

Baca National Wildlife Refuge

***** Open House – Saturday May 13, 2023 *****

Come learn about Baca NWR!



Rio Grande Chub



Rio Grande Sucker

BACA NWR WELCOMES THE PUBLIC TO COME TOUR THE REFUGE AND ENJOY PRESENTATIONS BY STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS! INTERACTIVE TALKS WILL COVER,

- 1.) WATER RESOURCES – CURRENT TRENDS, HISTORIC FLOODS, MANAGEMENT*
- 2.) FISH OF BACA NWR - FISHERIES ECOLOGY AND LIFECYCLES, POND SITE VISIT WITH LIVE RIO GRAND SUCKER AND CHUB ON DISPLAY*
- 3.) LOOKING BACK – TOURS OF HISTORICAL BUILDINGS AND SITES*
- 4.) NATURE AND HERITAGE TRAILS – ALL ABOUT THE REFUGE TRAIL SYSTEM*

Event details

Time

Refuge gates open	8:45 am
Welcome by refuge manager Ty Benally	9:00 – 9:15 am
*Refreshments served	9:00 am
Presentation – Water Resources	9:15 – 9:45 am
Presentation – Refuge Fish	10:00 – 10:30 am
Guided tour of historic buildings	11:15 – 11:45 am
Presentation – Refuge Trails	12:00 – 12:45 pm



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Join us for a presentation at 10:00 am

Rio Grande Chub and Rio Grande Sucker

Cole Brittain

Fisheries Biologist

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Join biologist Cole Brittain as he provides an overview of the ecology and life history of fish found on the refuge. Cole will highlight rare and imperiled species, including the Rio Grande Chub and Rio Grande Sucker. He will explain how we monitor the populations of these species. Moreover, Cole will capture some live specimens to provide the audience a close look at these important members of the refuge ecosystem.

Cole Brittain is a Fisheries Biologist for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is based in Gunnison, Colorado. He has been monitoring and aiding recovery efforts for native fish in southwestern Colorado for over 10 years. Cole has been with the FWS for the past 5 years and previously worked for Colorado Parks & Wildlife for 7 years. Cole received his undergraduate degree from Texas State University. Later, he completed his master's degree at Colorado State University where he studied fish passage for the small bodied native fish of Colorado.



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Baca NWR Nature and Heritage Trails

Dani Robben

*Community Connections Coordinator
San Luis Valley Great Outdoors, SLV GO!*



We are excited to host Dani Robben of refuge partner San Luis Valley Great Outdoors! to give an overview of the refuge trail system. Dani will highlight the planned development of a new trail, parking lots at trailheads, and signage.

Dani Robben provides leadership, support, facilitation, and project management to several community collaboratives across the San Luis Valley. Dani coordinates the SLV GO! Coalition, Eastern San Luis Valley Trails Coalition, Recreation Economy for Rural Communities - Monte Vista, and the Sangre de Cristo Dark Sky Reserve Initiative. Prior to joining SLV GO! in 2021, Dani worked on trail crews with the Southwest Conservation Corps and Rocky Mountain Field Institute. Finding her passion for outdoor stewardship, she attended graduate school at Colorado State University and got her Master's in Conservation Leadership. She found her way back to the valley and became the Outreach and Events Coordinator for the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust.

