

# BADWATER®



**BADWATER**  
WORLD'S  
TOUGHEST

**March 2015**  
**Cape Fear, NC**



# adventureCORPS®

"Out There Since 1984"



Welcome to the March 2015 edition of BADWATER® Magazine and Badwater® Cape Fear. I am so extremely excited about this event, our only East Coast Badwater race, launched just last year in 2014! I like to think of it as the "Badwater Spring Break and East Coast Family Reunion" and I encourage everyone to make this an annual pilgrimage, extending your stay a bit longer each year.

This is an exciting year for AdventureCORPS, and especially for the Badwater Ultra Cup. Badwater Cape Fear on March 21 kicks off the cup, followed by Badwater Salton Sea on May 3-4 and then Badwater 135 on July 28-30. It all begins on Bald Head Island, home of Badwater Cape Fear!

I could not be more pleased with this race venue: The setting is absolutely gorgeous, quiet, and completely one-of-a-kind. It has all the hallmarks of a true BADWATER race: uniqueness, beauty, and an epic challenge. It's also an escape from the real world and a precious chance to bond with Mother Nature. The feedback from our inaugural race in 2014 was entirely positive, so I truly believe everyone will really enjoy and appreciate the fantastic setting in 2015, and want to return again and again.

What's more, Bald Head Island and Fort Fisher Recreation Area both welcomed this unique event with open arms last year and are excited to have us return. Honestly, I have never met friendlier or more helpful people than the North Carolinians. This is a dream venue for this event promoter!

The folks at Bald Head Island Conservancy – Suzanne Dorsey and Poul Lindegaard, in particular – have been ongoing sources of insights and wisdom and it has been an absolute pleasure to learn about, and support, the outstanding and important work they are doing on the island and beyond.

The Village of Bald Head Island have been extremely supportive. I thank especially Calvin Peck, the City Manager, and all of his staff with the Village. I also thank Caroline Mitchell and her staff with VBHI Public Safety, who will be out in force once again to help us host a safe and successful race. Equally I thank Jeffrey T. Owen, Park Superintendent, and the rest of his staff at Fort Fisher State Recreation Area for their support of the event and their management and oversight of the vast majority of the beach stretches of the race route along the Atlantic seaboard.

Local businesses have been very supportive, too: Jeoffrey Nathan generously offered, once again, to host a social mixer at his Coastal Urge store on the island. Claude Pope helped to rally the troops to embrace this event and will be catering the finish line food and post-race breakfast through his Maritime Market, under the direction of Chef Chip Pridgen. Local home rental agents including Carrie Moffett of Bald Head Island Limited, Rick Nelson with Seabreeze Rentals, and Wendy Wilmot of Best of Bald Head Properties have all offered up their best possible rates and finest properties for the race entrants and their families and friends to enjoy.



*Chris and Laurie Kostman at Cape Fear, in the fog and rain that rolled in a day after the 2014 race.*

Our friends in Southport, just across the Cape Fear River from Bald Head Island, have also been very helpful, as have other NC mainlanders: Marybeth Ray (a captain for the Southport – Fort Fisher ferry boat and the proprietor of Southport Paddle & Sail) has provided much local advice, made connections, and will volunteer at the event with her husband George and friends. Eleanor Erickson manages the Hampton Inn in Southport and has extended a special rate; she will once again volunteer on race day. Other race day volunteers include Scott Kollins and Keith Weitz of Durham, both five-time veterans of our Silver State 508 ultracycling race, as well as others from Bald Head Island, Southport, and the greater Wilmington area: we thank all of them for making March 21 a day to remember and a great experience for everybody!

Finally, I thank my wife and partner in everything, Laurie Kostman, for suggesting this race idea in the first place and for joining me in not only hosting it, but in becoming huge fans of North Carolina!

Yours in sport,

*Chris Kostman*

Chief Adventure Officer and Race Director

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## adventureCORPS®

"Out There Since 1984"



BADWATER® Magazine is published semiannually  
by AdventureCORPS, Inc.  
638 Lindero Canyon Rd., #311, Oak Park, CA 91377 U.S.A.  
[www.badwater.com](http://www.badwater.com) [www.adventurecorps.com](http://www.adventurecorps.com)

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Front Cover: Jessica Pollock and Frank McKinney head north from  
Cape Fear during the 2014 race.

Photos courtesy Chris Kostman, Meredith Dolhare,  
Bald Head Island Conservancy, and others.

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Friday, March 20

900am: Unofficial (no host) Coffee / Breakfast Meet-Up at Maritime Market. Come meet, or reconnect, with fellow Badwater family members while enjoying good drinks and food! There's no better way to start the day!

Afternoon Suggestion: Climb to the top of Old Baldy Lighthouse. (The race will start at its foot and the view from up top is not to be missed!)

300-500pm: Mandatory Racer Check-In at Bald Head Island Conservancy (BHIC). Location: 700 Federal Road (far eastern end of the island).

500-630pm: Social Mixer with drinks at Coastal Urge for all runners, staff, family, and friends. Location: Shops at Maritime Way, mid-island, near North Bald Head Wynd / Federal Road and Muscadine Wynd): 12 B/C Maritime Way. See below for phone numbers and hours of operation.

### Saturday, March 22

600am or 700am: Runners not staying on Bald Head Island must depart via ferry from Deep Water Marina in Southport. (Ferries depart hourly from SPT to BHI on the hour from 600am to 1100pm on Saturdays. It is a 25-minute ferry ride.)

628am: Morning Twilight (First light in sky)

713am: Sunrise

715am: Late Check-In at the start line for runners who did not come over on Friday to do so.

725am: 700am ferry from Southport arrives; it is a ten-minute walk from the ferry to the race start line at the lighthouse.

745am: 51.4 mile / 50km Race starts at Old Baldy Lighthouse

1200pm (app.): First runners return to BHIC at 50km mark

345pm (app.): First 51.4-mile finishers

345pm: Mandatory Cut-Off for 51.4-mile finishers to depart BHIC at mile 32 for their second loop to and from Fort Fisher

445pm: Mandatory Cut-Off for Officially Finishing the 50km Route (9 hour time limit)

725pm: Sunset

750pm: Evening Twilight (Last light in sky)

945pm: 51.4-mile Race Course Closes at BHIC (14 hour time limit)

1130pm: Final ferry departure from BHI (Ferries depart hourly from BHI to SPT on the half hour from 630am to 1130pm on Saturdays. It is a 25-minute ferry ride.)

### Sunday, March 23

800-1000am: Breakfast Buffet at Maritime Market: Breakfast is complimentary for all registered 51mi/50km racers and volunteers, and available for a nominal charge to all family and friends. See below for location and information.

Afternoon options: Lay on the beach, go paddle boarding or kite surfing, cruise the island on a beach cruiser, shop at Coastal Urge, relax!

500pm: Drinks, then Dinner, at Mojo's On The Harbor. Open to runners, staff, family, and friends (no host).

#### MARITIME MARKET

Location: 8 Maritime Way. Mid-island, near North Bald Head Wynd / Federal Road and Muscadine Wynd.

Main Number: 910-457-7450. Orders to-go, including pizza, family meals and platters: press 2, or dial direct: 910-269-2850. Online at [maritimemarketbhi.com](http://maritimemarketbhi.com)

Market Hours:

8am - 6pm, Monday-Saturday

Cafe Breakfast: 8am - 10:30am

Cafe Lunch: 11:30am - 2pm

Cafe Pizza: 11:30am - 2pm

#### COASTAL URGE

Besides hosting our pre-race soirée on Friday evening, Coastal Urge offer rentals of bikes, paddleboards, and kite boards, and bicycle repairs, plus has an outstanding selection of all kinds of great stuff for outdoor adventures: clothes, sunglasses, sunscreen, shoes, sandals, hats, and much more. They are open seven days a week from 900am to 500pm. Phone is 800-383-4443. Online at [coastalurge.com](http://coastalurge.com)



## BADWATER CAPE FEAR PRESS RELEASE

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The BADWATER® experience returns to the East Coast when the 2nd Badwater Cape Fear ultra running race takes place on Bald Head Island, North Carolina on March 21, 2015.

With 50km and 51-mile options, the race features a twelve-mile warm-up on the car-free, one-lane-wide roads of Bald Head Island, followed by either 19 or 39 miles of running on the wild and secluded sandy beach between Cape Fear and Fort Fisher. The race is held along the Atlantic Seaboard with spectacular views of the Frying Pan Shoals to the east and wild and undeveloped marshlands to the west. It is a dramatic, invigorating, inspiring setting to experience Cape Fear in all its grandeur!



This exquisite natural setting is the perfect antidote to the “real world” and a wonderful counterpart to the desert sands of Death Valley and Anza-Borrego Desert featured in the two West Coast BADWATER® races.

Bald Head Island and nearby Southport, NC (featured in the film “Safe Haven”) are ideal vacation get-away spots for the entire family, located less than one hour from Wilmington, NC and its major airport with Delta and US Airways service (flying into Myrtle Beach, SC is another option.)

Once the remarkable beauty and quaint southern charm of this area are experienced once, we anticipate that most Badwater Cape Fear participants will make this race an annual pilgrimage and that many will incorporate a multi-day week-long family vacation, or Spring training camp, as well. It really is that fantastic!

Over 130 runners are registered for the 2015 race. States and Countries represented include Alabama (3), California (4), Connecticut (1), Florida (22), Georgia (3), Illinois (1), Massachusetts (2), Maryland (5), Minnesota (1), Missouri (1), North Carolina (39), New Jersey (2), Nevada (2), New York (5), Ohio (5), Pennsylvania (5), South Carolina (3), Tennessee (5), Texas (4), Utah (1), Virginia (5), Washington (1), Wisconsin (3), plus District of Columbia (1), Puerto Rico (1), Singapore (3), and Canada (2).

The Official Charity of BADWATER CAPE FEAR is the Bald Head Island Conservancy, a leader in barrier island conservation, preservation, and education. Race participants will appreciate that BHIC cares for this race route’s pristine setting and its role as a sea turtle nesting site, and are encouraged to fundraise for BHIC and support its mission.

The goal of the race is to raise \$10,000 for Bald Head Island Conservancy, which is enough to purchase one of the special



electric UTV vehicles which BHIC uses to patrol the beach and care for sea turtle nesting sites. Learn more at [www.bhic.org](http://www.bhic.org)

Local Sponsors include Coastal Urge, which will host a pre-race social at their Bald Head Island location. The finish line feast and the post-race breakfast will be catered by Maritime Market. Special home rental offers on Bald Head Island are available through Bald Head Island Limited, Seabreeze Rentals, and Wendy Wilmot Properties, while the Hampton Inn in Southport has also extended a special rate. The event is being hosted under special permits from the Village of Bald Head Island and Fort Fisher State Recreation Area.

Badwater Cape Fear is the first leg of the BADWATER ULTRA CUP, which includes Badwater Cape Fear on March 21, the 81-mile Badwater Salton Sea on May 3-4, and then Badwater 135 on July 28-30. Those runners who complete all three full-distance events in the same calendar year will be featured on the Badwater website and their virtues will be extolled throughout the Internet and in future editions of BADWATER Magazine.

AdventureCORPS®, Inc. is an athlete-run firm producing and promoting ultra-endurance sports events and BADWATER® lifestyle products. Adventure is our way of life. AdventureCORPS’ world-class events for athlete-adventurers include epic races such as the BADWATER® 135, BADWATER® SALTON SEA, BADWATER® CAPE FEAR, Silver State 508™, and other events. AdventureCORPS products include Badwater® Apparel, Badwater® Skin Care, Badwater® Gear, as well as other great lifestyle items and services.

Founded in 1984 by Chris Kostman, this group effort is dedicated to exploring the inner and outer universes, seeking adventure, energy, and insight both in daily life and “out there.” More info is available at [www.badwater.com](http://www.badwater.com).



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# About Cape Fear

Cape Fear is a prominent headland jutting into the Atlantic Ocean from Bald Head Island on the coast of North Carolina in the southeastern United States. It is largely formed of barrier beaches and the silty outwash of the Cape Fear River as it drains the southeast coast of North Carolina through an estuary south of Wilmington.

Cape Fear is formed by the intersection of two sweeping arcs of shifting, low-lying beach, the result of longshore currents which also form the treacherous, shifting Frying Pan Shoals, part of the Graveyard of the Atlantic.

