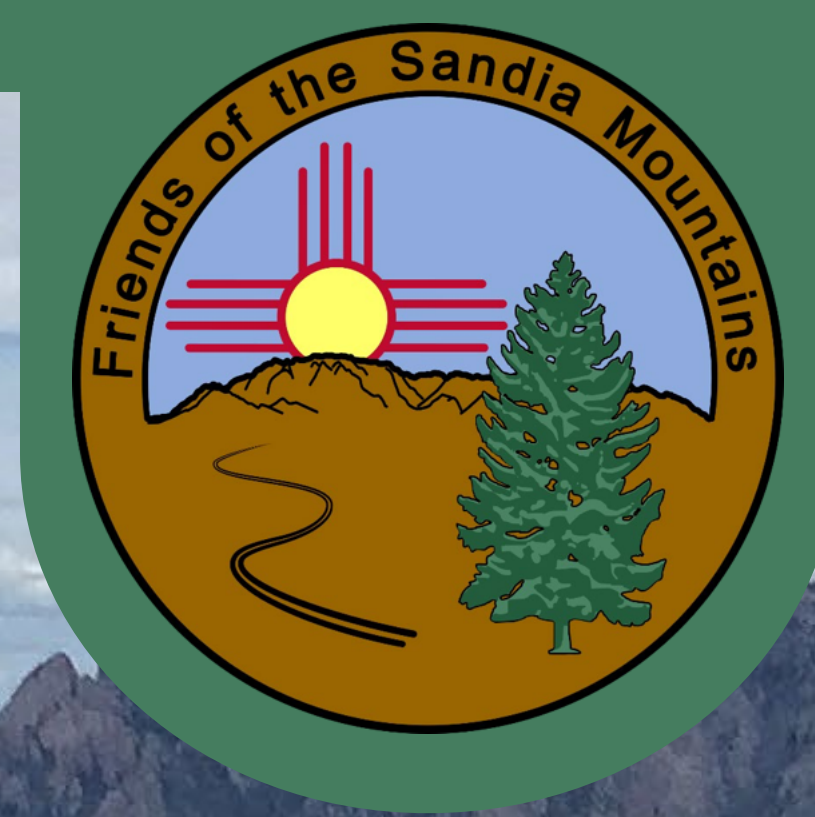




Friends of the Sandia Mountains General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Agenda

September 1st 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 – Bjorn Fredrickson, NM Wild
- Q&As
- Adjourn



President's Remarks

Mike Madden



Friends of the Sandia Mountains

Highlights Since Last Meeting

- Switchback Thinning Project 80% done, FOSM mopping-up Tues and Thurs
- Sandia Peak Ski Area Trails, trails were cleared in 5 outings!
- Need a Paint Crew Leader
- FOSM t-shirts and hats?
- Election ballot will go out soon
- New FOSM trifold brochures
- Nature Journaling Workshop, Sat Sept 12, 8:30-noon at Tijeras Pueblo
- National Public Lands Day, Sat Sept 26, 9-1pm at the RS
- East Mountain Celebration, Sun Sept 27, 1-4pm at Los Vecinos CC
- East Mountain H.S. Donation Wood Project, Oct 7 at Balsam Glade

Some of the FOSM Projects

Trail Maintenance

Next time you are hiking in the Sandias and see where a fallen tree has been cut and removed, chances are that it was done by our volunteers. Removing fallen or otherwise dead or damaged trees from trails and developed sites on the Sandia Ranger District is a major on-going project for our group.

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Each year on the first Saturday in June, we join the City Open Division and other organizations in sponsoring National Trails Day when volunteers make improvements on public lands.

PUBLICATIONS

- Field Guide to the Sandia Mountains
- Visitor Recreation Guide & Map to the Sandia & Manzanita Mountains
- Sandia Crest National Scenic Byway Guide

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Trail Construction
Picnic Ground Improvements
Adopt-A-Trail
Tijeras Pueblo Archaeological Site and Museum

IF YOU ENJOY THE OUTDOORS & THE SANDIA MTS. AND WOULD LIKE TO "GIVE SOMETHING BACK", THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU IN THE FRIENDS OF THE SANDIA MOUNTAINS!



www.friendsofthesandias.org

FOR FOREST INFORMATION

CALL SANDIA RANGER DIST.
505-281-3304

Emergency Numbers:

911 or	
Bern. Co. Sheriff	505-798-7000
NM State Police	505-841-9256
Bern. Co. Fire	505-798-7000

FRIENDS OF THE SANDIA MOUNTAINS (FOSM)



VOLUNTEERS WORKING TO PROTECT & MAINTAIN THE SANDIA AND MANZANITA MOUNTAINS



If you are a hiker or if you just enjoy being in the Sandia Mts., you know one of nature's very special gifts is our mountain. Have you ever wondered what you could do to help protect it?

