Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve
Annual Report
For the period
January 1, 2003 – December 31, 2003

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PRESERVE MANAGEMENT

The Wild Basin staff implements the policies and priorities set forth by The Committee for Wild Basin Wilderness, Inc. The staff devoted 30 hours weekly to the day-to-day management of the Preserve, including scheduling and supervising all work performed within its boundaries.
This included supervision of Wild Basin Rangers, Caretaker, tour leaders, and the coordination of volunteer recruitment and training.

MAINTENANCE AND SANITATION

- More than 4,000 hours of staff time, 8,304 hours of community service restitution work time and volunteer time was spent in the management, maintenance, sanitation, repair, revegetation, programs and security of Wild Basin Preserve in 2003.

- Two and one half (2 1/2) miles of trails received routine maintenance. This work included replacing water bars, building steps in steep areas, removing rocks from trails, maintaining trail surfaces, trimming trees and brush from trail surfaces. Trail Hands, the volunteer trail workers and members of the Central Texas Trail Tamers work every month on the second Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Occasional volunteer groups provided full-day work as part of their corporate volunteer services to the community. Eagle Scouts have also contributed time and planning to trail maintenance, revegetation and other improvement projects.

- The Easy Access Trail is a continuing maintenance project to keep the trail accessible for wheel chair and stroller use. This short trail required constant maintenance to the surface adequate fir use by the mobility-impaired. The trail was accessible to wheelchairs the whole year of 2003.

- The steps along Tricknee Trail, Laurel Trail, Possum Trail, and Madrone Trail were rebuilt in areas where the steps had deteriorated. This is an annual process. Unauthorized trails along Creek Trail, Easy Access Trail, Laurel Trail, and Possum Trail were barricaded with brush. The rock on the Creek Trail was stabilized and rocks lining all of the trails were continually replaced. This is also an ongoing effort. Eagle Scouts closed off one part of the trail near the start of Madrone and rerouted it making an unofficial trail

official. Eagle Scouts also provided an "overlook" or view on a short spur trail just off of the porch on the north side of the building.

- As in previous years, fire ants were not found this past year and no controls were performed.

- We continue to be far more aggressive than in the recent past on removal of invasive, non-native plants such as honeysuckle, ligustrum and nandina. We have added Vitex to the list of undesirables. We documented (in 2001) a large patch of Vitex growing near the entrance and, after observing it's invasive nature on our slopes, we began removing it by hand cutting. We continue a program of revisiting the plants that were removed and cutting their sprouts. The Vitex has proven to be rather determined in its desire to grow near our entrance. Additional dense stands of vitex have been found all along the slopes of the drainage north of the driveway and efforts are ongoing to remove these plants as they are identified.

VISITATION

- More than two thousand (4,500) visitors signed in the Wild Basin's visitation register. Visitors came from several cities in Texas. They came from 45 states in the United States. Visitors from around the world included guests from West Indies, Germany, Austria, England, Singapore, Australia, Canada, Scotland, Finland, Japan, Spain, Korea, Colombia, Denmark, Wales, Brazil, Belgium, Sweden, Indonesia, South Africa, Switzerland, Venezuela and Argentina. Because so few visitors actually sign in at the guest register, the actual number of visitors is not known.

REPAIRS AND REVEGETATION

- Controlling erosion damage on the entry road is a continuing maintenance project. The road slopes downward toward the north so the rock continues to move in that direction. Volunteers moved the gravel by hand to the uphill side of the road. In 2002 we had a bus turnaround completed, along with a resurfacing (with native materials) of the driveway and the delivery driveway. The delivery driveway material and manpower was provided by Travis County. We continue to maintain this area.

- Volunteers and community service restitution workers removed trash from both entrances of Bee Creek trails and along the roadside to the north up to the City's Vireo Preserve and

to the south up to the road cut at Bee Cave Road and Capital of Texas Highway, as well as throughout the Basin. A sign was put at the Wild Basin Ledge Road informing potential visitors that the entrance was off of Capital of Texas Highway. This sign was provided by Travis County.

- New trailhead signs provided to better inform visitors about rules of the trail. Boundary signs have been placed along the south and east boundaries. Additional signs have been placed along the boundary in 2003.

- Unauthorized entry and off-trail activity continues to be one of the major problems especially at the waterfall, the rear entrance (Wild Basin Ledge area) of the Preserve, and near the Overlook. Other trails are appearing near the entrance and on the area opposite the Overlook. In 2003 unauthorized trails and entry areas were watched. Efforts have been made to block the trails with vegetation and plantings. Signs have been placed at the entrances to some of these trails advising people that the area is closed to access.