Dunes dominated by sea oats occur from the upper beach driftline back to the stable secondary dunes, where they mix with other grasses such as Saltmeadow Cordgrass and panic grass, as well as seaside goldenrod, spurge and other herbs to form a stable salt-tolerant grassland.

The Cape Fear estuary drains the largest watershed in North Carolina, containing 27% of the state's population.

Giovanni da Verrazzano, the Italian explorer sailing for France, made landfall after crossing the Atlantic at or near Cape Fear on March 1, 1524.

The name comes from the 1585 expedition of Sir Richard Grenville. Sailing to Roanoke Island, his ship became embayed behind the cape. Some of the crew were afraid they would wreck, giving rise to the name Cape Fear.[1] It is the fifth-oldest surviving English place name in the U.S.[2]

Cape Fear was the landing place of General Sir Henry Clinton during the American Revolutionary War on May 3, 1775. The 1962 movie Cape Fear and its 1991 remake were set at Cape Fear.

The legend of Cape Fear lives on with BADWATER® CAPE FEAR!

*Source: Wikipedia*





# History of Bald Head Island

*Reprinted from VillageBHI.org.*

The Village's history is peppered with colorful people and connections. Through the years, the island has been a breeding ground for wild boar, a prime hangout for bootleggers, a supplier of materials for cedar pencils, a Civil War fort, a nesting ground for loggerhead turtles, and a produce farm and fruit orchard. Pirates, lighthouse keepers, Indians, river pilots, ruffians, soldiers, farmers, and entrepreneurs of all types have come and gone, and yet, the Village's essence is unchanged. This can only be because the island itself is a living thing, with its own integrity and spirit, its wild beauty more or less disregarding man's inclination to tinker.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, when pirates ruled the waters off the coast of North Carolina with greed and terror, the Village was a favorite refuge and base for the notorious buccaneers. In all, the waters surrounding Cape Fear were a hideaway for hundreds of pirates, the most famous of which were Edward Teach, better known as Blackbeard, and Stede Bonnet, the gentlemen pirate.

Bonnet, the so-called "Gentlemen Pirate" from Barbados, was an educated retired military officer who turned to piracy in 1717 as a second career in order to escape what one historian tactfully referred to as "the discomforts he found in a married state." During his short stint as a pirate, Bonnet terrorized the Carolina and Virginia coasts aboard his sailing sloop *Revenge* with 10 guns and 70 men. For a brief time, Bonnet even linked up with Blackbeard, a pirate who never carried the title "gentlemen." In 1718 Blackbeard was cornered and killed aboard his sloop, *Adventure*, by two warships sent by the governor of Virginia. Just three weeks later, Bonnet was captured at Bonnet's Creek in Southport by Colonel William Rhett of South Carolina and hanged near Charlestown. Their deaths marked a dramatic end to the Golden Age of Piracy in North Carolina.

Long before pirates ever discovered the Village's nooks and crannies, Native Americans hunted Bald Head Island and fished its surrounding waters in the spring and summer while maintaining permanent settlements on the mainland. The island was, in effect, a seasonal retreat for the Native Americans when supplies of corn or grain began running low.

Early river pilots were responsible for giving the Village its unique and descriptive name. Eager to offer their navigational services to

ships approaching the entrance to the Cape Fear River, they took up watch on a high dune headland on the southwest point on the island. According to local lore, the headland was worn bare of vegetation, making it stand out in contrast to the forest behind it. This "bald" headland served as a reference point for ships entering the river, and the name Bald Head Island has endured.

The year 1817 saw the construction of the island's most revered landmark and symbol, Old Baldy Lighthouse. Still the island's only "high rise," Old Baldy lighthouse was the second of three lighthouses built on Bald Head Island, and is the only one remaining. In 1903, the lighthouse was decommissioned when the Cape Fear Light was erected on the eastern end of the island, but it still serves as a prominent day marker for mariners. Due to restoration efforts by the Old Baldy Foundation and the generosity of hundreds of contributors, visitors to North Carolina's oldest lighthouse can climb up her 108 steps for a spectacular panoramic view of Bald Head Island.

The foundation of the Cape Fear Light can still be seen at the end of Federal Road across from three lightkeeper's cottages known as Captain Charlie's Station, after Captain Charles Norton Swan, a lighthouse keeper who lived with his family on Bald Head Island from 1903 until 1933. Captain Charlie's Station is listed in the

National Register of Historic Places, and still commands a sweeping view of the dunes and sea at the island's southeastern point.

In addition to lightkeepers, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries the island was home to members of the U.S. Lifesaving Service, the predecessor to the modern day Coast Guard. Several buildings on the southeastern shore of the island overlooking Frying Pan Shoals served as equipment storage and housing for the servicemen. The only remaining Lifesaving Station structure is a boathouse that was moved from the beachfront to back among the dunes where it is now a private residence.

Another symbol of the past presence of lightkeepers and lifesaving servicemen on the island is the Old Boat House on Bald Head Creek, built in 1903 to store supplies and boats. A dramatic change in the shape of the creek channel over the last ninety years makes it appear to have moved several hundred yards.

The most notable feature on the 1864 Blackford map (established by B.L. Blackford) was Fort Holmes, located on the Bald Head promontory at the southwest corner of the island. Most of what we know regarding the fort can be gathered from a detailed sketch of its layout prepared in 1865. In addition, several firsthand accounts prepared by officers at Fort Holmes are extant. The fort had been hurriedly erected in 1863 and 1864 as part of a defense system for the lower Cape Fear. The string of forts from Bald Head to Wilmington kept the river, the "lifeline of the Confederacy," open for blockade runners. Given the presence of two navigable entrances, that at Bald Head and a second above Smith Island at New Inlet, the river was ideal for such traffic.

The sketch of Fort Holmes prepared by Federal occupation forces in 1865 indicates that the earthen breastworks extended the width of the island from the lighthouse to the southwest tip at Bald Head. A road to the opposite end of the island ran through the upper part of the fort. The earthen works, it was noted, were reinforced with



palmetto and oak logs. Four batteries extended along the east side of the fort. The fifth and largest, Battery Holmes, with bombproof magazines, was at the island's southwesternmost point. A flagstaff was positioned on the Bald Head promontory. Quarters and storehouses were located in several spots inside the fort.

Despite subtle shifts in sand and sea, Bald Head Island remains much as it was centuries ago. It still serves as a natural sanctuary for educators and students interested in coastal ecology, a home for a special breed of permanent residents that share a kinship of spirit with the hardy, independent lightkeepers and servicemen of days long past, and a refuge for vacationers seeking privacy and rejuvenation in a beautiful, relaxed setting.





*Barrier Island Conservation • Preservation • Education*

The Bald Head Island Conservancy is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1983. The Conservancy's mission is barrier island conservation, preservation and education. It is located in a unique area within the Smith Island Complex which includes Bald Head, Middle, and Bluff Islands, all of which are bounded by the Cape Fear River and the Atlantic Ocean.

The Conservancy sponsors and facilitates scientific research that benefits coastal communities and provides numerous recreational and educational activities to the public. In coordination with various organizations, partnerships and collaborations, the Conservancy has led the nation in conservation and research efforts and is uniquely poised to become a leader in Barrier Island Conservation world-wide.

As a subsidiary corporation and partner of the Conservancy, The Smith Island Land Trust complements these efforts by preserving significant properties in perpetuity, ensuring that land within the island complex will be forever protected in its natural state.

As a 501 (C-3) nonprofit membership organization, we are able to continue this work through the generosity and commitment of our

many members, island visitors and other supporters. Please know that your support of our work is greatly appreciated!

Explore the natural wonder of Bald Head Island...

**The Smith Island Complex** is comprised of Middle, Bluff, and Bald Head Island. Spanning ten miles of beach and dunes, 10,000 acres of salt marsh, 4,000 acres of barrier island 'upland,' and 193 acres of Bald Head Woods maritime forest preserve, Bald Head Island is an exceptional location to conduct research and educational activities.

Hailed as one of the last remaining barrier islands in North Carolina where one can walk uninterrupted through salt marsh, maritime forest, dunes and beach habitats, Bald Head Island is *the* place for your next class or research trip. The Bald Head Island Conservancy is here to facilitate your discovery of Cape Fear.

**Barrier Island Study Center** – a LEED Gold Certified building that contains a wet laboratory, dry laboratory, multimedia theater, and research library. Environmentally friendly features include Cape Fear river wood, recycled floor tiles, skylights, recycled lint insulation, energy efficient lighting, zone specific HVAC system, SIPS walls, 7,000 gallon rainwater cistern, and recycled metal for support structures. The multimedia theater seats 40 and facilitates presentations, DVDs, and interactive meetings. The dry laboratory seats 10 and it outfitted with a complete glassware set, buret, basic measurement tools, and gas hookup. The wet laboratory seats 40 and contains microscopes, dissection scopes, autoclave, fume hood, touch tank exhibit with live invertebrates, and two walls of 10 gallon saltwater research aquaria. The research library contains 6 study carrels.



## BECOME AN ANNUAL MEMBER

Join the BHI Conservancy to enjoy annual benefits. Your membership supports our environmental education programs.

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## ANNUAL MEMBER BENEFITS

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*100% of membership net revenues directly support the educational programs and opportunities offered by the BHI Conservancy.*

# BHI Conservancy's Sea Turtle Protection Program

## 2013 Sea Turtle Season Stats:

**Nests Laid: 120 | Nests Hatched: 120**

Efforts to protect the habitats and activities of sea turtles on Bald Head Island go back to 1980. Since its inception in 1983, the Bald Head Island Conservancy has coordinated and sponsored the Sea Turtle Protection Program, in cooperation with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and the National Marine Fisheries Service. As one of NMFS's "index beaches," Bald Head Island is nationally recognized for its sea turtle nesting activity, and for the Conservancy's efforts to protect this resource.

Each summer, the Conservancy funds and houses six interns to conduct field work for the Sea Turtle Protection Program, under the direction of our sea turtle biologist. The interns are typically undergraduates majoring in natural resource related fields. This internship opportunity is both unique and demanding. The interns not only conduct nightly patrols of the beach, but also experience the full range of job functions associated with running a small nonprofit organization.

The majority of an intern's summer is spent patrolling for nesting sea turtles from dusk until dawn on an all terrain vehicle. BHIC is the only NGO in North Carolina permitted to flipper tag nesting female sea turtles. Saturation tagging, tagging every possible female, provides a census of all nesting females. Very few other beaches conduct tagging studies as demanding. Data collected from nesting sea turtles includes GPS nest locations; flipper tag data; PIT tagging; straight and curved line carapace dimensions; and occasionally satellite tagging.

After the nesting female returns to the ocean, interns protect the nest from predation by a protective wire cage around the nest thus preventing raccoons, foxes, and dogs from disturbing the nest, while allowing the hatchlings to emerge unimpeded. Before the use of wire cages became standard practice on Bald Head, predation resulted in a nest mortality of approximately 50%. This has been greatly reduced in recent years.



Nests laid in a suboptimal location may be relocated to a safer location. Eggs may be in danger if they are laid below or close to the high tide line, in an area of high foot traffic, or of low sand quality. A nest can be relocated within the first six hours after it was laid, which is facilitated by our intensive beach patrolling.

As our interns return to school in mid-August, the sea turtle biologist assumes patrol duties to monitor nesting activity and emerging hatchlings. Since the incubation time for sea turtles in our locale is approximately sixty days, Bald Head hosts sea turtle hatching events from late July through mid-October.

After a nest has hatched, or if the nest is overdue, it will be excavated to determine nesting success. Success is determined by counting the number of eggs that successfully hatched vs. the total in the nest. This is evident by the number of empty eggs left in the nest along with the number of unhatched eggs. Frequently, viable hatchlings are rescued and released on the beach so they can make their way to the ocean.

Most of the sea turtles that visit our beaches are loggerheads (*Caretta caretta*), but we will occasionally see the Atlantic green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*).

Sea turtle nesting on Bald Head Island has experienced a general downward trend over the past 25 years but we are hopeful that through our protection efforts the number of nesting females will begin increasing in the years to come. Find out what you can do to help us continue this important research so that we ensure future generations will have the chance of witnessing these majestic, ancient creatures.

# Fort Fisher State Recreation Area, Kure Beach, NC



*Reprinted from NCParks.gov*

Prior to European settlement, the Cape Fear Native Americans, of the Siouan language group, lived in and around the lower Cape Fear peninsula; farming, fishing and hunting. Artifacts of the native culture, including pottery fragments, arrowheads and mounds of oyster shells, or midden piles, have been found in this area.

