



ECTA Quarterly Report
Apr-Jun 2026

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

During Q2, we had 86 individuals join us for 26 Adopt-a-Trail events, during which they contributed 774 hours of volunteer trail maintenance on 98 miles of trail. This important work clearing trails ensures we all have access to public lands.

Trail Stewardship

ECTA hosted two projects on National Trails Day, clearing Long Canyon with Taos Ski Patrol and working on drainage and corridor issues on the East Fork Trail of the Lost Lake loop.

Trail Skills

ECTA hosted our annual Trail Master Training in Questa on May 30-31. Fourteen participants attended the 2-day course, learning about trail maintenance basics including sustainable trail concepts, hand tools, brushing, tread maintenance, erosion control, and how to build a rolling grade dip.

In May, 16 individuals attended our Wilderness First Aid course (May 2-3), learning how to deal with medical emergencies in the backcountry.

In June, 8 people attended our 2-day cross-cut saw certification course, learning the skills to safely handle this powerhouse of wilderness trail clearing.

Youth Conservation Corps

In June, ECTA launched its summer Youth Conservation Corps partnership with Rocky Mountain Youth Corps. The crew began an eight-week season maintaining trails on the Carson National Forest while gaining paid work experience and practical conservation skills.

The crew maintained fifteen miles of trail and worked on local favorites like the El Nogal Nature trail, Manzanita Canyon trail, Yerba Canyon, and Mondragon.

Trail Promotion



Trail Brochures & Posters

With support from Taos County Lodgers Tax, ECTA updated and printed our free and wildly popular user-group brochures: <https://enchantedcirlcetrails.org/promotion/brochures/>. We have begun distributing them throughout the region, placing 2,200 brochures in various businesses and public buildings. These help introduce locals and visitors alike to the many trail resources available in the Enchanted Circle.

We also printed several trail map posters and are distributing them on a first-request, first-deliver basis.

Unified Trail Signage

With financial support from the Village of Taos Ski Valley, ECTA continues to work with Gizmo Productions to develop a unified trail signage system that will help provide trail users with all the information they need to find and navigate area trails. This will include roadside directions, trailhead kiosks, and wayfinding signs. This will help create a unified theme throughout the region while still allowing for flexibility for each municipality to express their individuality.

New ECTA Logo!

As part of a more unified regional branding, ECTA unveiled our new logo. The simplified design is instantly recognizable and incorporates the enchanted circle, trails, mountains, desert, and the northern New Mexico sun.

Communications

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 **2.8%**, Instagram by **5.1%**, and newsletter subscribers by **1%**. Website visitation increased by **28%**.

Trail Apps

ECTA continues to put energy into **Trailforks** as a unified platform for trail reporting. An effort to coordinate trail reporting among the various entities engaged in maintenance is also underway to help ensure we are efficiently covering the trails that need work in the region.

Trail Accessibility Information Audit

ECTA is working with the Village of Angel Fire to explore opportunities for a Trail Accessibility Information audit. This survey of trails will provide information like average and maximum grade, cross slope, minimum width, and obstacles to help trail users of all abilities determine for themselves whether a trail is appropriate for their skill level and equipment.

Trail Planning and Outreach



Questa Largo Canyon Trail Plan

ECTA and the Questa Economic Development Fund unveiled the plans for both a new trail system in the Largo Canyon area outside Questa, as well as new climbing areas proposed for the Red River Canyon. During a productive community meeting on June 24, we received additional feedback and will incorporate that into the final product.

Village of Taos Ski Valley Trail Plan

ECTA presented a draft of the community-developed master trail plan for the Village of Taos Ski Valley and is now working with the Parks and Recreation Committee to review the product. ECTA and the VTSV will then solicit community feedback on the draft plan before it's finalized and submitted to the village council for approval and (hopefully) adoption.

Trail Development / Roadway Improvements / Connectivity	
Project	Status
NM150 Multi-Use Pathway from US64 to Arroyo Seco (Taos Pueblo/NMDOT)	ECTA met with the leadership of Taos Pueblo to seek clarity of Right of Way locations and potential for construction easements. This information is important for finalizing design plans.
Questa to Red River Trail (Questa/Red River/USFS)	The Forest Service issued a decision approving the development of the Questa to Red River Trail! ECTA is in the process of finalizing permitting and preparing RFPs to begin working with design-build firms to begin construction of the initial phases of this exciting project.
Largo/Lama Canyon Trails (Questa/USFS)	ECTA presented the draft plan at a community meeting in Questa and will be revising the final plan this quarter.
Foothills Trail Connections and Sustainability (USFS)	No action was taken this quarter.
Rio Grande Trail: Bridge to Bridge Segment (BLM)	ECTA continues to reach out to neighboring landowners to find potential connections for this section of the Rio Grande Trail.
Horsethief Mesa Trails (BLM)	ECTA has begun the process of finding a qualified archaeology contractor to survey proposed trail locations to ensure that trail development does not negatively impact cultural heritage in the area.



Enchanted Circle Trails Association

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

Taos Valley Overlook (BLM)	No action was taken this quarter.
Outward Link Trail (Town of Taos)	No action was taken this quarter.
Bull of the Woods to Big Ditch (USFS)	No action was taken this quarter.
Miranda Canyon (USFS)	ECTA continues to work on field surveys of potential alignments, working to get Phase I ready for approval by the Carson National Forest.

New Project Coordinator

To assist with these trail development projects, ECTA is excited to announce that Jennifer Manhoff joins our team as a project coordinator. Jennifer brings a wealth of experience with contract and project management from her time working for various federal agencies.