

New Mexico SiteWatch Program

NM SiteWatch is a network of trained volunteers who monitor prehistoric and historic resources on public lands in their communities. SiteWatch site stewards routinely monitor cultural properties for signs of erosion, wear and tear, vandalism, and looting. Cultural properties eligible for monitoring include archaeological sites, historic buildings and places, trails, neon signs, bridges, and structures. There are 8 chapters, with 94 active volunteers who monitor approximately 153 sites located on lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, United States Forest Service, National Park Service, State Land Office, New Mexico State Parks, Santa Fe County Open Space, and the Archeological Conservancy. Volunteers last year contributed by driving 1,847 hours and 18,905 miles.



Sandia/Tijeras SiteWatch volunteer Lee Riley documents a site in the Sandia Mountains. Photograph courtesy Sandra Arazi-Coombs.

More information on the NM SiteWatch Program can be found on the Historic Preservation Division's webpage at <http://www.nmhistoricpreservation.org/programs/sitewatch.html>.

El Palacio Article about site stewarding in New Mexico:
<https://www.elpalacio.org/2021/05/eyes-on-the-land/>