

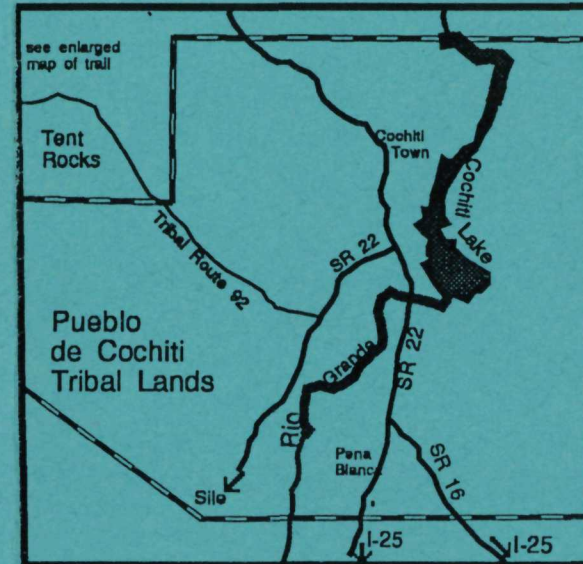
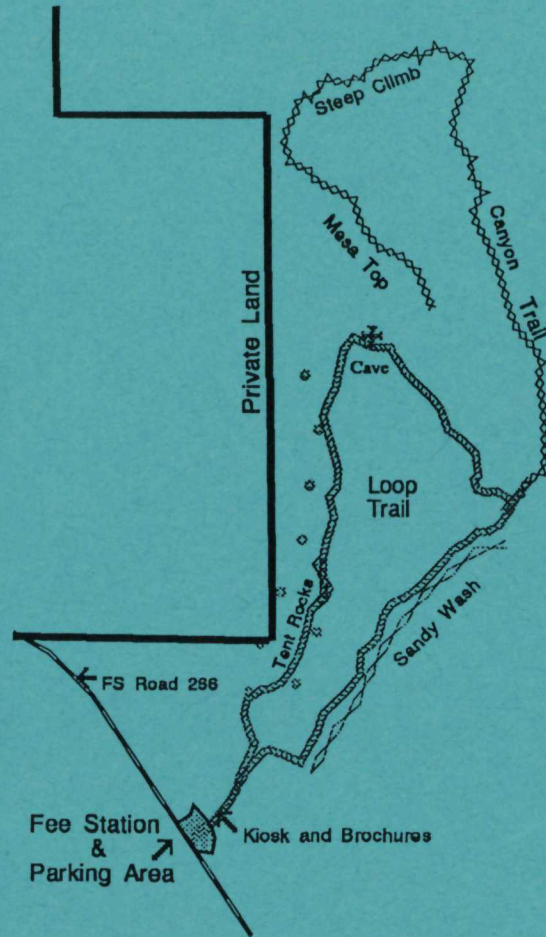
To make your visit and that of others as pleasant as possible, we would like for you to follow these rules:

- ◆ **Fee amounts:** (Bank checks are accepted)
 - Private vehicle - \$5.00 on-site fee
 - Private vehicles/10+ passengers - \$10.00 on-site fee
 - Commercial Tour Buses - \$25.00 day-use permit; no on-site fee (contact BLM Albuquerque Field Office)
 - Tent Rocks Annual Pass Holders - \$15.00/year; no on-site fee (contact BLM Albuquerque Field Office)
 - Golden Eagle/Age/Access Passports - Cost varies; no on-site fee (contact BLM, U.S Forest Service, or National Park Service)
 - Non-profit organizations, Com. Permits \$25.00
 - Commercial Still Photography Permit - price varies
- ◆ **Visitation hours:**
 - Winter (November 1 to March 31) - 8 am to 5 pm.
 - Summer (April 1 to October 31) - 7 am to 6 pm.
- ◆ **Day use only.** No camping, fires, shooting, glass containers, or climbing on the Tent Rocks.
- ◆ Observe **20 MPH** speed limit to reduce dust and noise at Pueblo de Cochiti.
- ◆ Do not trespass on tribal, private or state land.
- ◆ Access to Tent Rocks may be closed by order of the Cochiti Tribal Governor.
- ◆ View Tent Rocks on foot - No motorized vehicles or mountain bikes are allowed.
- ◆ Contact the BLM Albuquerque Field Office concerning pack-animal use.
- ◆ Protect our live trees and shrubs. You may not cut green trees or firewood.
- ◆ Remember to "Leave No Trace" of your visit. Please don't litter.
- ◆ Please stay on designated trail.

Tent Rocks managed in partnership by:

Bureau of Land Management
Albuquerque Field Office
435 Montañño NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107
(505) 761-8704 or (505) 761-8700

Pueblo de Cochiti
P.O. Box 70
Cochiti Pueblo, NM 87072
(505) 465-2244 or (505) 465-0121



Know and obey the rules. All visitors & users of public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management are subject to Federal Regulations. Violation of recreation orders and regulations are subject to punishment by fine and imprisonment according to the provisions of Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations.

- Federal Regulations:
- Title 43 CFR, Subpart 8365
 - Federal Register Notice Vol. 61, No. 92/21479
Supplementary Rules for Designated Recreation Sites, Special Management Areas, and other Public Lands in the Albuquerque Field Office, New Mexico

BLM

Tent Rocks

THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ALBUQUERQUE FIELD OFFICE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
THE PUEBLO DE COCHITI

TENT ROCKS FEE AREA
AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL
CONCERN AND RECREATION TRAIL



WELCOME TO A PARTNERSHIP.....

