Volunteer Opportunities
New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors
2017 Project Season

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge (FWS)

Saturday, February 11
Leader: Jon Blakey, 734-255-5251, iblakey102@gmail.com
Jim Scanlon, 505-385-0517,scanlon.jim@gmail.com
Lend a hand planting Goodings Black Willows for restoration of Southwest Flycatcher and Yellow-billed Cuckoo habitat

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

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

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.

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.

Valles Caldera National Preserve (NPS)

Saturday, May 6
Leader: Jon Blakey, 734-255-5251, iblakey102@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.

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.

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

Rio Chama Rafting Adventure (BLM)

Friday, June 9 thru Sunday, June 11
Leader: Mike Myers, 505 620-4525, michael.myers@q.com
Raft and kayak down the Rio Chama, build stone steps to a primitive campsite. Limited to 8 volunteers; preference given to NMVFO members

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

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.

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.

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

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.

Manzamo 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 trail 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 (Espanola RD)  

Thursday, September 21 thru Sunday, September 24  
Leader: Mark Kimmel, 505 239-8240, m_kimmel@q.com  

Drive up for 1 day or all 5 and camp at the USFS El Parvenir 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  

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

Friday, November 3  
Leader: Erin, 406-781-1666 & John, 505-999-9182 Salinas, gaberla@gmail.com  

6:30 PM to 9:00 PM  
First Unitarian Church, 3701 Carlisle Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

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.