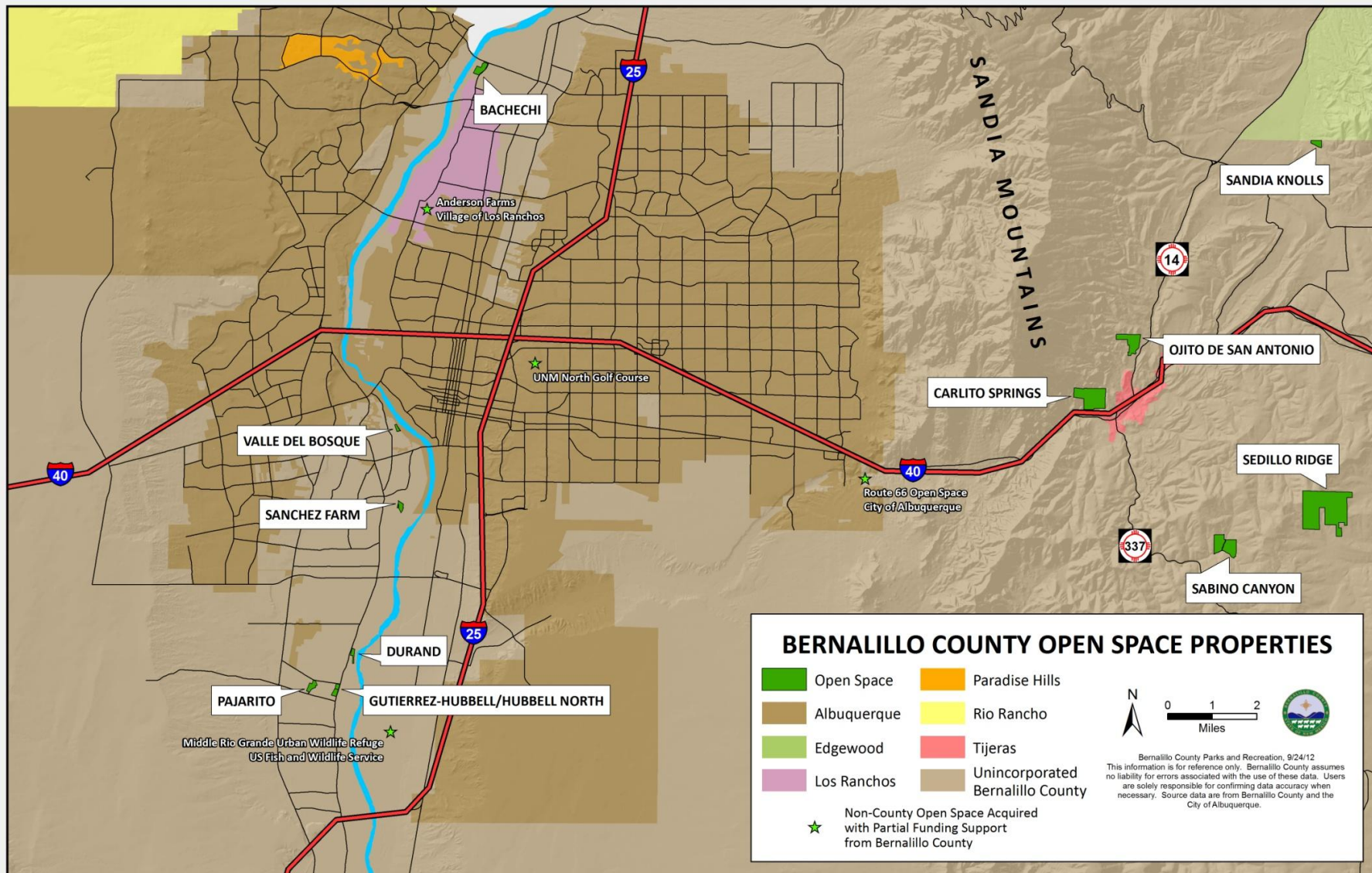




BERNALILLO COUNTY OPEN SPACE



Clay Campbell, AICP, Planning Manager



Overview

► Properties

- 12 properties = 990 acres
- Valley agricultural and mountain piñon/juniper
- Unique cultural, historical, and natural resources