- The Board of Wild Basin voted in 2002 to move most or all of the 2003 Haunted Trails off site, or at least out of the Preserve. This action was taken to remove the concerns of impact within the Preserve. This will allow us to take a more pro-active approach to restoration. We formed a relationship with Davenport Village where they provided space for the design and set up portion of Haunted Trails and then provided transportation to Wild Basin where the "trail hauntings occurred". This reduced the impact to the preserves 95% and still allowed Wild Basin to benefit from a very successful event.

SURVEYS

- PBS&J of Austin provided and oversaw the endangered species study of the Golden-Cheeked Warbler. They determined that male gcw's were consistently at Wild Basin during the 2003 nesting season.

- The executive director and the land management began a comprehensive survey of the perimeter for the purpose of determining the degree of trespass and to identify the boundary and place signs. A digital image file is being developed for the boundary perimeter. GPS points have been set for each boundary point.

SECURITY

- More than one thousand (1,000) hours were spent by the caretaker, who patrols at night, on holidays, and weekends. He opens the gates to the preserve at dawn and locks the gates at dusk (or as quickly as visitors can be encouraged to leave). He does spot checks in the evening to discourage nighttime illegal entry to the preserve.

- A few random vehicle break-ins have occurred in our parking lot throughout 2002 but nothing with any regularity that established a pattern. There was some frequency during the summer but after we began a regular observation, the activities discontinued. Staff and volunteers have continued surveillance of the parking area and to alert visitors to the possibility of vehicles being entered or vandalized. Particular attention has been given to notification of large groups meeting at the Basin. Some assistance on monitoring for possible problems was provided by Travis County officials.

- Visitors were notified about fire dangers when this was a risk during 2002. Signs in the parking area and along the trail entrance advised visitors of the risk and an interpretive display on the porch strengthened this warning. Additionally visitors have been advised about their personal safety while hiking in extreme heat and suggestions have been provided to encourage their following some basic safety precautions. Visitors have also been informed about potential encounters with wildlife and precautions that they should take when walking in “wild” lands.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Interpretation and Environmental Education

- The education programs offered to schools and to the community are designed to promote awareness of environmental preservation and maintenance, to encourage wise stewardship of the land.

- It is essential for us to carry out the preservation of Wild Basin outside its property boundaries. Many pressures on the natural quality of the preserve come from outside the preserve itself: invasive exotic plants and domestic animals, rapidly increasing water pollution in the Bee Creek watershed, air, sound, and light pollution. Programs at Wild Basin this year continue to focus on enhancing awareness of the impacts on Wild communities.

- Through strategies that include "the outdoor experience", exploration, study, interpretation, and experimentation Wild Basin will continue working to inspire an appreciation of nature and to empower each visitor to take responsibility for preserving our natural environment.

- Wild Basin has developed ongoing family education programs to encourage a stronger support base from families in the community. Family Trail Days is a family program that facilitates connecting people who provide environmental-type services with people who could benefit. This offers families options to “test-drive memberships” and to learn more about the preserves in Austin.

Education

- Kiki Corry continues to assist with implementing educational programs. These include scout and after school programs, Family Trail Days, parent/preschool walks and school tours.

- School tours served over 4,500 students over a period of twenty (20) weeks. Tours were conducted in the spring and again in the fall. Group size limits are restricted and held to maximums of 50 per visit. Groups include public and private schools, parochial schools and home-school groups primarily in age groups 1st - 6th grades. School tours are

currently running at capacity. Participating school districts include Austin, Eanes, Georgetown and Roundrock.

- Esther McCormick, Jewel Pollard and Kiki Corry trained volunteer tour guides for the spring and fall. Both sessions were comprised of seven (7) weeks of training totaling 28 hours. In the January sessions of 2002 we trained several rangers from Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources Parks and Natural Resources. This was a collaboration in which we trained Travis County staff to conduct Wild Basin style tours. We routed tour requests to Hamilton Pool and Southeast Metro. Travis County rangers also responded to our needs for tour assistance.

- Mike Powers, under guidance of the Land Management Committee and the Education Committee, helped to begin a process whereby long-term community service volunteers all received an educational orientation to the Basin. The requirement that all land/trail maintenance volunteers participate in an educational guided tour continued with success into 2002.

