

Anza-Borrego receives certification as an International Dark Sky Park

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (ABDSP) has been certified as an International Dark Sky Park at the Silver Tier level. It is with great pleasure, and an “at last” feeling that the Borrego Springs Dark Sky Coalition welcomes “our” park into the ranks of official Dark Sky Places. The recognition comes from the International Dark Sky Association (IDA), based in Tucson, Arizona. The IDA had, in 2009 certified Borrego Springs as the world’s second International Dark Sky Community.



We extend thanks to our Coalition member Sally Theriault who, in her position as a Park Interpreter, dogged this issue over the past three or four years. It was Sally who persisted in overseeing the necessary change-out of some park lighting. It was Sally who took the required artificial night sky brightness measurements, while management weighed in with funds and staff time to make the required changes. The park is “*dedicated to protecting the desert’s naturally dark skies, and to educating the public about their importance to wildlife, astronomy, and human health.*”

Being surrounded by ABDSP now means that the village of Borrego Springs has a wide buffer zone to help assure the future darkness of our sky.

—*The Sand Paper, Spring 2018*