► Funding

- Property Tax Mill Levy 1998-2006
- General Fund 2007- present
- \$1.3 m annual budget for operations and acquisitions
- Mill Levy Ballot Item in 2014

Overview

► Personnel

- 4 FTE for planning, management, and programming - only 1 dedicated to Open Space
- 9 FTE for Open Space maintenance
- Future resource specialist hire


► Planning

- Property resources
- Property stabilization
- Involvement of advocates and neighbors
- Design and construct improvements

Overview

► Programming

- Resource-based recreation
- Environmental education
- Backyard Farming, Naturalist, and East Mountain Interpretive Series
- Partners



2012 BACKYARD FARMING SERIES

This series features experts in their field who provide hands-on experiences giving participants practical experience transforming their backyards into a thriving urban oasis of food, medicine and wildlife habitat. The workshops are FREE. To RSVP, email calangan@bernco.gov or call 505-314-0398.

This series of workshops will be held at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House located at 6029 Inleta Blvd. 3 miles south of Rio Bravo Blvd. The workshops go from 9a.m.-12:30p.m. Check out the website for additional Open Space events at www.bernco.gov/openspace.

February 11, Tree Care
Learn correct techniques for pruning, what fruit trees thrive best in your area, when to plant, and proper planting guidelines.

February 25, Acequias and Edible Landscapes
Learn about the New Mexico Acequia system, its history, purpose and how you can access it. This workshop is coupled with a presentation on Edible Landscapes. Find out how to build a beautiful and edible garden in your own front yard.

March 24, Backyard Beekeeping
Hear about the basics of bee keeping, why bees are important and useful to your home garden. Examples of both Top Bar and Langstroth hives will be available to compare and contrast methods.

April 21, Soil Science & Home Composting
This workshop will cover how to determine your soil's strengths and weaknesses as well as how to build healthy soil by composting.

May 19, Low Technology Homesteading Techniques
Hand tools, Dutch oven cooking and harvesting rain water are just a few of the topics we will cover in this workshop that will astound you with their simplicity and results.

June 23, Composting with worms
Find out how worms can increase your composts speed and efficiency.


August 25, Native seeds & foods
Explore native foods from the Rio Grande Valley and cultivation methods. Also, learn about seed saving techniques and the basics of how to preserve your own seeds for next season.

September 1, Food Preservation Forum
Hear about the basics of drying and canning foods to store through winter. The second half of this workshop includes a forum and recipe share. Come sample all the different ways we preserve the harvest!

October 13, Hoop Houses Construction
In this hands-on workshop, participants will construct a hoop house after learning about the importance of location, design and how hoop houses extend the harvest.

November 10, Advanced Composting
This final composting workshop will cover how to increase yield, efficiency and general trouble shooting.

This series is developed in partnership with the Bernalillo County Extension Office, Hubbell House Alliance and with assistance from Eds Gardens & Learning Center.



BERNALILLO COUNTY OPEN SPACE

East Mountain Interpretive Series

Bernalillo County Open Space is working with local partners to offer this interpretive series. Participants will go on a tour of Open Space properties while learning about the historical and environmental significance of the area. The sessions are FREE however, space is limited and participants must RSVP. To RSVP, email calangan@bernco.gov or call 314-0398.

Forest Ecology of the East Mountains

April 28 from 10a.m.-12p.m. at Sabino Canyon Open Space
Learn about the complex nature and history of our forests and best management practices used by professional land managers. The talk will be led by Sue Hansen Putze, District Manager of Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District. Ms. Hansen Putze will also discuss fuel thinning, pests, and forest health.

