



EDD

ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT

OUTDOOR RECREATION DIVISION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham
Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes
Deputy Secretary Jon Clark

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Applications Now Open for the 2021 Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant

Deadline for applications is August 31

SANTA FE, N.M. – Applications for the Outdoor Recreation Trails+ grant to support New Mexico outdoor recreation infrastructure projects are now open, Director of the Outdoor Recreation Division Axie Navas announced today. The deadline to apply is August 31, 2021 by 5 pm MT.

Previously known as the Special Projects and Outdoor Infrastructure Fund, this grant invests in shovel-ready infrastructure projects that enhance outdoor recreation opportunities in communities across the state. Thanks to the support of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and state lawmakers, funding for the Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant has grown to \$500,000 – up from just over \$77,000 last year.

“These grants are another important tool for creating partnerships with local communities and tribes, to develop outdoor recreation assets in all corners of the state,” EDD Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes said.

“The Outdoor Recreation Division is committed to growing access to the outdoors for all New Mexicans,” Director Navas said. “The Outdoor Recreation Trails+ grant invests in everything from trails and rivers to public shooting ranges to increase access and build resiliency in the face of the climate crisis, and accelerate the growth of the outdoor economy.”

Grants of \$5,000 to \$25,000 will be awarded to Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations; municipalities; counties; nonprofits; public preschools, schools and districts; colleges and universities; soil and water conservation districts; and acequia associations. Applicants must have a conservation-minded shovel-ready project that increases access to outdoor recreational opportunities and is open to the public. Projects must demonstrate a clear economic benefit to the community - either by attracting and retaining residents and/or attracting visitors.

Last year, the state granted funds to six projects for a total of \$77,689. Combined, these projects will create almost 100 full-time, part-time, and seasonal employment over the next two years and generate an additional \$304,353 in matching assistance.

[Learn more about last year's recipients](#)

Types of eligible projects this grant supports include creation of outdoor classrooms, park improvements, restoration or conservation projects, creation of river or other water access, signage projects (wayfinding, educational, etc.), trailhead improvements, and trail

work (enhancement, creation, etc.) projects among others.

[To learn more about eligibility requirements you can view the full grant guide here.](#)

[Apply here.](#)

[Learn more about ORD and its other grant programs here.](#)

If you need assistance, please contact Alyssa Renwick, Project Coordinator of the Outdoor Recreation Division, at 505-795-1792 or email alyssa.renwick2@state.nm.us.

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2020 grant recipient Santa Fe Conservation Trust. La Tierra Chili Line Trail - volunteers complete a retaining wall to support one side of a wooden footbridge (May 2021).

The New Mexico Economic Development Department's mission is to improve the lives of New Mexico families by increasing economic opportunities and providing a place for businesses to thrive.

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