

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor Sarah Cottrell Propst, Cabinet Secretary Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD, Deputy Cabinet Secretary Christy Tafoya, State Parks Division Director

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Christina Cordova
Public Relations Coordinator, State Parks Division
<a href="mailto:christina.cordova@state.nm.us">christina.cordova@state.nm.us</a>
505-476-3363

Susan Torres Public Information Officer, EMNRD <u>susan.torres@state.nm.us</u> 505-476-3226

**December 2, 2020** 



## New Mexico State Parks to reopen for day-use on December 3, 2020

Parks remain open to New Mexico residents only

**Santa Fe** – Today the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department's (EMNRD) State Parks Division announces day-use will reopen at 32 State Parks for New Mexico residents only beginning Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. El Vado Lake, Morphy Lake, and Manzano State Parks remain closed due to seasonal closures. All camping reservations will be cancelled and refunded through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Camping and overnight use will be closed through the end of the month.

It is important for visitors to continue to check for details on specific park hours of operation and additional information before visiting. Check the <u>State Parks website</u> and know before you go.

State Parks advises the additional guidance is still in place:

## **Limitations on Visitors:**

- Only New Mexico residents may enter New Mexico State Parks.
- Visitors must show either a valid New Mexico license plate, a New Mexico driver's license
  or ID card, a New Mexico vehicle registration, a federal document attesting to residency,
  or a military ID to be admitted to a State Park.

## Additional guidance:

- Wearing a mask or cloth face covering is mandatory in public settings except when eating, drinking, or swimming or unless a healthcare provider instructs otherwise, and violators could face citations and \$100 fines for not complying voluntarily.
- Keep groups to 5 people or less
- Bring hand sanitizer and additional personal protective equipment



- Maintain social distance of 6 feet or more while recreating
- Overnight camping is prohibited
- Visitor centers and shower facilities remain closed
- No campfires or open fires
- Trails will be open; some water access is limited at this time due to seasonal conditions. Access may be limited to adhere to social distancing requirements
- No group shelter use or large organized events, in accordance with continued restrictions on mass gatherings
- Playgrounds closed
- To limit interactions, please use exact change when paying fees or purchase a day-use pass online
- Limited concession operations
- Recreate responsibly and pack out all trash
- Follow all safety guidelines when boating or swimming

All current park information can be found on the **State Parks Division website**.

###

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us