



Friends of the Sandia Mountains
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Friends of the Sandia Mountains

General Membership Meeting
May 6, 2025

Featured speakers:

Jen Medina-Gray, SRD Trails Foreman

Canyon Young, SRD Trails and Wilderness Program Manager





Agenda

- President's Remarks – Mike Madden
- Projects Report – Sam Beard
- Treasurer's Report – Jeff Young
- Future Programs – Cliff Giles
- SRD Trails Program – Jen Medina-Gray and Canyon Young
- Q&As
- Adjourn



May 6, 2025



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

- Notables since our meeting on April 1, 2025:
 - Sam Beard Award Committee drafted a policy for Board approval
 - Bylaws and Policies are undergoing revisions
 - April 22 - Earth Day brushing was canceled
 - May 13 - AAH Crest Road Clean-up
 - May 13 - SRD's Volunteer Appreciation Event

May 6, 2025



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

- Notables since our meeting on April 1, 2025:
 - June 2-18 - Talking Talons YCC will replace Kiwanis Meadow fence
 - June 7 - National Trails Day project
 - Seeking a Paint Crew Leader
 - Looking for a VP - Cliff Giles stepping down in Oct
 - Looking for a Treasurer - Jeff Young stepping down in Oct



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

Welcome, New Members!

Scott Froman – May 5

Nancy Gloman – April 27

John Braly upgraded to
Life Member on April 11

Memberships by Level

Individual – 53

Family – 17

Sustaining – 7

Sponsor – 5

Benefactor – 2

Life Sponsor – 64

Total Memberships – 148



Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

Project	Since 4/1/25	FY2025 YTD
Trail Maintenance	2	17
Trail Construction	6	25
Painting and Graffiti Removal	4	12
Adopt-a-Highway	0	1
General Projects	9	20
Totals	21	75



Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- Trail Maintenance Led by Bob Lowder and Byron Garner (2 outings)
 - April 14 – 10K South and Tree Spring Trails
 - April 28 – Tree Spring Trail

Note: This does not include trail maintenance performed by individuals and reported via Cibola Trail Rangers (CTR). We recognize and greatly appreciate these efforts!



Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- Trail Construction Led by Laura Leon (6 outings)
 - April 3 – North Faulty Trail reroute
 - April 8 – Embudito Trail retaining wall
 - April 10 – North Faulty Trail reroute
 - April 17 – North Faulty Trail reroute
 - April 24 – North Faulty Trail reroute
 - May 1 – North Faulty Trail reroute



Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- Painting and Graffiti Removal Projects Led by Sam Beard (4 outings)
 - April 1 – Paint CNF sign on Crest Highway and remove Juan Tabo PA graffiti tags
 - April 15 – Remove tags from Doc Long PA restrooms
 - April 15 – Remove graffiti from Crest Highway signs and from Crest restrooms
 - April 22 – Repair and paint damaged wood on Doc Long restrooms



Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- General Projects Led by Sam Beard (9 outings)
 - April 2 – Process donation wood in Cienega PA
 - April 4 – Fabrication of new door for CCC men's restroom in Jaun Tabo PA
 - April 9 – Buck, split, and haul donation wood from Doc Long and Cienega PAs
 - April 13 – Fell and buck hazard trees in Cienega PA
 - April 16 – Fell hazard trees in Balsam Glade PA
 - April 16 – Repair benches in Balsam Glade PA
 - April 23 – Fell hazard trees in Capulin PA and Snow Play Area
 - April 27 – Begin disassembly of old Kiwanis Meadow fence. (FOSM purchasing new fence materials using funds donated by Dr. Charles Wood.)
 - April 30 – Process and haul donation wood in Balsam Glade and Capulin PAs