- Eleven (11) different programs were scheduled through the Lone Star Girl Scout Council's Possibilities program and the Boy Scout Council including Snakes Alive, Birding, Flintknapping and Native Plants, Journaling through the Seasons, NEWS: Finding Your Way, Pack it Right, Geology and Fossils, Indian Lore, and Tree Identification occurred during 2003 and were attended by 1,500 children and 120 adults. More were scheduled but, as always, rainy weather prevented many tours from occurring in 2002. After school tour guides are continually being recruited and trained to assist with the very popular “Wild Afternoons” programs. One of the strongest and most popular classes is the compass orienteering workshop that is being provided by a volunteer.

- Tiny Footprints continued in 2003, offering experiential, small-group, high quality experiences along the trails for 3, 4 and 5 year olds. Over 500 children visited as part of the Tiny Footprints tours.

- Wee Trails is a program similar to Tiny Footprints that goes to the schools to help them discover “habitats” and nature in their backyards. We began this program in 2002 satisfying the curiosity of over 400 children in East Austin.

SUMMER PROGRAM

- Laurie Sharp and Jackie McFadden taught the summer program, Hill Country Natural Science School. A total of 120 children attended the four week-long sessions from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Two education students assisted the camp instructors. A second session continued in partnership with Zachary Scott Theater. Two of their instructors joined with one of our instructors to provide "informal science education" for another 96 children. In this program they learned about geology, hydrology and habitats through drama, musicals, and soap operas. Their productions were presented on the last day of the 5-day, 4-hour, program.

- UT Informal Science students joined the Hill Country Natural Science School teachers to learn more about teaching in summer camps. We had 6 students in the June sessions.

TRAINING PROGRAMS

- Thirty-four (34) docent guides were trained for weekday, preschool and weekend programs at Wild Basin. Two home-school students joined the training for Tiny Footprints.

- Weekend tour guides were trained during two training sessions in 2003. Each training session was comprised of three weeks of training for four hours each week.

- Trail maintenance/Community Service Restitution volunteers continued to receive educational training before proceeding with trail work in 2003.

AFFILIATIONS WITH OTHER GROUPS

- Wild Basin has endeavored to develop strong relationships with like-minded groups in the community. Rather than reinventing new programs connections between us and other organizations has been actively pursued. In 2002 the following groups have held regular meetings at the Basin:
  Austin Paddling Club
  Central Texas Trail Tamers
  Native Plant Society of Texas
  Sierra Club
  Texas Earth Science Week Coalition

Texas Environmental Awareness Network

Other groups have used Wild Basin as a site for periodic meetings:
Austin Astronomical Society
City of Austin Watershed Protection Department
Horned Lizard Conservation Society
Master Naturalists
Texas Parks and Wildlife
TNRCC
Travis Audubon Society
TreeFolks
Westlake Chamber of Commerce
Partnerships are pursued to strengthen relationships and to improve the educational content. In 2002 we enriched partnerships with:
ACCESS
Austin Astronomical Society
Austin Energy
Austin Gem and Mineral Society
Austin Museum Partnership
Bamberger Ranch/Selah, Johnson City
Barnes and Noble Bookstores
Bureau of Economic Geology
Dell Computer
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
Lower Colorado River Authority
Maplewood Elementary (AISD)
Motorolla
Texas Audubon Society
Texas Forest Service
Texas Solar Energy Society
Texas Woodcarvers Society
Travis Audubon Society
Travis County
Westlake Picayune Newspaper
We are of the belief that Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve can work with all of the similar organizations in the community to pursue obtaining the highest quality of life for all of the residents.

PUBLICATIONS

- Four (4) issues of the Wild Basin Newsletter were produced and distributed.

- A Volunteer Training Manual is updated annually, complete with TAAS and TEKS information for school groups.

- A Tiny Footprints Training Manual was expanded to include two new themes: Rocks and Squirrel/Acorns

INTERPRETIVE DISPLAYS

- "What's Blooming" informational display was maintained on the porch of the Educational Building throughout the year.

- Volunteers and staff devoted 50 hours per week to continuing the environmental education activities of Wild Basin during weekdays. Kiki Corry (staff) and volunteer Esther McCormick trained tour guides for the spring and fall school semester. Volunteers led educational tours of the Basin and supervised the training and guide program.

- Volunteers and staff also served as on-site experts on a variety of environmental topics including plants, revegetation, birds, animals, and geology. They were accessible to preserve visitors and callers answering questions about the Preserve environment.