Bird Walk and Birding Hotspots of Central New Mexico

May 12 from 8a.m.-10a.m. at Ojito de San Antonio
The recently published book, *Birding Hot Spots of Central New Mexico*, lists Ojito de San Antonio as one of New Mexico's hot spots. Judy Liddell, Vice President of Central New Mexico Audubon (CNMA), and her co-author Barbara Hussey will lead a bird walk at the property, talk about the basics of birding, and present other key birding locations throughout Central New Mexico.

Traditional Plant Uses, Preparations, and Seed Saving Forum

August 11 from 9a.m.-11a.m. at Sabino Canyon Open Space
Traditional communities in the East Mountains have long relied on their knowledge and experience with native plants for basic substance and treating a variety of ailments. This knowledge has been passed down from generation to generation. During this forum, a group of knowledgeable individuals will share tips and tricks for using and preparing plants and saving seeds.

Celebrate Route 66, A Historic Route

September 8 from 10a.m.-1p.m. at Carlito Springs Open Space
Carlito Springs Open Space sits above Route 66, one of the oldest and longest roads in the United States and coined as the Main Street of America. This Route played a key role in the migration west and shaping New Mexico's 20th Century. During this event, we will learn about and celebrate the Route's history, impact and significant to New Mexico with lectures, music and book signings.

First Settlers & Pioneers of the East Mountains

October 20 from 10a.m.-12p.m. at Ojito de San Antonio Open Space
Ojito de San Antonio is the natural backdrop for one of the oldest villages in the East Mountains, a village occupied since prehistory. Denise Tessier, president of the East Mountain Historical Society, will tell stories of the first settlers and pioneers who moved through and helped shape this Open Space and the history-rich surrounding area.

For more information about this series or other Open Space Program opportunities, visit the website: www.bernco.gov/openspace

Naturalist Series

Awaken your senses to the natural world around you by observing the wondrous plants and animals in the Bosque and learn from local experts about this extraordinary ecosystem.

Bernalillo County Open Space is bringing the public this naturalist series in 2012, featured at Bachechi Open Space. This series includes a number of nature-related sessions throughout the year, including nature journaling workshops based on the four seasons. It is free and open to the public, however space is limited.

Interested citizens may begin to register for these events in January, 2012.

To RSVP

Register by contact Colleen McRoberts at (505) 314-0398 or email calangan@bernco.gov. We will offer online registration and more information about each of these sessions in 2012 at www.bernco.gov/openspace. Sessions will take place on Sundays, but the exact dates will not be finalized until January, 2012.

Parking

The Bachechi Open Space property is located at 9521 Rio Grande Boulevard, NW. However, participants need to park at the Alameda Open Space parking area located just west of Rio Grande Blvd on the south side of Alameda. From the Alameda parking area, walk to the south east end of the wetlands, cross over the boardwalk and continue to the Bachechi Environmental Education Building.

2012 Events (exact dates to be determined)

February, 10:00am-1:00pm – Winter Nature Journaling Workshop
March, 10:00am-12:00pm – Flora and Fauna of Bachechi Open Space property
April, 10:00am-12:00pm – History of Flooding in the Middle Rio Grande and Present Day Ecological Studies and Restoration Projects
April, 10:00am-1:00pm – Spring Nature Journaling Workshop
May, 10:00am-12:00pm – Wetlands Observations and Ecology
June, 10:00am-12:00pm – Nature Photography
August, 10:00am-1:00pm – Summer Nature Journaling Workshop
September, 7:00-9:00pm – Stargazing and Astronomy Presentation (evening program)
October, 10:00am-12:00pm – History of the Alameda Area
November, 10:00am-12:00pm – Guided Bird Walk
November, 10:00am-1:00pm – Fall Nature Journaling Workshop

OPEN SPACE VISION:

BERNALILLO COUNTY OPEN SPACE STRIVES TO BE A DYNAMIC NETWORK OF PROPERTIES WITH IMPORTANT NATURAL OR CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGED TO BENEFIT PEOPLE, PLANTS AND WILDLIFE BY PROTECTING AND ENHANCING VIEWSHEDS, WATER RESOURCES, WILDLIFE HABITAT, CULTURAL/HISTORIC SITES, AND PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND; AND PROVIDING RESOURCE-BASED RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.

