



The Source

Voice of the Saline Preservation Association
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UPDATE ON SPA

Hello again to all who love the Saline Valley, our communal heart-home no matter where else we wander. It's been a year since we last published and we want to give you the results of the Visitor Survey we included in our issue #33 last fall.

SURVEY RESULTS

We were gratified with the response of our membership to the Visitor Survey we included in our last issue of The Source. Many of the responses we received were very specific about what you liked or didn't like about the way DVNP is administering the Saline Valley area, and how the Saline Warm Springs are being managed. There are, however, some general conclusions that can be drawn from all the varied comments we received.

According to the results of the Visitor Survey, the average visitor to Saline Warm Springs visits from one to three times per year (55%) and stays for a week (42%). Visitors reported the following in regard to preferred camp site:

Lower Warm Spring	Palm Spring	Neither
37%	30%	20%

Activities preferred by most visitors included:

Soaking	Reading	Socializing	Hiking	Sunbathing
91%	84%	84%	80%	56%

The average visitor reported enjoying from three to six preferred activities.

The most commonly reported facilities used were pools, tub/showers and latrines, though there were exceptions to the use of even these. A fair number of visitors reported using fire pans (32%), and comments indicated that new pans are needed, and more would be used if available. We are working on that. (see below)

The most common expression of sentiment consisted of statements of heart-felt gratitude to DVNP for the relaxed way they have chosen to administer the Saline Valley as a whole, and Saline Warm Springs in particular, with a minimum of official presence. Visitors were very appreciative of DVNP's assignment of on-site operational control to the volunteer Camp Host, and expressed much gratitude for the wonderful job of maintenance and visitor assistance being done by the Camp Host, Lee Greenwell. Cleanliness of pools, latrines and camp areas was the most frequently mentioned thing that most impressed visitors.

Camp maintenance work was mentioned as an activity enjoyed by visitors when staying at Saline Warm Springs, and appreciation was also expressed to DVNP for their continuance and encouragement of this tradition of visitor involvement in camp maintenance work. SPA encourages all visitors who can to participate in camp maintenance efforts, clean a pool or a latrine, or take a load of collective garbage out with you when you leave for home. Talk to Camp Host Lee Greenwell about what you can do, or current assistant Camp Hosts George and Ria at Palm Spring.

A majority of visitors responding to the Visitor Survey said that they would like to contribute to the Saline Warm Springs Support Fund established by DVNP Superintendent J.T.Reynolds last fall at SPA's request. And a fair number said that they had done so. At last report, \$800 had been received for this Fund by Superintendent Reynolds, which included \$250 from SPA. Some visitors were unsure that these funds would actually be used for Saline Valley purposes only; they wanted to know more about how the donated funds would be used. Some people expressed a desire that money be provided to support the Camp Host from this fund. SPA supports this use of these funds as a formal alternative to the collection of contributions from visitors on-site.

The most unanimous recommendation that we received from visitors was to "LEAVE IT AS IT IS"!!!!!! This one sentiment shone through all the many varied comments, including requests for more shade, tables and grills from people not wanting to haul their own service equipment. A fair number of respondents were critical of the vault toilet facilities. They were described as being inappropriate for the environment and creating a more severe odor problem than other types of facilities, such as composting and even pit types. Quite a few respondents requested an additional toilet facility at Palm Spring, and more frequent pumping of the current facilities. Funds from the Superintendent's Saline Warm Springs Support Fund could be used to address these issues (additional facilities and more frequent pumping). SPA would support DVNP providing Inyo County Road Dept. access to the old borrow pit at the south end of Saline Valley to improve their ability to maintain the road in a condition that would increase accessibility for pumping equipment to latrines at Saline Warm Springs.

At the suggestion of several respondents, we have acted to provide equipment for use at Saline Warm Springs. First, three long-handled brushes for use in latrine cleaning were purchased and delivered. These are now in use and we will replace them as needed. Second, a generous and well-known long-term visitor, skilled in metal fabrication, has offered to produce and donate a new batch of fire pans for

use at the Springs. The first load of these handy pans is now in Bishop awaiting transport into Saline Valley. They are bulky and heavy, so we are asking anyone with hauling capacity going in from the North to call Patricia Barton at (760) 937-2243 to arrange to bring some of these pans into the Springs.

