Valentine Eastern Sierra Reserve Walks and Talks

Early Season Wildflowers of Valentine Reserve
June 30, July 7 (same talk each day)
Sherryl Taylor 9:30-12:00 pm
moderately strenuous hike

Valentine Reserve changes color throughout the wildflower season. This hike will allow you to see what is blooming early in the season. Depending on the year, you can expect to see arrays of forget-me-nots, Mariposa lilies, and violets which will be in seed later in the summer. The hike is moderately strenuous, with a 500’ elevation gain. Bring water, hat and sunscreen.

History of the Valentine Reserve
June 22, 29 (same talk each day)
Jay and Noelle Deinken 9:00-11:30 am

The area known as the Valentine Reserve has had many uses over the years. Join us on a tour of the reserve to learn about the area’s first visitors, how the inhabitants have changed over a century or so and how the land is being used today. From Native Americans to gold speculators to wealthy Angelenos and now educators and scientists, this land has served a wide variety of needs.

The Geology of Valentine Reserve
June 21, 28, July 5, 26 (same talk each day)
Tony Taylor/Carole Lester 9:30-12:00 pm

The geography of Valentine Reserve was shaped over the millennia by the geologic forces of time. Mammoth Mountain volcano, the glaciers of the Tioga glacial epic and the explosions of the Inyo Craters have all left their mark at Valentine. During this moderately strenuous hike, you will learn how the rocks of Valentine arrived at their destination. Bring water, hat and sunscreen.

How to Register:
Call Carole Lester @(805)893-5655 to register
Send a check for $15.00 per person (suggested donation) made out to the “UC Regents” to:
Carole Lester, Education Coordinator
1016 Mt. Morrison Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Pre-registration required. No entrance at the gate without reservations. Group size is limited. Payment by check only, no cash or credit cards. No dogs, no smoking allowed at the Reserve. Donations are for the Outdoor Science Education Program to support science field trips to Valentine Reserve for the children of Inyo and Mono County

For more information: http://vesr.ucnrs.org; carole.lester@ucsb.edu

Wildflowers and Trees of Valentine Reserve
June 24, July 28 (same talk each day)
Carole Lester 9:30-12:00 pm

Every plant has a story, or a native use, and learning a plant’s story is often a key to helping remember its name. If you are looking for a fun way to learn many local wildflowers and trees by common name this is your class. The class will hike through five distinct plant communities, and the dominant species found in each community will be described. The hike is moderately strenuous, with a 500’ elevation gain. Bring water, hat, and sunscreen.

Introduction to Birding at Valentine Reserve
July 23
Bill and Sherry Taylor 8:30-11:00 am

Learn to look for and identify birds on this 1.5 mile hike. Valentine Reserve is a pristine, protected location in the heart of Mammoth where a broad range of bird species can be found in different habitats. We might see woodpeckers, jays, chickadees, nuthatches and kinglets in the forest. Ducks and kingfishers are frequently seen at the ponds. We might spot a dipper in Mammoth Creek, a hummingbird in the meadow or a hawk soaring overhead. Binoculars and field guides will be available but feel free to bring your own.

Black Bears
June 23, July 1 (same talk each day)
Carole Lester 9:30-11:30 am

While walking through Black Bear forest habitat you will see bear scratched trees, a bear den and occasionally bear tracks. Learn how bears survive in the forest, and how Mammoth Lakes is managing their bear population. Children welcome.

Bears, Coyotes and Aplodontia?!!!!
July 8, 29 (same talk each day)
Jo Bacon 9:30-11:30 am

Learn about the wildlife of Valentine Camp and their strategies for survival. Find out what is an Aplodontia! This moderate hike will give an introduction on mule deer, black bears, coyotes, Aplodontia and Douglas tree squirrels. Sightings are not guaranteed.