



Town of Taos
PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release:

Wetlands Trail in Fred Baca Park to Reopen

July 23, 2014 - The Town of Taos is pleased to announce that the wetlands trail in Fred Baca Park will reopen to the public on Friday, July 25, 2014. The floating trail, originally built by the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, was closed in November of 2012 due to extensive damage caused by felled trees. The trees were dropped by beavers that inhabit the wetlands.

The trail was to remain closed until capital project funds, in the amount of \$55,000, were available to replace the "floating" walkway portions; projected in the Fiscal Year 2016 capital budget. The Buildings Division staff of the Facilities Services Department took the initiative to devise a plan to repair the damaged sections of the trail as opposed to waiting until 2016 for replacement funds. Their initiative reduced the cost of hiring contractors and they were able to purchase materials out of the current year operating budget to complete the repairs.

Julie Skansie, Buildings Superintendent, and her staff Elias Padilla, Charlie Sanchez, Jonathan Evans, Cuauhtemoc Herrera and Steve Pacheco developed the plans to repair the trail and completed most of the work. Staff from the Parks and Civic Center Divisions of the Facilities Services Department assisted as well.

Regarding the reopening of the trail, Mayor Barrone stated, "Fred Baca Park is a local treasure. The wetlands are teeming with flora and fauna including several beaver lodges. I am proud that our own Town employees took the initiative to repair the trail now instead of waiting for uncertain funding".

The public is welcome to come and enjoy the newly reopened wetlands and is reminded to stay on the designated trail and "take only pictures and leave only footprints".

-End-

TOWN OF TAOS GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Daniel R. Barrone
Mayor Pro Tem Frederick A. Peralta
Councilmember Andrew T. Gonzales
Councilmember George "Fritz" Hahn
Councilmember Judith Y. Cantu

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Town Hall Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
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