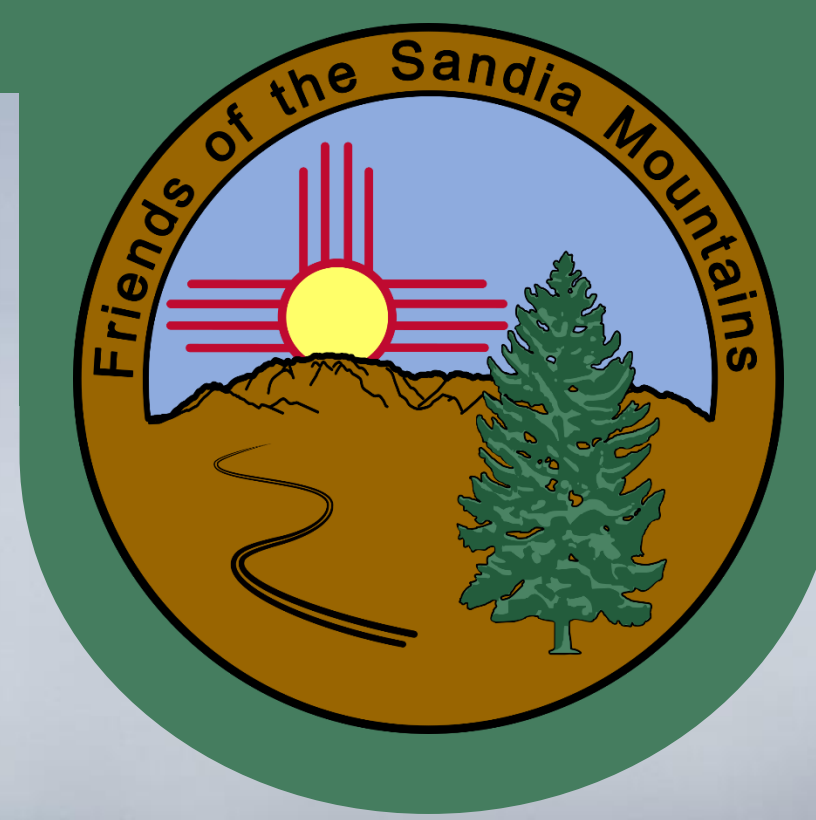




# **Friends of the Sandia Mountains General Membership Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 4, 2026**

# Agenda

## August 4<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting



Friends of the  
Sandia Mountains

- President's Remarks – Mike Madden
- Projects Report – Sam Beard
- Treasurer's Report – Scott Dietrich
- Future Programs – Kerry Jones
- Guest Speaker – Joe Acord, NM Dept. of Wildlife
- Q&As
- Adjourn



# President's Remarks

## Mike Madden



# Friends of the Sandia Mountains

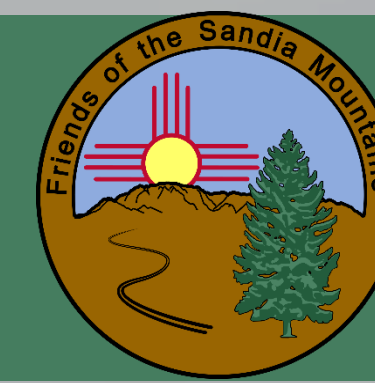
## Highlights Since Last Meeting

- Tijeras Pueblo Archaeological Summer Camp was July 27-31
- Manny's retirement picnic was July 30
- Switchback Thinning Project 80% done, FOSM mopping-up Tues and Thurs
- Sandia Peak Ski Area Trails, 3 outings so far to clear downed trees
- Need a Paint Crew Leader
- Nominations for Board positions close August 10
- National Public Lands Day is September 26, SRD & PLIA planning an event
- East Mountain Celebration is Sunday September 27, tabling event
- Pueblo of Sandia T'uf Shur Bien 10,000-acre land transfer proposal



