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November xx, 2008

Dear «salutation»,

We live in challenging times. There is a lot of talk about the security of investments and we are all feeling the uncertainty. There are, fortunately, some investments that are never subject to the vagaries of the market: those in our own quality of life. The return on investing in conservation of New Mexico's outstanding natural and cultural heritage, as well as our clean air and water, will never lose value. It will only grow.

In fact, the current economy may reduce land prices and offer conservation opportunities that come along only once in a generation. But The Trust for Public Land must have the capacity to act quickly. The Railyard Park and Plaza was a huge success for TPL and Santa Fe, but it came at a price. TPL committed tremendous resources to this long, complex project. We must rebuild our resources to conserve places like those described in the enclosed update.

This year, more than any other, we are depending on your contribution and hope you will increase it to \$«current_ask_amount». Your gift will help TPL-New Mexico raise \$100,000 by December 31st, which we need to carry this critical work forward.

The upside is that TPL is better prepared than ever to lead conservation in New Mexico. Our history in 25 years of park building and conservation throughout the state has given us a wealth of experience, great contacts and a respected voice. Now is the time to invest in New Mexico by investing in TPL.

With your help this year, TPL will preserve Rio Grande river front near Taos and Las Cruces, and open land to public recreation near Albuquerque. As you read the enclosed description of recent and current efforts and look at pictures of these magnificent places, I hope you recognize your power to preserve what makes New Mexico so special. Please give today.

Sincerely,

Director, TPL-New Mexico

PS: Gifts to TPL are tax deductible. We welcome gifts of cash, stock, and formal pledges of future support.



THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

CONSERVING LAND FOR PEOPLE

Recent Accomplishments and Current Efforts in New Mexico



They said it couldn't be done, but together, we did it! The Santa Fe Railyard Park + Plaza welcomed 20,000 people on a beautiful weekend in September. Thanks to our generous donors, amazing volunteers and incredible elected leaders, 12 beautiful acres of park, plaza and alameda now welcome all to Santa Fe's downtown and provide a central hub linking the city's urban trails. The Railyard Park was a true collaboration: 1,471 volunteers and participants, 437 donors, 399 businesses and organizations, 134 elected officials, 48 members of the design and construction teams, and local TPL staff. Each was essential in the success of this monumental project. Thank you, everyone.

NEW MEXICAN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2008

www.santafenewmexican.com

SANTA FE RAILYARD

'It's wicked good'

Redevelopment's grand opening brings out community for firsthand look



Photos by Sarah Gaudin for the New Mexican. The Santa Fe Railyard's grand opening Saturday brought out more than 1,000 people to take a first glimpse at the redevelopment of the area. The Red Runner train "kissed" a car from the Santa Fe Southern Railway in a symbolic ceremony.

But the Railyard Park isn't all we've been working on. While some staff were busy with the park, others were hard at work conserving land throughout New Mexico.

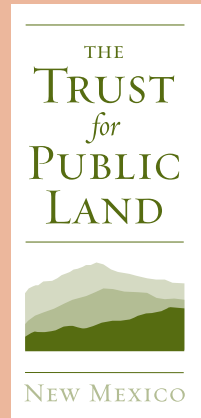
We are thrilled to announce that TPL helped New Mexico State Parks acquire the 783-acre Broad Canyon Ranch in Selden Canyon north of Las Cruces. The ranch includes a mile of the Rio Grande and a 30-acre wetland known to birders as Swan Pond. Grazing will be limited on 4,832 adjacent acres of public lands to create contiguous wildlife habitat between the Rio Grande, the Sierra de Las Uvas, and a large NMSU research site. State Parks and partners plan restoration to optimize the land for birds, including the endangered southwestern willow flycatcher, vermilion flycatcher and many water and shorebirds.



In 2009 TPL hopes to conserve Rio Grande frontage near Taos, Cañada de Cochiti and Socorro. Our work will take us to lands along the Santa Fe River, the Rio Vallecitos, the Rio Nutria, and Bear Creek in the Gila, as well as a perennial stream just east of Albuquerque. While water is reason enough to conserve these lands, there are other benefits too. Through this work we can create places for close-to-home recreation, preserve working farms and ranches, and conserve wildlife habitat. Flip this page for descriptions and images from just two of our many efforts in the coming months.



TPL is working to add a large piece of irrigated farmland along the Rio Grande to the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge, home to desert bighorn sheep and pronghorn antelope. With the additional land and water rights, the refuge can create new wetlands for migratory waterbirds, expand research sites for UNM's climate change research, and improve public access.



On the Rio Vallecitos, TPL is pursuing acquisition of a conservation easement that will limit development and preserve the beauty of a high-elevation parcel of mixed conifer and aspen forests. The property has cold, clear creeks and mountain meadows, making it important habitat for several threatened or endangered species. The property is surrounded by the Carson National Forest on three sides and is visible from the Continental Divide Trail. The Rio Vallecitos is managed as a Wild & Scenic River and provides water to the downstream villages of Vallecitos and La Madera.

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Without your donation, TPL simply cannot conserve these lands. Please invest in the beauty of New Mexico.

COUNT ME IN. I want to help protect New Mexico's cultural and natural heritage.

Name _____
 Address _____

 City, State Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

Gifts to TPL are fully tax deductible.

Donors of gifts of \$1,000 and more are honored with membership in the Mary and Wallace Stegner Society.

Four ways to give:

1. ENCLOSE A CHECK, payable to TPL-New Mexico.

2. MAKE A SINGLE OR MONTHLY GIFT online at www.tpl.org/donate. Use the email link to restrict your gift to TPL's work in New Mexico.

3. CHARGE YOUR GIFT (Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover)

Amount _____
 Card Number _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Card Security Code _____
 Signature _____

4. GIVE STOCK and avoid paying capital gains tax on appreciation. Contact Laurel Savino at 505-988-5922 x114 or laurel.savino@tpl.org.