- A small collection of arrowheads is maintained and displayed in the Great Hall.

- Negotiations were completed with Texas Department of Health to set up a permanent insect collection at Wild Basin. It has been installed and efforts in conjunction with the University of Texas are underway to expand the exhibit and provide educational content.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE TOURS

- Four thousand five hundred plus (4,500+) public and private school children representing more than 56 classes experienced educational programs at the Wild Basin during the past year. While most of the students were elementary level, several high

school classes participated in Wild Basin programs as well. Students came from Eanes, Round Rock, Austin, Del Valle and Georgetown school districts.

- Wild Basin and the Lone Star Girl Scout offered educational programs to scouts from a fourteen-county area. The scouts are awarded Wild Basin badges for these programs. Volunteers and staff conducted these weekday and weekend programs.

GROUP TOURS

- One hundred twenty-five (125) groups, including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Community Groups, church groups, Extend-a-care, Day cares, corporate groups, and retirement groups visited and/or participated in guided or self-guided tours at Wild Basin.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

- Thirty (30) hours of speaking engagements about the unique environment of Wild Basin were provided to local civic groups and clubs.

- Two hundred plus (200+) hours of volunteer time was spent representing Wild Basin at community events.

- One hundred fifty plus (150+) hours of volunteer time was spent representing Wild Basin at corporate and community health seminars.

- Staff and volunteers served as on-site points of contact regarding questions about plants, animal life, geology and water issues for visitors and callers.

- Board members and volunteers served as Wild Basin liaison and representatives at a variety of community events and meetings.

- Once again, worked with teachers, the principal and students at Maplewood Elementary as a partner school providing educational opportunities on Solar Energy and interpretive trail walks.

- Over 400 middle school students benefited from an Earth Science Program, Earth Science Career Day Fair, co-coordinated by Carol Knepp and Sigrid Clift (Bureau of Economic Geology). $1,700 was raised by the Earth Science Consortium for support of the Austin Public Library's earth science youth collection.

- Provided Camp Waste Mania for 4th grade students at Del Valle schools. This recycling education program was done in conjunction with Travis County.

INFORMATION SERVICES

- The Wild Basin office was open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The office is open for 50 weeks of the year. Office Volunteers devoted more than 2,500 hours during the year to greeting visitors, answering questions about the preserve, giving directions, scheduling tours, and

answering the phone. Visitors were able to gain additional access to the Basin on-line at www.wildbasin.org

BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS

- A Bird Survey was conducted this year by PBS&J to survey Golden-cheeked Warbler populations in the Basin. In 2003 presence/absence surveys resulted in the positive identification of nine GCW's throughout 5 visits during the breeding season. The survey method used the protocol established by the FWS in determining the presence or absence of this migratory songbird. All of these birds were mature males, singing their territorial songs. No females were heard nor were any fledglings seen or nests located. They noted, however, that locating a GCW nest is a long and arduous task and was outside the scope of the investigation. It was their professional opinion that due to the high number of singing territorial males positively identified during the breeding season and, given the fact that WBWP has several areas of suitable breeding habitat, GCW's were most likely nesting on the preserve during the spring of 2003. A concluding note points out that both male and female birds were observed at the Basin by qualified visitors in early summer giving support to the theory that nesting had occurred.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Preserve: *to keep safe from injury, harm or destruction; to protect; to keep alive, intact, free from decay; to reserve for special use. (Webster)*

Security and Safety

- Deterring vandalism, and preventing the removal of any natural feature, living or non-living from the preserve are ongoing daily activities in the Preserve.

- Safety is promoted by educating visitors about the environment. A telephone for emergency use is provided inside the Environmental Education Center during actual business hours.

- Signs alerting visitors to avoid smoking and to not leave valuables in vehicles are placed at strategic areas along the road and trails.

- Signs were placed along trails alerting visitors of high fire dangers. Through a community-wide effort, Wild Basin has been involved in wild lands fire management planning.

- No Parking Fire Lane signs were placed in the driveway to eliminate parking on both sides of the driveway. These signs were provided by Travis County.

- Educational informing advising visitors on how to interact with wildlife in the event of an encounter -- specifically, deer, coyote, tarantulas, scorpions and mountain lion. The chances of such encounters are rare to almost non-existent, but because of concerns resulting from possible sightings in the greater community a pro-active approach of advisement was chosen.