# President's Remarks

## Mike Madden



# Friends of the Sandia Mountains

### Memberships by Level

Life Sponsor – 69

Individual – 64

Family – 20

Sustaining – 8

Sponsor – 3

Benefactor – 7

**Total Memberships – 171**  
**(+18 past year)**

### Welcome, New Members!

Lynn Bender – July 28

Courtnee Bennett – July 24

Teresa McGrew – July 21

Ann Ruhnka – July 20

Kathryn McSorley – July 20

Paul Eichel – July 20

Erin Gaddis – July 12

Andre Huffmire – July 10

Jen Reilly – July 2

Patricia Steele – July 1

Bradley Bryan\* – June 29

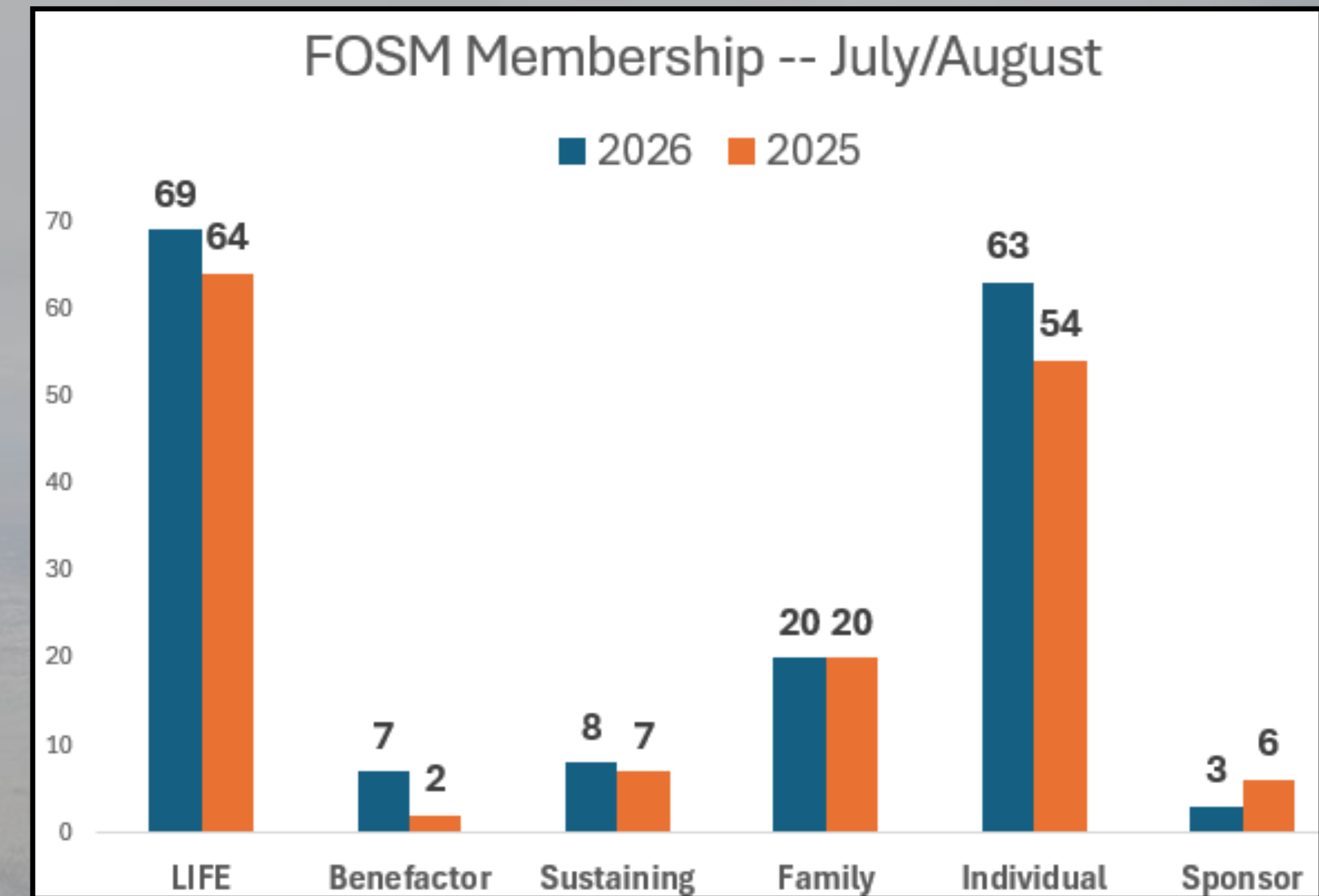
Kay Burns – June 28

Ericka Roman – June 25

Ryan Jackson – June 20

Ralph Wrons – June 14

Chris Caro – May 1



# Projects Report

**Sam Beard, Projects Chair**



**Friends of the  
Sandia Mountains**

## **Number of Project Days in July**

- Trail Maintenance: 3 Days
- Trail Construction: 10 Days (includes Tuesdays)
- Painting and Graffiti Removal: 3 Days
- General Projects: 7 Days
- **Total Days → 23**

# General Projects Report

**Sam Beard, Team Leader**



Friends of the  
Sandia Mountains

Projects Completed in July:

