

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**Susana Martinez**  
Governor

**Tony Delfin**  
Acting Cabinet Secretary

**Christy Tafoya, Division Director**  
State Parks Division



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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# New Mexico State Parks Announces Routine Seasonal Closures for Upcoming Fall and Winter Season

**Santa Fe, NM** – The New Mexico State Parks Division announces routine, seasonal closures at many of the 35 state parks. As temperatures drop, so does visitation during the cold, winter months in the northern half of the state.

“Park seasonal closures range from October-April every year, benefitting natural resources, minimizing impacts to wildlife, and allowing staff to work on important park projects,” said State Parks Director Christy Tafoya.

State park officials reported that due to better precipitation, improved lake levels, and minimal fire restrictions, park visitation was tremendous this season. State parks experienced an 18 percent increase in visitation from last year surpassing over five million visitors at state parks. For example, at Elephant Butte Lake State Park more than 110,000 people enjoyed the park during the week surrounding Independence Day.

Many of the southern state parks such as Living Desert Zoo and Gardens State Park in Carlsbad remain open all year for folks to visit and enjoy! Check out [www.nmparks.com](http://www.nmparks.com) to **see a complete listing of all seasonal closures throughout the state and new winter hours at various parks.**

For more information on all New Mexico State Parks, please visit our website at [www.nmparks.com](http://www.nmparks.com) or call 1-888-NMPARKS.

*Conditions are Right for Adventure at New Mexico State Parks!*



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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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