Early attempts at colonization in the area were unsuccessful, mainly due to conflicts with the Cape Fear Native Americans. Pirating, common in the area during colonial times, also contributed to the struggles of early settlers. About 1730, further upstream along the Cape Fear River from Fort Fisher, the port of Wilmington was settled. Wilmington became a bustling port, particularly important for its exports of naval stores - tar, pitch and turpentine products derived from the resin of the longleaf pine.

During the Civil War, Fort Fisher, built in 1861, served to protect the valuable port of Wilmington from Union forces. By late 1864, it was the last southern port open to trade. In this same year the first of two Union attacks on Fort Fisher took place. The fort held strong during the first battle and Union forces withdrew, but the Confederacy was not so lucky the second time.

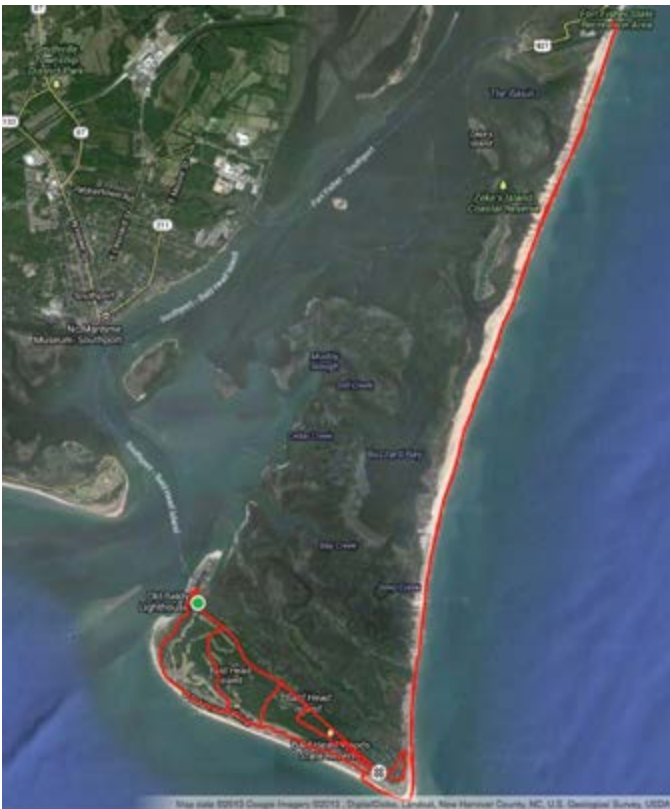
In early 1865, a fleet of 56 ships bombarded the fort prior to a land assault by a force of more than 3,300 infantry. After a six-hour battle, Fort Fisher was captured and the Confederate supply line was broken. It was the largest land-sea battle fought in any war up to that time. The outcome contributed significantly to the outcome of the Civil War. Approximately three months after the fall of Fort Fisher, the Civil War came to an end.

In the late 19th century, a long rock jetty called "The Rocks" was built west of Fort Fisher to aid navigation by stopping shoaling in the Cape Fear River. Completed in 1881, The Rocks closed the former New Inlet, once used by Confederate blockade-runners to avoid the U.S. Navy, and created a lagoon, now called "The Basin". Today, The Rocks and The Basin are part of the Zeke's Island component of the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve, and 1160-acre area of outstanding estuarine and ocean resources with extensive marshes and tidal flats.

The southern tip of New Hanover County became an island (now known as Pleasure Island) in 1929 when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredged Snow's Cut (named for Major William A. Snow, Chief Engineer for the Wilmington District). This cut is a canal that connects the Cape Fear River to Masonboro Sound and is now part of the Intracoastal Waterway.

From 1955 to 1972, Robert E. Harrill, who became known as the Fort Fisher Hermit, lived in the World War II bunker. He became a celebrity and philosopher of sorts, becoming known to the thousands of visitors who came to Fort Fisher during those years. Harrill relied on nature for much of his food, eating oysters, clams and fish as well as what he would grow. Over time, as his popularity and reputation grew, he also benefited from donations left by his many visitors.

For more information, visit [www.ncparks.gov](http://www.ncparks.gov)



For more information, visit [www.ncaquariums.com](http://www.ncaquariums.com)



*FFSRA Park HQ, and also the northernmost checkpoint of the BWCF Race Route!*



*Fishing is a popular activity within the northern end of the race route. Watch for fishing lines!*



Race leader Gabriel Helmlinger heads north up the beach from Cape Fear.

The 2014 Badwater Ultra Cup kicked off in North Carolina with the inaugural Badwater Cape Fear, held March 22, 2014.

After a week of rain, the weather was fabulous, the locals in the Village of Bald Head Island and at Fort Fisher were extremely supportive, and the entrants gave us rave reviews about an extremely challenging, but breathtaking race course. The variety of terrain and sights along the route is unparalleled: the start of the race at Old Baldy Lighthouse and over the creek on the wooden bridge, a straight traverse across the middle of the island through the forest canopy, a lap around the eastern end of the island and its oceanfront homes, running the length of south beach, trekking through the Maritime Forest Preserve, and then the beach running between Cape Fear and Fort Fisher provided a scenic challenge for all the runners.

Living on “island time” made it a true get-away from the real world, and many of the runners brought their families along to enjoy Bald Head Island and to support them when they passed by the Bald Head Island Conservancy four times, plus at the finish

line. Bald Head residents also came and lent their support at the finish line as well, adding a personal touch to the hospitality shown by the folks at Coastal Urge, who hosted the pre-race social mixer, and by Maritime Market, which hosted the post-race breakfast. In particular, Bald Head Island Conservancy was a fantastic host for the race. We literally based our race headquarters on their campus, and their staffers, Poul Lindegarrd and Jane Baldrige, took great care of us. In turn, we are pleased to shine a light on their important work and to raise money to support their efforts.

Eighty runners competed, with 24 runners completing the 50km race and 56 runners completing the 51.4-mile race. They represented seventeen states plus Canada. Twenty-two women and sixty-eight men competed, ranging in age from 20 to 72. Gabriel Helmlinger, 47, of Cambridge, MA took home top men’s honors, covering the 51.4 miles in 8:12, while the women’s champ, Katherine Plichta, 27, of New York, NY was the lead women and tied for 4th overall in a time of 9:13.





## BADWATER CAPE FEAR ROUTE LANDMARKS

| <i>Distance (mi.)</i> | <i>Landmarks</i>                                                                      | <i>2nd Lap Distance</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0.0                   | Start at Old Baldy Lighthouse                                                         |                         |
|                       | <i>Cross over creek bridge, then head east across island</i>                          |                         |
| 3.2                   | <b>CP1:</b> Pass Race HQ at Bald Head Island Conservancy                              |                         |
|                       | <i>Loop around east end of island via Station House Way</i>                           |                         |
| 4.1                   | <b>CP2:</b> Pass Race HQ at Bald Head Island Conservancy                              |                         |
|                       | Head west on South Bald Head Wynd                                                     |                         |
| 6.1                   | Right / north on Stede Bonnet Wynd                                                    |                         |
| 7.2                   | Left / west on North Bald Head Wynd                                                   |                         |
| 7.6                   | Left / south on West Head Wynd                                                        |                         |
| 8.6                   | Becomes South Bald Head Island Wynd (east)                                            |                         |
| 9.8                   | Left / north on Muscadine Wynd                                                        |                         |
| 10.3                  | Right / east on North Bald Head Wynd / Federal Road                                   |                         |
| 10.8                  | Right / south onto North Carolina Coastal Reserve trail                               |                         |
| 10.9                  | Stay left at Loop Trail sign                                                          |                         |
| 11.0                  | Stay left onto Middle Trail                                                           |                         |
| 11.6                  | Hard right onto East Trail                                                            |                         |
| 12.15                 | Turn left at the end of trail onto road                                               |                         |
| 12.17                 | Turn right at stop sign                                                               |                         |
| 12.21                 | <b>CP3:</b> U-turn at Race HQ at Bald Head Island Conservancy                         | (31.8) <b>CP7</b>       |
| 12.25                 | Head west, briefly, on South Bald Head Wynd                                           | (31.84)                 |
| 12.45                 | Turn left onto South Beach at Beach Access                                            | (32.04)                 |
| 12.55                 | Turn left / east onto South Beach                                                     | (32.14)                 |
| 13.15                 | Turn left / north at Cape Fear onto East Beach                                        | (32.74)                 |
| 14.05                 | Pass final / northernmost BHI staircase / house                                       | (33.64)                 |
| 14.65                 | Bald Head State Natural Area sign in dunes                                            | (34.24)                 |
| 17.85                 | <b>CP4:</b> Enter Fort Fisher State Rec area beach fishing zone                       | (37.44) <b>CP8</b>      |
|                       | <i>NOTE: 4x4 vehicles possible (generally parked) and fishing lines on route</i>      |                         |
| 18.85                 | "Crossover 4" sign                                                                    | (38.44)                 |
| 19.8                  | "Crossover 3" sign                                                                    | (39.39)                 |
| 21.25                 | "No Vehicles Beyond This Point" sign                                                  | (40.84)                 |
| 21.95                 | Turn left / west to Fort Fisher Ranger HQ wooden pathway                              | (41.54)                 |
| 22.0                  | <b>CP5:</b> U-Turn at Fort Fisher Ranger HQ                                           | (41.59) <b>CP9</b>      |
| 22.75                 | Enter Fort Fisher State Rec area beach fishing zone                                   | (42.34)                 |
|                       | <i>NOTE: 4x4 vehicles possible (generally parked) and fishing lines</i>               |                         |
| 24.25                 | "Crossover 3" sign                                                                    | (43.84)                 |
| 25.15                 | "Crossover 4" sign                                                                    | (44.74)                 |
| 26.18                 | <b>CP6:</b> End Fort Fisher State Rec area beach fishing zone                         | (45.77) <b>CP10</b>     |
| 30.0                  | Pass first / northernmost BHI staircase / house                                       | (49.59)                 |
| 30.4                  | Pass beach access, life preserver, 911 phone                                          | (49.99)                 |
| 30.9                  | Pass life preserver signpost at Cape Fear                                             | (50.49)                 |
| 31.55                 | Exit beach at Beach Access 35                                                         | (51.14)                 |
| 31.65                 | Turn right onto South Bald Head Wynd                                                  | (51.24)                 |
| 31.8                  | <b>CP7:</b> U-turn at Race HQ at Bald Head Island Conservancy                         | (51.39) <b>FINISH</b>   |
|                       | <i>Repeat miles 12.21 to mile 31.8 as above, for a total of 51.4 miles</i>            |                         |
|                       | <i>(Second lap mileages are listed above in parentheses in the far right column.)</i> |                         |

### GENERAL RACE RULES

1. The clock, and the race, start at 745am for all entrants.
2. There are only two divisions: men's and women's, and two distances: 50km and 51mi.
3. The clock does not stop for any reason until the race course officially closes after 14 hours.
4. Wear your assigned race number on the front of the body, visible at all times.
5. All runners are strongly encouraged to carry a cell phone at all times.
6. All runners should keep in mind that the race route is largely remote and aid is provided at just three locations along the route; carrying water and food at all times is strongly encouraged.
7. All running while on pavement must always be single file, on the far left side of the road. Be careful of, and courteous towards, golf carts, shuttles, bicycles, and other vehicles and pedestrians.
8. Please make your presence known at the three checkpoints located along the route, each time you pass them.
9. Runners must progress under their own power without drafting, helping, pushing, supporting, or any other type of physical assistance. Racers may only be accompanied by fellow racers. (No pacers are allowed and no outside assistance of any nature may be received except at the Bald Head Island Conservancy checkpoint, except in an emergency)
10. Remember, at all times and in all situations, safety is the most important issue. This means safety for racers, volunteers, staff, and the general public. The roads and beaches are not closed for this event.
11. Please do not litter, mar, or pollute the landscape or environment.
12. Please must display courtesy, good taste, decorum, and sportsmanship at all times.
13. In all cases and circumstances, it is the intent, and spirit, of the rules which will govern their implementation and enforcement.
14. The range of possible penalties for breaking or disregarding rules include time penalties, disqualification, public shunning, loss of friends, humiliation, and/or being forced to swim back to Southport.

