

## **Rio Grande Natural Area/Playas Inventory and Testing**

### **Project Logistics**

**July 7 to 15 and July 19 to 27, 2017**

**Project Overview:** Paleocultural Research Group (PCRG), History Colorado (HC), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will conduct archaeological inventory, evaluative testing, and rock art documentation in selected portions of the Rio Grande Natural Area and the Punche Valley in southeastern Conejos County, Colorado. The project's primary goal is to develop a baseline dataset on the archaeological resources of that area, including Native American camps, historic homesteads, rock art sites, and other aspects of the cultural landscape. The field investigation will include inventory of previously undocumented parcels and evaluation of previously recorded cultural resources. Field work is scheduled for two eight-day sessions from July 7 to 15 and July 19 to 27, 2017.

**Project Logistics:** Most of our group will camp at the Mogote Campground near Antonito, CO. All participants should arrive the day before their first scheduled work day and plan to stay for a minimum of three to four days. Fieldwork is scheduled for two eight-day sessions. July 7 and July 19 are travel and camp set-up days (see schedule below).

Our campsite is a group site that accommodates up to 100 people and 20 vehicles. RVs or campers up to 45 ft. are allowed; driveways are back-in. There are vault toilets and spigots for drinking water at the campsite but there are no electric hookups and no showers or other services. You are welcome to bring a solar shower. The campground also overlooks the Conejos River. Although the Conejos is a fast-moving river, it may be suitable for bathing with biodegradable soap. The road from Antonito to the Mogote Campground is paved and the road to the group site is gravel with a moderate slope.

Participants who commit to a full session of work should plan to arrive at camp any time after 3 or 4 pm on July 7 or July 19 for the start of each session. PCRG staff will arrive earlier in the day to begin setting up camp. Dinner on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> will be served at approximately 6:30 pm. If you don't plan to be there for the beginning of a session, please arrive sometime on the day or evening prior to your first work day.

Some participants may prefer to stay in nearby hotels rather than camp. Reservations for hotels are the responsibility of individual participants. Participants staying in hotels are more than welcome to join the crew at camp for dinner or socializing but please let us know well in advance so we can plan for extra meals.

### **Inventory and site testing schedule (see page 2 for rock art recording schedule)**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> session</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Friday, July 7, after 3 pm	TRAVEL DAY. Spend the afternoon setting up camp and discussing methods for inventory, site documentation and testing
Saturday, July 8 to Friday, July 14	Inventory, site documentation, and site testing
Saturday, July 15	Volunteers: Break down camp, depart project area PCRG crew: ½ day assessing sites for 2 <sup>nd</sup> session testing prior to departure
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> session</b>	
Wednesday, July 19, 3 pm	TRAVEL DAY. Spend the afternoon setting up camp and discussing methods for inventory, site documentation and testing
Thursday, July 20 to Wednesday, July 26	Inventory, site documentation, and site testing
Thursday, July 27	Break down camp, depart project area

PCRG will provide all meals (apart from soda, beer, wine, etc.) while you're on the project. Please let us know if you have **food allergies** or **dietary restrictions** and we will accommodate them. You are welcome to bring personal beverages but please bring your own cooler and ice. **Please see the gear list on page 4 for other gear to bring.**

The first survey and testing session ends on Saturday, July 15. The second session ends on July 27. The crews dedicated to rock art documentation have a slightly different schedule (see below). All volunteer participants are free to leave the project area on the last day of the session after camp has been dismantled and cleaned. PCRG staff will work approximately a half day on the final day of the 1<sup>st</sup> session doing reconnaissance work for the 2<sup>nd</sup> session before leaving from the project area. Breakfast will be provided on the final day of each session.

### **Rock art recording schedule**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> session</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Sunday, July 9	Arrive at camp or hotel
Monday, July 10 to July 14	Rock art documentation
Saturday, July 15	Break down camp and depart project area
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> session</b>	
Friday, July 21	Arrive at camp or hotel
Saturday, July 22 to Tuesday, July 25	Rock art documentation
Wednesday, July 26	Pack up individual tents, etc. and depart project area

**Driving Directions:**

Google Maps shows a 276-mile trip from Denver to Antonito via I-25 south and Hwy 160 west taking about 4 hours and 41 minutes (see map). An alternate route via Hwy 285 will take about 4 hours, 42 minutes to travel 261 miles. The Mogote Campground is just under 15 miles west of Antonito and will take 15 to 20 minutes to reach from Antonito.