Do you want to learn more about the animals and plants you find there? Would you like to meet people who share your concern for the Sandia and Manzanita Mountains?

FOSM is dedicated to working in partnership with the United States Forest Service to maintain, protect and restore the natural, cultural and scenic resources of the Sandia and Manzanita Mountains for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations. Our focus is on conservation and educational activities on the Sandia Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest.

FOSM also supports the Tijeras Pueblo Archaeological Site and Museum.



Our monthly meeting is open to the public: 6:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each month from April through October at the Sandia Ranger Station in Tijeras, NM.

For information about projects, meetings and memberships, please visit our website at:
www.friendsofthesandias.org

COME JOIN US!

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!

Donate, join Friends of the Sandia Mountains, or renew your FOSM membership to help preserve and protect the wilderness "right in our backyard."

We accept PayPal, Credit Card, or Check.



<https://friendsofthesandias.org/join-us/>

We are a non-profit 501(C)(3) corporation.

08/04/2026

President's Remarks

Mike Madden



Friends of the Sandia Mountains

Memberships by Level

Life Sponsor* – 69

Individual – 63

Family – 20

Sustaining – 8

Sponsor – 3

Benefactor – 7

Total Memberships – 176

(+6 since July 21st)

(+19 past year)

Welcome, New Members Since June 1st!

