

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**News Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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***“Bio-Blitz” Series at  
Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park***

**Las Cruces, NM** –Local experts in documenting life in the bosque are doing just that at Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park—and you’re invited to help with this herpetology bio-blitz on April 12 at 8:30 a.m.

Teams comprised of park staff, local scientists and enthusiastic volunteers of all ages will systematically gather and identify as many reptiles and amphibians as possible. Pitfall traps throughout the park will be set the night before, and then teams will check them Saturday morning.

“This is a fun, important process,” said Park Superintendent Jan Kirwan. “No experience is necessary, just be willing to learn. That’s what our state park is about.”

Experts from the community will lead the bio-blitz. Dr. David Richman, Dr. Walt Whitford, Mr. Richard Quick, Graeme Dave and Mara Weisenberger will help volunteers discover and document life at Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park.

The herpetology bio-blitz is second in the bio-blitz series of three. The vascular plant bio-blitz in early April was a success and the park will have an insect/arthropod bio blitz on April 26 at 8:30 a.m.

As an extra treat this Saturday, the Greater Mesilla Valley Aerostat Ascension Association Hot Air Balloon Club of Las Cruces, NM, will have tethered hot air balloons at the park.

Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park is located at 5000 Calle del Norte in Mesilla and to reach the park for more information, contact 575.523.4398.

New Mexico State Parks – the official sponsor of Adventure!

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*The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.*

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