Trail System

- The existing trails (see map) comprise a system of active, rested, and retired (and revegetated) paths used for human circulation within the Preserve.

Plant and Animal Communities

- Human impact on its natural integrity is minimized by restricting visitor access to trails. Exceptions for special education or scientific purposes, can be made.

- Invasive domestic animals, as well as, exotic plant and animal species are managed to protect native plant and animal populations. Contacts have been made with local exterminators to eliminate the drop-offs of trapped animals from their businesses.

- The manipulation of native plant communities will probably be warranted in the future, but such programs will be implemented only when volunteer and financial support is available. In 2003 we have utilized volunteer support to provide the following:

Improvement on Private Land

- Weeding along the driveway, and removal of invasive plant material has been an ongoing project throughout the year.

- A boundary survey is conducted annually. Volunteer support has assisted the Executive Director on this survey, making it possible to conduct quarterly surveys as well as the primary annual survey.

- Eagle Scouts built sign-in boxes for each trailhead. These have been provided for security reasons so that we know who is on our trails in the event of fires or natural disasters. We will continue to utilize the skills and abilities of Eagle Scouts and other volunteer groups to supply improvements.

- A storage shed was constructed in the parking lot that serves as a welcome station as well as storage of special event supplies. We continue to plan for an admission kiosk in the parking lot and to pursue optional sites for parking required for large events.

- The board of Wild Basin has voted on a new category in the strategic planning to include stronger relationships with our "neighbors" and to accomplish this, a committee was formed to explore possible objectives and initial meetings have taken place in 2003.

- Volunteers have removed Vitex, Chinaberry, honeysuckle, Chinese Tallow and ligustrum throughout the year and will continue to provide this service.

- A trail-side platform was constructed in an area that had undergone considerable off-trail damage. This is defining the boundary of off-trail experiences and is allowing for restoration efforts. Restoration efforts continue and we will explore creative techniques for keeping visitors ontrail.

- Extensive King-Ranch Bluestem control efforts and reseeding have taken place along Creek Trail and near the entryway and along the driveway throughout the year.

- Trail bars have been repaired and replaced along all of the trails in an effort to provide safer trails and to reduce degradation from erosion.

Education

- Training continued in 2003 for volunteers and Travis County staff to address varying interpretive needs, ours at Wild Basin and those of Travis County Parks. Several Travis County employees joined our bi-annual guide training program and that we would work

with two parks, Hamilton Pool and SouthEast Metro staff, to schedule school tours in 2003. This is part of an ongoing effort to strengthen our mutual programs.

- Wild Basin has been actively forming a strong educational relationship with BCP through an education committee and by participating in Land Manager meetings. We are also working with other BCP partners to extend the reach of our combined community.

THE COMMITTEE FOR WILD BASIN WILDERNESS, INC.

The Committee for Wild Basin Wilderness, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting responsible stewardship through education. The mission of The Committee for Wild Basin Wilderness, Inc. is to maintain Wild Basin and to promote land preservation and environmental education.

STRUCTURE

The Board of Directors of Wild Basin Wilderness, Inc. is comprised of sixteen members. Under the direction of Board Members are seven standing committees including Development/Membership, Neighbor, Finance/Management, Education, Land Management, Personnel, and Building.

WILD BASIN VALUES

- Environmental education that promotes an understanding of nature, life-long learning with a self-motivated message;
- Accessible wilderness providing an urban oasis and solitude in the city;
- The land itself, complete with its complex variety of natural features where the least flashy members of the ecosystem are protected;
- Commitment to helping people change their attitudes about our natural world;
- Our volunteers, the diversity of knowledge and skills that they bring to the mission;
- Promoting hands-on experiences in a hands-off environment.

BOARD MEMBERS

- Ray Benson, Development - Ray is the founder and the leader of Asleep at the Wheel, a Texas Swing band. He has produced more than 15 albums and performed in many venues.

- Pat Barnes, Finance, Development, Board President - Pat is a real estate attorney with Barnes and Karish and has served on the advisory committee for many years.

- Jan Demetri, Development, Finance – Jan joined Wild basin in 2003. She is a CPA and is self-employed.

- Helene Engler, Education – Helene joined in 2002. She is a biologist and science editor with Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

- Harlin Hanson, Education/Land Management Committee,- Harlin is an Operating System Specialist at The University of Texas. He has served as a tour guide and illustrated, The *Trail of Old Time Texas* and *Care for the Rare*. He, with editorial suggestions from committee members, wrote and illustrated Leaflets *Three, Noisy Names*, and *Surprises*.

