Carrizo Plain Photography Exhibit
at the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature

- **What:** Carrizo Plain Photography by Bill Dewey and Jim Stoicheff
- **Where:** The Wildling Museum, 1511-B Mission Drive, Solvang, CA 93463
- **Exhibit On Display:** August 4th – October 1st

(Solvang, CA, August 7, 2018) – The Wildling Museum of Art and Nature is proud to present a pop-up art exhibit in the Barbara Goodall Education Center that features photographs of and information about the Carrizo Plain National Monument, an important preserve primarily located in San Luis Obispo and home to 13 different endangered species. The photographers, Bill Dewey and Jim Stoicheff, capture the beauty of this public land. The Carrizo Plain is the largest remaining grassland in California and contains important geographic features. The Caliente Mountain, southwest of the plain, stands as the highest point in San Luis Obispo County. Painted Rock contains Chumash and Yokut art from 2000 BCE, and is a culturally significant landmark to their people. The San Andreas Fault follows the monument, and the section of the fault in the Carrizo Plain is the oldest along the entire fault zone. Soda Lake, the lowest point of the monument, receives all runoff from surrounding mountains. The plain is also known to occasionally have super-blooms (as it recently did in spring 2017) which cover its mountain ranges and valley floor with spectacular carpets of wildflowers.

**About the Artists**

Bill Dewey is a native of San Diego County and attended Brooks Institute of Photography, the University of California at Davis and Rochester Institute of Technology. He has had his private pilot's license since 1981 and bases his aerial photography out of Santa Barbara airport. Bill has been photographing the California landscape since taking up the camera in the early 1970’s and has had a photography studio/business in Santa Barbara for 30 years. Some of his favorite subjects include the California Channel Islands, the Carrizo Plain, Baja California, and the rural California landscape. A member of the Santa Barbara OAK Group, he has been distinctly influenced by the art and character of the noted California painter Ray Strong.

Jim Stoicheff grew up in Sandpoint, Idaho, and has lived in Santa Barbara, California for more than a decade. During a year and a half he spent photographing the plain and the mountains that bound its eastern and western sides he saw few other people. During some visits he saw not a single other soul. When he made these images, he was unobserved: free. People sometimes reference "another planet" when describing these photographs. They say this because of the textures and shades or colors, but the absence of people contributes to the other-worldliness.
About the Wildling Museum

The Wildling Museum of Art & Nature, where art and nature meet, offers visitors a unique perspective on the importance of preserving our natural heritage. Through the eyes of artists, and education and field experiences, guests can renew their relationship with the wilderness and understand its fragile nature – hopefully leaving more committed toward ensuring those spaces remain for future generations.

The Museum is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and on weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed on Tuesdays). For more information, and to volunteer and/or join as a member to support this important local arts and nature institution, please visit www.wildlingmuseum.org.

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