

# Alternative BLM Recreation Sites During Tent Rocks Monument's Closure For Road Paving

## **Perea Nature Trail**

The Perea Nature Trail takes the visitor through the riparian zone of the Rio Salado. In the distance are purple-hued rock formations of the Nacimiento Mountain chain.

## **White Mesa Bike Trails**

The bike trails cross a landscape of spectacular beauty and exceptional geology. The trails were developed for mountain biking, however, hikers are also welcome, and one trail is also open to equestrian use.

## **Cabazon Peak WSA**

Cabazon Peak's dramatic volcanic formation is a well-known New Mexico landmark. A primitive trail leads to the base of the cliffs but some rock climbing is required to reach the summit.

## **Ojito Wilderness**

Historically, several human cultures have tried to carve a living from Ojito's rugged terrain, rocky soils, and scarce water supply. Fossil remains of rare dinosaurs, plants, and trees have also been discovered in the Ojito Wilderness.

## **El Malpais National Conservation Area**

This "bad country" (El Malpais) includes craggy lava flows, some up to 800,000 years old, which cover much of El Malpais. A must see is La Ventana Arch, a beautiful sandstone arch with easy access from Highway 117.

## **Chain of Craters Back Country Byway**

The Chain of Craters Back Country Byway is located in the El Malpais National Conservation Area. The road is not paved; however it is routinely graded. A high-clearance vehicle is required; the road may be impassable when wet.

## **Socorro Nature Area**

The Socorro Nature Area is a 120-acre environmental education area in the Rio Grande Bosque. The area includes a 1/2-mile self-guided nature walk with interpretive signs, an amphitheatre, and a pond.

## **Quebradas Back Country Byway**

The Quebradas Back Country Byway is an unpaved county road traversing about 24 miles of rugged, colorful landscapes east of Socorro.

## **Fort Craig National Historic Site**

Fort Craig played a crucial role in Indian campaigns and the Civil War. Established in 1854, Fort Craig was one of the largest and most important frontier forts in the West.

## **Valley of Fires**

From a distance, Valley of Fires appears as barren rock but when you walk the nature trail you will see many varieties of flowers, cactus, trees, and bushes typical of the Chihuahuan desert.

## **Fort Stanton-Snowy River National Conservation Area**

The Fort Stanton area offers a variety of recreational activities including 60 miles of horseback, mountain biking, and hiking trails. A portion of Fort Stanton Cave may be explored after obtaining a permit.

## **Santa Cruz Lake**

This reservoir on the Rio del Medio and Rio Frijoles provides recreational opportunities for anglers, picnickers, campers, and boaters. The eastern shoreline of this no-wake lake is fringed with juniper, pinon pine, cottonwood, and mountain mahogany.

## **Orilla Verde Recreation Area**

Nestled along the banks of the Rio Grande, this area offers camping, picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, hiking and biking. The local terrain is comprised of rugged, wide open mesas and chiseled steep canyons.

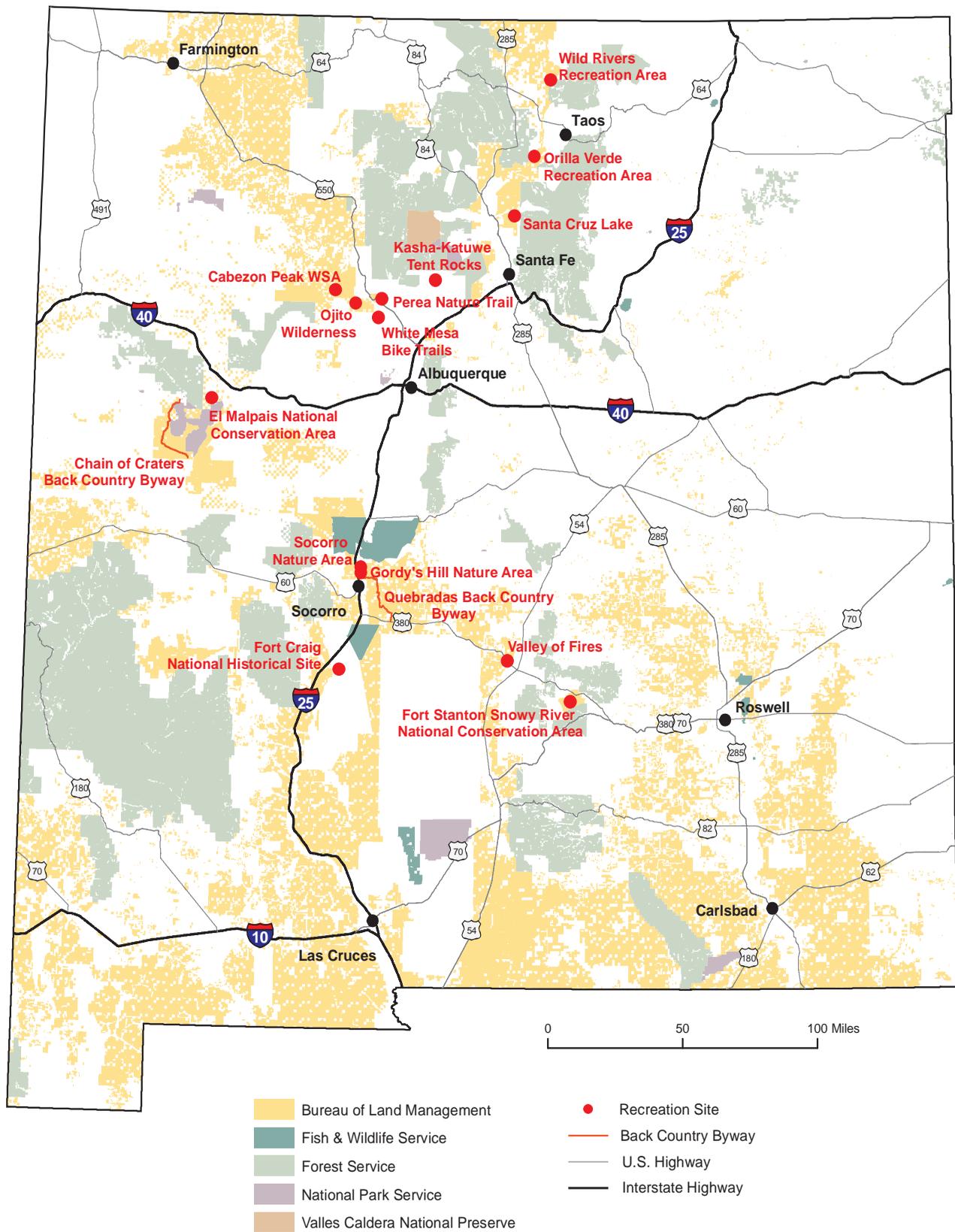
## **Wild Rivers Recreational Area**

This canyon area where the Rio Grande and Red River merge offers camping, picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, and hiking. The area is rich with history, rugged beauty, and exciting recreational opportunities.



For more information, visit  
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