

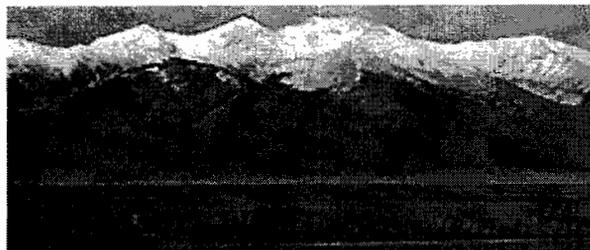


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge

9383 El Rancho Lane  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
E-mail: [alamosa@fws.gov](mailto:alamosa@fws.gov)  
Phone Number: 719-589-4021

Visit the Refuge's Web Site:  
<http://alamosa.fws.gov>



Even when winter "icebox" conditions set in, eagles, hawks, owls, and some waterfowl are found in the San Luis Valley.

### Overview

#### **Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge**

Alamosa and Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) are found in the heart of the Colorado's San Luis Valley. Alamosa NWR includes 11,169 acres of wetlands of various depths and sizes located primarily within the Rio Grande River flood plain. The natural wet meadows, river oxbows, and riparian corridors support high wildlife diversity including songbirds, water birds, raptors, deer, beaver, and coyotes.

#### **Getting There . . .**

The headquarters for both Refuges is located at Alamosa NWR, 4 miles east of the town of Alamosa, Colorado, on Highway 160 and 2 miles south on El Rancho Lane. Monte Vista NWR is located 6 miles south of the town of Monte Vista on Highway 15.

### Wildlife and Habitat

As seasons change in the San Luis valley, so does the wildlife found on the land and in the waters. Spring brings ducks, geese, sandhill cranes, avocets, ibis, and herons to the valley.

[Learn More>>](#)

### History

Sitting at an elevation of approximately 7,600 feet and at the western edge of the Central Flyway, the San Luis Valley has always provided crucial migratory bird habitat.

[Learn More>>](#)

### Recreation & Education Opportunities

Environmental Education  
Fishing  
Hunting  
Interpretation  
Photography  
Wildlife Observation  
[Learn More >>](#)

### Management Activities

Because of the importance of water to this region, water management on Alamosa NWR is particularly important. Many irrigation canals built during the 1880s provide water to Alamosa NWR and other valley water users. Water levels can be manipulated to provide birds with adequate aquatic vegetation for food and escape cover. To provide much of the wetland habitat on both Refuges, water is distributed and manipulated by Refuge staff through an extensive system of ditches, water control structures, dikes, and levees.



**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

## Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

P.O. Box 1246  
Socorro, NM 87801  
E-mail:  
Phone Number: 505-835-1828

Visit the Refuge's Web Site:

<http://southwest.fws.gov/refuges/newmex/bosque>

Thousands of Sandhill Cranes visit Bosque del Apache NWR each year.

Sandhill Cranes at Bosque del Apache NWR.

### Overview

#### **Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge**

Bosque del Apache, which means "woods of the Apache", was named for the people who often camped in the riverside forest. Today it is known as one of the most spectacular Refuges in North America.

This 57,191 acre refuge straddles the Rio Grande Valley in Socorro County, New Mexico. It ranges in elevation from 4,500 to 6,272 feet above sea level. It receives approximately 7 inches of precipitation each year. Within the refuge borders lie three wilderness areas totaling approximately 30,850 acres and five research natural areas totaling 18,500 acres.

#### **Getting There . . .**

Situated just off Interstate 25 midway between Albuquerque and Las Cruces, Socorro is the nearest town to the refuge. To reach the refuge from Socorro, drive eight miles south on I-25 to exit 139, continue east one-fourth mile on US 380 to the flashing signal at San Antonio, turn right onto Old Highway 1, continue south nine miles to the Visitor Center. From Las Cruces, drive north on I-25 to exit 124 (San Marcial), then north on Old Highway 1 to the Visitor Center.

### Wildlife and Habitat

Each autumn, tens of thousands of birds, including sandhill cranes, geese and ducks, make the Refuge their winter home.

[Learn More>>](#)

### History

Bosque del Apache has been inhabited for centuries.