### Time Limits

1. The time limit for the 50km race is nine hours.
2. The time limit for the 51mi race is fourteen hours, with a mandatory intermediate cut-off of eight hours at mile 32 at BHIC. 51mi racers who arrive at mile 32 in more than eight hours (and in less than nine hours), will be recategorized as 50km racers and ranked accordingly.
3. Racers may change distances during the event, switching from 50km to 51mi, or vice-versa, so long as time cut-offs and limits are respected.

### Leaving the Course or Withdrawing

1. Short cutting is not allowed. There will be no allowance made for lost time or miles run in the wrong direction.
2. Do not "go missing." If you must withdraw from the race, please let us know.
3. All Emergency Evacuation costs for participants will be borne by that person or their heirs. The race organizers are in no way liable or responsible for emergency evacuation.

### Legal and Bureaucratic Issues

1. All racers must sign the Accident Waiver and Release of Liability / Release of Name and Likeness.
2. All racers must attend Racer Check-In.
3. All racers must be willing to submit to a drug urine test before (at any point prior to the race, after being officially confirmed for entry), during (at any time), or after the race (up to 90 days after the conclusion of the race). If any WADA banned substances are detected, the racer will be disqualified from competition, listed as DISQUALIFIED FOR DOPING in the final standings of the race, and banned for life from any AdventureCORPS event. Refusal to submit a urine specimen upon demand will also result in the racer being disqualified from competition, being listed as DISQUALIFIED FOR DOPING in the final standings of the race, and being banned for life from any AdventureCORPS event.
4. The Race Director has the authority, at any time, to overrule any rule or invent a new rule based on extenuating, unforeseen, and/or unusual circumstances and/or to maintain the integrity and fair play necessary for the successful completion, and continuation, of the race. The Race Director has ultimate authority in regards to all rules, their interpretation, and their enforcement. There is no "appeals committee" nor an "appeals process." All entrants in the race willingly acknowledge this fact, as well as all other race rules, by attending the race in any capacity.

# Run run run **eat** run run run...



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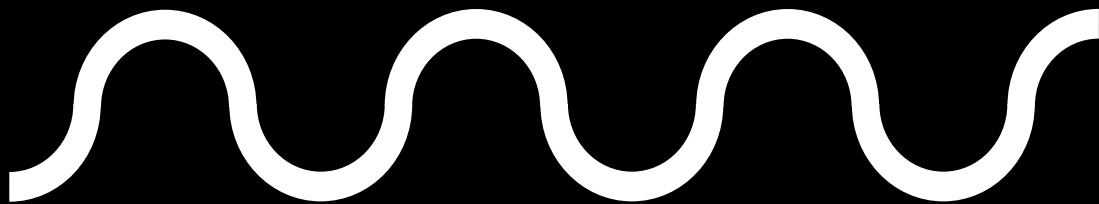
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# BADWATER®



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May 2015  
Salton Sea, CA





*Chris with Smells Like Team Spirit.*



*Chris with Hell on Heels.*



*Chris with Laurie Kostman and Staff.*

Founded in 1984, AdventureCORPS®, Inc. is an athlete-run producing the world's toughest races and promoting the world's toughest brand, BADWATER®.

Adventure is our way of life, so we are extremely pleased to host the 3rd Badwater Salton Sea, the second leg of the Badwater Ultra Cup, on May 3-4, 2015. This three-event series kicked off on March 21 with Badwater Cape Fear and concludes on July 28-30 with Badwater 135.

A truly epic event in an otherworldly location, Badwater Salton Sea pits up to 75 of the world's toughest athletes, competing together on teams of either two or three, against one another, the route, and the elements.

Covering 81 miles (131km) non-stop from the Salton Sea to Palomar Mountain and with a team ultra running format unique to this race, it is the one of the most demanding and extreme running races on the planet. As the racers, support crews, staff, and the world learned in 2013 and 2014, it is truly deserving of its "BADWATER" moniker.

The start line is the shoreline of the Salton Sea at Salton City, located at 125' (38m) below sea level in Imperial County. The race finishes at Upper Meadow Lodge on Palomar Mountain, one of San Diego County's tallest peaks at 5500' (1676m) and the home of the world famous Palomar Observatory. The race course covers two mountain ranges for a total of 9,000' (2743m) of cumulative vertical ascent.

We thank and salute the County of Imperial, County of San Diego, California Department of Transportation, and Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, whose staff - and permits - oversee this event. We thank all the AdventureCORPS staff for their hard work in hosting a smooth and successful race. We thank everyone involved with the event for their sense of adventure and unassailable commitment to sportsmanship, fair play, and esprit de corps.

We wish everyone - racers, crews, staff, sponsors, media, and fans - a safe and successful race this year. May this truly be a life-changing experience for everyone.

Yours in sport,

*Chris Kostman*

Race Director and Chief Adventure Officer

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*Flip this magazine over for the March / Cape Fear edition of BADWATER Magazine!*

## adventureCORPS®

"Out There Since 1984"



BADWATER® Magazine is published semiannually  
by AdventureCORPS, Inc.  
638 Lindero Canyon Rd., #311, Oak Park, CA 91377 U.S.A.  
[www.badwater.com](http://www.badwater.com) [www.adventurecorps.com](http://www.adventurecorps.com)

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Cover: Team RWB Desert Eagles in 2014, by Marco Apostol.

Inside Front: Teams Run It Fast and Smells Like Team Spirit (top)  
and 2nd place Team Yinzers, all of them Badwater Ultra Cup  
finishers (bottom).

P4: Salton Sea by Ian Parker.

P5: 2014 photos by Marco Apostol.

P13: 2014 photos by Chris Kostman.

Design and Layout by Kevin Fung, [kevin@kfungdesign.com](mailto:kevin@kfungdesign.com)

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Friday, May 1, 2014

**300pm:** Optional but Encouraged: Meet at Hotel Lobby to carpool to the trailhead near the start of the Montezuma Grade Road. (Each is responsible for their own transportation.)

**330pm:** Optional: Depart the trailhead to hike of some or all of the eight-mile California Riding & Hiking Trail which ascends over 3500 feet from Borrego Springs almost to the tiny hamlet of Ranchita. This trail is included within the BADWATER SALTON SEA race route in the mile 40 to mile 50 range. Many BWSS competitors will join this hike in order to get a preview of the steepest climb within the race. Estimated hiking time 2.5 to 3 hours. It may be HOT, so bring adequate water, electrolytes, clothing, sunscreen, and hat. It's an 8-mile, uphill, one-way hike, so drivers and vehicles to pick hikers up at the top of the trail (just below the summit of Montezuma Valley Road, or 1.7 miles before the Ranchita Store) will need to be coordinated by all involved.

**630 to 700pm:** Conclude hike at western end of trail. (Transportation back from there must be arranged by all involved.)

### Saturday, May 2, 2014

**630-800am:** Optional: Road and trail run around Borrego Springs past many of the incredible metal sculptures which dot the landscape and are known as Galleta Meadows. Depart on foot from hotel lobby at 630am.

**800-915am:** Optional buy Encouraged: Yoga Tune Up® with Laurie Kostman This is open to EVERYONE, regardless of yoga experience! (Anza Room adjacent to Borrego Springs Resort lobby). Please bring a yoga mat or large beach towel.

**1000am:** Optional: Meet at Hotel Lobby to carpool to Salton City to visit the start line area and first 35 miles of the Badwater Salton Sea race route. (All are responsible for their own transportation. Please carpool.)

**1030am:** Depart for Salton City.

**300-400pm:** Runner Check-In and Photos

**400-500pm:** Pre-Race Meeting

### Sunday, May 4, 2014

0526 Civil Twilight (first light in the sky) 0553 Sunrise

0700 RACE START

0911 Moonrise

1926 Sunset

1952 Civil Twilight (no light left in the sky)

2316 Moonset

### Monday, May 4, 2015

0523 Civil Twilight (first light in the sky)

0559 Sunrise

**1100 RACE COURSE CLOSSES (28 Hour Limit)**

1100 Post-Race Brunch, at the finish line

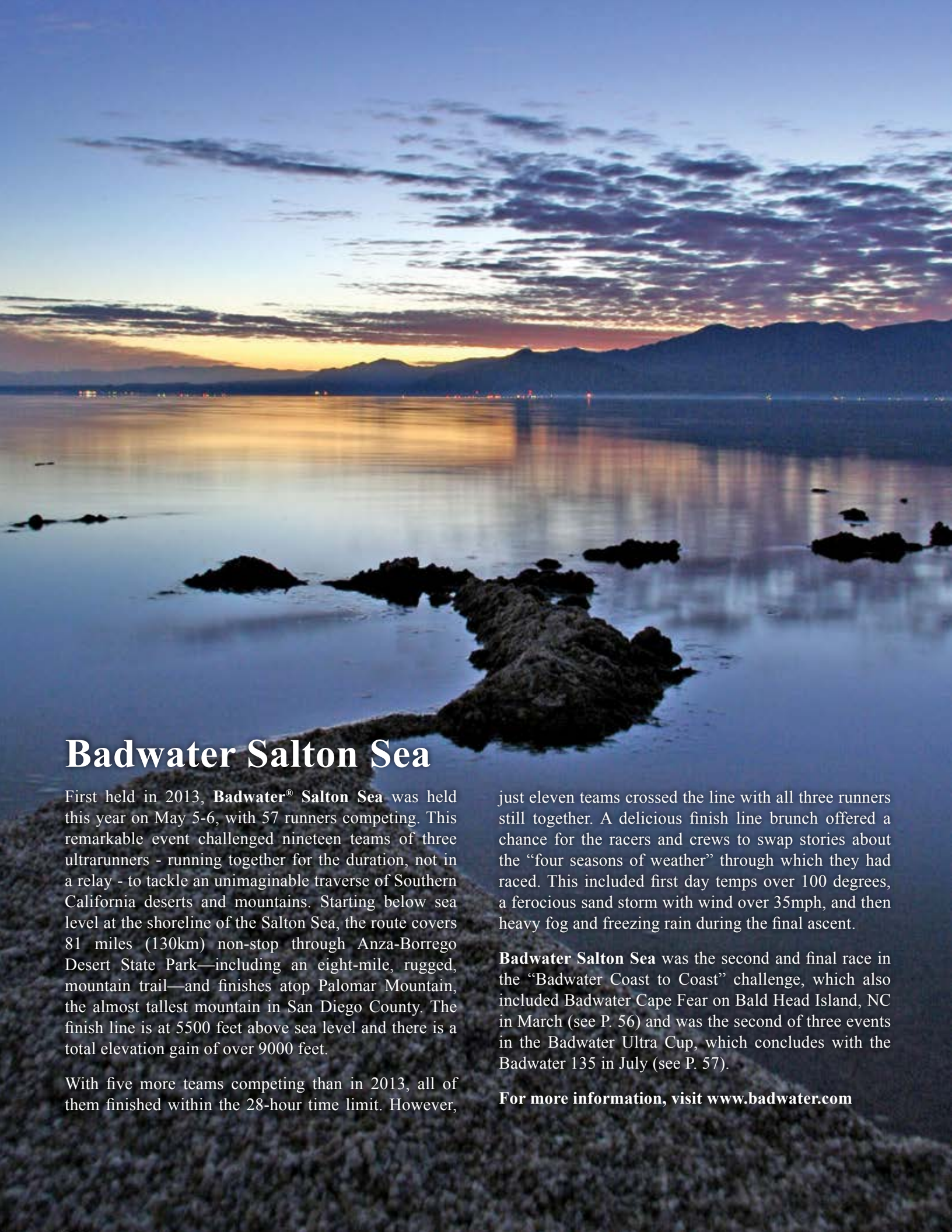
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## Badwater Salton Sea

First held in 2013, **Badwater® Salton Sea** was held this year on May 5-6, with 57 runners competing. This remarkable event challenged nineteen teams of three ultrarunners - running together for the duration, not in a relay - to tackle an unimaginable traverse of Southern California deserts and mountains. Starting below sea level at the shoreline of the Salton Sea, the route covers 81 miles (130km) non-stop through Anza-Borrego Desert State Park—including an eight-mile, rugged, mountain trail—and finishes atop Palomar Mountain, the almost tallest mountain in San Diego County. The finish line is at 5500 feet above sea level and there is a total elevation gain of over 9000 feet.

With five more teams competing than in 2013, all of them finished within the 28-hour time limit. However,

just eleven teams crossed the line with all three runners still together. A delicious finish line brunch offered a chance for the racers and crews to swap stories about the “four seasons of weather” through which they had raced. This included first day temps over 100 degrees, a ferocious sand storm with wind over 35mph, and then heavy fog and freezing rain during the final ascent.

