

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Sarah Cottrell Propst, Cabinet Secretary
Todd E. Leahy, JD, Ph.D., Deputy Cabinet Secretary
Toby Velasquez, State Parks Division Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact:

Wendy Mason, Marketing Manager
NM State Parks Division
wendy.mason@emnrd.nm.gov

Sidney Hill
Public Information Officer, EMNRD
sidney.hill@emnrd.nm.gov
505-629-2900

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**New Mexico State Parks offer free day-use and free fishing for
National Public Lands, National Hunting and Fishing Day**

Santa Fe, NM – The State Parks Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) announces free day-use at all state parks and free fishing in recognition of National Public Lands and National Hunting and Fishing Day on Saturday, September 23.

National Public Lands Day is held annually on the fourth Saturday in September and celebrates the connection between people and green space in their community, inspires environmental stewardship, and encourages use of open space for education, recreation, and health benefits. Typically, this day brings out the highest number of people volunteering to clean up public parks and participate in activities that highlight the value of these public spaces across the country.

Also, on the fourth Saturday of each September, National Hunting and Fishing Day recognizes generations of sportsmen and women for their contributions to the conservation of our nation's rich sporting heritage and natural resources. For more than 50 years, this annual event has been encouraging participation and public awareness of the connection between hunting, angling, and conservation of wildlife and our wild spaces.

Your thirty-five State Parks remain dedicated to providing diverse opportunities for outdoor recreation and improving our quality of life across the Land of Enchantment," said State Parks Director Toby Velasquez. "We want everyone to explore, experience, and enjoy a free day of fishing and outdoor recreation at your New Mexico State Parks."

Celebrate National Public Lands and National Hunting and Fishing Day safely by following a few simple tips.

- Plan your trip
- No fishing license required (all other fishing rules apply).
- Always wear a life jacket when recreating on the water
- Bring plenty of food and water
- Ensure your cell phone is fully charged
- Observe wildlife at a safe distance
- Make sure pets are properly secured and, on a leash
- Stay on the trails
- Know your limitations
- Take breaks during your excursion

Your New Mexico State Parks can be found in 25 of 33 counties and 70% of New Mexicans live within 40 miles of a state park. Reserve your camping spot up to six months in advance on emnrd.nm.gov or reserveamerica.com today!



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NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY & NATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING DAY

Free Day-Use & Free Fishing!
September 23, 2023



iVAMOS!
LET'S GO NEW MEXICO!