



Nature Center Debuts at Grand Opening

After years of planning, design, construction and challenges, Clark County officials held the grand opening for the Clark County Wetlands Park Nature Center on Saturday, April 20, 2013.

Hundreds of visitors, including Clark County Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, were in attendance.



Visitors fill the Clark County Wetlands Park Nature Center exhibit gallery at the grand opening.

The Nature Center is a gold-level Leader in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building. A portion of the 30,000-square-foot space contains interactive exhibits, videos, and three-dimensional displays that provide a fun and engaging learning experience.

Among the exhibits are a hydrologic model of the Las Vegas Wash and dioramas with life-sized native wildlife and vegetation. There also is a 15,000-square-foot viewing platform providing visitors a panoramic view of the surrounding wetlands.

The opening of the Nature Center marks the completion of the 210-acre Clark County Nature Preserve. Designed as a natural interpretive area within the Wetlands Park, the Nature Preserve features the Nature Center, miles of paved and unpaved hiking trails, ponds and waterways serving as havens for birds and other wildlife, as well as a wetlands-themed neighborhood playground.

The Wetlands Park is open daily from dawn to dusk. The Nature Center is open between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. For additional information, visit www.ClarkCountyNV.gov.

Weir Construction Project Officially Wraps Up

After more than a year of construction, the Southern Nevada Water Authority has reviewed and approved the completion of one of the largest weir projects to date.

The project included simultaneous construction of the DU Wetlands No. 1, Duck Creek Confluence and Upper Narrows weirs.

Positioned near the Duck Creek and Las Vegas Wash confluence, the three weirs control 34 feet of vertical drop within the Wash. Additionally, the project includes improvements to the Burns Street Channel, where tributary storm runoff from Henderson outfalls into the Wash.



The recently completed Duck Creek Confluence Weir.

Controlling 13 feet of vertical drop, the DU Wetlands No. 1 Weir, the tallest of the three, was completed in July of 2012. That fall, the Duck Creek Confluence and Upper Narrows weirs were victim to two large storm events, delaying the construction schedule. In spite of the delay, the weirs were successfully completed in March 2013.

Construction on the new 3 Kids Weir, which will replace the temporary Demonstration Weir, is expected to begin in the next few months.

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