



## National Moth Week Event at Pipe Spring National Monument

Saturday, July 26, 2014 at 10:00 am AZ (11:00am UT)

Moths comprise one of the most diverse and ecologically important groups of animals on earth. There are over 150,000 described species and at least four times more undescribed species. It is estimated that several hundred of these moth species probably exist at Pipe Spring National Monument. Moths play important ecological roles as herbivores, food for bats and



birds, and as pollinators. Moths have captured the attention of hundreds of regional amateur groups throughout the United States, and every year they dedicate a week to focus on celebrating the diversity of moths.

In 2012, Pipe Spring initiated an arthropod inventory and entered into a partnership agreement with the Northern Arizona University (NAU) Museum of Arthropod Biodiversity to collect arthropod specimens; provide training in the collection and storage of arthropod specimens to park staff, volunteers, and members of the neighboring Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians; create a reference collection for the monument; and develop a database to ensure that catalogued specimens will be available online. Standard insect collecting techniques, including nets, malaise and pitfall traps, and night lights have been used to collect more than 8,500 specimens of both aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates.

As part of the ongoing inventory at Pipe Spring National Monument, NAU researchers will spend two days on site to document moth species that occur on the Monument. Leading this effort will be Dave Wikle, nationally known moth expert and past-president of The Lorquin Entomological Society. Dave will give a public talk about moths and display some of the species that have been collected from Pipe Spring National Monument.

Please join us on **Saturday, July 26, at 10:00 am AZ (11:00am UT)** for this exciting opportunity to meet Dave and learn more about the value of biodiversity and the role these creatures play in our ecosystems.

Regular entrance fees will apply - \$5.00 per person 16 and older (younger are free). Interagency Annual, Senior, and Access passes are accepted and sold at Pipe Spring. Pipe Spring National Monument is 15 miles west of Fredonia, AZ on AZ 389, or 45 miles east of Hurricane, UT on UT 59 and AZ 389. For more information, please call Jenny Leasor at 928-643-7105 or visit our website at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)