



BLM NEWS

New Mexico Oklahoma Texas Kansas
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Volunteers Sought for National Public Lands Day September 23, 2000

If you can bend and pluck, shovel or pitch, you can be a part of a national day to give back to the lands where you hike, bike, camp, ride or fish. National Public Lands Day is coming again, September 23, 2000 to areas all over New Mexico. This is an opportunity for citizens to give back to their Public Lands by participating in various work projects throughout the state of New Mexico.

Work projects will include a lakeshore cleanup at the Army Corps of Engineers' (ACOE) Conchas Lake State Park, and Cochiti Lake Recreation Areas and trail work at nearby Tent Rocks, a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Area of Critical Environmental Concern, (ACEC), adjacent to Cochiti Lake. The Santa Fe National Forest will be involved with the clean up at Cochiti as well.

Other statewide USDA Forest Service efforts include projects at Quemado Ranger District in the Gila National Forest and at the Lincoln National Forest. BLM sites include Taos Field Offices' Cebolla Mesa Campground Trail and La Junta Recreation Area in the northern part of the state with a clean-up and picnic at La Cueva Dripping Springs natural area, another ACEC managed by BLM. Near Farmington, signs for trails will be set up and cleanup projects will take place on BLM lands. Volunteers receive lunch, an art poster, tee-shirts and a certificate for participating. All volunteers should bring their own hats, gloves and sunscreen.

At Cochiti Lake after the morning's volunteer projects are completed, an Environmental Educational Fair will take place which will bring the nationally known environmental and acoustical group, the "Banana Slugs String Band" to New Mexico for the first time.

At the Environmental Educational Fair, there will be information booths and demonstrations by federal agencies like the National Park Service, US Forest Service, Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Land Management. Native American arts and crafts, water safety demonstrations involving rafts, kayaks, sailboards and boats, a kids fly-tying and casting clinic, the state hatchery's trout truck, beach volleyball, Smokey Bear and food for the whole family will be provided.

Past work Project Volunteers have included the Brush Ranch School, Boy & Girl Scout troops, Santa Fe Indian School and New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors.

Please contact Richard Atkinson at the Public Lands Information Center at 505 438-PLIC (7542) for more information and to sign up as a volunteer.

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