



Volunteer Opportunities

New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors

2017 Project Season



Revision 6: 19 August 2017

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge (FWS) ↗

Saturday, February 11

Leader: Jon Blakey, 734-255-5251, jblakey102@gmail.com

Jim Scanlon, 505-385-0517, Scanlon.jim@gmail.com

Lend a hand planting Gooddings Black Willows for restoration of Southwest Flycatcher and Yellow-billed Cuckoo habitat

Golden Open Space ↗↗

Saturday May 20

Leader: Chris Fritzsche, 505-504-3768, fritzsche.christopher@gmail.com

Help expand the City of Albuquerque's trail system on the Golden Open Space among the breathtaking views of mesas, colorful arroyos and the surrounding mountain ranges

Piedra Lisa Trail (Sandia RD) ↗↗

Saturday, March 4

Leader: Bill Velasquez, 505-225-5774, nmvfo@live.com

Help the Friends of Piedra Lisa with trail maintenance and erosion control and enjoy the stunning views

Rio Chama Rafting Adventure (BLM) ↗↗↗

Friday, June 9 thru Sunday, June 11

Leader: Mike Myers, 505 620-4525, michael_myers@g.com,

Raft and kayak down the Rio Chama, build stone steps to a primitive campsite. Limited to 8 volunteers; preference given to NMVFO members

Trail Workshop Class ↗

Thursday Evening, March 16

Leaders: : Larry Benson, 505-821-7999, lawrbenson@aol.com

Chris Fritzsche, 505-504-3768, fritzsche.christopher@gmail.com

Join us at 6:00 PM at REI Albuquerque for a classroom introduction to trail construction and maintenance

El Nogal Area (Camino Real RD) ↗↗

Saturday, June 17 thru Sunday, June 18

Leader: Gena Robertson, 573-300-0853, genarobertson@hotmail.com

Build rolling dips, re-bench trail, repair steps, remove brush, add signs on trails along the scenic highroad to Taos near the town of Penasco

Trail Workshop Practical (ABQ Open Space) ↗

Saturday, March 18

Leaders: : Larry Benson, 505-821-7999, lawrbenson@aol.com

Chris Fritzsche, 505-504-3768, fritzsche.christopher@gmail.com

Hands-on training in trail construction, maintenance, and repair.

Skyline Backpack (Santa Fe NF) ↗↗↗

Thursday, June 22 thru Monday, June 26

Leader: Mark Kimmel, 505 239-8240, m_kimmel@q.com

Trail tread repair and erosion control from Puerto Nambe to the saddle of Santa Fe Mount Baldy.

Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge (FWS) ↗↗

Saturday, April 1

Leader: Chris Fritzsche, 505-504-3768, fritzsche.christopher@gmail.com

Co-Leaders: Erin, 406-781-1666 & John, 505-999-9182 Salinas, gaberla@gmail.com

Help us restore and maintain the largest, undeveloped space in Albuquerque as we continue our efforts to make it a wildlife refuge.

Quemado Lake (Gila NF) ↗↗ (July 4th)

Friday June 30 thru Monday July 3

Leader: Jim Scanlon, 505-385-0517, Scanlon.jim@gmail.com

Come celebrate the 4th in the wilderness of the Apache National Forest about 20 miles south of Quemado. Limit of 12 volunteers.

Valles Caldera National Preserve (NPS) ↗↗

Saturday, May 6

Leader: Jon Blakey, 734-255-5251, jblakey102@gmail.com

We're headed to a remote corner of the preserve to remove blowdowns and re-define the trail. Limited to 15 volunteers; preference given to certified sawyers (cross cut or chain) and folks with a 4x4 vehicle.

Bluewater Lake State Park ↗↗

Saturday, July 15 thru Sunday, July 16

Leader: Chris Fritzsche, 505-504-3768, fritzsche.christopher@gmail.com

Build and repair trail tread, install timber shoring, create primitive stream crossings, build rolling dips to control water erosion

Airstrip Mesa Trail (Gila NF) ↗↗

Saturday, April 29 thru Sunday, April 30

Leader: Jim Scanlon, 505-385-0517, Scanlon.jim@gmail.com

Reopening an old trail and provide looping opportunities with Trout Creek Trail. Work will consist of tread reconstruction and brushing.