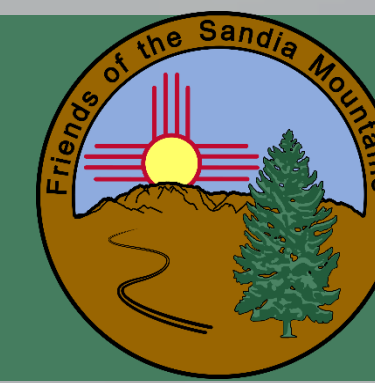
- **7/1: Felled/bucked hazard trees at SRD Shop, Sulphur & Doc Long PAs**
- **7/8: Felled/bucked hazard trees at Tree Spring TH, Balsam Glade PA**
- **7/15: Repaired fences at Tree Spring TH, three lower PAs**
- **7/17: Repaired paint dolly and put new kitty litter in chain saw drip pans**
- **7/22: Felled/bucked hazard trees at Cienega PA & Group Area**
- **7/25: Sharpened 6 chain saw chains at FOSM GS**
- **7/29: Felled hazard trees in upper/lower Cienega Canyon PA**

*Volunteers: Michael Arndt, Sam Beard, Dan Benton, Jerry Carroll, Sim Cook, Cliff Giles, Chuck Logan, Lorna Morrow, Lou Romero, Eric Russell, Kent Towler.*



# Painting and Graffiti Removal Report

**Sam Beard, Team Leader**



Friends of the  
Sandia Mountains

Work Days in July:

- **7/14: Painted 10K TH restroom and picnic table; removed a dozen graffiti tags and completed parking stripes**
  - **7/16: Removed graffiti tags at La Luz TH and in Juan Tabo PA**
  - **7/18: Removed graffiti tags in/near Juan Tabo CCC Picnic Shelter**
- 
- *Volunteers: Ted Anaya, Sam Beard, Rick Buss, Fred Hagstrom, Pauline Ho.*



# Trail Maintenance Report

**Bob Lowder & Byron Garner, Team Leaders**



Friends of the  
Sandia Mountains

Work Days in July:

- **7/6: Capulin Peak Trail**  
(brushing, one 12-14" diameter tree evaluated)
- **7/20: Cienega Area Trails** (Acequia, Cienega, Faulty, Cienega Horse-By-Pass and Wagon)
- **7/27: 10K North Trail** (maintenance)

*Volunteers: John Cooper, Byron Garner, Bob Lowder,  
David McCreery, Rav Nicholson, Dana Price*



# Trail Construction Report

**Laura Leon, Team Leader**



Friends of the  
Sandia Mountains

## Projects in July

- **Completed North Faulty Caveside Reroute (7/7, 7/14)**
- **Trail reconstruction in completed units of the Sandia Crest Hazard Tree & Fuels Reduction Project**
  - Rocky Point (7/2 & 7/9)
  - Upper Challenge Trail (7/9 & 7/16)
  - Switchback Trail (7/21, 7/23, 7/28)
- **Reinstalled Trail Signs + Switchback Trail (7/30)**

*Volunteers: **Courtnee Bennett, Claudia Bergsohn, Sim Cook, Luis Cuadros, Scott Dietrich, Dallas Duckworth, Rich Feddersen, Byron Garner, Erin Gaddis, Bruce Hansche, Jim Houle, Kerry Jones, Laura Leon, John McNett, Bill Perkins, Eric Russell, Cleve Sharp, Kent Towler, plus Jen and Chris with SRD; NMVFO, and PATA***



# Future Programs

Kerry Jones



Friends of the  
Sandia Mountains

- **September 1, 2026 – Bjorn Fredrickson, Conservation Director NM Wild**
- **October 6, 2026 – Sandra Arazi-Coambs, USFS Zone Archaeologist FOSM year-end update and election**

**Geology & Evolution of the Sandias**  
**The Complete Geological Story**  
**NM Wilderness Alliance**  
**NMGFD**  
**ABQ Wildlife Federation**  
**USFS Archaeology Programs**  
**EMWPA**  
**Tijeras Creek Watershed**  
**FOTP**  
**Central NM Audubon Chapter**  
**BLM**  
**TNC**  
**Backcountry Horsemen of NM**  
**EM Regional Trails Council**  
**NMMC**  
**Think Trees NM**  
**NMHPD Sitewatch**



### **Speakers: Joe Acord, Isaiah Guiterrez Conservation Officers, NM Dept. of Wildlife**

- Joe currently serves as a Conservation Officer with the New Mexico Department of Wildlife, a role he has held for the past three years.
- He has over 12 years of experience in wildlife conservation and natural resource management.
- Prior to joining the NM Dept. of Wildlife, Joe worked as an ornithologist for a New Mexico nonprofit, conducting avian research and conservation efforts.
- Earlier in his career, Joe served as both a freshwater ecologist and fisheries biologist for the State of Maryland.
- Joe earned a Master's degree from the University of Maryland. His professional background spans wildlife management, ecological research, habitat conservation, and outdoor resource stewardship, with a strong commitment to protecting natural resources and the people who enjoy them.