



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Dirt



Official Volunteer & Partner Newsletter of the Santa Fe National Forest
Summer 2022 | Issue 3

Welcome to our newsletter!

Your source for volunteer and partner news, events, ways to get involved, and resources on the forest.

In this issue...

- Forest Closure Updates
- Inaugural Trail Training
- The 2022 Season So Far



RECRUITMENT CORNER

Upcoming Opportunities for Volunteer Work



August 12-14

Rio Puerco Trail Project with NM Volunteers for the Outdoors

Contact Leader(s): Jim (Sagebrush) Sells, 505-898-6345, j.sells@nmvfo.org; Christy Osmon, c.osmon@nmvfo.org with any questions.

Description: The Rio Puerco Trail #385 is located on the east side of the San Pedro Parks Wilderness, and after 2 miles forms a 6 mile loop with the Peñas Negras Trail #32 and Perchas Trail #418. Join us as we clear downed trees and lop corridor along these trails, and define tread as needed. We will car-camp at Resumidero Campground and shuttle a couple of miles on FR 93 Resumidero to the trailhead. NMVFO will provide breakfast and dinner on Friday, breakfast and dinner on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday morning. Volunteers should bring packed lunches to eat along the trail on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Volunteers are encouraged to camp with us on Thursday night for an easier start on Friday morning. Be ready to hike up to 6 miles each day.

For more details and sign-up, visit <https://nmvfo.org/projects/rio-puerco-trail-coyote-rd-sfnf/>

All Dates

Trail reconnaissance volunteers needed!

We need intel regarding the state of forest trails since we can't always get out onto the ground to assess trail work needs. If you are interested in scouting trail conditions and providing us with trail reports, please contact a district representative. Some trails may require specific approvals and/or an official entry permit to access if they lie within a closure area. No reimbursements available for this opportunity. Volunteers must sign an official volunteer agreement to be covered for recon work.

Have an idea for a volunteer project? We are always looking for new ideas and ways to involve the public. Let us know what you're interested in! Contact a district volunteer coordinator (contacts on page 7).

— Notes from the 2022 —

SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST TRAIL WORK BASIC TRAINING

In early May, recreation staff from the Santa Fe National Forest, partners, and volunteers gathered on Hyde Park Road for a day filled with lessons and hands-on experience practicing trail construction and maintenance techniques. Trail experts from Santa Fe Fat Tire Society, New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors, and the Santa Fe National Forest TERMITES led volunteers (some of whom were first-time trail builders) through lessons and field work throughout the day. The morning began with informal classroom learning at the Hyde Memorial State Park Group Pavillion and culminated with an introduction to common trail tools and how to use them safely. After a delicious lunch (provided by Santa Fe Fat Tire Society and New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors), the afternoon hands-on portion of the day took place along Black Canyon Trail. Representatives from the aforementioned organizations led volunteers through a station rotation along the trail where they had a chance to practice the following: using hand saws and loppers to open up trail corridors and remove hazards, cutting out trail "benches" to create a more sustainable and safe trail surface, installing drainage features to reduce erosion and deterioration of trails, and using the famous crosscut saw to remove downed trees when working in Wilderness areas. We are so grateful to our partners and volunteers who came out for this inaugural training and hope that everyone walked away with some knowledge and interest in helping maintain sustainable trails for all types of trail users. A note from the Forest: always remember to get permission for trail work from land owners/managers, be safe out there, respect all trail users, and HAVE FUN! For ways to get involved with trail work, contact a district volunteer coordinator or check out our "Recruitment Corner" page in the quarterly newsletter.



FOREST CLOSURES



Keep an eye on our website for updated closure orders. Only individuals with an official entry permit and/or exempt volunteer agreement are permitted in many closure areas.

WHAT'S OPEN?

JEMEZ

East Fork Trail, East Fork and Las Conchas Picnic Areas, Redondo Campground, Las Conchas fishing access, San Antonio Campground.

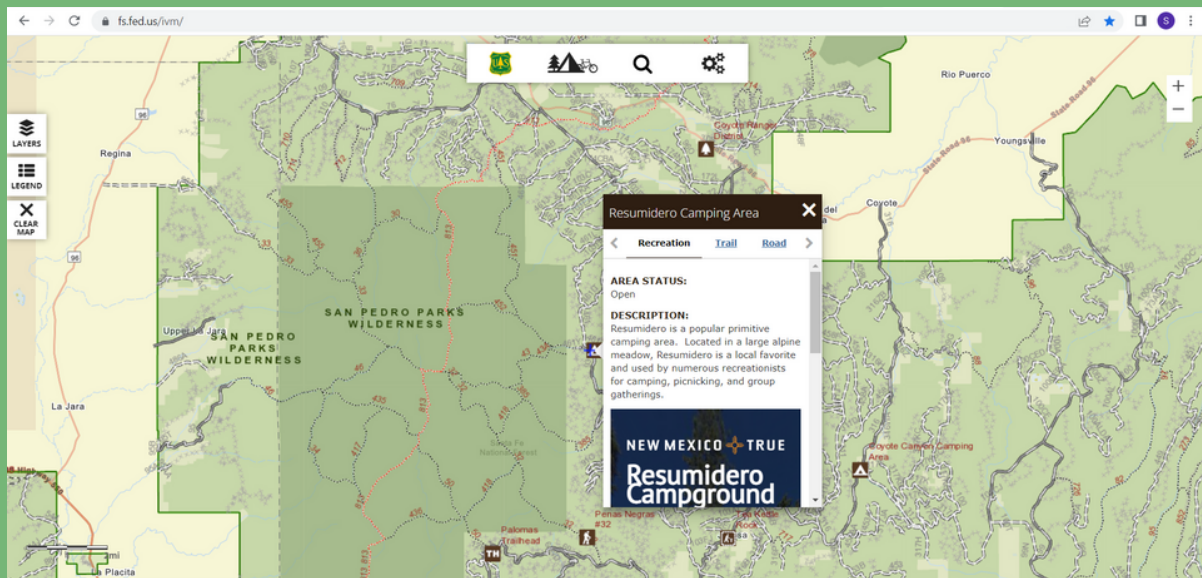
PECOS/LAS VEGAS

Forest around La Cañada and Anton Chico; Pecos Wilderness trails west of Beatty's Trail #25.

ESPAÑOLA, COYOTE, CUBA

Most areas open: check the SFNF website for more details. Open Pecos Wilderness trails can be accessed from Española district trailheads.

HAVE YOU USED THE FOREST SERVICE'S ONLINE INTERACTIVE VISITOR MAP?



- Explore trails, roads, and recreation sites.
- Perform searches based on different uses.
- Click on any feature to learn more about it and see if it's open or closed.

*Access the map at:
<https://www.fs.fed.us/ivm/>*

**KEEP AN EYE ON
YOUR EMAIL FOR
MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT A FALL 2022
VOLUNTEER
APPRECIATION
CELEBRATION**

YOUR VOLUNTEER CONTACTS

Española and Coyote Districts

Lynn Bjorklund lynn.bjorklund@usda.gov

Cuba District

John Hennard john.hennard@usda.gov

Jemez District

Liam Covey-Shannon liam.covey-shannon@usda.gov

Pecos/Las Vegas District

Sarah Smith sarah.smith3@usda.gov

Forest Recreation Program Manager

Jeremy Golston jeremy.golston@usda.gov

