

NEW MEXICO

# Rio Grande Trail

## THE VISION

In 2015, state legislation (HB 563) solidified New Mexico's vision of a 500-mile cross-state recreational trail and established the Rio Grande Trail Commission to oversee its development. In this vision:

The Rio Grande Trail is New Mexico's cross-state, recreational trail for hiking, biking, and horseback riding along the Rio Grande. Trail users explore, learn about, and connect with a tapestry of diverse natural habitats, rich history, striking landscapes, and vibrant communities. The trail contributes to cultural and environmental awareness, healthy lifestyles, spiritual growth, and economic prosperity for New Mexico and its visitors.

*From an evening walk to a month-long expedition, the Rio Grande Trail offers a window into the heart and soul of New Mexico and a journey through its exceptional natural and cultural heritage.*

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR NEW MEXICO?

With the Rio Grande Trail, New Mexico is investing in itself and its future. New Mexicans will gain a signature asset of national significance and a valued local amenity. Trails can improve the health and quality of life of the communities they connect; foster a sense of appreciation and stewardship for the natural environment, and for the history and cultures they are tied to; and support local economies through tourism spending and increased property values.

## WHO WILL USE IT?

Across 500-miles, the context of the Rio Grande Trail varies substantially. Passing through Hatch, the Chile Capital of the World differs from the experience along a towering ridgeline in Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. Weaving through these unique settings, the Rio Grande Trail offers a host of outdoor recreational opportunities for exercise, adventure, and enjoyment. What type of trail user will you be?



## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The Rio Grande Trail is being developed with the support of more than 100 organizations, agencies, and volunteer groups working across the state. To support that effort, the Rio Grande Trail Commission is a group of leaders convened by the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department to oversee the development of a Rio Grande Trail Master Plan.

### Want to become a part of history in the making?

- Learn more and offer feedback at [www.RioGrandeTrailNM.com](http://www.RioGrandeTrailNM.com)
- Spread the word about the Rio Grande Trail and invite others to participate
- Join one of six Work Groups to support the trail's development by volunteering time and talents
- Find out more and sign-up at [www.RioGrandeTrailNM.com](http://www.RioGrandeTrailNM.com) or call NM State Parks at 1-888-NMPARKS (667-2757)



The Rio Grande Trail corridor includes three national wildlife refuges, three national monuments, one national heritage area, and six state parks, touching nearly 10 counties and more than 22 cities or towns.

## LEGEND / KEY MAP



Landowner participation in the Rio Grande Trail project is voluntary. The Rio Grande Trail will only cross land that is authorized by the landowner and eminent domain shall not be used to establish the trail or features.