WHY IS OPEN SPACE IMPORTANT?



Successes

- ▶ Public events and programs
- ▶ Partnership cultivation
- ▶ 2010 Gutierrez-Hubbell House National Trust for Historic Preservation Award



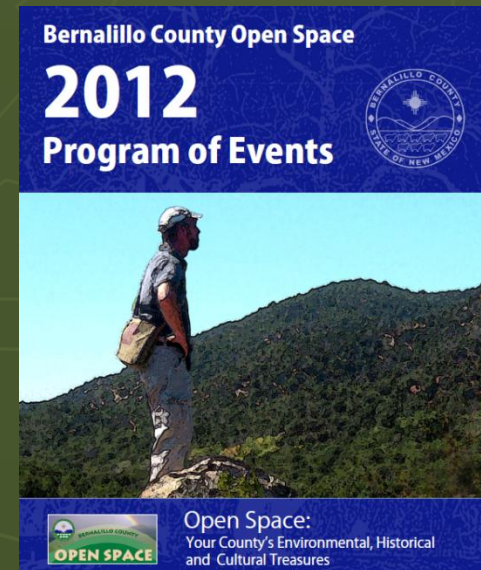
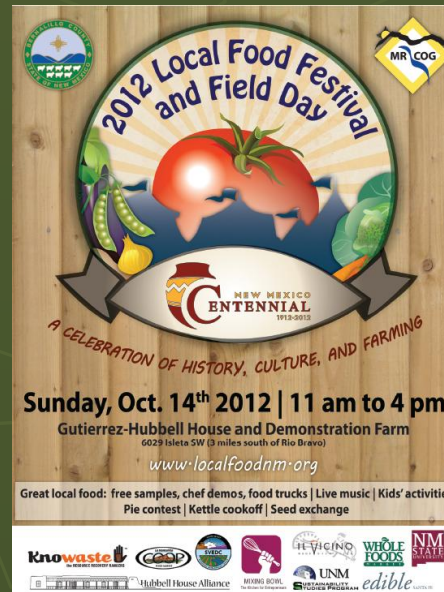
Successes

- ▶ Recreation overlay with agriculture
- ▶ Rx Trail Program
- ▶ Bachechi Open Space completion and increased program profile
- ▶ Valle del Oro National Wildlife Refuge
- ▶ Personnel – good hires, reinvigoration of crews



Challenges and Next Steps

- ▶ Being everything for everyone
- ▶ Future funding and voter attitudes in 2014
- ▶ Master Naturalists as advocates and volunteers
- ▶ Marketing ourselves



