



Conservation
Lands
Foundation



Friends of
Ironwood Forest

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Volunteers will Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Ironwood Forest

Congressman Grijalva and Noted Author to Take Part in Celebration

TUCSON- Friends of Ironwood Forest is excited to host a 10th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, June 5th from 5 p.m.-8p.m., with special guests Congressman Raul Grijalva and Sonoran Desert Author Gary Nabhan. Ironwood Forest National Monument (NM) is part of the National Landscape Conservation System, a collection of some of the country's most scenic, historic, natural and cultural sites called the National Conservation Lands.

"Friends of Ironwood Forest is excited the community is coming out to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Ironwood National Monument," said Lahsha Brown, Executive Director of Friends of Ironwood Forest. "The Monument is such a unique and special place and most people in the Tucson area don't know its right in their backyard."

Ironwood Forest NM, located 25 miles northwest of Tucson in southern Arizona, was created in 2000 to protect the amazing cultural and biological resources found in the area. Ironwood Forest is composed of over 129,000 acres of Sonoran Desert habitat and includes the Silver Bell, Sawtooth and Waterman Mountain Ranges. Named for the unique desert Ironwood tree, the National Monument has an amazing diversity of plant and animal life.

"Ironwood Forest is one of the most beautiful areas within the National Conservation Lands" said Scott Jones, Southwest Program Director for the Conservation Lands Foundation. "Friends of Ironwood Forest have worked hard to protect and promote Ironwood Forest National Monument and we are impressed by all they have accomplished."

The 10th Anniversary Celebration will be held at the Heritage Highlands at Dove Mountain, 4949 W. Heritage Club Blvd., Marana, AZ 85658. **Informal Press Conference will be held from 4:15 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Spots still available-** please call Lahsha Brown at 1-520-256-7884 to RSVP. Casual reception with light refreshments and speakers to follow.

For more information on Friends of Ironwood Forest, visit: www.ironwoodforest.org

For more information on the National Conservation Lands, visit: www.ourconservationlegacy.org

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