

part of the wetland project in 1997, and no cuckoos had been seen at the Park since then...until this year.

On June 26-28, we were elated to find a cuckoo at Rio Bosque for the first time in 14 years. It is the first small step towards what we hope will be their eventual return as a nesting bird at the Park. And it is a clear sign of progress for our ecological restoration efforts at the site. ✖

BORDER SECURITY

Historically, a major impediment to establishing native plant communities at Rio Bosque has been unauthorized off-road-vehicle traffic. The biological management plan for the Park recommended a fence or other suitable barrier along the east and north edges of the Park to address this problem.

After almost 5 years of effort, we now have a post-and-cable barrier completed in these areas. Low and unobtrusive, it prevents vehicle traffic but is not a barrier to wildlife movement. Thanks are due the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department, El Paso Water Utilities, El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 and the Meadows Foundation for their help in making this project possible. And thanks go to the many, many volunteers who installed dome posts over the years. We installed the first post on Jan 6, 2003; the 661st and last on Aug 1, 2007. ✖

Rio Bosque: 10 Years in the Making

Coming next spring to UTEP's Centennial Museum, an exciting exhibit telling the story of Rio Bosque Wetlands Park. You won't want to miss it!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.riobosque.org>

John Sproul 915-747-8663 jsproul@utep.edu

Want to help us save postage and paper by receiving this newsletter only via e-mail? Let John know.

Printing courtesy of Epson El Paso.

RIO BOSQUE CALENDAR

Join us at the Park for a free walking tour or to help with habitat management, Park maintenance or faunal monitoring. Coming up:

OCTOBER

Sat., Oct 6	Bird Tour	9 a.m.
Sun., Oct 14	Introductory Tour	9 a.m.
Sat., Oct 20	Community Workday	9 a.m.
Sat., Oct 27	Faunal Monitoring	8 a.m.

NOVEMBER

Sat., Nov 3	Bird Tour	9 a.m.
Sat., Nov 17	Community Workday	9 a.m.
Sun., Nov 18	Introductory Tour	3 p.m.
Sat., Nov 24	Bird Survey	sunrise

DECEMBER

Sat., Dec 1	Bird Tour	9 a.m.
Sun., Dec 9	Introductory Tour	8 a.m.
Fri., Dec 28	Bird Survey	sunrise

Meeting place for all activities except bird surveys is a bridge crossing the Riverside Canal. From I-10, take Americas Ave. (Loop 375) to Pan American Dr., turn left onto Pan American and travel 1.5 miles to the bridge. Please be prompt. Bird surveys start at the Park's visitor center.