Challenges and Next Steps

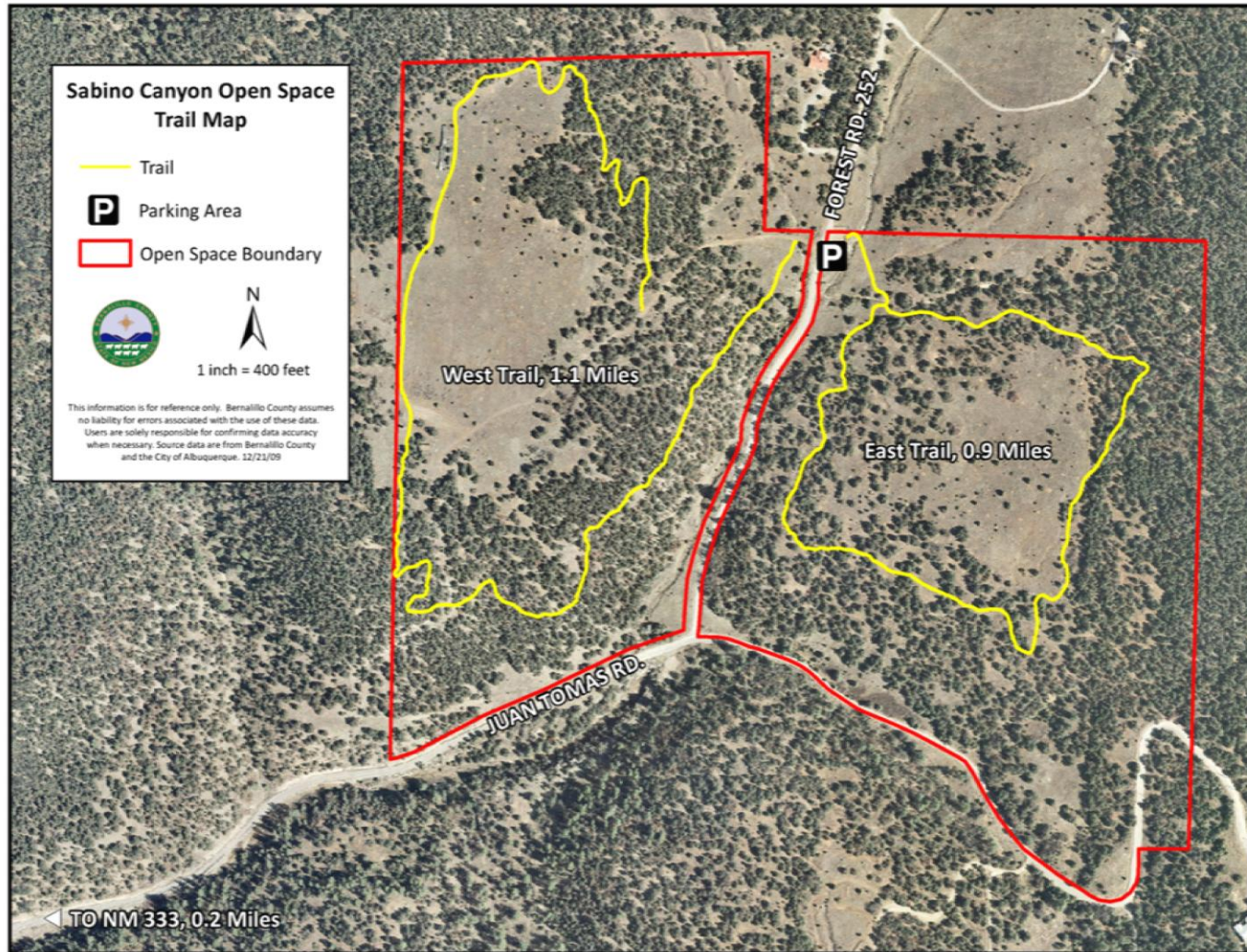
- ▶ Science based resource management
- ▶ Tree farm establishment at Hubbell North
- ▶ Sedillo Ridge fuelwood thinning and trail rehabilitation
- ▶ Southwest Mesa lands acquisition



