West Bench Pueblo and Maze Rock Art Site at 11 am (Arizona time) – no reservations necessary**

**10 am – 2 pm (AZ Time) at the Condor Viewing Area, House Rock Valley, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, Arizona.** We invite anyone with stories, family or personal histories or photographs of the local area (Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, Kaibab Plateau/Buckskin Mountain or House Rock Valley) to come and share this information. Oral history pre-interviews will be conducted on-site. Families are welcome and activities for children will be available. Dogs on leashes are welcome.

At 11 am those that wish to visit the archaeological sites will carpool and drive north 7 miles on a gravel road from the Condor Viewing Area to visit West Bench Pueblo, a large Ancestral Puebloan village. After the pueblo, the group will travel north another 11 miles on dirt road to the Maze Rock Art Site, a locally well-known rock art site with Archaic and Ancestral Puebloan rock art. The trail to the rock art site is approximately 1 mile round trip and includes a climb several hundred yards up a steep slope to the rock art.

At the end of the field trip, participants may continue 14 miles north up the House Rock Valley/Coyote Valley dirt road to Highway 89 midway between Kanab, Utah and Page, Arizona rather than return south to Highway Alt. 89. If spring storms occur in the area, the access north from the Maze Rock Art Site may not be passable because of the mud and the stream crossing at Buckskin.

The Condor Viewing Area, House Rock Valley, Arizona, is midway between Marble Canyon and Jacob Lake, Arizona, north off of Highway Alt. 89. Travel north on House Rock Valley Road (approximately 13 miles east of Jacob Lake) about 2 ¾ miles to the Condor Viewing Area (which has a ramada, picnic tables, parking area, and pit toilet).

**Safety information** - The area is remote and has no services and limited cellphone coverage. Start with a full gas tank or carry extra fuel. Carry plenty of water for drinking and for your vehicle. Have a good spare tire and the tools and knowledge to change a tire. Pack extra food, blankets and jackets. Leave word with a responsible party about your destination and when you expect to return. If you are stranded, stay with your vehicle for the shade and shelter it provides.

For more information, CONTACT DIANA HAWKS (435) 688-3266 or [dhawks@blm.gov](mailto:dhawks@blm.gov). If you cannot attend this event and have old stories, family histories or photographs of Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, House Rock Valley or Buckskin Mountain you would like to share, please contact DIANA HAWKS or MILT HOKANSON at (435) 688-3385 or [Milton\\_Hokanson@nps.gov](mailto:Milton_Hokanson@nps.gov).

Event will occur regardless of the weather at the time.