

“8th Annual Salton Sea Kayak & Campout”

Mecca Beach Campground - February 22 - 24, 2008



Sunset over the Salton Sea



VWKC paddlers at Salton Sea Centennial Celebration, May 7, 2005



Doug & Gary back from a marathon paddle

Please join us for a weekend of paddling, bird watching, exploring the nearby oasis's & socializing with other VWKC members. The desert is beautiful & warm this time of year. **Come out for the weekend or just for a day.** Some of us will be going out on Friday early to save a good camping spot next to the sea. To find out more about the Salton Sea and all it has to offer, go to the Salton Sea Authority website www.saltonseaca.gov

- **Location:** Mecca Beach Campground is on the northeast side of the Salton Sea, one mile south of the Salton Sea State Recreation Area. (See map next page for directions). There is a very nice beach on the south end of Mecca Beach Campground. We will camp & launch from there.
- **Food & Campfire Entertainment:** Bring a potluck dish to share Saturday night. (enough for 6 – 8 people to share according to your last name: A - B Rolls & butter, C – H Salad, I – M Appetizers, N – S Side Dish or Casserole, T - Z Dessert). After dinner on Friday & Saturday night, sit around the campfire with your kayak comrades and be entertained by VWKC's very own song writer & singer, Mark Johnson, along with singer/guitarists Roger Pearson & Bonnie McPherson!
- **Camping Info & Costs:** Each campsite has a fire ring and picnic table. There are restrooms and showers available. No reservations required at Mecca Beach. Fees are \$18.00 and include entry for 1 vehicle and 1 legally towed vehicle or trailer & 6 to 8 people. Additional vehicles will be charged per night at the park at \$5.00. Campsite assignments are made upon your arrival. Cost to park for day = \$4.00. Large RV's might want to park on the back row at the south end of Mecca Beach.
- **Kayaking, Exploring, Bird Watching & Fishing** On Saturday morning at 10 a.m., we will kayak one mile north to the Parks Visitor Center, where we can learn about the Salton Sea and enjoy a movie about its history. Later that afternoon, we can explore some awesome desert oasis's, complete with palm trees, water and more birds, just over the hill at Dos Palmas Preserve and historical area. The best bird watching locations are the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge & Wister Unit of Imperial Wild Life. Bring your fishing pole and see how many fish you can catch out of your kayak. **This trip is perfect for the beginning paddler.....the more advanced paddlers might want to take Gary Hakala up on a challenge to paddle across the sea!**



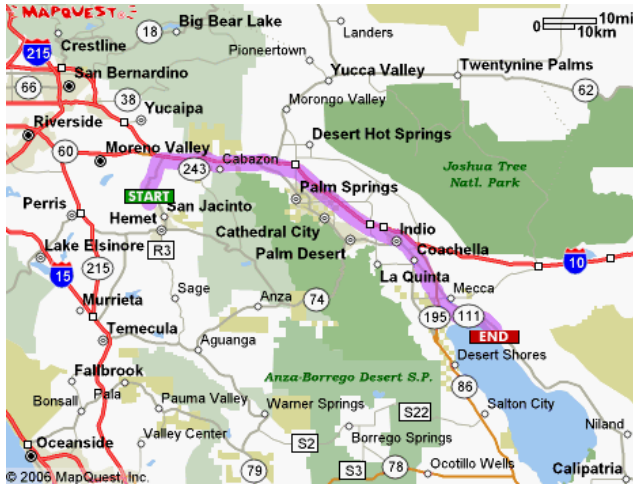
Songwriters Robert & Mark compose the now famous "Valley Wide Kayak Club" song while fishing by kayak on the Salton Sea

Questions or to sign up,
contact trip leader, Diane
Boss, (951) 767-1477
dianeboss@hotmail.com

*Enjoy a walk
through beautiful
Dos Palmas
Preserve just over
the hill from Mecca
Beach →*



Maps & Directions to the Salton Sea – Mecca Beach Campground:



Directions from Hemet San Jacinto Valley:

North on Sanderson Hwy 79 through Lambs Canyon – 6 miles

Turn right (E) on I-10 towards Indio – 49.8 miles

Take CA-86 EXWY S toward COACHELLA/BRAWLEY – 12.2 miles

Turn LEFT onto CA-195/66TH AVE

Continue to follow CA-195 - .8 ml

Turn RIGHT onto CA-111 – 12.0 miles.

Turn RIGHT into Mecca Beach Campground – (1 mile so of Salton Sea State Recreation Area Marina)

Mecca Beach Campground: A developed campground with paved parking, showers and beach access, Mecca Beach Campground is about one mile south of the Salton Sea State Recreation Headquarters' area. There are 109 developed campsites. Restrooms have electricity, running water and solar showers. Four hook-up sites with electricity and water are available during the off-season on a first come, first serve basis. Friendly Camp hosts help you settle into your campsite for the weekend. Each campsite has a fire ring and a picnic table. Desert vegetation and trees give pleasant shade. Mecca Beach Campground is not on our reservation system; all sites are on a first-come, first-served basis. Come early on holiday weekends to insure a site! Fishing at the Salton Sea is at its best from March through July. Try for croaker, corvina or tilapia. Fish for a day during the season and catch more than 100 tilapia. The practical and legal catch is unlimited for this species. But remember, other fish do have limits -- check if you are in doubt.

GENERAL PARK INFORMATION On the northeastern side of the Salton Sea, the Salton Sea State Recreation Area has been serving hundreds of thousands of visitors each year since 1955. The park offers access to the Salton Sea, California's largest lake. Hike, boat, swim, fish, camp or bird watch at the Salton Sea State Recreation Area. The park has five campgrounds that offer primitive camping to full hook-ups on the shores of the Sea. Boat ramp and boat wash out facilities are located near the park's headquarters. Enjoy the Sea and Desert Visitor Center, stroll the beach or simply gaze at the snow-capped Santa Rosa Mountains across the Sea. The Salton Sea State Recreation Area is located in California's Colorado Desert. Known for its comfortable winter weather, most of its visitors come from October through May. Summer can be extreme in the desert however; many people are experiencing all that the desert has to offer from the comfort of their motorhomes or trailers. The Salton Sea State Recreation Area is 30 miles south of Indio on Highway 111, about a three hour drive from the Los Angeles and San Diego areas. An Important note: More than four million birds use the Salton Sea each winter day, and more than 400 species of birds have been found here. The Sea is a wonderful resource to the State and we are struggling to secure a healthy future for it. Learn more about this treasure! Join us as we build a future for the Salton Sea!