DVNP SUPERINTENDENT RETIREMENT

DVNP Superintendent J.T.Reynolds will be retiring as of January 1, 2009. It's not likely that a replacement will be available at that time, so we imagine that an interim acting Superintendent will be appointed. SPA will stay abreast of these developments and will be making efforts to make contact with both acting and permanent appointees, especially in regard to the Saline Warm Springs Support Fund and it's intended uses. We want to encourage our membership and the Saline visitor population at large to contribute to this fund to demonstrate the visitor community's level of commitment to the continued existence of the unique and unparalleled natural resource that is the Saline Valley.

ROAD REPORT

The North pass has been the recommended route of travel into the Saline Valley for most visitors. It has been described as in great shape. The South pass has been being graded, and the Inyo Road Dept. has made it down to the valley floor. But that is where the really bad part starts, and it's ROUGH and SLOW all the way from there. It has not been recommended for anyone in a large-size vehicle or wanting to go fast. We have heard no negative reports on Lippincott Rd. and Eureka corridor. One note of caution, if you by-pass Road Closed signs and subsequently break down, it's probable that your insurance will NOT cover towing charges, which can be considerable. When traveling in Saline Valley during winter months, always bring chains! And bring extra food and fuel to sustain you or others in the event of road closure or breakdown.

THANKS TO SPA MEMBERS

We want to thank all those SPA members who took the time to fill out and mail our survey. We need visitor input to be able to successfully represent the interests of the Saline Valley visitor population. Survey respondents comprised about 10% of our total membership. If our stance as an organization differs from that of any individual member, we can only say that we do our best to balance the input we receive from our membership, which includes a wide range of people from many walks of life with conflicting ideas and viewpoints.

We would also like to thank all those who sent financial contributions to us, and to Superintendent Reynold's Saline Warm Springs Support Fund. We received about \$2,000 from a total of 65 members. We know that everyone is not able to contribute financially, and we can't say enough thanks to those who can and do! SPA's current bank account stands at approximately \$3,680. After subtracting the cost of this newsletter (about \$680), we will have a remaining balance of \$3,000. Our mailing list has been updated considerably as a result of your response to our last newsletter, and we really appreciate your efforts to keep us informed of your whereabouts. We would also hope that you would be willing to provide us with information we need to better represent your interests. Please let us know what you think about conditions at Saline Warm Springs, and Saline Valley as a whole. We would like to know how you would like to see the Superintendent's Saline Warm Springs Support Fund used, and what you would like to see SPA do to improve the quality of experience available to the visitor community in Saline Valley.

In response to another visitor recommendation, SPA is currently in the process of developing a SPA webpage, initially with linkage on the www.deathvalley.com website. That site is operated by Panamint Springs Resort and currently carries general information and road conditions for Death Valley, including Saline Valley. The link on their website will give visitors access to our most recent newsletter and information specific to Saline Valley, and provide a confidential link for visitors to communicate with us, provide address changes and/or signup as SPA members. Later, as time and funds allow, this link will be expanded to include SPA as a contributor to www.deathvalley.com. It will allow us to distribute our

newsletter at a much reduced cost so more member contribution funds will be available for use directly in Saline Valley. Toward that end, we would like to begin adding e-mail addresses to our membership list now. You may send these to us at keelerbeach@earthlink.net. We will then be able to announce the establishment of this link, and its expansion, in our next issue via electronic means for all those equipped to receive it that way.



SPA BOARD CHANGES

We have had another retirement, that of a long-term SPA Board member who has been an untiring champion of the well-being and preservation of the Saline Valley and the California Desert for thirty-some years. We cannot adequately express the magnitude of our gratitude for this era of commitment and service, which will be sorely missed. We would like to announce the appointment of Tim Hynes (AKA Timbo) as a new SPA Board member. Timbo has agreed to come aboard and assume the vacated Board position.

We would also like to announce the retirement, for a second time, of SPA founder Sheri Cosgrove from her seat on the SPA Board of Directors. Long-time visitor and former Camp Host Tom Ganner has been nominated, and has agreed to assume, this vacated Board position.

Working together as a group over such a large geographic area is difficult and can be costly. So we really appreciate those who care enough, and have the capability, stepping up to serve the public welfare of the Saline visitor community in this way.



HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!!!!!!!
WE WISH YOU HOT
WATER & TIME
TO SOAK

SALINE WARM SPRINGS VISITOR SURVEY RESULTS

Question #1. How often do you visit the Saline Valley?

Several times/yr	Once or twice/yr	Every other yr	Every 3 to 5 yrs	No longer Visit
21 23%	29 32%	14 15%	9 10%	6 7%

Question #2. How long do you stay per visit on average?

Weekend	1 Week	1 to 2 Weeks	Part Week	2 - 4 Days Midweek
13 14%	38 42%	13 14%	15 17%	5 6%

Question #3. When you visit Saline Valley, where would you prefer to camp?

Lower Warm Spring	Palm Spring	Between LWS & Palm Spring	Lower Warm & Palm Spring	Palm Spring & Above	Other-Springs & nonSprings
34 37%	15 17%	13 14%	7 8%	11 13%	7 8%

Question #4. When you visit Saline Valley, what activities do you enjoy pursuing?

Soaking	Sunbathing	Hiking	Biking	Motorbiking	Read/Write
89 91%	50 56%	72 80%	22 24%	11 12%	54 84%
Art	Socializing	Music	Other*	These included Exploring, Rockhounding, Photography, Group games, Birdwatching, Camp Maintenance, Plant Identification	
14 15%	76 84%	23 25%	16 18%		

*Most respondents reported 3 to 6 preferred activities, generally including those above reported by more than 50% of respondents.

Question #5. What facilities available at Saline Warm Springs do you use regularly?

Soaking Pools	Tubs/ Showers	Sinks	Latrines	Fire Pans	Fire Pit	Library	Recycling	Lost & Found
83 92%	73 81%	66 73%	78 87%	29 32%	45 50%	27 30%	35 39%	6 7%

*The LWS lawn was mentioned by several respondents (6 or 7%).

(2)

Question #6. Are there any facilities not available at Saline Warm Springs that you feel would make good additions to those there now?

RESPONSES:

- Guest book to record stories, history, greetings.
- NO!
- No.
- Don't go overboard with new facilities. Keep it simple.
- No.
- No.
- It's fantastic the way it is.
- Existing facilities are perfect. No more are needed or wanted.
- Bigger outhouse at Palm Spring.
- No.
- It would be nice if there were as many BBQ's as there used to be.
- More frequent emptying of latrines.
- No. I would be willing to contribute some money toward the purchase of new heavy duty fire pans, but most camp maintenance should be done by volunteers.
- Less Gov't.
- OK
- Hydro massage and hoses to direct hot water to aches & pains. Last time out I built a mister and directional PVC at Wizard Pool. Lee? Removed it.
- We love it just the way it is!
- No!
- The old "composting" latrines.
- Another SST at the upper spring someday.
- Composting toilets.
- As long as first aid & emergency medical-rescue are available, it's covered.
- No more facilities are needed.
- One more latrine at Palm Spring.
- None.
- There is too much now.
- Picnic tables.
- Phone # or website for info on conditions of access, conditions of Springs, items needed by Host
- It's great the way it's been up to year 2000.
- No.
- No.
- No.
- It's fine just the way it is.
- No.
- No. Keep as rustic as possible.

(3)

- Keep it simple, maybe more defined camp parking spots.
- No. Leave it alone.
- Road sign information.
- Placards(weatherproof, permanent, unobtrusive) explaining the plumbing and usage, reflective markers to protect underground plumbing from damage and pool cleaning procedures.
- No.
- Less is better-we liked it better when it was BLM w/nothing organized
- Keep it simple
- No.
- No.
- Feel it best to not improve it any further.
- Second toilet at Palm Spring. Composting? The odor problem is unacceptable, unnecessary.

Question # 7. Do you have any comments about the way DVNP and/or the Camp Host manage The Saline Warm Springs?

