

## San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area & San Pedro House



### Description

The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (NCA) contains over 58,000 acres of public land along 40 miles of the upper San Pedro River. One of the most important riparian areas in the United States, the San Pedro River runs through the Chihuahuan Desert and the Sonoran Desert in southeastern Arizona. The river's stretch is home to 84 species of mammals, 14 species of fish, 41 species of reptiles and amphibians, and 100 species of breeding birds. It also provides invaluable habitat for 250 species of migrant and wintering birds and contains archaeological sites representing the remains of human occupation from 11,200 years ago. This area was recently

designated a Sustainable Destination by National Geographic.

### Directions

The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area is located **6 miles west of Sierra Vista, Arizona**. From Tucson, take Interstate 10 east 40 miles to State Highway 90. Follow the highway south through Huachuca City to Fry Boulevard in Sierra Vista, AZ. Follow this street for six miles east until you reach the **San Pedro House**.

### Visitor Activities

Birdwatching, Docent Walks daytime & evening (contact the San Pedro House for schedule), picnicking, plant and wildlife viewing, pre-historic and historic site visiting, hunting, hiking, fishing, biking, horseback riding, guided hikes, interpretive site visitation, and weekend children's programs.

### Special Features

The national conservation area features the intact remains of the Spanish Presidio Santa Cruz de Terranante, a Spanish fortress marking the northern extension of New Spain into the New World. The Murray Springs Clovis Site is a significant archaeological resource that contains evidence of the earliest known people to inhabit North America. An interpretive trail leads visitors to the site. The area also features the ruins of the old mining town of Fairbank. The San Pedro House, a 1930's-era converted ranch house, serves as a bookstore and visitor center.

### Permits, Fee, Limitations

Day use throughout the NCA is free; no permit is required. Commercial operators are required to secure special authorization prior to their planned visit.

### Accessibility

Wheelchair-accessible restrooms are available at the San Pedro House, and other accessible trails are under construction.

### San Pedro House

The San Pedro House has area information, a bookstore, parking, a picnic ramada and restrooms. Interpretive programs including docent walks are available.

#### San Pedro House Books & Gifts

[sanpedrohouse@sanpedroriver.org](mailto:sanpedrohouse@sanpedroriver.org) 520.508.4445

**Docent walks for groups** – recommended donation \$25 for 20 people

Contact [fspr@sanpedroriver.org](mailto:fspr@sanpedroriver.org) 520.459.2555