### Recreation & Education Opportunities

Fishing  
Hunting  
Interpretation  
Photography  
Wildlife Observation  
[Learn More >>](#)

### Management Activities

To provide food, water, shelter, and space for wildlife, several management techniques are used at Bosque del Apache NWR. Local farmers grow crops on the refuge for wintering waterfowl and cranes. Farmers plant alfalfa and corn, harvesting the alfalfa and leaving the corn for wildlife. The refuge staff also grows corn, winter wheat, clover, and native plants as additional food.

Many of the water management activities on the refuge imitate the ebb and flow of the Rio Grande before channelization and dams. Water levels in marshes are manipulated in order to create moist fields that promote growth of native marsh plants. Marsh management is rotated so that varied habitats are always available.

Many cottonwood and willow bosques that once lined the Rio Grande have been lost to human development. Salt cedar, an exotic plant introduced for erosion control, has invaded vast areas of the refuge. In order to restore native bosques that have higher value for wildlife, salt cedar is being cleared and many areas are being planted with cottonwood, black willow, shrubs, and other

Over 700 years ago, Piro Indians came to the valley for its fertile soil and abundant plant and animal life.

[Learn More>>](#)

understory plants.

[Learn More>>](#)



**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

## Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge

P.O.Box 1248  
Socorro, NM 87801  
E-mail:  
Phone Number: 505-864-4021

Visit the Refuge's Web Site:

<http://southwest.fws.gov/refuges/newmex/sevilleta/>



Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge.

### Overview

#### **Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge**

A vast landscape in the heart of New Mexico, Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge supports four major ecological habitats, encompasses two mountain ranges, and contains stretches of the largest river in the state. The Refuge is unforgettable in its magnitude and austere beauty but is most significant in its function. Unrivaled among our nation's refuges, Sevilleta is managed to maintain the natural processes of flood, fire, and succession that sustain this diverse ecosystem. Vital to migrating birds and other wildlife, Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is truly as unique and varied as the wildlife it supports.

#### **Getting There . . .**

The refuge headquarters office is located off of I-25, exit 169, approximately 50 miles south of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

### Wildlife and Habitat

Deserts often surprise visitors with plenty of wildlife. Sevilleta is home to over 1200 species of plants, 89 species of mammals, 225 species of birds, 58 species of reptiles, and 15 species of amphibians. More commonly seen species include: mule deer, coyotes, pronghorns, red-tailed hawks, northern harriers, western diamondback rattlesnakes, roadrunners, sandhill cranes, and many different types of waterfowl and migrating shorebirds. Bobcats also roam the hillsides, as well as elk and the occasional mountain lion.

### History

The land known, today, as Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), was part of the La Joya, "The Jewel", Land Grant during Spanish rule. Roughly 70 men, women,

### Recreation & Education Opportunities

Environmental Education  
Hunting  
Photography  
Wildlife Observation  
[Learn More >>](#)

### Management Activities

Management activities include removing exotic plant species, replanting native vegetation and constructing man-made impoundments and water control structures in order to restore native wetlands to their natural state. Activities also include limiting human and domestic animal interactions with wildlife. Prescribed fires will become an important management tool in the future.

**Mexican Grey Wolf Reintroduction Program -**  
In 1995, Sevilleta NWR was selected to play a critical part in the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program. The following year, six holding pens were constructed which house wolves slated for release into the wild. The main objective of this facility is to foster wild behavior in captive wolves by isolating them from contact with humans. Sevilleta NWR was chosen for its remote location, large size and relative inaccessibility. The USFWS predicts that it will take approximately 9 years until there is a self-sustaining population of 100 wolves in the wild. Sevilleta will continue its role in the reintroduction program until this goal is met.

**LTER -** Sevilleta NWR is host to the University of New Mexico's Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) program

and children settled onto the land and made their home there. As time passed and New Mexico became a part of the United States, the numerous Spanish Land Grants underwent changes. Some were sold, some towns dissolved, and others changed hands in a variety of ways.

[Learn More>>](#)

initiated in 1988. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the program focuses on examining the ecological and biotic responses to seasonal, annual, and long-term climate changes. Scientists, researchers and students from around the globe vie to be awarded valuable research time at Sevilleta NWR with the LTER.

**Upper Rio Grande Basin Water Operations Review and EIS  
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): <u>National Wildlife Refuges</u> |

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