Christopher French – August 31

Timothy Nipper – August 15

Deirdre Kann* – August 8

Jan Chytilo – August 8

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

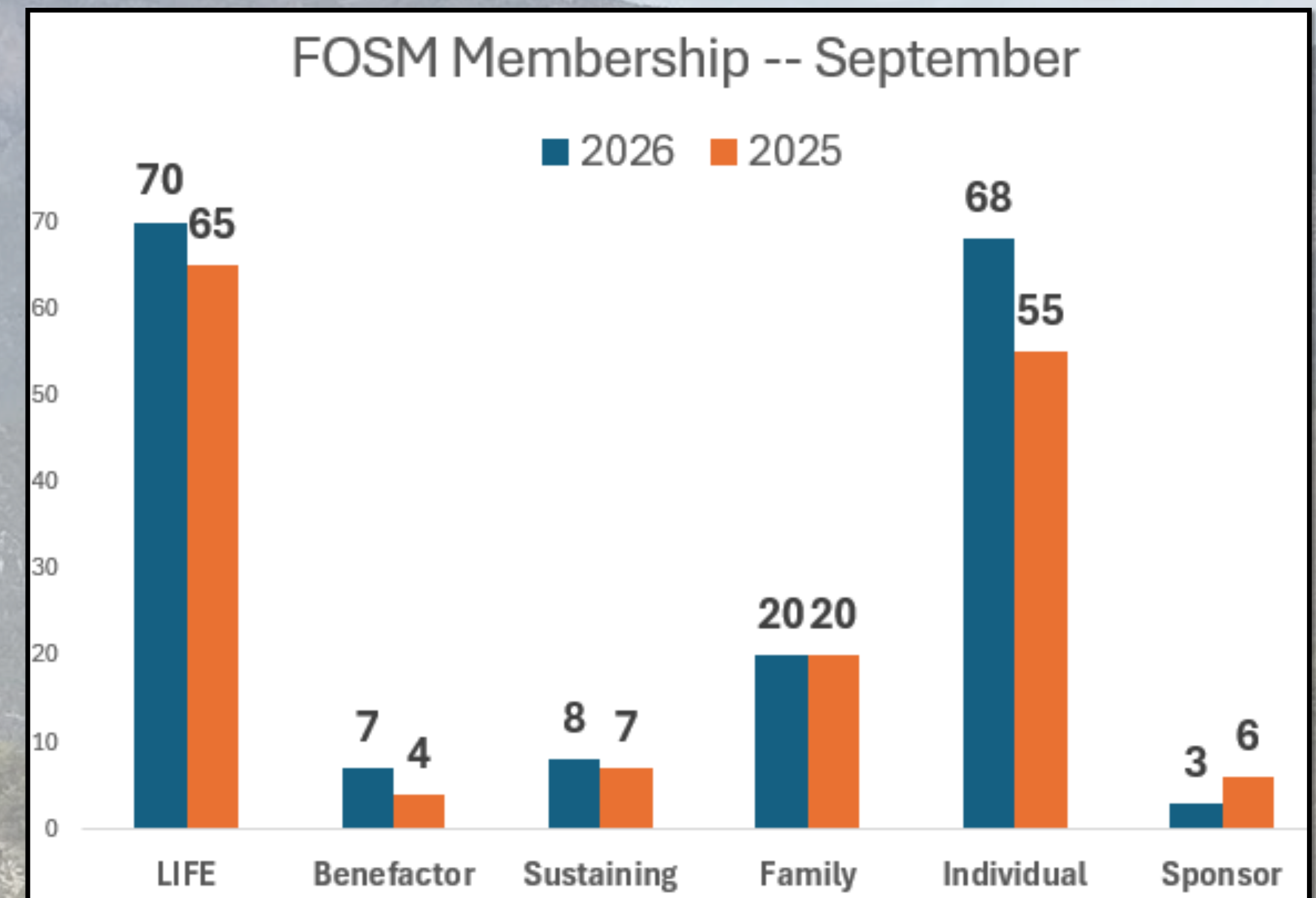
Ericka Roman – June 25

Carol Chorniak – June 24

Ryan Jackson – June 20

Ralph Wrons – June 14

Rebecca Harris – June 5



Projects Report

Sam Beard, Projects Chair



**Friends of the
Sandia Mountains**

Number of Project Days in August

- Trail Maintenance: 2 Days
- Trail Construction: 8 Days (includes Tuesdays)
- Painting and Graffiti Removal: 5 Days
- General Projects: 5 Days
- **Total Days → 20**

General Projects Report

Sam Beard, Team Leader



Friends of the
Sandia Mountains

Projects Completed in August:

- 8/1: Sharpened chain saw chains at SRD Shop
- 8/5: Felled/bucked **5 hazard trees** (11-16" diam) in lower Cienega PA
- 8/12: Felled/bucked **7 hazard trees** (8-23" diam) in Capulin PA
- 8/19: Felled/bucked **5 hazard trees** (up 27" diam) in Capulin PA
- 8/26: **Brushed entrance area** and felled/bucked hazard tree in Capulin PA

Volunteers: Michael Arndt, Sam Beard, Dan Benton, Jerry Carroll, Sim Cook, Cliff Giles, Chuck Logan, Lorna Morrow, Steve Roholt, Eric Russell



Painting and Graffiti Removal Report

Sam Beard, Team Leader



Friends of the
Sandia Mountains

Work Days in August:

- 8/15 & 8/16: Filled decayed places in two **La Cueva PA CCC restroom doors** with epoxy putty
- 8/21 & 8/25: Painted south/north sides of **Tijeras Pueblo Archeological Site sign** brown and white
- 8/22: **Removed graffiti** at three sites at Crest, one tag at Ellis, and one at 10K North TH



Volunteers: Sam Beard, Jamey Browning, Sim Cook, Cliff Giles

Trail Maintenance Report

Bob Lowder & Byron Garner, Team Leaders



Friends of the
Sandia Mountains

Work Days in August:

- **8/17: 10K South and Challenge Trails**
removed mostly rotten log + several dead leaners

8/31: Madera Locura Trail
12-14" diam. + 4 dead leaners

*Volunteers: Sim Cook, Byron Garner, Bob Lowder,
David McCreery, Rav Nicholson, Cleve Sharp*



Trail Construction Report

Laura Leon, Team Leader



Friends of the
Sandia Mountains

Projects in August

- **Trail reconstruction Sandia Crest Hazard Tree & Fuels Reduction Project**
 - Switchback Trail (8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27) + Tuesdays (8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25)



Volunteers: Claudia Bergsohn, Silke Bletzer, Luis Cuadros, Byron Garner, Erin Gaddis, Bruce Hansche, Jim Houle, Kerry Jones, Laura Leon, John McNett, Eric Messerschmidt, Bill Perkins, Eric Russell, Rifka Stern, Kent Towler plus Jen and Chris with SRD; Dallas Duckworth with BLM, Sue Harrelson with NMVFO



- **October 6, 2026 – Sandra Arazi-Coambs, USFS Zone Archaeologist FOSM year-end meeting 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



Speaker: Bjorn Fredrickson, Conservation Director, NM Wild

- Bjorn grew up in Seattle, Washington and spent his childhood and young adult years frequenting public lands across the West
- B.A and M.S. degrees in environmental studies and science from Yale University, as well as a graduate certificate in wilderness management from the University of Montana
- 13 years working with the U.S. Forest Service, with positions focused on the management of recreation, wilderness, wild & scenic rivers, commercial uses and infrastructure, archaeology, and minerals in Washington DC, Washington State, California, and New Mexico
- Bjorn joined the team at New Mexico Wild in 2023 and is engaged heavily in the organization's federal lands advocacy, public lands defense, and stewardship work