Mora National Fish Hatchery (FWS) ↗↗

Saturday, July 29 thru Sunday, July 30

Leader: Gena Robertson, 573-300-0853, genarobertson@hotmail.com

Come out and help us blaze a half mile of new trail to complete the loop around the hatchery.

Making New Mexico's Outdoors Great With You!

For more information about NMVFO and projects visit www.nmvfo.org or find us on Facebook & MeetUp

2017 Project Season (Continued)

Datil Well Campground (BLM)

Saturday, August 12 thru Sunday August 13

Leader: Chris Fritzsche, 505-504-3768, fritzsche.christopher@gmail.com

Co-Leaders: Erin, 406-781-1666 & John, 505-999-9182 Salinas, gaberla@gmail.com

Trail re-route at this scenic, historic landmark near the Very Large Array in west central New Mexico.

Manzano Mountains State Park

Saturday, August 26 thru Sunday, August 27

Leader: Larry Benson, 505-821-7999, lawrbenson@aol.com

This peaceful, secluded park nestled in the Ponderosa pine forest of the Manzano Mountains has 3 miles of trail that needs some drainage and tread improvements. Come help for a day or the whole weekend.

Via Posada Trail Network (ABQ Open Space)

Saturday, September 16

Leaders: Larry Benson, 505-821-7999, lawrbenson@aol.com

Gena Robertson, 573-300-0853, genarobertson@hotmail.com

Enjoy a one-day project within Albuquerque city limits. Help maintain trails & reroute badly eroded trails in this 40-acre open space.

Hermit's Peak (Española RD)

Thursday, September 21 thru Sunday, September 24

Leader: Mark Kimmel, 505 239-8240, m_kimmel@g.com

Drive up for 1 day or all 5 and camp at the USFS El Porvenir campground near Las Vegas, NM. Help us maintain the Hermit's Peak trail named for a 19th century religious recluse who lived in a cave near the peak.

Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge Birthday (FWS)

Saturday, September 30

Leader: Chris Fritzsche, 505-504-3768, fritzsche.christopher@gmail.com

Valle de Oro's 5th Birthday Celebration from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Booth set up begins at 9:15 am

Ute Lake State Park

Saturday, October 7 thru Sunday, October 8

Leader: Chris Fritzsche, 505-504-3768, fritzsche.christopher@gmail.com

Co-Leader: Mike Timmer, 281-622-6858, mjtimmer52@gmail.com

We'll provide some much-needed maintenance to a 2-mile network of primitive trails that wind through desert, in and out of arroyos, and along narrow canyons with views of the lake.

Pino Trail (Sandia RD)

Saturday, October 21

Leader: Chris Fritzsche, 505-504-3768, fritzsche.christopher@gmail.com

Join us for our annual maintenance and repair of NMVFO's Adopt-A-Trail in the Sandia Wilderness

Volunteer Appreciation Night


Saturday, November 4

Leader: Erin, 406-781-1666 & John, 505-999-9182 Salinas, gaberla@gmail.com


Location and time of event (evening) TBD

For more information and updates about projects, visit www.nmvfo.org/projects. Visit our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#), www.nmvfo.org/volunteer-faq for what to expect on a project. A parent or guardian must accompany all minors. Pets are not permitted on projects. Contact the Project Leader for more information about a specific project.

Pulaski ratings: These ratings are general guidelines. Project work requirements may vary widely and; a project with a 3 Pulaski rating may include lesser rated activities; check with project leaders for specifics.

 Project is suitable for a wide range of abilities, with a moderate work level, may include a short hike, usually something for almost everyone.

 Project has more physically challenging work activities, may require hiking with some elevation change.

 Project will require a strenuous hike with significant elevation change and more physically challenging activities.

*A Pulaski is a firefighting tool that often used in trail maintenance and construction.

Since 1982 the New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors (NMVFO) have been recruiting people like you to volunteer for service projects that benefit trails and other recreational sites in national and state parks, forests, monuments, wilderness areas, city open space areas, and other public lands. The projects scheduled this year help maintain these valuable resources. NMVFO is a 501(c) all volunteer nonprofit organization.