Future Programs, Cliff Giles, Vice–President

- June 3, 2025 – Jamey Browning, Trail mapping
- July 1, 2025 – Steve Glass, Cuidad Soil and Water Conservation District and Tijeras Creek Watershed Collaborative
- August 5, 2025 – Quinn Mendelson, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps
- September 2, 2025 – TBD
- October 7, 2025 – FOSM year-end update and election results, Mike Madden; Guest speaker – Stan Davis, “Earthcaching”



Future Programs, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

- Chart shows progress relative to 2022 poll of board of directors regarding organizations of interest.
- We need a new VP with fresh program ideas after this year.
 - **You don't have to become webmaster!**

Potential FOSM Program Speakers

Organization	Date	Speaker/Comments
La Madera Volunteer Fire Department	7/5/22	Jerry Carroll
NM Volunteers for the Outdoors	5/3/22	Ed DiBello
Southwest Coordination Center -- Dispatch	8/2/22	Elliott Herrera, Albuquerque Interagency Dispatch Center
Bernalillo County Open Space	7/11/23	Adam Splitek
City of Albuquerque Open Space	9/6/22	Jessica Sapunar-Jursich
Albuquerque Mountain Rescue Council	6/6/23	International Mountain Medicine Center, Jason Williams
	8/1/23	Cibola SAR, Shannon Braune
NM Forestry Division	8/6/24	Lawrence Crane, Bernalillo District
Sandia Mountain Natural History Center	9/5/23	Paul Mauermann
Albuquerque Mountain Bike Association	5/2/23	Hannah Russert
FS Kids in the Woods Program		Still active?
NM Cross Country Ski Club	9/3/24	Sam Beard
Sandia Collaborative*	6/1/21	Mike Madden
Talking Talons Youth Leadership	5/7/24	John Ross
Tijeras Creek Watershed Collaborative	7/1/25	Steven Glass, CNM, Sandia Collaborative
Central New Mexico Audubon Chapter		
Cuidad Soil and Water Conservation District	7/1/25	Steven Glass, CNM, Sandia Collaborative
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps	8/5/25	Quinn Mendelson, Conservation Program Director
Sandia Nordic Ski Club*	4/6/21	Scott Dietrich
Albuquerque Wildlife Federation		
The Nature Conservancy in New Mexico		
Think Trees New Mexico		
East Mountain Wildfire Preparedness Association		
East Mountain Regional Trails Council		
New Mexico Mountain Club		
Friends of the Tijeras Pueblo		
SOS Cycling		
Albuquerque Road Runners Club		
Backcountry Horsemen of NM		
Boy Scouts of America, Great Southwest Council		
Bureau of Land Management		Jackie Leyba, BLM; participates in Sandia Collaborative
NM Wilderness Alliance		
NM Historic Preservation Division - Sitewatch		
*Presentation preceded ranked-choice poll.		



Program Introduction, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

- A deep dive into SRD trail development process
 - Envisioning a new trail design
 - How the Forest Service defines different trail systems
 - How SRD navigates the environmental review process
 - How trails are constructed
 - Short look at SRD trails program for this season



Program Introduction, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

- Speaker: Jen Medina-Gray, SRD Trails Foreman
 - In this position for a little over a year
 - Originally from Maryland
 - Living in Albuquerque for the past 3 years
 - Started in trails with Utah Conservation Corps in 2017
 - Continued to work in trails with various nonprofits, private contractors, and federal agencies ever since.
 - BFA in Technical Theatre from Syracuse University



Program Introduction, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

- Speaker: Canyon Young, SRD Trails and Wilderness Program Manager
 - In current position since January 2023
 - Started his federal career at SRD as a seasonal
 - Season of fire
 - Few seasons of trails
 - Left for a permanent position in 2020
 - Few years with the NRCS in Santa Fe
 - Year with the BLM in Albuquerque
 - Both as Rangeland Management Specialist
 - Owns and operates small forestry contracting business in the East Mountains
 - Thinning for wildfire risk mitigation
 - Hazardous tree removals
 - Lifelong Sandia Park resident
 - Avid trail runner, skier, hunter, and mountain biker