**If you are camping:** You will meet the group at the Mogote Campground. From the town of Alamosa, take U.S. Highway 285 south about 28 miles to Antonito, CO. At the south end of Antonito, turn right (west) onto CO State Highway 17 and travel about 15 miles on Hwy 17 to the campground entrance. Turn left and go a short distance to the first left turn into the Juniper group campsite (Loop JGRP) (see attached map).

Each morning, campers should be ready to leave for the project area between 7:15 and 7:30. The drive from the Mogote campground to the project area is about 40 minutes.

**If you plan to stay in a hotel:** There are two hotels in Antonito, the Steam Train Hotel and the Narrow Gauge Railroad Inn. If you are interested in staying in Antonito, representatives at both hotels recommend that you book early because they are busy in July with tourism related to the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad. Rates run between \$55 and \$129 per room in the summer. Other options are available in Alamosa including the Hampton Inn, Comfort Inn and Suites, Super 8, Holiday Inn Express and Suites, and the Days Inn. All of these properties are located along Hwy 160 in Alamosa providing easy access to Hwy 285.

Everyone staying at a hotel will meet the rest of the group each morning at 7:45 am at the ROG gas station on the northwest corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Main Streets in Antonito and we will caravan to the project area in as few cars as possible. The drive from Antonito to the project area is about 30 minutes.

**Please fill out the on-line [RGNA Arrival and Departure form](#) using the link provided in the email you received. Alternatively, you may also fill out the form on page 8 and return it via email.**

**Volunteer positions are limited, so let us know that you would like to participate as soon as possible.**

Antonito is a small town with limited services. There is a gas station and a small food market and we will pass through town each day after work; however, it would be best to purchase most personal supplies at home or in Alamosa or Monte Vista before continuing your trip to the campsite.

There is a high probability of encountering rattlesnakes in the field. Leather boots that fit high on the ankle and loose fitting pants are recommended. You may also want to consider bringing a pair of gaiters to wear over your lower pant legs. Please review the attached safety information.

### **Participant Equipment List:**

#### In Camp:

Camping gear—tent, pad, sleeping bag, pillow, etc.  
Personal mug, cup, plate, bowl, and utensils  
Evening/dinner beverages (beer, wine, soda, etc).  
Cooler for personal drinks and snacks  
Solar shower (the Conejos River is nearby for au naturel bathing)  
Warm clothes (camp is at about 8400 ft.; it's hard to know how cool it will be at night).  
Musical instruments  
Lawn or camp chair  
Flashlight or headlamp and extra batteries  
DEET or other insect repellent

#### In the Field:

Day pack large enough to carry water, lunch, camera, etc.  
Hiking boots (boots higher on the ankle are recommended)  
Sun hat  
Rain gear  
Containers for 2 to 3 quarts of water  
Work gloves, if you use them in the field  
Sunscreen and lip balm  
Compass  
Clipboard  
Camera, for personal use  
Binoculars  
Your favorite pencil (no pens, please!)

## **Emergency Contact Information**

Cell phone coverage will be limited in the project area. Crew chiefs will carry radios for contact between crews and for emergencies during the work day.

### PCRG:

Mark Mitchell

[Mark.Mitchell@Paleocultural.org](mailto:Mark.Mitchell@Paleocultural.org)

Cell: 303-913-2435

Vehicle: Ford F-150, CO license plate 915-BIG

Amy Nelson

[amynels@yahoo.com](mailto:amynels@yahoo.com)

Cell: 970-485-4718

Vehicle: Nissan Xterra, CO license plate 632 MJZ

### PAAC

Chris Johnston

Cell: (970-819-2585)