- Fidel Hernandez, Finance, Building Committees – Fidel is the President of COM-TEX, a communications equipment and systems dealer. He is an active community leader and he is a past president.

- Karen Lynn Huber, Land Management Committee, Vice President - Karen joined this year. She has worked with The Nature Conservancy and has served on Travis County committees for land issues.

- Roy Keithley, Development – Roy joined in 2002 and is very active with Boy Scouts and Marbridge Farm. He is an active community leader.

- Lisa Kepple, Development – Lisa brings a strong background on direct marketing campaigns with Public Strategies, Inc and Olsen and Delisi (formerly Karl Rove & Co).

- Jane Leverton, Development Committee – Owner of Executive Training Center and Downtown Lions member, Jane has been involved in an advisory capacity with Wild Basin before joining in 2002.

- Flo Macklin, Personnel Committee – Flo is a Founding Member of Wild Basin. She is volunteers in the office as well as at the Westbank Community Library and Meals on Wheels.

- JoAnn Merica, Secretary – JoAnn has provided this legal advice and support for several years and joined the board in 2003.

- Elaine Miller, Education and Neighbors Committees – Elaine joined in 2001 and Technology librarian for Westbank Library and neighbor.

- Lin Poor, Land Management Committee – Lin joined in 2001. He is employed at LCRA as a Senior Land Manager.

- George Singer, Building Committee -- Self-employed with his own construction business.

- C. Brooks Schuelke, Parliamentarian, Development Committee - Brooks is an attorney with Perlmutter & Reagan, LLP. He has a Bachelors degree in Business Administration from The University of Texas and a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree with honors from The University of Texas School of Law. He is active in the Travis County Bar Association, Austin Young Lawyers Association, and a volunteer with Volunteer Legal Services. He additionally has the distinction of being the only Board member to have gone on an educational tour when he was in elementary school.

- Doris Thompson, Development Committee – Development Director for Marywood Children and Family Services, Doris agreed to join Wild Basin in 2003 to assist on development efforts.

- Rick Windham, Development, Finance, Treasurer - Rick is an administrator in Women Partners in Health in Austin. He holds a black belt in karate and volunteers for Wildlife Rescue and Capital City Playhouse.

STAFF

Executive Director

- Carol Knepp has been with Wild Basin since January 1999 and her responsibilities include overseeing the educational program and its development, land management and to oversee the administration of Wild Basin and personnel. Carol also works with BCCP, Travis County, City of Austin, and other agencies, organizations and non-profits to facilitate ongoing relations and partnerships.

Development Director

- Georganne Foster joined Wild Basin in 1994 as office administrator/facilities manager. In 2000 she became the Development Director. She has coordinated events such as Haunted Trails, Spring Art and Music Festival, and Natural Palette.

Facilities Manager

- Jerome Collins joined Wild Basin in June 2000. Jerome is responsible for volunteer management, financial records, building and office management, publications, and building/facility management

Education Coordinator

- Kiki Corry joined Wild Basin on a part-time basis in December 1999, but soon moved into a fulltime position. She has worked closely with guide training and conducting tours with schools, scouts, adults and community service volunteers. Additionally, she coordinates the Family Trail Days monthly events.

Caretaker

- Mike Powers has been the caretaker since January 2000 and has been responsible for training our trail maintenance team. He has worked with us to develop sensitivity and awareness of our various trail maintenance volunteers. We have established a program of conducting tour education for regular trail maintenance volunteers. We provide copies of plant pictures for the species they will be working with. Additionally he has:
    - followed through with a monthly reporting system
    - attends monthly land management meetings
    - repaired and replaced many of the diversion/water bars on the trails
    - maintained the trails and repaired erosion damage
    - overseen the ongoing efforts of removing non-native plants

Part-time Rangers

- Tamatha Niebert joined as a weekend ranger in 2003. She is a landscaper specializing in native plants and in addition to her ranger duties, she provides support on monthly trail maintenance projects.

- Sally Scott has been a weekend ranger since 2001 and has been responsible for working with weekend volunteers, assisting weekend visitors and assisting evening visitors during nighttime programs (Star gazing and moon light walks).

- Lucinda Wise joined as a weekend ranger in 2003. She has led preschool/parent tours and volunteers to organize the gift shop, WildStore.