**Badwater Salton Sea** was the second and final race in the “Badwater Coast to Coast” challenge, which also included Badwater Cape Fear on Bald Head Island, NC in March (see P. 56) and was the second of three events in the Badwater Ultra Cup, which concludes with the Badwater 135 in July (see P. 57).

**For more information, visit [www.badwater.com](http://www.badwater.com)**



*“Once again, you guys don’t disappoint. What an amazing, first class event! I was absolutely impressed with every aspect of it, including the way you summoned just about every type of weather phenomena to the course!”*

—Tony Portera

*“Great job with Salton Sea. Incredible course. Loved the team format. The extremes of weather were a challenge, but I’d expect nothing less from a race with the “Badwater” label on it. Our whole team and crew thoroughly enjoyed it.”*

—Tony Spencer



Team Sole2Soul



Team KEYS100 Represent



Team Smells Like Team Spirit

# Salton Sea



*Excerpted from <http://saltonsea.ca.gov>: The Salton Sea Authority.*

In 1901, the California Development Company, seeking to realize the Imperial Valley's potential for unlimited agricultural productivity, dug irrigation canals from the Colorado River. Heavy silt loads, however, inhibited the flow and new residents of the valley became worried. This prompted the engineers to create a cut in the western bank of the Colorado to allow more water to reach the valley. Unfortunately, heavy flood waters broke through the engineered canal and nearly all the river's flow rushed into the valley. By the time the breach was closed, the present-day Salton Sea was formed.

One of the attractions of the Sea is the abundance of life, manifested in the hundreds of species of birds that reside in, or visit, this important wetland habitat, and the fish that inhabit the waters. That is why some scientists have called the Salton Sea "California's crown jewel of avian biodiversity" and perhaps was the most productive fishery in the world.

This abundance of wildlife is particularly critical given the decline of wetlands. Over 90 percent of the wetlands of California have been lost. As California's wetlands decline, the importance of the Sea as a habitat for inland wetland species increases. The Sea's

habitats support up to 40 percent of the entire US population of the threatened Yuma clapper rail, 80 to 90 percent of the American white pelican, and 90 percent of the eared grebe.

Besides the opportunity for bird watching and for fishing, the Salton Sea and its immediate vicinity offer recreational opportunities including boating, camping, off-roading, hiking, hunting, use of personal watercraft and photography. One of the attractions, the Salton Sea State Recreation Area, has 1,400 campsites in five campgrounds, hundreds of picnic sites, trails, playgrounds, boat ramps and a visitors' center.

## **Salton Sea Statistics**

The Salton Sea, located in the southeastern corner of California, is actually a lake which occupies a desert basin known as the Salton Sink. This body of water covers a surface area of 376 square miles, making it larger than Lake Tahoe and Mono Lake. In fact, the Salton Sea is the largest lake in California. The Sea's current elevation is about 227 feet below mean sea level, its maximum depth reaches 51 feet and its total volume is about 7.5 million acre-feet.

*Photo by Chris Kostman near the race start line.*



# Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

*Excerpted from [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=638](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=638)*

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park is the largest state park in California, featuring 500 miles of dirt roads, 12 wilderness areas, and many miles of hiking trails provide visitors with an unparalleled opportunity to experience the wonders of the California Desert. The park is named for Spanish explorer Juan Bautista de Anza and the Spanish word *borrego*, or bighorn sheep. The park features washes, wildflowers, palm groves, cacti and sweeping vistas. Visitors may also have the chance to see roadrunners, golden eagles, kit foxes, mule deer and bighorn sheep as well as iguanas, chuckwallas and the red diamond rattlesnake.

The Park is located on the eastern side of San Diego County, with portions extending east into Imperial County and north into Riverside County. It is about a two-hour drive from San Diego, Riverside, and Palm Springs.

Most visitors approach from the east via Highways S22, S2, or 78. Visitors from San Diego via Highways 79 and 78 have the added pleasure of driving through the mountainous Cuyamaca Rancho State Park--quite a different experience from Anza-Borrego. The highways from the east climb to 2,400 feet or so and then descend about 2,000 feet to the valley. Where the highway breaks out of the high-country vegetation, it reveals the great bowl of the Anza-Borrego desert. The valley spreads below, and there are mountains all around. The highest are to the north--the Santa Rosa Mountains. The mountains are a wilderness, with no paved roads in or out or through. They have the only all-year-flowing watercourse in the park. They are the home of the peninsular bighorn sheep, often called desert bighorn.

There are more wonders in this desert than anyone could see in a lifetime, including wildflowers, which usually start blooming in force in late February or early March. Varieties of cactus bloom at all elevations but at different times, and for wildflower buffs they are the real prize. They tend to be "specimen" blossoms in colors ranging from red to yellow, and green. Other plants, such as the red chuparosa and the yellow brittlebush, show themselves as a mass of tiny flowers covering the surface of a shrub, or even a field of shrubs, or, in a good year, a broad expanse of pink sand verbena.

*Photo by Ian Parker.*

# Palomar Mountain



*Excerpted from [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palomar\\_Mountain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palomar_Mountain)*

Palomar Mountain is a mountain in the Peninsular Ranges in northern San Diego County. It is famous as the location of the Palomar Observatory and Hale Telescope, and known for the Palomar Mountain State Park.

The Luiseno Indian name for Palomar Mountain was “Paauw” and High Point was called “Wikyo.”

The Spanish name “Palomar,” in English meaning “pigeon roost,” comes from the Spanish colonial era in Alta California when Palomar Mountain was known as the home of Band-tailed Pigeons.

During the 1890s, the human population was sufficient to support three public schools, and it was a popular summer resort for Southern California, with three hotels in operation part of the time, and a tent city in Doane Valley each summer.

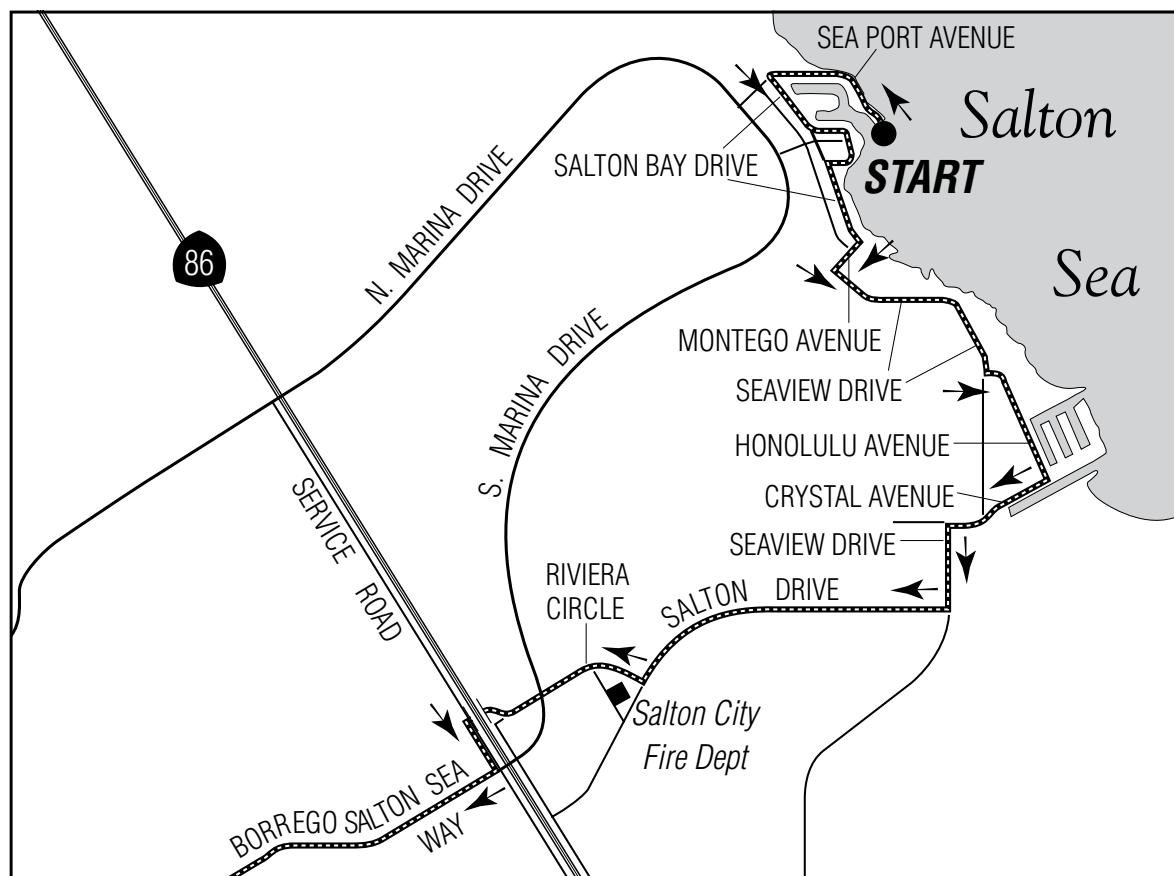
Palomar Mountain is most famous as being home since 1936 to the Palomar Observatory, and the giant Hale Telescope. The 200-inch telescope was the world’s largest and most important telescope from 1949 until 1992. The observatory currently consists of three large telescopes.

Palomar Mountain is the location of Palomar Mountain State Park, a California State Park. There are campgrounds for vacationers, and there was a campground for local school children until the San Diego Unified School District was forced to close it due to state budget cuts. The park averages 70,000 visitors annually. The campgrounds in the park were temporarily closed on October 2, 2011, due to state budget cuts, and the park was among 70 California State Parks threatened by budget cuts in fiscal years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013, but the park and the campgrounds remain open.

Palomar Mountain, especially in the state park area, is densely wooded with abundant oak and conifer tree species (pine, cedar, fir). Ferns are abundant everywhere in the shady forest. The forest is supported by annual precipitation totals in excess of 30 inches.

High Point in the Palomar Mountain range is one of the highest peaks in San Diego County, at 6,140 feet (1,871 m), surpassed by Cuyamaca Peak (at 6,512 feet (1,985 m)) and Hot Springs Mountain (the county’s highest point, at 6,533 feet (1,991 m)).

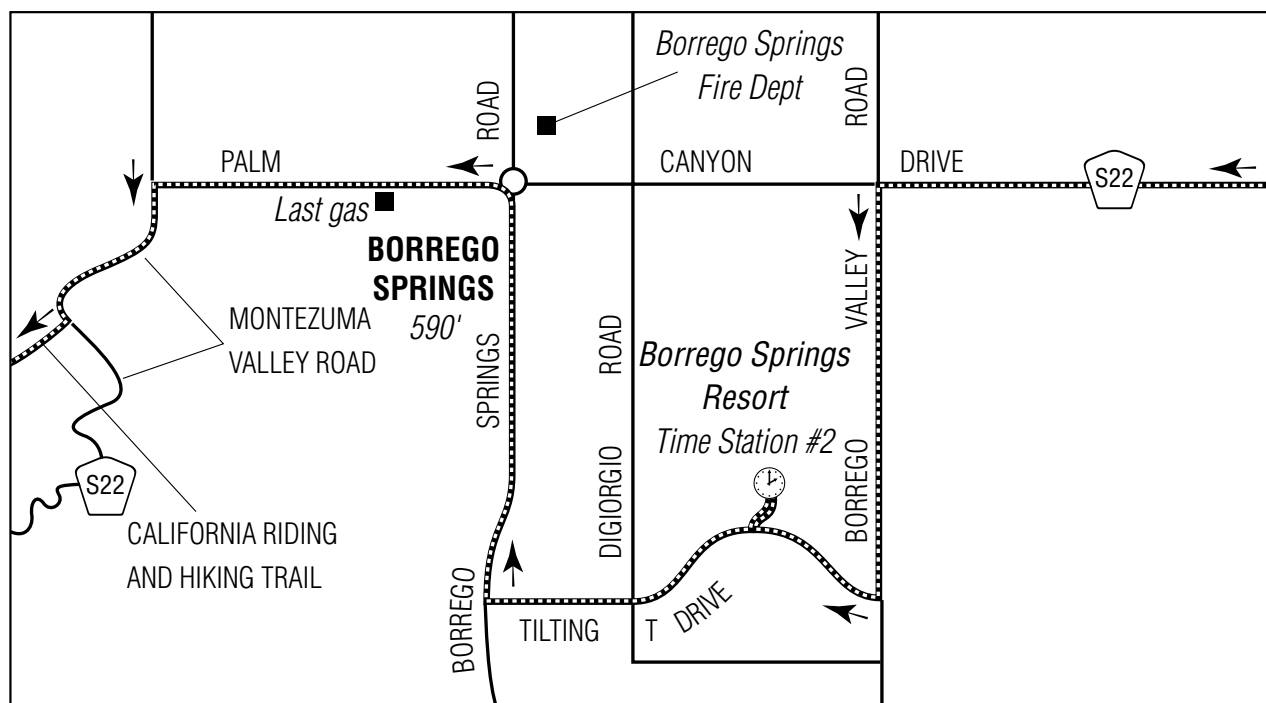
*Photo by Chris Kostman. That white dot on the ridge line, a bit left of center, is the Observatory.*



