



"This extraordinary landscape of extreme beauty and daunting harshness is known as the Rio Grande del Norte, and its extraordinary array of scientific and historic resources offer opportunities to develop our understanding of the forces that shaped northern New Mexico."

Proclamation 8946—Establishment of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument

Rio Grande del Norte National Monument

June 2018

ABOUT THE RIO GRANDE DEL NORTE MONUMENT (RGDNNM)

- Located in northern New Mexico, the monument is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).
- The 242,500-acre monument was designated in 2013 by President Obama.
- The monument's most distinctive features are high plains with interspersed volcanic cones, which are cut by steep river canyons extending down 800 feet in depth. The highest volcanic cone, Ute Mountain, reaches up to 10,093 feet.

CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

- The monument has attracted human activity since prehistoric times, with archaeological remains that are over 13,000 years old.
- There are four existing native groups that have strong ties to this landscape: Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, Taos Pueblo, the Southern Ute Tribe, and the Jicarilla Apache.
- The area is home to a rich array of archaeological resources that represent diverse cultural traditions, including petroglyphs, prehistoric dwelling sites, potsherds, projectile points and the remains of pit houses.
- The Rio Grande del Norte is part of the Central Migratory Flyway, which is a vital migration corridor for birds, and provides habitat for many larger grazing animals.

LOCAL SUPPORT & OUTDOOR ECONOMY

One year after the RGDNNM opened there was a **40%** increase in visitors and a **21%** increase in town lodging-tax revenues (*Rio Grande del Norte Coalition, 2018*).

The outdoor recreation industry generates **99,000** direct jobs and **\$623M** in state and local tax revenue for New Mexico (*Outdoor Industry Association, 2018*).

PUBLIC ACCESS AND USE OF RGDNNM

- Visitors can engage in a variety of recreational opportunities, including rafting through the Rio Grande Gorge, camping, hunting and hiking.
- The renowned trout fishing in the Rio Grande and its tributaries draws anglers from across the country.

"The designation guarantees that we can all continue to share in this place and has the added benefits of job creation and increased economic activity."

- Taos County Chamber of Commerce Chairman Brad Malone

Protect Our National Monuments!

President Trump and Republicans in Congress want to take public lands away from everyday Americans and hand them over to oil, gas and mining companies. In April 2017, President Trump signed an Executive Order directing the Department of the Interior to review the establishment history and current status of 27 national monuments created since 1996 under the Antiquities Act, a law Congress passed more than a century ago that authorizes the president to designate national monuments on existing federal land. In August 2017, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke recommended shrinking or modifying at least ten national monuments, including Rio Grande del Norte. On December 4, 2017, Trump drastically shrank two of Utah's National Monuments - Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante - through a presidential order with no legal basis.