

Wetlands clean-up sponsored by SCOPE

BY CHRISTOPHER F. REITMAIER
STAFF NEWS WRITER

Imagine a place teeming with indigenous wildlife and plants, such as nesting waterfowl and cattails, in the midst of the Mojave Desert. Imagine such a place in our community's back yard.

There is such a place and its known as the Las Vegas Wash.

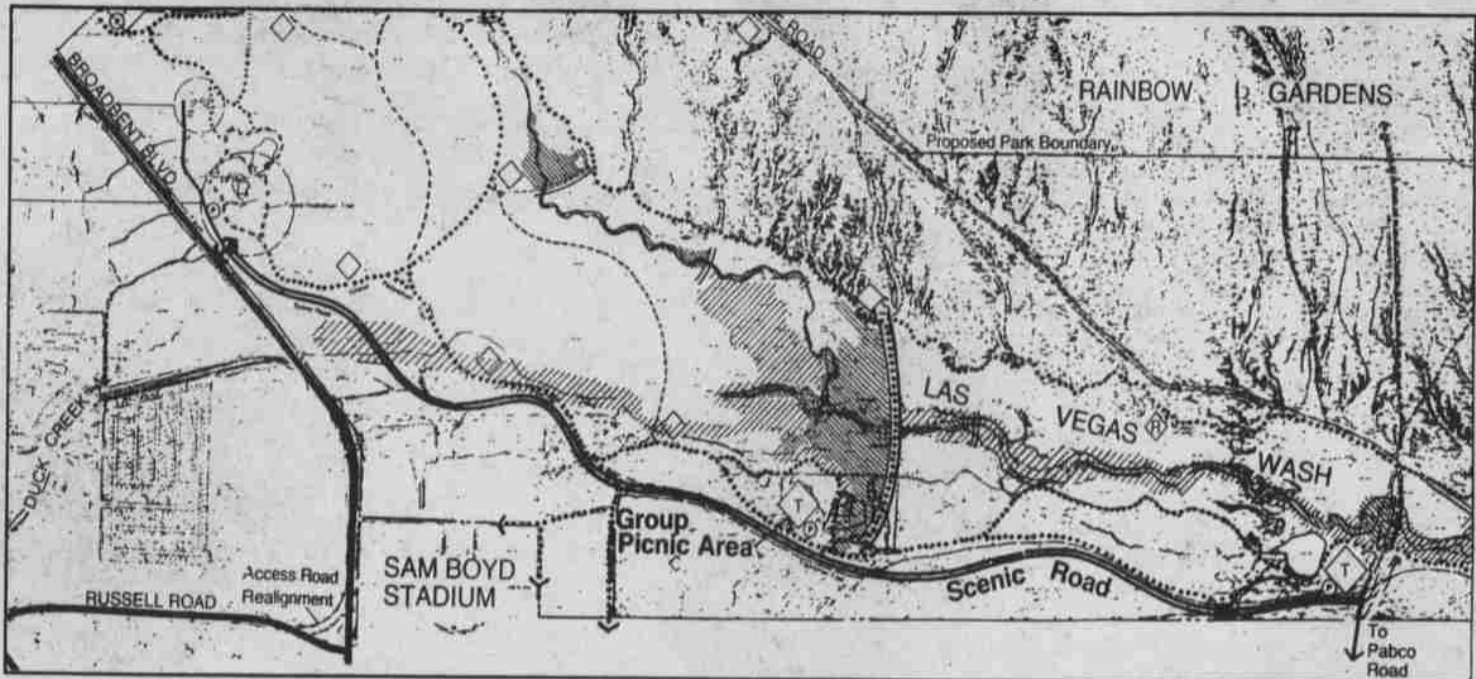
But instead of cattails and waterfowl, visitors are most likely to see glass, tires and the remnants of illegal dumping.

A group of UNLV volunteers is looking to change all that.

Students Conscious of Protecting the Environment will sponsor the first of four Wetlands Park cleanups on Saturday. The cleanup is designed to remove garbage on and around the future home of the 2,000-acre Clark County Wetlands Park, which for years has been used as an illegal dumping site.

"The importance of the clean-ups is that they give people a sense of ownership. If you contribute to an area, you are more likely to protect that area," says Tara Pike, founder of SCOPE.

"The clean-ups will also raise awareness about the problem of illegal dumping, which for too long has been neglected in that area," Pike



MAP PROVIDED BY SCOPE

SCOPE is sponsoring a clean-up of the wetlands around Sam Boyd Stadium and the Las Vegas Wash.

added.

Officials with the Clark County Division of Parks and Recreation expect the park to be completed by the turn of the century. It will consist of trails and wildlife observation posts. There will also be tours and educational classes concerning the wash's habitat.

Citizen concern about the area dates back more than 20 years, yet its preservation and development has continually been stalled, due to a lack of

funding.

But in 1990 the state legislature allocated \$13.3 million for the design and construction of a wetlands park in order to conserve and restore the natural resources of the Las Vegas Wash, and assist in the prevention of further erosion - a result of rapid urbanization.

"We have a lot of volunteers from the local high schools. We're hoping that the first clean-up will attract the local news stations and clean-ups

to the attention of more people," says Pike.

Allison Smith, a communication major and a cleanup volunteer, said, "For myself, it's a great opportunity to help and see this park come together, and see all the animals that call the wetlands home. It gives me a sense of, 'Hey, I helped create this place, and I like that.'"

Everyone is invited to participate. Volunteers should meet at 8:30 a.m. in front of the east entrance of the Moyer

Student Union, in front of the ATM machine.

The clean-up will last approximately two hours, and volunteers are encouraged to bring snacks, water, and gloves. Sign-up sheets are posted around campus. For further information, contact SCOPE at 895-4495.

The Saturday clean-up is co-sponsored by SCOPE, The Environmental Studies Program, The Clark County Division of Parks and Recreation, and Friends of the Wetlands.

Fraternity

From pg. 1

ty cooperation because they (the members of the council) see they can use our own system to get rid of competition."

The Greek Review Board, which is made up of the presidents of the fraternities, will review Lambda Chi Alpha's appeal upon submission. The board then has four options: it can accept the decision as proper, reject it, send it back to the judicial council or amend it by reducing the sentence. It does not have the authority to increase the punishment.

"I am happy that the students have set up this process to regulate themselves," said Dane Roberts, program coordinator and UNLV Greek advisor. Roberts refused to comment on whether he considered IFC's judicial council punishment appropriate.

IFC's judicial council decided to allow Lambda Chi Alpha, despite the suspension, to continue as planned with the Rock-a-Thon, an event scheduled with Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

All sanctions levied by IFC's judicial council must be met by May 1 unless rejected by the Greek Review Board in the appeals process.

Ackerman said the action taken was strong enough to send a serious message to Greeks. "Just because the penalty may be unusual is



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