RESPONSES:

- LWS Camp Host is not friendly
- I have visited Saline since 1984, camping at Palm Spring. I have always had a good relationship with Lee, the Camp Host. I have heard folks complain about everything from the road to the tub-cleaning schedule, and blame it all on Lee. Some people think they have a right to have it all their way. Lee must perform a balancing act to maintain the camp area suitable for all visitors. Some of the challenges he faces are the same as past hosts. I have been generally pleased with the NPS lack of intense management. There were many fears the Park Service would over-manage the area and destroy the experience visitors seek(as they have done in Eureka Valley).
- Camp Hosts are always so dedicated.
- Good.
- REMOVE THE LOCKS! Lee is not God. In the past the pool temperature was by mutual agreement. I also cannot hear the music when the water issues from the port-replace the handle of the PVC pipe and put the hose back on.
- If no H2O to Springs-figure it out ASAP and fix problem. Increase length of stay. Increase # of Camp Hosts. Camp Host could improve his attitude.
- I have seen people give Lee lots of money. Is that money being used for the Springs, or does that money go in his pocket?
- Lizard Lee does a great job & the DVNP stay away typically which we like.
- Extremely well managedby Camp Host with volunteer help.
- OK when we were there.
- Lee does a great job. I would get new risers in the SSTs and keep clean with brushes.
- Vault toilets a mistake, not appropriate for arid environment. Become "concrete". Camp Host added water so could be pumped. Made it anaerobic, so STINKY.
- Much enjoy the traditional user-constructed and user-maintained feeling under the direction of friendly Camp Host.

(4)

- The Park is fortunate to have Mr. Greenwell as Camp Host. His laid-back style of education first, then allow the campers to teach others is the best way for campers to “own” the area and see to it that it stays clean and cared for. Few are the people to do this job.
- Lee is a “black cloud” over the Springs. There is a backlash from Lee if you complain about him to the National Park. You addressed most of my issues at your meeting with the N.P.
- It’s good to have them there and they have been very helpful.
- That this area should be left as is. No changes either way.
- I have really appreciated the minimum of changes that the Park Service has implemented.
- I get conflicting stories about Saline LWS, but am glad that they are back in operation.
- Lee does an outstanding job!
- Too many people! Make it harder to get to-leave roads rough.
- The Camp Host is taking good care of the Lower Springs.
- Facilities, lawn, trees, etc. great. New (concrete) toilets not as good as original (inadequate vents).
- AOK
- The camps have always been well maintained.
- Lee does a great job maintaining grounds.
- I enjoy the rusticness and the quietness except for the jet flyovers.
- Many problems with locked water valves.
- Lee does a great job. It takes a unique kind of person to stay out there year round.
- I have always (34 years) felt the Camp Hosts have done an outstanding, although thankless, job.
- Valves should not be locked.
- Host OK-usually do things for Lee.
- No complaints-Lee is doing a good job.
- Low key, friendly.
- Camp Host Lee has maintained both the official and traditional rules in the Warm Springs area in a non-confrontational manner that inspires campers to do the right thing and maintain the ambience.
- I don’t like “roaming dogs” all over the springs-unleashed dogs. No loose dogs, and clean up after your dogs.
- Looks like you have worked out flow of water.
- The Camp Host is very helpful, we had truck problems and he totally helped us. He was great.
- Have heard of problems with Camp Host domination of facilities.
- Polite, quiet person.
- If Lee can’t be friendly & receptive, then he should go. Sounds like he’s burned out.
- Camp Host is discriminatory in treatment of visitors. Financial support and provision of commodities gets good attitude.
- My experiences were always good. It always seemed positive.
- We feel that the Camp Host is doing a good job. Hope DVNP leaves everything as it is.
- DVNP can be an inconspicuous presence in spirit of less Gov’t is best. Saline Valley visitors are self-governing and management is in capable hands.
- It’s fine, but visitors need to be made aware that donations of TP and dollars are appreciated.
- Seems like there’s too much “stuff” around the Camp Host area.

