**October 2021 Hikes/Events**

**Saturday, Oct 9, 7 PM**  2-3 hours  
**Star Viewing Party at Wild Rivers**  
Come to Wild Rivers for an evening of star watching. El Valle Astronomers will set up their big telescopes in the Wild Rivers Visitor Center parking lot and focus in on planets, galaxies and star clusters. This area has some of the best night skies in the country. So, come join us for this fun and educational event. Come early and bring a picnic.

**Saturday, Oct 9, 9 AM**  2 hours  
**Petaca Point Trail**  
Meet at the trailhead on NM 567, one mile west of Taos Junction Bridge atop the rim, for this moderate, fairly level 3 mile hike along the west rim of the gorge. Park ranger Evert Bono will discuss geology, wildlife and human history along the way, culminating with a view to remember!

**Sunday, Oct 17, 9 AM**  2 hours  
**La Vista Verde Trail**  
Meet at the trailhead on NM 567, about ½ mile west of Taos Junction Bridge, for this easy 2.5 mile round trip hike on fairly flat terrain with park ranger Aydin Gates. You’ll see impressive views from within the gorge, plenty of petroglyphs, with excellent wildlife sighting opportunities.

**Sunday, Oct 24, 9 AM**  3 hours  
**Hondo Canyon Hike**  
Meet at the Rio Grande Gorge Visitor Center where we then arrange vehicle shuttles for this ambitious and difficult 3 mile hike from the Taos Valley Overlook down to the Rio Grande via Hondo Canyon. Park ranger Randy Roch will lead this excursion off-trail and explore some of the wilder parts of Orilla Verde Recreation Area, and maybe even find a straurolite or two! This is a difficult hike, make sure you are up for it physically!

**Sunday, Oct 30, 9 AM**  2 hours  
**West Rim Trail Mountain Bike Ride**  
Meet at the trailhead at the Rio Grande Gorge Bridge rest area on NM Highway 64 and join park ranger Chris Baca on this easy, flat section of the West Rim Trail. Stellar views of the gorge and its famous bridge, plus great opportunities for wildlife sightings await. Bring your own mountain bike and plenty of water; helmets are required!

- **For Guided Hikes** •  
  Bring a snack, hat, sunscreen, 2 liters of water and sturdy hiking shoes

- **For More Information Contact** •  
  Wild Rivers Visitor Center  
  575-586-1150  
  Rio Grande Gorge Visitor Center  
  575-751-4899  
  Taos Field Office  
  575-758-8851