Vehicle: TBD

### Agency emergency contact numbers:

Bureau of Land Management

San Luis Valley Field Office

1313 E. HWY 160

Monte Vista, CO 81144

(719) 852-5941

### Local medical facilities

Conejos County Hospital

19021 US Highway 285

La Jara, CO 81140

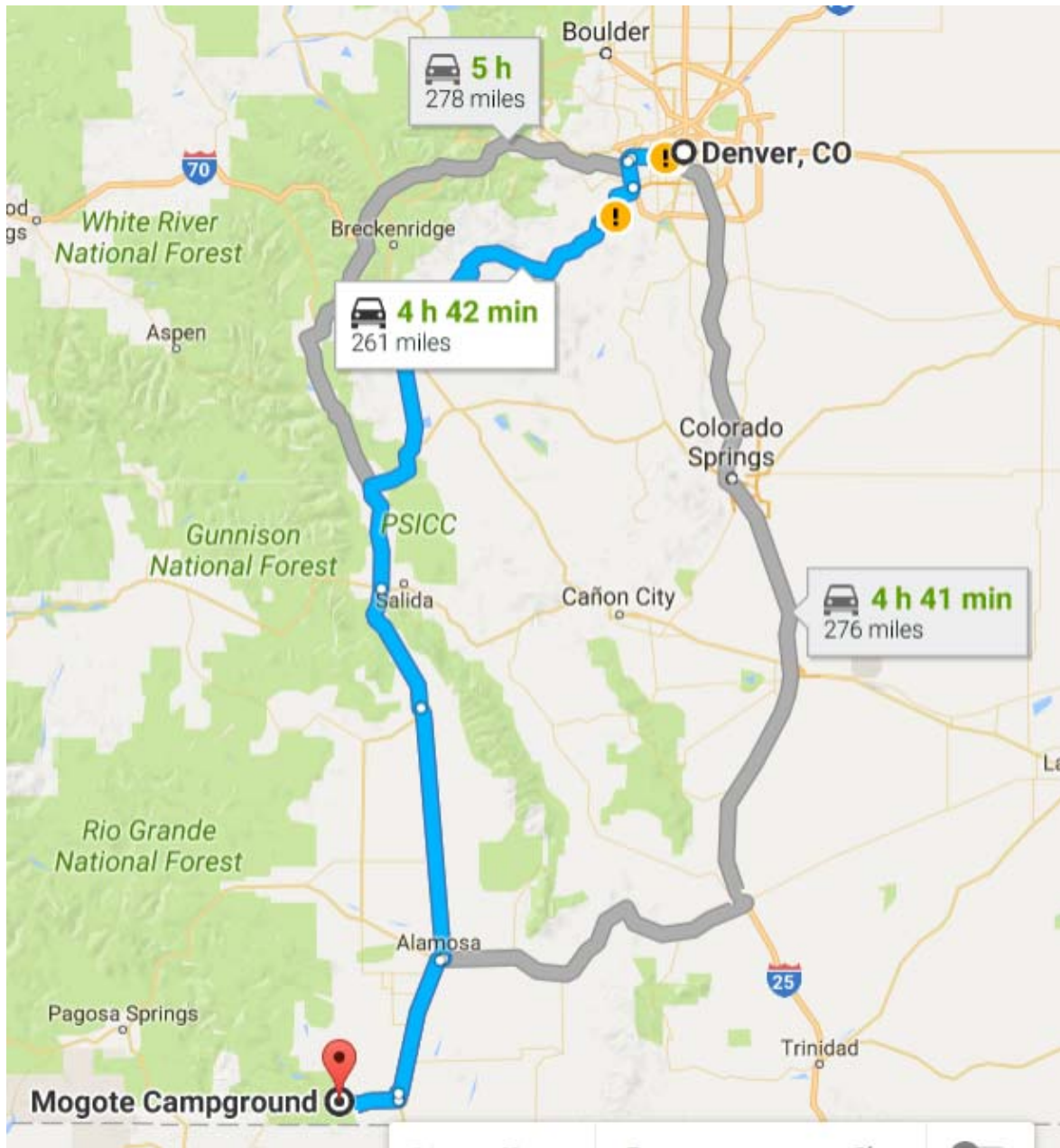
(719) 274-5121

San Luis Valley Health

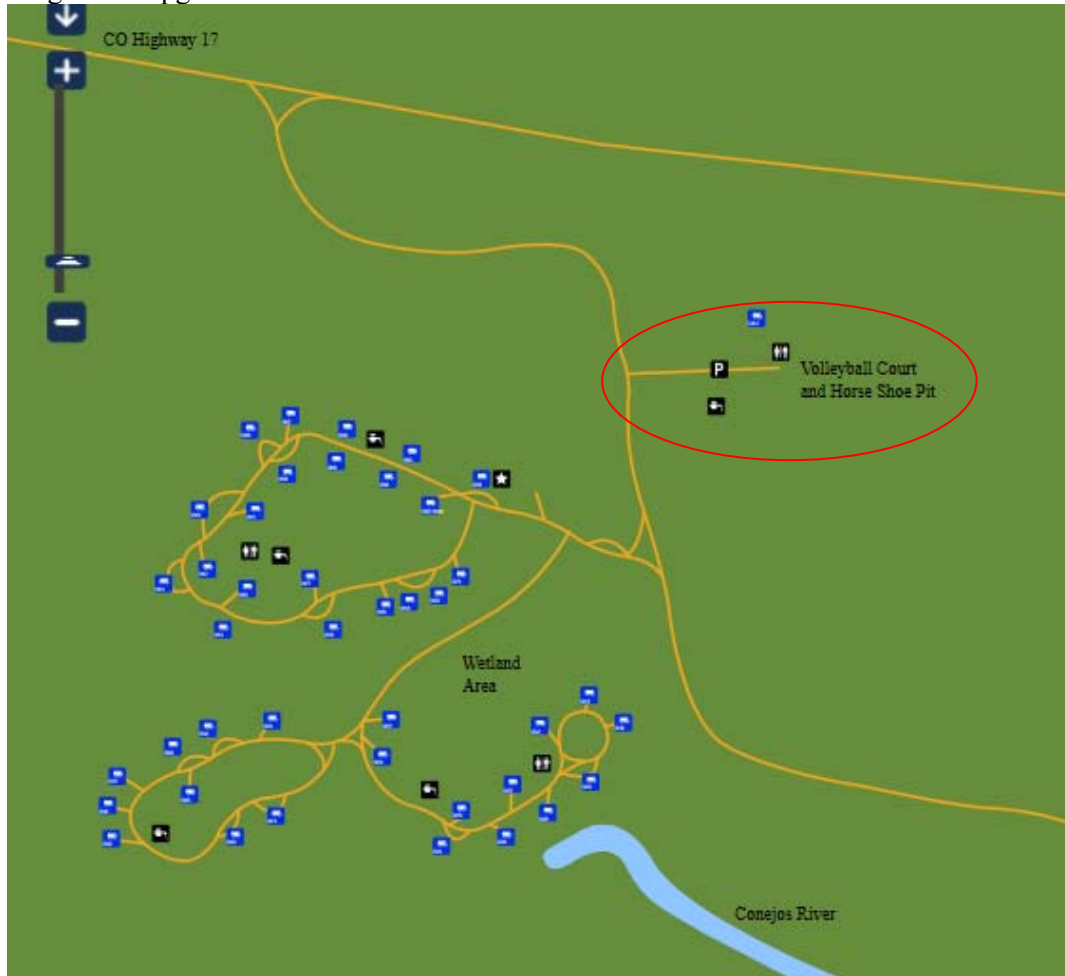
106 Blanca Ave.

Alamosa, CO 81101

(719) 589-2511



# Mogote Campground



## Arrival and Departure Form

Please fill out and return to PCRG as soon as possible.

<b>Name(s)</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Cell phone</b>	
<b>This project involves survey, site testing, and rock art recording. We will attempt to accommodate everyone's specific interests but there are a limited number of spots available for each task on a given day. Please give us some guidance regarding your task preference.</b>	Are you ONLY interested in participating in rock art recording?  YES (if yes, skip the next question) _____  NO (if no, answer the next question) _____
<b>If you answered "no" to the above question what is your first choice of tasks?</b>	No preference _____ Survey _____  Site testing _____ Rock art recording _____
<b>What is your second choice of tasks?</b>	No preference _____ Survey _____  Site testing _____ Rock art recording _____
<b>First day/date of work (July 7 and July 19 are travel days)</b>	
<b>Participants must arrive the evening before their first day of work. If you will be staying in camp, will you arrive in time for dinner (6:30ish)?</b>	
<b>Where do you plan to stay at night? (circle one)</b>	PCRG project camp  Other (hotel, other campground, local residence, etc.)
<b>Last day/date of work (July 15 and July 27 are travel days)</b>	
<b>Do you have any food allergies?</b>	
<b>Do you have any food preferences? (Circle any that apply)</b>	None      Vegetarian      Vegan      Gluten-free  Other, Describe:
<b>Make and model of vehicle</b>	
<b>If you have a 4-wheel drive, are you willing to drive other passengers to and from the project area on some days?</b>	
<b>Other comments or questions?</b>	