

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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# Percha Dam State Park Announces Two Birding Photography Workshops with Renowned Photographer

**Arrey, NM-** Percha Dam State Park will be hosting two birding field trips on Saturday, December 5, 2015 from 9AM-11AM and Sunday, December 6, 2015 2PM-4PM. Come and discover why Percha Dam is one of the top birding sites in New Mexico. Both tours are led by Wayne Pope, a college photography instructor with a degree in biology.

Each event includes a short lecture on birding and photography skills. Afterwards, participants will join Wayne for an easy hike along the Rio Grande River trail in search of birds, desert wildlife and scenic photography opportunities. You will be able to practice your birding and photography skills while receiving one-to-one instruction in the field.

After each tour, participants are invited to stay for a group picnic socializing and sharing photos. Pack your lunch or snacks and enjoy a meal in a beautiful state park along the Rio Grande.

No particular skill level is required to have a great time, cell phones, point and shoot cameras and Digital SLRs are all okay. In addition, feel free to bring your camera, binoculars or spotting scope so that you can get that great photo or view. Participants are encouraged to wear hiking boots or appropriate footwear, the tours will be walking through desert scrub and rocky river bottoms.

Interested participants must pre-register to guarantee a seat for this event, please call Caballo Lake State Park Headquarters at (575) 743-3942 for registration. Visit Wayne Pope's website at: [www.waynerpope.com](http://www.waynerpope.com) for more information or feel free to call him directly at (517) 930-1690.

Regular park entry fees apply, but the event is free and open to the public. Percha Dam State Park is located adjacent to Caballo Lake State Park on I-25 Exit 59 Highway 187.

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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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