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Pueblo de Cochiti welcome you to Tent Rocks Fee Area. All fees collected from your visit will be used for the Tent Rocks Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and National Recreation Trail.

The access road to Tent Rocks crosses Pueblo de Cochiti land. The BLM and the pueblo have entered into a partnership to provide access for the public, preserve the tranquility of the pueblo community, and protect the special values that exist at Tent Rocks.

OF TIME AND THE ROCKS.....

In north-central New Mexico, between Albuquerque and Santa Fe, lies the unique geological area known as Tent Rocks. This area features large, tent-shaped rocks that hug the steep cliffs of Peralta Canyon. These rocks were created by the powerful forces of vulcanism and erosion, which have built up and then torn down this landscape.

During the last million years, a tremendous volcanic explosion northwest of Tent Rocks spewed rock and ash for hundreds of square miles, leaving volcanic debris up to 400 feet thick. Over time, water cut into

these deposits, creating canyons, arroyos and other area features. The cone-shaped tent rock formations are wind- and water-eroded pumice and tuff deposits. Their hard, erosion-resistant caprocks protect the softer tents below. While uniform in shape, the tent rock formations vary in height from a few feet to 90 feet.

THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT.....

Long after the Tent Rocks were formed, early humans wandered through this area in search of food. Excavations made during the construction of Cochiti Reservoir, 7 miles east of Tent Rocks, unearthed fire rings and artifacts dating to the Archaic period (5000 B.C.-A.D.100). Petroglyphs of animals, handprints and stick figures found near Tent Rocks also bear witness to the presence of these people.

Between 500 and 800 A.D. a more settled existence began on the plateau with the construction of small, one-room structures and the planting of corn and beans. The evolution of these stone and mud dwellings would culminate in the building of large pueblos such as those at Tsankawi and Puye to the north in the 14th and 15th centuries.

In the 16th century, the Spanish Explorer Don Juan de Oñate traveled through central New Mexico following the Rio Grande northward. His route would later be followed by settlers who would bring intensive farming and domestic livestock to the region. By the late 1800s, iron rails stretched into the territory of New Mexico and loggers and miners came to harvest its rich natural resources.

Today, Tent Rocks ACEC and National Recreation Trail are administered by the BLM. The 3-mile access route to the Tent Rocks ACEC crosses tribal land administered by the Pueblo de Cochiti. Along with the pueblo, neighbors in the Tent Rocks area include the Santo Domingo Indians, the Jemez Indians, private landowners, the Santa Fe National Forest and State of New Mexico. Please respect these landowners and their property.

POINTS OF INTEREST.....

Close inspection of the fragile tent rock formations reveals their susceptibility to erosion. Some of the rocks standing farthest away from the cliff have lost their hard caprock and are disintegrating.

An examination of the cliff face reveals small ravines leading inward. Wind and water prevail here, scooping holes of all shapes and sizes in the rock and contouring the ends of the ravines into smooth semi-circles. As the result of uniform layering of volcanic material, bands of grey are interspersed with beige-colored rock along the cliff face.

VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE.....

In the midst of the formations, clinging to the cracks and crevices high on the cliff face, the vibrant green leaves and red bark of the greenleaf manzanita shrub stand in sharp contrast to the muted colors of the rocks. A hardy evergreen, the manzanita produces a pinkish-white flower in the spring that adds to the plant's luster. Other desert plants found in the area include Indian paintbrush, Apache plume, rabbit-brush, and desert marigold.

Depending on the season, you are likely to see a variety of birds. Red-tailed hawks, kestrels, violet-green swallows, Western bluebirds, and an occasional golden eagle soar above Peralta Canyon or use the piñon-covered terrain near the cliffs. The hollows and crags of the cliff face provide nesting sites.

The area also provides habitat for big-game and non-game animals. Elk, mule deer, and wild turkey frequent the higher elevations with adequate ground cover and food. Coyotes, chipmunks, and ground squirrels can be found almost everywhere.

COCHITI RESERVOIR.....

Visitors to Tent Rocks will pass by Cochiti Reservoir as they travel west on NM Route 22. This is one of

the largest earthen reservoirs in the world, spanning 5 miles across the Rio Grande and Santa Fe River drainages. Contained within the broad sweep of the dam is a 1,200-square-mile reservoir that stretches 4 miles to the north. A popular recreation spot, Cochiti Lake offers boating, fishing and camping. A visitor center has restrooms and drinking water; campsites have picnic tables and grills.

GETTING THERE.....

Tent Rocks is located 40 miles southwest of Santa Fe and 50 miles northeast of Albuquerque, with the most direct access from Interstate 25. Take the Cochiti Reservoir exit from I-25 to NM Route 22 and follow the signs to Cochiti Pueblo. Turn right at the pueblo water tower (painted like a drum) onto Tribal Route 92 (connects to Forest Service Road 266). Travel 5 miles on a dirt road to the Tent Rocks parking area, which is marked with a sign. All other roads leading to the formations are closed to motorized vehicles and mountain bikes.



greenleaf manzanita
Arctostaphylos patula