| <i>Distance (ml.)</i> | <i>Landmarks</i>                                         | <i>Time</i> |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 0                     | Salton Sea Start Line at end of Port Avenue              | 0700        |
| 0.65                  | Left Salton Bay Dr.                                      |             |
| 0.93                  | Left Flamingo Ave.                                       |             |
| 1.1                   | Cross Yacht Club Dr.                                     |             |
| 1.22                  | Road bears right                                         |             |
| 1.34                  | Left Salton Bay Dr.                                      |             |
| 1.7                   | Right Montego Ave.                                       |             |
| 1.87                  | Left Sea View Dr.                                        |             |
| 2.46                  | Stay right on Salton Bay Dr.                             |             |
| 2.83                  | Left Honolulu Ave.                                       |             |
| 3.4                   | Right Crystal Ave. (T-int)                               |             |
| 3.9                   | Left Sea View Dr. (SS, T-in)                             |             |
| 4.27                  | Right Salton Dr. (SS)                                    |             |
| 5.8                   | Right Riviera Circle                                     |             |
| 6.34                  | Cross South Marina Dr. (SS)                              |             |
| 6.5                   | Veer right towards wash (off-road)                       |             |
| 6.65                  | Cross under CA 86                                        |             |
| 6.7                   | Left Service Rd.                                         |             |
| 6.93                  | Right Borrego Springs Seaway / S22 (Last Gas until B.S.) |             |

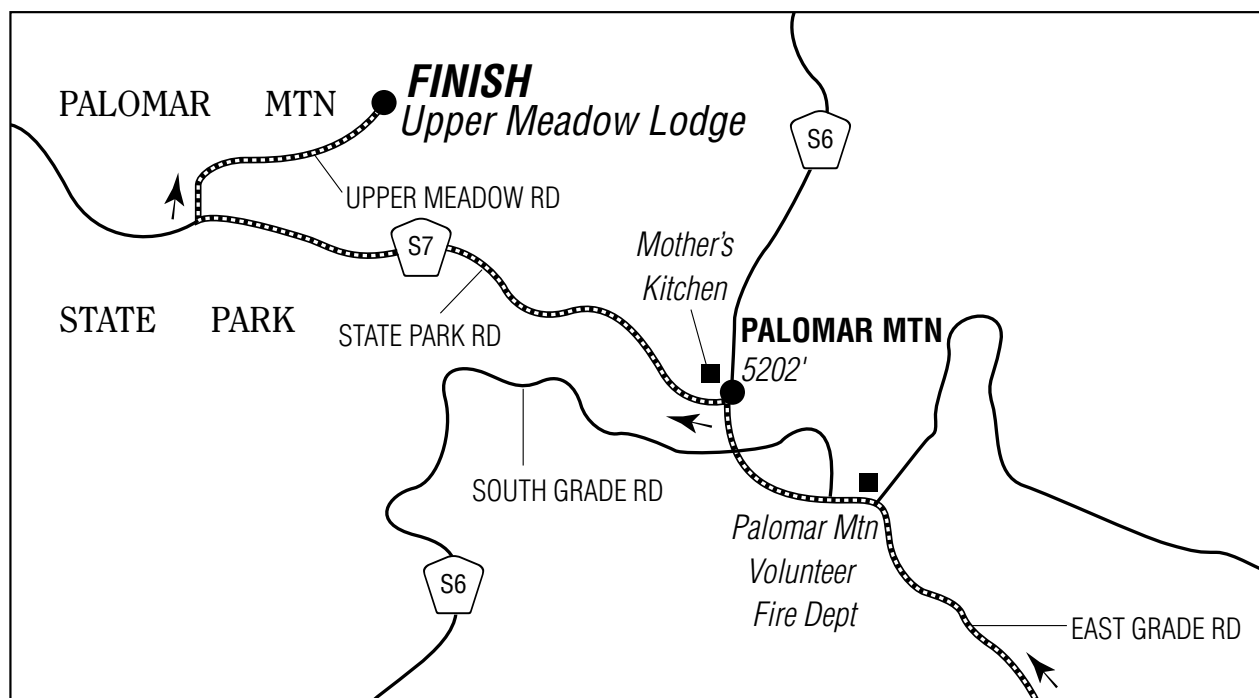
## OFFICIAL RACE ROUTE

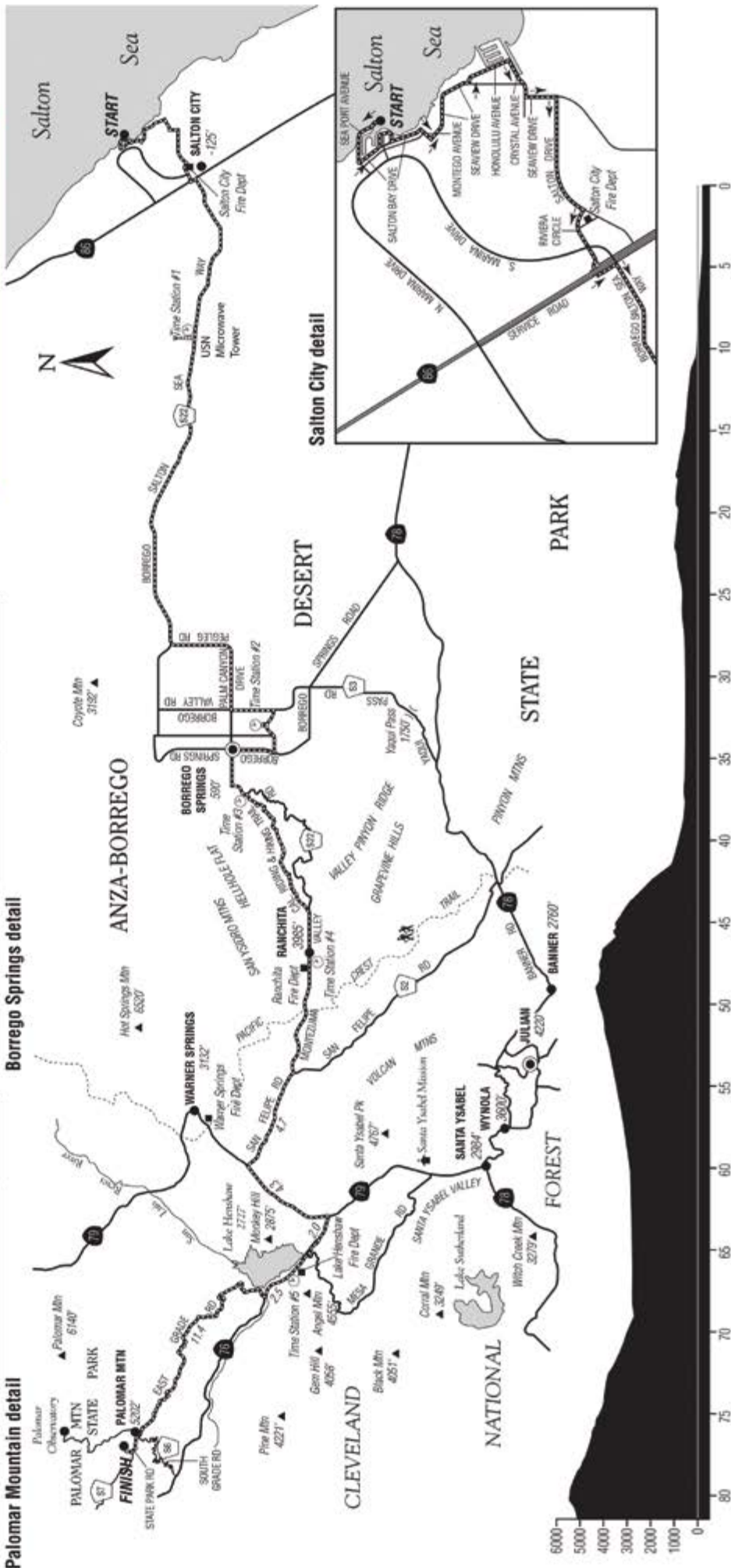
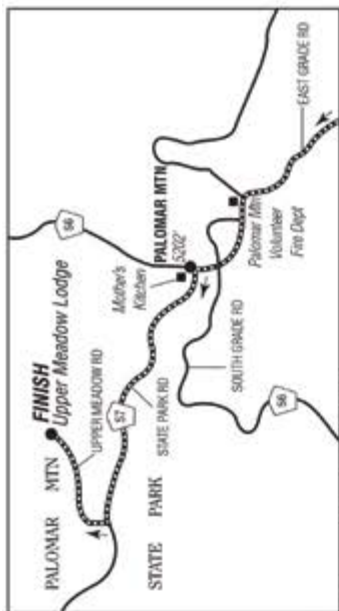
| <i>Distance (ml.)</i> | <i>Landmarks</i>                                                       | <i>Time</i> |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 10.4                  | Cross Bantsch Trail (first climb)                                      |             |
| 14.4                  | <b>Time Station 1:</b> USN Microwave Tower                             |             |
| 17.1                  | Big Scenic Overlook on Right                                           |             |
| 19.3                  | Mile Marker 34                                                         |             |
| 23.15                 | Big walled pullout on left                                             |             |
| 26.3                  | Mile Marker 27                                                         |             |
| 27.5                  | Pass Henderson Canyon Rd.                                              |             |
| 28.3                  | Mile Marker 25                                                         |             |
| 29.15                 | Mile Marker 24                                                         |             |
| 30                    | Road bear right, becomes Palm Canyon Dr.                               |             |
| 31.35                 | Borrego Valley Airport & restaurant on right                           |             |
| 32.75                 | Left Borrego Valley Rd. (SS)                                           |             |
| 34.46                 | Right Tilting T Dr.                                                    |             |
| 35.07                 | Right into Borrego Springs Resort                                      |             |
| 35.23                 | <b>Time Station 2:</b> at resort lobby                                 |             |
|                       | U-turn here                                                            |             |
| 35.4                  | Right Tilting T Dr. (SS)                                               |             |
| 36.6                  | Right Borrego Springs Rd. (SS)                                         |             |
| 38.3                  | Left at Christmas Circle (runners may cut the corner)                  |             |
| 38.6                  | Pass The Mall: Café, Outfitters in back                                |             |
| 38.8                  | Last Chance for GAS!                                                   |             |
| 39.75                 | Left Montezuma Valley Road / S22                                       |             |
| 40.55                 | <b>Time Station 3:</b> Right into dirt parking lot                     |             |
| 40.6                  | Enter California Right and Hiking Trail                                |             |
| 45.5                  | Pass east end of Culp Valley Fire Rd (connects to Montezuma Valley Rd) |             |



**Support Crews:** After runners depart up the California Riding & Hiking Trail, go back into Borrego Springs for any quick errands, otherwise drive uphill on Montezuma Valley Road and await your runners at the end of the trail (park on the right, just before the rocky summit of the road) or at the Ranchita Store. (Culp Valley Road, which cuts over to the trail, is a 4x4 track!)

