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Trails Management At LANL

Los Alamos County

Parks and Recreation Board

May 14, 2015

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LANL Trails Management Program



- Environmental Assessment & FONSI - 9/2003
- Mitigation Action Plan
- Establishment of Trails Working Group - 12/2003
- LANL Site-Wide EIS Completed -2008
- Institutional Agreement w Volunteer Task Force
- 100th meeting of Trails Working Group - 12/2014
- Trails Management Plan - 2015

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Trails Management Program Goals



- Reduce the risk of damage and injury to property, human life, and health, and sensitive natural and cultural resources from social trail use at LANL
- Facilitate the establishment of a safe, viable network of linked trails across the Pajarito Plateau that traverse land holdings of various private and government entities for recreational use and for alternate transportation purposes without posing a threat to DOE and NNSA mission support work at LANL or disrupting LANL operations.
- Maintain the security of LANL operations.
- Respect the wishes of local Pueblos to maintain access to traditional cultural properties (TCPs) by Pueblo members while also preventing unauthorized public access to adjacent Pueblo lands and other lands identified as both religious and culturally sensitive areas to Native American communities.
- Adapt trail use at LANL to changing conditions and situations in a responsive manner.
- Maintain the recreational functionality of the DOE lands so that the land owned by the DOE remains open to all members of the public for non-motorized recreation, in compliance with federal laws and LANL operational constraints.

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Taking Care of our Trails

- Continued access and use of LANL trails is contingent upon being good stewards of these federal lands.



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Trails Overview

- ~30 miles of LANL Trails
- Some open to public
- Trails are patrolled
- Share with bicycles, horses, hikers, and runners
- Know the rules!



Recent trailhead improvements.

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Trails Issues

- Cultural Resources Protection
- Vandalism
- Trash/Tires
- Erosion/Fallen trees
- Trail Maintenance
- Temporary Closures
- You are our Eyes & Ears!



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Los Alamos Canyon



- Meeting of LANL SMEs Held November 2014
 - To determine whether Los Alamos Canyon between NM4 and West Road could be reopened to pedestrians and cyclists.
 - To identify known constraints and likely requirements were Los Alamos Canyon to be reopened.

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Los Alamos Canyon



- There is no compelling reason to keep LA Canyon restricted. The canyon could be reopened to public recreation with occasional closures due to remediation activities, well construction, flooding, and other similar events. Historical sites are secured. There are no security interests in the canyon. The paved road needs to be repaired and parking improved.

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Los Alamos Canyon – Future Uses



- Continued occasional science experiments within the tunnel at TA-41;
- Utility corridors that run through the canyon;
- Environmental remediation functions and maintenance;
- Environmental monitoring wells and storm gages;
- Historical interpretation and related MNP visitor activities;
- Athletic events such as runs and similar activities; and
- A potential link for proposed county-wide recreational multi-use trail.

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Trails Information



- *Trails Website:*
 - <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/trails/index.php>
- *Contact Info*
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