

## Draft TMN Training Schedule 2024

Session		Date	Start Time	Hours	
		Location	End Time	E	O
	<b>Training Overview</b>	week night, to be determined	6:00 p.m.	2	
		Alpine / Marfa Public Library	8:00 p.m.		
<b>I</b>	<b>Achieving Our Purpose</b>	Saturday, August 17	8:00 a.m.	7	
		Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center	4:00 p.m.		
<b>II</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>	Saturday, August 24	8:00 a.m.	7	
		Davis Mountains State Park	4:00 p.m.		
	<b>TMN Chapter Meeting</b>	Saturday, September 7	10:00 a.m.	3	
		location to be determined	1:00 p.m.		
<b>III</b>	<b>Managing for Wildlife</b>	Saturday, September 21	9:00 a.m.	6	<b>O</b>
		Elephant Mountain WMA	4:00 p.m.		
<b>IV</b>	<b>Grasping Grasslands</b>	Saturday, October 12	9:00 a.m.	6	
		Mimm's Ranch, Marfa	4:00 p.m.		
<b>V</b>	<b>Sky Islands - Uncertain Refuge</b>	Saturday, October 19	9:00 a.m.	6	<b>O</b>
		TNC Davis Mountains Preserve	4:00 p.m.		
<b>VI</b>	<b>Water in a Dry Land</b>	September or October?		6	
		to be determined			
<b>Total Hours**</b>				43	

E - estimated hours for each session (**Note:** Each trainee will be responsible for bringing their own food and water, including lunch, to all training sessions.)

**O** - optional overnight, details to be provided prior to the training session

\*\*Prior to each session, an online presentation related to the session topic will be recommended. Each online presentation is about 1 hour and will count toward the required 40 training hours.

# Expected Session Content

## Introduction and Overview

- review TMN organization and policies
- safety overview; carpooling
- sign into your individual TMN account and learn how to record training and service hours - a skill that you will need during training and as a TMN member. If possible, please have the electronic device (cell phone, tablet, notebook computer) that you are most likely to use for logging your training hours
- receive a training manual and TMN book
- provide cash or check made out to Tierra Grande Chapter TMN to cover training expenses

## Session I. Achieving Our Purpose at the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center (CDRI)

- Welcome, CDRI overview, volunteer opportunities (Lisa Gordon, Executive Director)
- The importance of insects to ecosystem function (Dr. Christopher Ritzi, Professor of Biology, Sul Ross State University)
- Climate change and the Big Bend (Dr. Cathryn Hoyt, Ranger, Big Bend National Park)
- Achieving our purpose as TMN volunteers (Warren Shaul, Vice President, Tierra Grande Chapter)

## Session II. Community Engagement at Davis Mountains State Park (DMSP)

- Welcome, DMSP overview, volunteer opportunities (Charlie Ewing, Interpretive Ranger, DMSP)
- Interpretive walk (Charlie Ewing)
- Geology of Big Bend (to be determined)
- Archeology of Big Bend (Dr. Bryon Schroeder, Director of Center for Big Bend Studies, Sul Ross State University)
- Interpretation Practice

## Session III. Managing for Wildlife at Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area (EMWMA)

- Welcome, EMWMA overview, volunteer opportunities (Cody McEntire, Manager, EMWMA)
- Management of Big Horn Sheep (wildlife biologist, to be determined)
- Management of other game species (wildlife biologist, to be determined)
- Field activity - restoring habitat for game species
- Optional overnight: bunk house or camping; dinner and breakfast provided; volunteer service on Sunday - restoring habitat for game species

#### **Session IV. Grasping Grasslands at Mimm's Ranch in Marfa**

- Welcome, Mimm's Ranch overview (Dr. Philip Boyd, Vice President, Science and Research, Dixon Water Foundation)
- Grassland management: grasses, grazing and management challenges (Casey Wade, President and CEO, Dixon Water Foundation)
- Pronghorn management (wildlife biologist, to be determined)
- Grassland birds and quail (wildlife biologist, to be determined)

#### **Session V. Sky Islands at Davis Mountains Preserve (DMP), The Nature Conservancy**

- Welcome, DMP overview, volunteer opportunities (Kaylee French, Manager, DMP)
- Interpretive hike to Tobe Spring (about 3 miles round trip) - diversity of plants and animals (biologists/botanists to be determined)
- Water and Aquifers of the Big Bend (Dr. Kevin Urbanczyk, Professor of Geology and Director of Rio Grande Research Center, Sul Ross State University)
- Optional overnight: bunk house or camping; dinner and breakfast provided; volunteer service on Sunday

#### **Session VI. Water in a Dry Land (location to be determined)**

- Welcome, riparian and stream restoration overview, volunteer opportunities (Jeff Bennett, Habitat Restoration Hydrologist, Rio Grande Joint Venture)
- Field activity: riparian restoration, brush and rock weirs (trainer to be determined)

#### **Graduation: Tierra Grande Chapter Meeting on Saturday, December 7 (location and time to be determined)**