(5)

- Lizard Lee kept directing incoming campers to the Upper Spring for camping and soaking. I didn't think that was right. It was like he didn't want anyone using the Lower Spring camp or hot pools.
- I think it's humorous that DVNP built that stinking blockhouse toilet, replacing our absolutely scent-free outhouses of old!!
- Thank you for getting a message to friends through the Camp Host when we had a death in the family.
- Lizard Lee is the perfect Camp Host:reliable, balanced, professional, multi-tasked.
- Just keep it (management) minimal.
- I am very grateful for and appreciative of Lee's considerable efforts at the springs. I have only positive thoughts about his caretaking of the site.
- I think they do a good job. Lizard Lee takes good care of it. It's SPA I'm getting worried about.
- I have always thanked Lee for all his hard work gardening & maintaining the LWS.
- Need another outhouse at Palm Spring! Camp Host does good maintenance, but unfriendly-no way for visitors to regulate temp of Crystal pool, etc.
- Camp Host is necessary.
- Possesiveness of Camp Host in recent years has made the LWS area less than welcoming. Past custom of introducing new people to local practices has been replaced by signs, signs everywhere signs.

Question #8. Are there things about the way Saline Warm Springs are being managed that you Especially like or appreciate?

RESPONSES:

- Appreciate the effort to preserve the Springs in a natural state, & keep them clean.
- Lee Greenwell has done a fabulous job for many years-he understands the nature of the Springs better than anyone.
- A loose attitude from denizens & devotees-live & let live.
- Mostly excellent
- The facilities were great, though the concrete john seems to be a mistake.
- Campers helping new-comers learn how to enjoy their stay while respecting others and the desert.
- Cleaning out of the tubs.
- The harmony of the place and the way Lizard Lee manages it.
- That there is very little management.
- That they are user-maintained and primitive. Clothing optional is a huge bonus. Most 'improvements' have a wonderful character or ambiance that enhances rather than degrades the area.
- Seems well cared for.
- Thanks to Lee for all his years of hard work.
- Laissez-faire cooperative spirit of visitors.
- The control of obnoxious visitors & the ability to fix vehicle problems, etc.

(6)

- I am appreciative of a generally considerate attitude by NPS to allow much of what has been traditional uses of the Springs continue, as if, if it ain't broke, don't fix it.
- I think the fire pans are important to maintain a clean camp. Unfortunately, they are not always used or cleaned out. Many of the original pans are rusting out or no longer useable.
- Less Gov't.
- Letting us be.
- I could write a novel about the things I like. Just lose the locks.
- Clean pools, clean area, grass at LWS, nice campsites, firepit meeting area at LWS. The tubs are kept very clean as well as the latrines. The community area is always friendly & inviting.
- No overt interference by DVNP or SPA personnel.
- The community.
- We like that there is no fee. We'd rather donate. We like that the NPS has not over-regulated it.
- Tire Repair! Communal fire saves wood, reduces smoke. Kitchen sink reduces amount of grey water in camp.
- Common sense approach to problem solving among visitors rather than strict enforcement of regulations, cooperation among visitors results in family-like atmosphere.
- Long-time regular visitors are the ones who truly care for the area and will carry out \$100 worth of garbage so it will leave the Valley a better place."Visitors" as such are the most clueless and ones most likely to have difficulties.
- The Host really takes good care and has a pleasant presence.
- That this area is being self-managed, all by itself.
- I like the minimalist approach to the entire area. I like feeling that I'm in a very remote area.
- Clean shower, toilet paper.
- Lee.
- Clothing optional, no fees and no one bothering me.
- Soaking tubs are clean, lawn, shrubs, trees nicely maintained. Picnic tables appreciated.
- Well kept.
- I've always found the latrines well-maintained, fire pits & general appearances too.
- Everything is good
- I enjoy the rustiness and quietness, except for the jet flyovers.
- Generally unusually peaceable. Camp generally clean.
- Lawn area, cleanliness of pools.
- Allowing the palms and other non-native species in the camping area to remain. This applies to the artificial pools and plumbing.
- Camp Host and sense of community.
- We like less management. The people who come take care of the place. The Camp Host is helpful.
- Clean tub-soaking. We need more tennis balls to use for plugs.-
- We think it's gotten better since the Park took over. No trailers (perm). Less dog problems. Good toilets. No clothes still. Random camping good.
- Live & let live. Low impact camping. Let the roads decay-it keeps the soft-core hoards at bay--seriously.

(7)

- It always seems clean when we are there.
- The use of Camp Hosts to manage the site(we need more than one) and allowing visitor community participation in maintainance. Minimal NPS presence.

Question #9. Would you like to contribute to financially support Saline Warm Springs maintainance by donating to the fund established by DVNP for that purpose?

