



# Enchanted Circle Trails Association

Developing, maintaining, and promoting trails in northern New Mexico  
info@enchantedcircletrails.org

## ECTA Quarterly Report

Oct-Dec 2025

### Summary

Enchanted Circle Trails Association (ECTA) develops, maintains, and promotes a trail system throughout the Enchanted Circle. The following is a summary of actions from last quarter and includes all jurisdictions (*i.e., BLM and US Forest Service and local units of government.*)

## Trail Maintenance

### Adopt-a-Trail

Taking advantage of the warmer weather in October, ECTA facilitated an additional 5 Adopt-a-Trail events with our community partners, clearing, maintaining, or constructing 6.4 miles of trail with the help of 16 volunteers who donated 89.8 hours of service.

### Trail Stewardship

ECTA partnered with Age Up Well Taos to clean up the El Nogal trailhead, including picking up trash in and around the parking lot and along the Rio Fernando de Taos river.

## Trail Outreach

### Trail Brochures & Posters

ECTA received a Lodgers Tax grant from Taos County to update and re-print our wildly popular User Group Trail Brochures: <https://enchantedcircletrails.org/promotion/brochures/> These are distributed throughout the Enchanted Circle region at visitor centers, businesses, and municipal buildings to help ensure that locals and visitors alike have good information about some of the trails found in the region.

### Trail Outreach and Communication:

Our trail outreach and communication efforts provide timely information about trails and trail issues and provide pathways for folks to get involved with the trail community. During this quarter, we increased followers on Facebook by **1.3%**, Instagram by **3.5%**, and newsletter subscribers by **4.2%**. Overall website visitation increased by **32.1%**.

### Trail Ambassador Program

ECTA has begun working on a Trail Ambassador program to engage with local businesses and organizations that want to volunteer beyond trail maintenance. This program is envisioned as community stewards who are out on the trail picking up trash, communicating with other trail users about Leave No Trace and trail etiquette, and providing intel on trail conditions. Interested parties should reach out to [info@enchantedcircletrails.org](mailto:info@enchantedcircletrails.org).



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## Community Weekend at Taos Ski Valley

ECTA had a blast tabling at Taos Ski Valley's biannual Community Weekend. It was a great opportunity to meet community members, educate them on the exciting trails projects that are happening in the Enchanted Circle, and to hear their input about what they'd like to see for the future of trails.

## TrailFunds

ECTA has begun exploring the [Trailfunds.org](https://trailfunds.org) ecosystem to help increase support for regional trails. The startup app is based in Colorado, but with our help is looking to expand into New Mexico to help connect trail users with the organizations that support them.

## Trail Planning and Outreach

### Village of Taos Ski Valley Trail and Greenspace Plan

ECTA held a three of community meetings, and multiple stakeholder discussions seeking ideas for a trail and greenspace plan in the Village of Taos Ski Valley. In addition, an online survey is available for all participants. The goal of this phase of outreach is to hear from residents and visitors to VTSV what they wish to see in the way of trails, greenspace, and connectivity in the village and surrounding areas.

<https://enchantedcirlcetrails.org/development/village-of-taos-ski-valley-trails-and-greenspaces-plan/>

### Trails Salsa

ECTA has secured commitments from all municipalities and land managers within the Enchanted Circle to be a part of the "Trail Salsa" group. The goal is to build a cooperative trail community across the Enchanted Circle by uniting user groups and land management agencies to plan, develop, and maintain a sustainable trail system. We hope to drive tangible progress through open dialogue, shared problem-solving, and mutual support while balancing recreational access with the protection of natural and cultural resources.

Invited participants include the Forest Service, BLM, Taos Pueblo, all Enchanted Circle municipalities, Taos and Colfax Counties as well as trail user groups spanning equestrians, runners, hikers, bikers, and motorized users. Three additional at-large community members will round-out the representation.

The first meeting will be held in Q1 of 2026.



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Trail Development / Roadway Improvements / Connectivity	
Project	Status
<b>NM150 Multi-Use Pathway from US64 to Arroyo Seco (Taos Pueblo/NMDOT)</b>	Designs for this project are on hold as we continue to wait for clarification from Taos Pueblo regarding acceptable use of highway right of way.
<b>Questa to Red River Trail (Questa/Red River/USFS)</b>	The final Environmental Assessment was released and is in the public objection period, during which stakeholders can demonstrate whether their concerns have been addressed adequately or not. We hope to have a final decision in Q1 2026.
<b>Largo/Lama Canyon Trails (Questa/USFS)</b>	ECTA submitted a draft report to the Questa Economic Development Fund for review outlining a phased approach to trail developments to meet current and expected future usage. The plan will be presented at a community meeting in Q1 2026.
<b>Foothills Trail Connections and Sustainability (USFS)</b>	No action was taken this quarter.
<b>Rio Grande Trail - Bridge to Bridge Segment (BLM)</b>	No action was taken this quarter.
<b>Horsethief Mesa Trails (BLM)</b>	ECTA began planning a trailhead kiosk and bike repair stand for the Transfer Station parking area utilizing funding secured by the Taos Mountain Bike Association.
<b>Taos Valley Overlook (BLM)</b>	No action was taken this quarter.
<b>Outward Link Trail (Town of Taos)</b>	The Town of Taos was successful in their lawsuit re-establishing the existence of a public easement. ECTA looks forward to working with the town on reestablishing the trail and developing an ongoing maintenance schedule.
<b>Bull of the Woods to Big Ditch (USFS)</b>	No action was taken this quarter.
<b>Miranda Canyon (USFS)</b>	ECTA continues to work on field surveys of potential alignments, working to get Phase I ready for approval by the Carson National Forest in early 2026.