| <i>Distance (ml.)</i> | <i>Landmarks</i>                                                          | <i>Time</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 48.5                  | Rejoin paved Montezuma Valley Road: turn right to go uphill               |             |
| 48.8                  | Summit of Montezuma Valley Road                                           |             |
| 50.2                  | <b>Time Station 4:</b> Ranchita Store on Right by "Rancheti"              |             |
| 50.35                 | Fire Station                                                              |             |
| 55.25                 | Right S2 (T-int; yield)                                                   |             |
| 59.9                  | Left SR 79 (SS, T-int)                                                    |             |
| 61.6                  | Mataguay Scout Ranch on left                                              |             |
| 62.2                  | 100km Mark! Huge gravel pullout on right                                  |             |
| 63.35                 | CA DOT "Lake Henshaw" HQ on right                                         |             |
| 64.2                  | Right on SR 76                                                            |             |
| 67                    | Viewpoint / Call Box / Large pullout on right                             |             |
| 68                    | <b>Time Station 5:</b> Lake Henshaw Resort on left / Store / Fire Station |             |
| <b>Note:</b>          | Please Telephone Finish Line as Runners Pass Here!                        |             |
| 68.75                 | Right S7 / East Grade Road                                                |             |
| 70.55                 | Mile Marker 1.8                                                           |             |
| 72.8                  | Mile Marker 4.0: View of the Pacific!                                     |             |
| 76.8                  | Mile Marker 8.0                                                           |             |
| 79.9                  | Stay left at Fire Station (just after Mile Marker 11)                     |             |
| 80.1                  | Stay straight onto S6 at four-way stop sign                               |             |
| 80.13                 | Left on State Park Rd. just before store / Mother's Kitchen               |             |
| 80.83                 | Turn right at 33350 Upper Meadow Road 92060                               |             |
| 81                    | Finish Line at Upper Meadow Lodge                                         |             |







### GENERAL RACE RULES

1. All runners must check in at the start line, ready to race, at 0630 and the race will begin at 0700 on May 3, 2015.
2. There are only two divisions: Duo or Trio, which are then subdivided into men's team, women's team, and mixed team sub-categories.
3. The race number must be worn and visible at all times during the race. It can be placed anywhere obvious: hat, hydration pack, number belt, chest or back of shirt, etc.
4. The clock does not stop for any reason until the race course officially closes after 28 hours. All racers must leave the course by the 28th hour.
5. Running must always be single file and outside the white "fog line" on the edge of the roadway. Running should be off the left side of the road, facing traffic. Running well away from the pavement may be done on either side of the road, depending on which side is safest and has the best line of sight. The intent of the rules and the event's concept is that all running is done outside the white "fog line" and therefore never in any traffic lane (except during the first 6.7 miles through Salton City, where all running is down local roads.)
6. All members of each team must remain together while running (within 25 meters) at all times. Teams must make their presence known at all Time Stations located along the route and may only depart each Time Station together. Team arrival times at Time Stations will be recorded and made public. All members of each team must run the entire distance and cross the finish line together to be considered Official Finishers.
7. Teams which do not complete the course intact (i.e. one or two team members drops out along the way) will not be ranked, but the remaining team members are encouraged to complete the race under all applicable race rules and they will be listed as official finishers (but not ranked). Finisher buckles will be awarded only to all intact team members who complete the full 81-mile route within the guidelines of the race, but only intact teams of two or three will be ranked as Official Finishers.
8. Teams may not change division (for example, from Duo to Trio) any later than the day prior to the race. If a Trio has one runner drop out during the race, that team will NOT be re-categorized as a Duo. (The remaining two runners are encouraged – and expected – to finish the race, will be listed as Official Finisher(s) if they finish, but will not be ranked.)
9. Racers, crew, and staff must not litter, mar, or pollute the landscape or environment.

10. All racers, crew and staff must display courtesy, good taste, decorum, and sportsmanship at all times. Nudity is specifically not allowed.

### Legal and Bureaucratic Issues

1. All racers must follow and complete the entire application and entry process, filling out all forms and paying all necessary fees.
2. All racers and all crew members must sign the Accident Waiver and Release of Liability / Release of Name and Likeness. Each racer must also bring the properly completed Check-In Form and Medical History Form to Runner Check-In.
3. All race vehicles must meet the minimum requirements of property damage and personal injury liability automobile insurance for the State of California. All vehicle drivers must be fully licensed.
4. All racers and all support team members must attend Racer Check-In and the Pre-Race Meeting.
5. All entrants must bring one U.S. dollar (or more) in a sealed envelope to Racer Check-In. Please write the runner number on the envelope. This envelope will not be returned and the money will be donated to charity.
6. During Racer Check-In, all entrants must display ONE satisfactory reflective vest and TWO blinking red lights PER RUNNER and PER CREW MEMBER. These must be worn and utilized by the runners and crew at all times while outside of vehicles during nighttime periods of the race. Runners without satisfactory quality, or quantity, nighttime safety equipment will not be allowed to compete.
7. All applicants must be a minimum of 18 years in age when submitting an application to race.
8. All racers must be willing to submit to a drug urine test before (at any point prior to the race, after being officially confirmed for entry), during (at any time), or after the race (up to 90 days after the conclusion of the race). If any WADA banned substances are detected, the racer - AND THEREFORE HIS OR HER TEAM - will be disqualified from competition, listed as DISQUALIFIED FOR DOPING in the final standings of the race, and banned for life from any AdventureCORPS event. Refusal to submit a urine specimen upon demand will also result in the racer being disqualified from competition, being listed as DISQUALIFIED FOR DOPING in the final standings of the race, and being banned for life from any AdventureCORPS event. Additionally, any BADWATER Salton Sea finisher who fails a drug test within 36 months after competing in any edition of BADWATER Salton Sea will be retroactively disqualified from any and all previous BADWATER Salton Sea races, removed from all BADWATER Salton Sea race results, as well as banned for life from any AdventureCORPS events.

9. No TV, film, or video crew, person, producer, director or other broadcast media representative may accompany or cover any racer or the race itself without the specific written permission of AdventureCORPS, Inc. All film crews must sign a Non-Exclusive Licensing Agreement and, potentially, pay a Rights Fee. Additionally, multiple government agencies may also require payment of a filming fee and signature of a filming agreement.

### **Support Crew and Assistance**

1. Each team must be accompanied by a support crew comprised of no more than one four-wheeled motor vehicle and a minimum of two crew members - both of whom are legally licensed to drive and at least one of whom can speak English - at all times. Each team must have its own dedicated personal support crew and vehicle; crew and support vehicles may not be shared, except informally in the spirit of the event, i.e., support crews may lend assistance to other teams, racers, or crews. "Unofficial crews or crew vehicles" and "family cheering squads" are not allowed at the race.

2. Runners must progress under their own power without drafting, helping, pushing, supporting, or any other type of physical assistance, EXCEPT from their teammates. (Teammates may help one another in any reasonable manner, including pushing, pulling, towing, an the like.)

3. Runners may not use walking sticks, ski poles, or the like. So-called "cooling vests" or other types of artificial / technological cooling systems may not be worn or utilized by race entrants while making forward progress on the race course. Crewmembers may not carry an umbrella or shade cover for a runner, except while stationary.

4. Runners may not be accompanied by a crew member at any given time while making forward progress on the race course, EXCEPT during brief moments when supplies are being handed off. Crew members that are handing off supplies, or otherwise providing aid to the runners, must be off the roadway at all times (i.e. outside the white line on the shoulder). Crew members may not run in front of race entrants at any time. Crew members may not accompany runners during the trail section of the race (mile 40.6 to mile 48.5.)

5. After mile 6.7 (leaving Salton City), runners must NEVER run abreast with other runners: All running must be single-file.

6. Crew members may not use illegal drugs, stimulants, or dope, as well as alcohol of any kind, during the race or at any official race events or activities.

7. Wheeled conveyances (other than a motorized support vehicle), including in-line skates, strollers, and bicycles, are prohibited on the course at all times. Likewise for hovercrafts and helicopters. Runners accompanied by any such conveyance will be disqualified.

### **Support Vehicles**

1. The California Motor Vehicle Code, and all local, county, and/or State Park laws, rules, and regulations, must be respected at all times. In particular, support vehicle drivers and crews are reminded that phones must only be operated by the driver with a hands-free device; seat belts must be worn by all vehicle occupants at all times while moving, and it is illegal to drive on a highway while displaying emergency flashers. For further information, consult the DMV Code.

2. Support vehicles may not be wider than 78" in width (not counting mirrors, fenders, or bumper which extend beyond the widest part of the actual vehicle body.) Small Cars, Minivans, and SUVs are recommended. Oversize SUVs, vans, and trucks, or other types of oversize vehicles are strongly discouraged. Motorhomes, RVs, "SportsMobiles," Sprinter Vans, and all types of Hummers are specifically not allowed.

3. All support vehicles must have their headlights on while driving, 24 hours a day, except as noted in Rule 8 in this section of the rules.

4. All race vehicles must have highly visible signage on the back of the vehicle stating "CAUTION RUNNERS ON ROAD," as provided by the race organizers at Runner Check-In. (Teams may provide their own signage for this purpose, but its suitability will be inspected.)

5. All support vehicles must have their Team's designated race number easily and clearly visible on all four sides. The race number must be at least 11" (28cm) tall. A high-visibility "paint pen" may be used to mark the team number in the lower right corner of the windows on all four sides of the vehicle, so long as it does not obstruct the view through any of the windows. (The race organizers will have several paint pens available for this purpose.) Alternatively, or additionally, teams may choose to have custom signage made to identify their vehicle: Team numbers are mandatory; Team Names are optional, but encouraged.

6. Except as noted above, the view through vehicle windows may not be blocked or obstructed with any signage, paint, or the like. All vehicles will be inspected at the start line, and no team will be allowed to start the race which has any vehicle windows blocked excessively. If a team's support vehicle is found with blocked windows during the race, that team will be forced to stop and wait while the vehicle's windows are unblocked and signage properly mounted.

7. Vehicles must "leapfrog" the runner at all times. Generally speaking, each "leapfrog" must be at least THREE MILES or more in length during daylight, and ONE MILE or more in length during nighttime. Racers may never be "shadowed" (driving a vehicle at the runner's speed) and vehicles must not "caravan" (drive together, like a train, at any speed). Driving may never be at the speed of any racer. Driving must be done at the speed

## RACE RULES

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of traffic, never slowing down to encourage, talk to, or lend assistance to any racer while moving. All assistance must be provided by pedestrian crew members; handing off of supplies from the vehicle is never allowed.

8. Vehicles must be parked completely off the road surface whenever they are stopped (with all four tires right of the white line, preferably at least 8 feet beyond the white line). Many areas of the route have very little shoulder for parking, so care must be taken in choosing stopping places. When stopping/parking, vehicles may not stop on the left side of the road, except in VERY LARGE pullouts at which the vehicle will be at least 15 feet from the edge of the roadway. From 700pm to 700am each day (night) of the event, at all times while stopped or parked off the road, support vehicles must have their headlights turned off and emergency flashers turned on.

### Safety and Medical Issues

1. Remember, at all times and in all situations, safety is the most important issue. This means safety for racers, crew, staff, and the general public must always be respected. The roads are not closed for this event and may be, in fact, quite busy with tourist and local traffic.

2. I.V.s (intravenous fluids) are not permitted during the race. If a racer receives an I.V. during the race, for any reason, then that racer is disqualified and must withdraw from the race and the race course. His or her teammates will also be disqualified, but may choose to finish the race course unofficially.

3. From 700pm to 700am each day (night) of the event, while out of doors on the race course, all racers and all crewmembers must wear reflective material facing in all four directions, as well as blinking red lights facing front and rear. Racers and crewmembers are encouraged to wear reflective material during the day as well. We highly recommend the products from [ZombieRunner.com](http://ZombieRunner.com).

4. Racers are responsible for their own actions, their teammates's actions, and their crew's actions; crews are responsible for both their own actions and their racers' actions.

5. Always look and listen both ways before crossing the highways. Remember that drivers will not expect to encounter a racer or parked vehicle out on the course. Remember we are on public roads with no road closures or traffic monitoring. Racers should not cross over the highway more than necessary; crew should cross the highway carefully to bring assistance to their racer.

6. All entrants and crew must study "Medical Risks in Badwater Salton," "Dangers of Running in the Heat," and "The Dangers of Hot Weather Running" as published in this magazine and/or at [www.badwater.com](http://www.badwater.com).

### Leaving the Course or Withdrawing

1. Every inch of the course must be traveled by each racer. In the event of a routing error, e.g., wrong turn, the racer may be driven

back to the exact original spot where he/she left the course and continue running from that location. There will be no allowance made for lost time or miles run in the wrong direction.

2. If a racer or team needs to leave the course, his/her crew must note the exact location with a numbered stake in the ground. This numbered stake must be visible from the road in both directions. The racer and his or her team must then resume the race from the same place that he/she left it. The numbered stakes will be provided to all runners at Runner Check-In. Racers may only leave the course for appropriate reasons such as rest or medical attention. Focus must be kept on the speedy completion of the course.