	YES		NO		No Answer	
	56	62%	18	20%	16	18%

COMMENTS:

- Doing so by separate mail.
- Don't add "maintainance" please, they are fine, we will take care.
- Only if funds are saved and used for Saline Warm Springs.
- I give Lee \$20 each time for supplies.
- I usually bring Lee something.
- I prefer to send it to SPA.
- The location is special, not only for its scenic beauty, but the ruggedness of the camping area with those tucked away facilities that don't detract from the springs, but make camping there an enjoyable experience(showers, sinks & well-maintained area).
- We leave Lee a tip.
- Maybe, can we trust where the money goes?
- Will contribute to SPA and directly to Camp Host. Check sent with note.
- Will contribute to SPA to use as necessary.
- Maybe.
- I don't want to support closing off more camp sites.
- Check sent.
- ? I prefer to donate directly to Lee.
- What would this money go for? I always contribute help when I am there.
- Can't afford it now.
- Need more information as to its use.
- Perhaps with qualification! If NPS is going to administer such money, probably not. Government cannot handle money effectively.
- If a fund is going to be established, it should be administered by SPA and the money dedicated to specific needs so that contributors know how their money will be spent. I fear any fund established by NPS will be misused and eventually become mandatory. When people pay for something they expect someone else to take care of it.
- Perhaps, depending on how the \$ was used.
- I have personally donated 100,s of hours and 100,s of \$ in donated goods to the springs.
- When my trust fund comes in.
- Already contribute directly to Lee.

(8)

Question #10. Is there anything else you would like to communicate to Superintendent Reynolds and his staff about the conditions and quality of experience available at Saline Warm Springs?

RESPONSES:

-Keep the spirit alive.

-Important to keep it as it is.

-Unfortunately, I have not visited Saline since National Park takeover of the site. I don't like when BLM lands become National Park. I don't like the umpteen million rules & regulations & supervision by rangers that comes with National Park status. It seems to destroy the "free, wild" character of a wilderness experience. I prefer National Forests and BLM lands for that reason. Increasingly, I'm concerned about more & more of our public lands becoming "managed" by bureaucracies, fee for use areas on BLM & Nat. Forest lands, etc., etc. I believe very strongly in management by the people who use an area along with the local population. I'll also say I was outraged at the removal of the feral burros from the Park lands.

-While the basic condition of the facilities (lawn area, etc.) at LWS are in great shape, in part thanks to Lizard Lee, the feeling or presence there has been changed by what I believe is best termed volunteer burn-out on the Camp Host's part. Sharing your personal home in a public place can take a toll on anyone. Unwelcoming attitude says it best.

-No one likes washboard on the road and they certainly complain a lot about it, but it is the one thing that keeps the masses out. I would like to see the Park Service encourage Inyo County to do less maintenance on the road.

-Please keep things the way we like it. Free & easy & peaceful & beautiful.

-Lose the M-16s in the back of the Hummers, don't threaten to draw firearms over a dog leash violation(that was quite a while ago, but very upsetting to everyone), explain to Rangers that Saline Valley has been a self-managed and maintained society for decades - we don't need to be patrolled - and for the most part the Rangers have adopted a 'live & let live' attitude - Thanks!

-Leave it the way it is. Except if an improvement needs to be made to enhance the experience at the Springs. Let it happen if SPA thinks it's in the best interest.

-Don't fix what ain't broken.

-Saline Valley is such a unique & beautiful place, It needs to be kept available.

-Saline is a very special place for us. Please keep it "as is" as long as possible - educate visitors on Hot Springs etiquette - camp away from springs and don't bogart them.

-Camp Host burns plastic waste on-site. Could set up with campers leaving. Disappointed that "Burro Spring wetland was destroyed - liked bird-watching there. A small solar pump could fill a stock tank that could overflow & support wetland.

-Have been visiting Saline for over 20 years. It is a rejuvenating, indeed even sacred spot on the Earth. Thank you for allowing the community spirit of the place to continue under your leadership. The tolerance of a clothing optional environment is also much appreciated.

-The Warm Springs is water in the desert. REMEMBER, the hills, mountains, the whole valley is drop-dead gorgeous! There are many beautiful places w/the Springs being only a small, but

probably over-used portion of this whole area of the Park.

