



NEW MEXICO

Taos

Recreation Fee Program Spending & Accomplishment Highlights 2024

Field Office

Water Quality at Santa Cruz Lake



BLM Field Staff Conducts Water Quality Testing

Amount Expended:\$3248.72

Taos Field Office has been conducting weekly water quality testing in Santa Cruz Lake for Cyanobacteria, a potentially toxic blue green algae. The bacteria are present in the lake, initiating the need for weekly testing during the summer months when warmer temperatures increase the likelihood of the algae. Five years of testing have shown that the bacteria has not become toxic to date and that Santa Cruz Lake is safe for recreation. Santa Cruz lake is visited by 35,000 people annually, primarily for water-based recreation activities such as fishing and paddle boarding.

Chama River Volunteer



BLM Ranger Hauls Refrigerator Out of Chama River

Amount Expended: \$2460.00

Taos Field Office (TFO) employed a full-time volunteer at El Vado Ranch, the put-in for the Wilderness section of the Wild and Scenic Rio Chama, co-managed by BLM and the US Forest Service. The volunteer conducted familiarization/safety briefings, equipment checks, and checked-in multi-day river users. This allowed the river patrol rangers a greater presence on the river and facilitated increased patrols on other Wild and Scenic Rivers managed out of the TFO. The volunteer also ran weekly vehicle shuttles for River Rangers on Rio Chama patrols, preventing the need for a second ranger.

Revenue & Expenditures

FY24 Revenue	
Recreation Use Permits (RUPs)	\$129,530.29
Special Recreation Permits (SRPs)	\$0.00
Individual Special Recreation Permits	\$0.00
Interagency Passes	\$7,666.52
Total Recreation Fee Revenue for FY24	\$137,196.81
Carryover from Prior Years	\$247,083.02
Total Available Funds for FY24	\$384,279.83

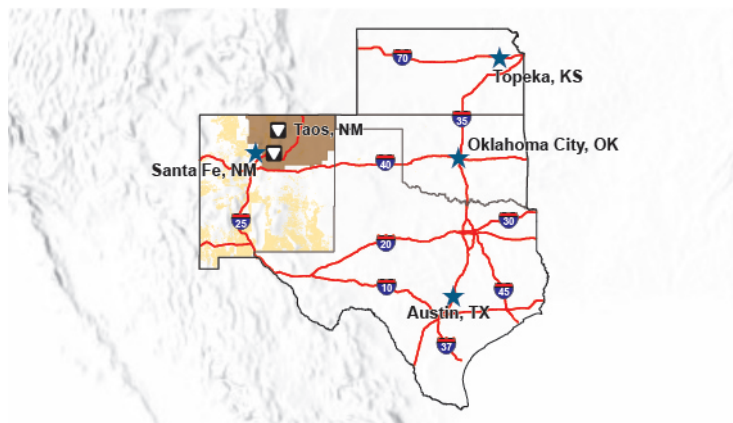
FY24 Expenditures	
Repair & Maintenance	\$86,821.12
Visitor Services	\$86,433.17
Law Enforcement	\$116.48
Inventory, Monitoring and Planning	\$83,013.29
Collections/Overhead	\$2,575.69
Total Recreation Fee Expenditures for FY24	\$258,959.75
Total Carryover Funds for FY25	\$125,320.08



Other Accomplishments

- Hazard mitigation was conducted on backcountry campgrounds on the Chama Wild and Scenic River.
- Septic pumping at Santa Cruz Lake for public use toilets.
- Twenty-seven river patrols on the Chama Wild and Scenic River conducted by River Rangers during the permit season.

Vicinity Map



Planned Activities



Bikers ride a trail in Nambe Badlands.

- Wilderness First Responder recertification training for river rangers. (\$3,200)
- New trailhead design & development at Nambe Badlands. (\$24,000)
- Enhanced user monitoring throughout the field office. (\$3,000)
- Continued water quality testing. (\$3,200)

FY25 Planned Expenditures

Repair & Maintenance	\$171,500.00
Visitor Services	\$900.00
Law Enforcement	\$200.00
Inventory, Monitoring and Planning	\$83,000.00
Collections/Overhead	\$2,555.00
Total Planned Expenditures for FY25	\$258,155.00
Total Projected funds for FY25	\$125,320.08
FY25 Balance after Planned Expenditures	\$-132,834.92*

* Balance does not include FY25 Planned Revenue

Taos

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[Published FLREA Triennial Report](#)

[Published FLREA Annual Revenue and Spending Plans](#)

[Bureau of Land Management's Blueprint for 21st Century Outdoor Recreation](#)

Recreation fee dollars are an investment in outdoor recreation. Current and future generations benefit as 100% of the funds collected are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use, and value.