3. If a racer or team withdraws, he/she or his/her crew must contact Race Headquarters or a Time Station immediately. Team number, reason for withdrawal, time of withdrawal, and miles completed must be stated. All racers and crew who drop are encouraged - and expected - to come to the finish line and the post-race brunch to greet and celebrate with their fellow racers and crews.

4. All Emergency Evacuation costs for participants or crews will be borne by that person or their heirs. The race organizers are in no way liable or responsible for emergency evacuation.

### Awards

1. All racers who begin the event will receive a BADWATER Salton Sea race t-shirt and Race Packet, as well as entry into the post-race brunch (for all racers and crew members per team).

2. All runners who complete the full 81-mile route within the guidelines of the race will receive the finisher's buckle and be recognized as Official Finishers, but only intact teams of two or three will be ranked.

3. All runners who complete the full 81-mile route within the guidelines of the race will qualify for Badwater Coast-to-Coast and Badwater Ultra Cup.

### Rule Enforcement and Penalties

1. Race rules are designed to provide a safe and fair experience for everyone involved and to help ensure our ability to produce the race again next year.

2. Major rule infractions by racers or their crew, especially those regarding "cheating," will result in immediate disqualification of the racer.

3. Other, lesser offenses will result in the following cumulative time penalties:

- o First Penalty: One Hour
- o Second Penalty: Disqualification

4. Time penalties are imposed at the finish line by adjusting finishing times.

5. The Race Director has the authority, at any time, to overrule any rule or invent a new rule based on extenuating, unforeseen, and/or unusual circumstances and/or to maintain the integrity and fair play necessary for the successful completion, and continuation, of the race. The Race Director has ultimate authority in regards to all rules, their interpretation, and their enforcement. There is no “appeals committee” nor an “appeals process.” All entrants in the race, and their support crews, willingly acknowledge this fact, as well as all other race rules, by attending the race in any capacity.

6. In all cases and circumstances, it is the intent, and spirit, of the rules which will govern their implementation and enforcement.

#### **Finally**

1. Have fun and keep smiling!

## **MEDICAL RISKS IN BADWATER SALTON SEA**

This 81-mile race is one of the most physically taxing competitive events in the world. It also has considerable medical risks. All runners and crews must appreciate these two facts both before and during the race.

Heat illness and heat stroke are serious risks. These can cause death, renal shutdown, and brain damage. It is important that runners and crews be aware of the symptoms of impending heat illness. These include: nausea, vomiting, headache, dizziness, faintness, irritability, lassitude, weakness, and rapid heart rate. Impending heat stroke may be signaled by a decrease in sweating and goose bumps, especially over the chest. Heat stroke may progress from minimal symptoms to complete collapse in a very short period of time. Deaths and renal shutdown (kidney failure) have been reported in other ultra-marathons. Adequate conditioning is mandatory.

Adequate fluid and electrolyte intake is the most important preventative for heat illness. Runners may well require dozens of gallons of fluid during this race. Proper pace is crucial.

High altitude plus exertion can also produce various degrees of altitude sickness. This can lead to severe lung and brain swelling, and even death. The main treatment is rest, and especially to get to a lower altitude.

Blisters are also a problem on this course, with pavement temperatures perhaps reaching 150-200 degrees. Proper foot care and preparation are essential for having a successful race.

Remember, you are responsible for your well-being while participating in this race. There are no aid stations. Know where your limits are and know your body. Your acceptance of invitation to this race declares that you are aware of the risks and potential health problems.

Key Largo to Key West

# KEYS 100



**Race Across  
The Islands  
Of The Florida  
Keys!**

**100 & 50 MILE  
ULTRAMARATHONS**  
**100 MILE  
TEAM RELAY**

Chris Kostman, “Badwater 135” race director, wrote: “Organized by a Badwater 135 and Badwater Salton Sea veteran, Bob Becker, the KEYS100 has become legend in the world of ultra running. It’s extremely hot setting in the Florida Keys in May, and its entirely pavement-based route, have proven time and time again to reveal those runners who are ideal candidates to tackle the Badwater 135. Simply put: those ultra runners who do well at the KEYS100 consistently do well at the Badwater 135. KEYS100 also offers a 50-mile race, plus a relay race.”

**Check the website for details**  
**[www.keys100.com](http://www.keys100.com)**

**May 16, 2015**

**THE OFFICIAL CHARITIES OF ADVENTURECORPS** ARE THE CHALLENGED ATHLETES FOUNDATION, MAJOR TAYLOR ASSOCIATION, CARING HOUSE PROJECT FOUNDATION, AND BALD HEAD ISLAND CONSERVANCY. THE GOAL AND PURPOSE OF OUR EVENTS IS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR, AND AWARENESS OF, THESE WONDERFUL AND IMPORTANT ORGANIZATIONS.



**The Challenged Athletes Foundation** was created on the belief that people of all abilities should have the opportunity to pursue a life full of physical activity and of sports. Be they recreational or in pursuit of a gold medal at the Paralympic Games, people with a physical disability are limited only by their access to funding. Since 1994, CAF has raised more than \$47 million—allowing the Foundation to satisfy thousands of funding requests from challenged athletes in all 50 states and across the globe.

Over eighty cents of every dollar raised by CAF provides funding and programs that get challenged athletes into the game. Whether it's a \$2,000 handcycle, helping underwrite a \$15,000 running prosthetic or arranging enthusiastic encouragement from a mentor who has triumphed over a similar injury, CAF's mission is clear: give those with the desire to live active, competitive lifestyles every opportunity to compete in the sports they love.

Since 2002, AdventureCORPS has raised over \$300,000 for CAF, and AdventureCORPS athletes have raised equally impressive sums!

**Website:** [www.challengedathletes.org](http://www.challengedathletes.org)



**The Bald Head Island Conservancy** was founded on Bald Head Island, NC in 1983 with a focus on barrier island conservation, preservation, and education. The Conservancy sponsors and facilitates scientific research that benefits coastal communities and provides numerous recreational and educational activities to the public. In coordination with various organizations, partnerships, and collaborations, the Conservancy has led the nation in conservation and research efforts and is uniquely poised to become a leader in Barrier Island Conservation world-wide.

Badwater fans and race participants will appreciate that BHIC cares for the pristine setting for the Badwater Cape Fear race route and its role as a sea turtle nesting site and sanctuary. The Conservancy also serves as the host and finish line for our event. As such, our goal is to raise \$10,000 to purchase one of the special UTV vehicles which BHIC uses to patrol the beach and care for sea turtle nesting sites.

**Website:** [www.bhic.org](http://www.bhic.org)



New for 2014, AdventureCORPS is proud to recognize **Caring House Project Foundation** as an Official Charity and support their efforts. Founded by eight-time Badwater 135 veteran Frank McKinney, and based on the principal that “stability begins at home,” the CHPF provides shelter to the world's most desperately poor and homeless people. CHPF has impacted the poorest of the poor in the countries of Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Indonesia and Africa.

As of today, over 7,000 people will have been sheltered because of CHPF, and thousands more are alive because of the foundation's efforts. In 2014, Caring House Project is planning to build its 21st self-sufficient village in Ravine à Couleuvre, a small Haitian enclave near the Town of L'Estere (pop 3,000), located on the northwest coast of Haiti.

**Website:** [www.chpf.org](http://www.chpf.org)

## ENVIRONMENT

AdventureCORPS events happen not in a man-made stadium, but in the real world “out there.” We care deeply about the natural world for we are intrinsically linked with it and because we want to enjoy these events in their awesome natural settings for a long, long time.

As such, we joined **One Percent For The Planet** on July 1, 2008, a growing global movement of more than 1200 companies that donate at least 1% of their sales to a network of more than 3600 approved environmental organizations worldwide. Therefore we donate at least 1% of total revenues (in other words, “off the top,” not just 1% of profit) to environmental causes. This is in addition to all the work we do on behalf of, and donations we make to, Challenged Athletes Foundation, Major Taylor Association, and Caring House Project Foundation, which are wonderful causes but not environmental in their focus. In the past ten years, we and our fellow One Percent For The Planet members have invested over \$100 million in positive environmental change.



In association with our membership in One Percent for the Planet, we have supported **The Conservation Alliance** since September, 2008. The Conservation Alliance is an organization of outdoor businesses whose collective contributions support grassroots environmental organizations and their efforts to protect wild places where outdoor enthusiasts recreate. Alliance funds have played a key role in protecting rivers, trails, wildlands and climbing areas throughout North America.



Membership in the Alliance is open to companies representing all aspects of the outdoor industry, including manufacturers, retailers, publishers, mills and sales representatives. The result is a diverse group of businesses whose livelihood depends on protecting our natural environment. Since its inception in 1989, the Alliance has contributed close to \$13 million to grassroots conservation groups throughout North America. The results of our funding have been remarkable. Alliance funding has helped save more than 42 million acres of wildlands; protect 2,825 miles of rivers; stop or remove 26 dams; designate five marine reserves; and purchase nine climbing areas. There are now more than 185 member companies, and plan to disburse \$1.7 million in 2014.

In 2014, we began supporting the **Bald Head Island Conservancy** with the inaugural BADWATER Cape Fear race by focusing attention on the race route's pristine setting as a sea turtle nesting area and BHIC's role as a leader in barrier island conservation, preservation and education.



Additionally, we have championed other environmental causes including the **Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition**, a nonprofit organization with over 1,000 members that engages cyclists through advocacy, education and outreach across the county. Founded in 1998, LACBC brings together the diverse bicycling community in a united mission to improve the bicycling environment and quality of life for the entire region. In 2011, we donated \$10,000 to LACBC to initiate and sponsor the Jim Swarzman Memorial Membership Drive, an effort that brought \$23,000 into LACBC.

AdventureCORPS joined the **Death Valley Natural History Association** as Life Members and recognized DVNHA as an Official Charity of AdventureCORPS from 2009 through 2013. DVNHA is a non-profit organization supporting education, research, and preservation in Death Valley National Park and Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. Some of their efforts include Death Valley R.O.C.K.S. (bringing inner city kids to experience one of the largest outdoor classrooms in the world), Devil's Hole Pupfish Recovery, Death Valley All Taxa Biological Inventory, plus they run the wonderful gift shops in the Park.



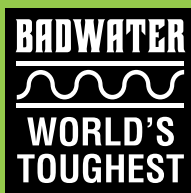
According to DVNHA, AdventureCORPS has paid for, at the minimum, “every need (sleeping bags, cooking fuel, transportation) for one Death Valley ROCKS school group (50-60 students, chaperones, and teachers) every year since 2009.” AdventureCORPS athletes have also supported this and other DVNHA causes! Additionally, through DVNHA, AdventureCORPS and our athletes have donated \$5000 to support the recently renovated Death Valley National Park Visitors Center, as evidenced by five “donor tiles” are in the Visitors Center (one per \$1000 donation.)



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## BADWATER PRESENTS MUSTANG TRAIL RACE

***We are super excited to announce that we will be co-hosting a fourteen-day adventure—including a tough eight-day Trans-Himalayan stage race—from October 17 through October 30, 2015. This is a ONE-TIME OPPORTUNITY and YOU are invited!***

In 2015, Badwater is going to a region of Nepal that even the Nepalese consider remote: The Kingdom of Mustang! It's a dramatic, gorgeous, and exotic locale unlike anywhere else you've ever been, let alone run. You do not want to miss out on this once in a lifetime opportunity taking place October 17-31, 2015!

To host this race and insure that the entire trip goes off fabulously, we are partnering with Richard Bull, organizer of Trail Running Nepal and the race director of the Mustang Trail Race and other events. He's a British expat who has lived in Nepal for many years. His Mustang Trail Race is held annually in April, but in 2015 he will host a special "Badwater Presents" edition of that event in October, just for us.

The race field is limited to twenty-five runners and we hope you will be among the lucky few to join in this remarkable experience.

(Twenty are already registered!) Though the race course will be challenging, on rugged terrain at high altitudes, we believe it is the cultural experience that you will remember most, along with the camaraderie with fellow Badwater runners. We are particularly pleased to mention that your Badwater race director, Chris Kostman, will be competing alongside everyone, as will his brother Keith Kostman, who has worked on the Badwater 135 webcast for more than ten years. It's time for us to get "out there" and run with you!

It's a 14-day excursion with an eight-day trail stage race in the middle of the two week adventure. Essentially all expenses are included once you land in Kathmandu. There are only a few spots left, so sign up NOW! Info is at [www.badwater.com](http://www.badwater.com)

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