



NEWS RELEASE

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BLM Announces New Fee Collection Site for Orilla Verde Recreation Area

Taos, New Mexico – The BLM Taos Field Office is announcing a new fee collection site for the Orilla Verde Recreation Area that now will encompass the Taos Valley Overlook. New fee deposit containers will be available in the newly acquired area. Because of the increased use in these areas, BLM will begin the new fee collection on May 1, 2004. Day use fees will be \$3.00 per carload, overnight camping is \$7.00 (\$3.00 per night for additional vehicles; maximum of two vehicles per site) and \$15.00 for RV's with no dump stations. Dump stations are available at Taos RV and Red River Sewage.

BLM will reinvest the monies collected for enhancement of the recreation site, repairs, and maintenance. The Taos Field Office is also partners with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish's Habitat Stamp program to provide for parking and to promote habitat improvement.

“Fee collection allows BLM to provide the public with services in high use areas and allows BLM to balance public use against potential impacts from those uses,” said Sam DesGeorges, Acting Taos Field Manager. “We value our visitors and we want to assure them with a safe and positive recreational experience,” he added.

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