-I think the DVNP personell like having Lee there to irritate us.

-It's nice that it's "not seen but felt" caring from DVNP. If we didn't have pump toilets, you wouldn't have to pump them. So not all improvements are cost effective.

-Only that funds contributed be used for maintenance at the Warm Springs. Such as pumping out latrines. Funds should not be put into general funds or used elsewhere in the Park.

-Keep it the way it is.

-Dogs should be always on leash and under control.

-Most of our visit s have been great. DOGS NOT ON A LEASH may be the only concern I have.

-Yes - Dogs and clothing optional.

-Allow Lee to open 2nd springs. That could be a great camp area.

-Our best experience at Saline & other warm springs has been when caring users improve, maintain, manage without visible Government involvement.

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to enjoy this magic place for 25 years.

-If it isn't broke, don't fix it.

-I do not enjoy the motorcycles and the people who come 4-wheeling.

-We thank DVNP for being understanding, both of us and of all we do to keep the place clean and welcoming to all visitors

-No development - ie. Asphalt, paved campsites or fees! Please grading both roads yearly would be much appreciated.

-This valley has a long history of people who care deeply for this most unique resource. They/we have cared for the place for a long time and just want to cotinue to do so.

-Self management by users has generally worked quite well. DVNP should respect this "gift" and provide minimal oversight in the springs management. Law enforcement and medical response should continue to be DVNP's priority w/regards to the Springs and Saline Valley in general.

-Lee keeps everything working and watered and green and has helped many in cases of mechanical emergency. But Lee keeps the Crystal Pool so hot that most people can't enjoy it, and thus, 'HIS' pool doesn't get dirty.

-Please...leave the place as it is (or was).

-Appreciate DVNP's relative hands off policy.

-It's precious. Keep it up.

-It's a great place.

-Keep it natural. The rules the host has created are good for the people. Have been coming since 1972 and this host is the best .

-Try to foster self-reliance and mutual help among visitorsto a difficult area; to minimize the need for rescue from outside.

-Others have had problems, but I stay to myself and my group and have had none.

-Leave it primitive. Don't make the roads too good.

-Don't allow more than 3-week stays in order to prevent squatters/bad actors from over-running a nice place to visit.

-A wonderful relaxing place. Please don't F#! It up.

-Please continue to allow clothing optional access to the Springs. It's a great place to commune with nature. Also, if you could limit military overflights, that would be a great thing.

-We love the jets flying through the valley.

-Please do not over-improve it. Just keep clean and road condition good. Where is web-site for road conditions? Updated regularly?

-The Camp Host should not be a full time employee deriving his income from visitor donations. No one person should have the full time sole responsibility and power to manage the site. The privilege of long term residency should be shared by several well-trained and supervised people acting as a team of equals for limited time periods.

-Love the place.

-A good place to visit. Please leave everything as it is.

-The experience to be had at Saline is one of great beauty largely due to Lee's caring and nurturing of the plants & springs. He deserves full support of DVNP and visiting public.

-We love this place. We hope folks don't mess with it too much.

-Please do your best to preserve the gentle nature and cooperative spirit of this wonderful place.
Thanks

-When I was at Saline Warm Springs (a couple years before the flood) volunteers were being directed to place rock walls to limit camping to only a few places. I felt they were going way overboard. It's bare ground, not like vegetation is being destroyed. There is no litter and people were taking good care of the springs & surrounding area.

-I was sorry to see Saline & Eureka Vallies become part of the NP system. I was sure another of the beautiful and remote areas I had enjoyed would be changed forever. Thank you for leaving Saline and Eureka Vallies hard to access and still worth the effort. I always leave with my soul rejuvenated.

-Just keep it like it is. Thank you.

-If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

-Bring back the old outhouses, the new ones are smelly atrocities.

-The conditions and quality of experience are top notch. That's why I drive 1100 miles each way to visit them. Don't mess with paradise! There is no better experience to be had!!

-Need latrine at Palm Spring.

-I think SPA is getting taken over by Sierra Club making Lee cut out arrowweed which protects the soaking pools from wind.

-Loved it! Thanks.

-I am simply interested in what is causing lack of warm water at LWS source. Hot Creek is experiencing the opposite problem but haven't gotten too many responses about the causes.