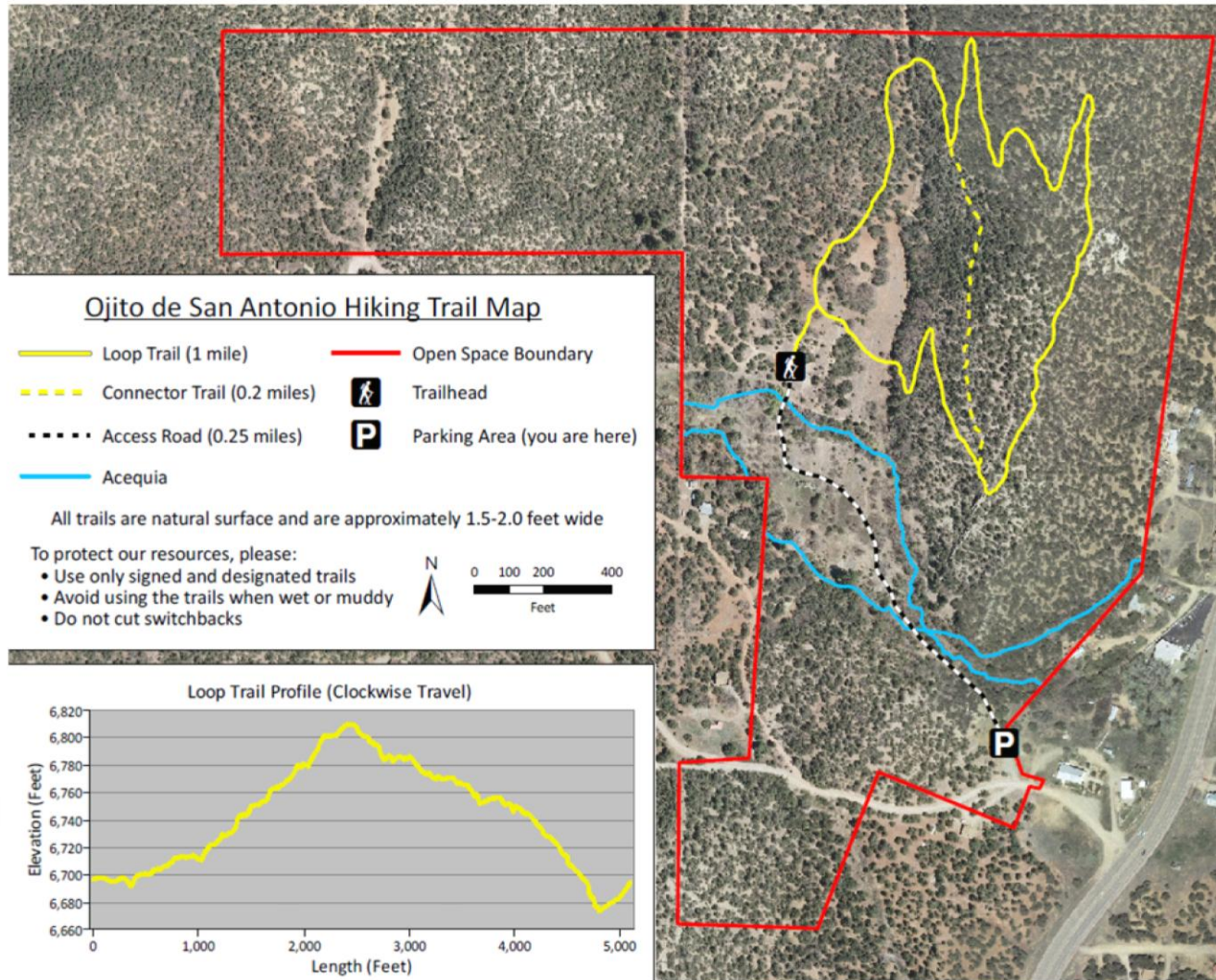
Pajarito Rx Trail



Sabino Canyon Trail

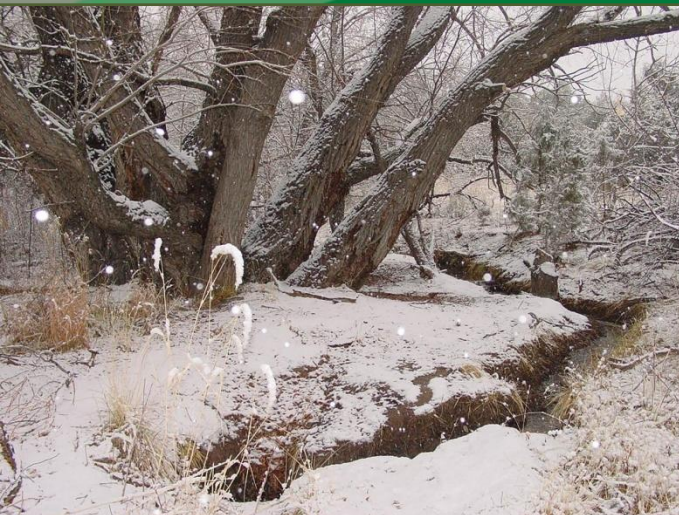


Ojito de San Antonio Trail





BERNALILLO COUNTY OPEN SPACE



www.bernco.gov/openspace - ccampbell@bernco.gov - (314-0404)