



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information:

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NEWS RELEASE

VALLES CALDERA TRUST BOARD TO MEET – PUBLIC INVITED

(Jemez Springs, NM) – The Valles Caldera Trust Board of Trustees will meet on **Thursday, December 7, 2006 from 1:30 to 4:00 PM** at the **Marriott Courtyard at 3347 Cerrillos Road in Sante Fe, New Mexico.**

The meeting agenda includes reports on the 2006 recreation and monitoring programs, a report on the summer steer research by New Mexico State University and a request to authorize the staff to begin a comprehensive public access and use plan. The agenda will be posted on the Trust's website.

Public comments will be heard at the close of the meeting.

The Board of the Valles Caldera Trust authorizes all proposed stewardship actions for managing Preserve lands, resources and facilities in public meetings. Board of Trustee members are appointed by the President of the United States. Current members are: Tracy S. Hephner, Wagon Mound, NM; Larry Icerman, Santa Fe, NM; Barbara Johnson, Santa Fe, NM; John Caid, Pine Top, AZ; James Gosz, Albuquerque, NM; Raymond Loretto, Jemez Pueblo, NM; William Keleher, Albuquerque, NM; and Darlene Koontz, superintendent, Bandelier National Monument. The supervisor of the Santa Fe National Forest also serves on the Board.

The Valles Caldera Trust oversees the Valles Caldera National Preserve, formerly the privately owned "Baca Ranch." The 88,900 acre property is located in the Jemez Mountains in northern New Mexico. It was purchased by the federal government in 2000 under the Valles Caldera National Preservation Act. The property is known for its huge meadows, abundant wildlife, meandering streams and remarkable scenery. More information about the Preserve can be found at www.vallescaldera.gov.

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