



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWS RELEASE

Valles Caldera Trust Seeks Public Input to Help Develop New Access Plan

(Jemez Springs, NM) – The Valles Caldera Trust is seeking the public's help in developing a new long-term visitor access and use management plan. The Trust wants the public's ideas about visitor capacity of the Preserve, recreation and education programs offered to the public, and the types of facilities and infrastructure—such as roads, trails and buildings—needed to support public visitation and visitor programs.

Four meetings will be held in north-central New Mexico in late July and early August. Each meeting will consist of an orientation, information tables and displays, and breakout workshop discussions on programs and issues regarding future public access and use of the Preserve. During the workshops, attendees will be invited to assume the role of a Preserve decision-maker and consider the decisions that the Trust will make.

Members of the Board of Trustees and Trust staff will be available to listen to public comments, answer questions, and participate in the discussions.

The time and location of the four meetings are as follows:

1. July 31, 2007 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Trust offices in Jemez Springs, New Mexico (18161 State Highway 4)
2. August 2, 2007 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Cities of Gold Hotel Conference Center in the Pojoaque Valley, New Mexico (10-A Cities of Gold Rd., 15 miles north of Santa Fe)
3. August 14, 2007 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Student Center of the

University of New Mexico-Los Alamos in Los Alamos, New Mexico (4000 University Drive)

4. August 16, 2007 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Hilton Garden Inn in Rio Rancho, New Mexico (1771 Rio Rancho Blvd.)

The public is invited to come to the meetings anytime between 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM. The workshop discussions will take place at 5:00 PM and 6:30 PM. More detailed information, including the materials presented at the meetings, will be continually updated on the Trust's website at www.vallescaldera.gov.

The public can submit comments directly during the meetings, through the Trust's website (www.vallescaldera.gov), by email to Marie Rodriguez (mrodriguez@vallescaldera.gov), or by letter to Valles Caldera Trust, P.O. Box 359, Jemez Springs, NM 87025. All comments should be received at Trust offices by September 21, 2007.

The Valles Caldera Trust oversees the Valles Caldera National Preserve, formerly the privately owned "Baca Ranch." The 89,000-acre property is located in the Jemez Mountains in northern New Mexico. The federal government purchased the ranch in 2000 under the Valles Caldera Preservation Act. The property is known for its vast meadows, abundant wildlife, meandering streams and remarkable scenery. The mission of the Trust is to create a successful model of public land management that protects and preserves the unique values of the Valles Caldera National Preserve. Toward that end, the Trust will operate the Preserve as a working ranch; strive to become financially self-sustaining; meet the varied needs of visitors; strive to use and steward the multiple resources of the Preserve; and work collaboratively with our neighbors.

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