

## Old Spanish National Historic Trail West Branch Inventory

### Project Logistics

August 17 to 23

**Project Overview:** Paleocultural Research Group (PCRG) will conduct archaeological inventory to identify and document traces of the West Branch of the Old Spanish Trail on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management in Saguache, Rio Grande and Conejos counties. Fieldwork is scheduled for one seven-day session from August 17 to 23, 2017.

**Project Logistics:** We will be camping on a private ranch about three miles east of Del Norte, Colorado. Our campsite will be on the south side of the Rio Grande right on the river. Drinking water will be available nearby and a portable toilet will be brought to the campsite. No showers will be available but you are welcome to bring a solar shower.

Thursday, August 17 is a travel day (see schedule below). PCRG staff will arrive at camp early afternoon on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Participants can arrive any time after 3 or 4 pm. Fieldwork will begin on August 18 and will be carried out over five work days. Due to the small size of the project, it would be ideal if participants can commit to the entire project but it is not required and shorter stays will be accommodated.

### **Project Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Thursday, August 17	TRAVEL DAY. Spend the afternoon setting up camp and discussing methods for inventory and site documentation
Friday, August 18 to Tuesday, August 22	Inventory and site documentation
Wednesday, August 23	Break down camp, depart project area

We will be working at a different location each day and some days may require considerable drive time. Each morning, participants should be ready to leave for the project area between 7:15 and 7:30.

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 other dietary restrictions and we will accommodate them as best we can. You are welcome to bring personal beverages but please bring your own cooler and ice. **Please see the gear list for other gear to bring.**

All volunteer participants are free to leave the project area on the last day of the session after camp has been dismantled and cleaned. Breakfast will be provided on the final day of the session.

**Please fill out the on-line West Branch OST Arrival and Departure form using the link provided in the email you received. Alternatively, you may also fill out the form on page 7 and return it via email.**

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

**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  
Warm clothes (just in case we have some cool nights)  
Musical instruments or other games/entertainment  
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

**Driving Directions:** Google maps shows a 219-mile drive from Denver that should take about three hours and 50 minutes to drive. Follow Hwy 285 South from Denver for 203 miles to the town of Center (see attached map). Turn right (west) on County Rd. 112 and continue 13 miles to Del Norte. An alternate route using I-25 south to Hwy 160 West will take about four hours and 20 minutes to drive. Our camp spot is about three miles east of Del Norte which will probably take about 10 minutes to drive.

The Google Earth image below shows the general location of our campsite. From Del Norte, go east on Hwy 160 for about three miles. At mile marker 205.5 turn left (north) onto an unmarked road. Cross the railroad tracks and the frontage road and continue to the bridge. Before crossing the bridge, turn left (west) onto an ephemeral road and go about 200 yards to a gate. Turn right through the gate and drive into the cottonwoods along the river. We'll be camped on the river.

### **Emergency Contact Information**

Cell phone coverage will be limited in the project area.

#### PCRG:

Amy Nelson

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

Cell: 970-485-4718

Vehicle: Nissan Xterra, CO license plate 632 MJZ

Mark Mitchell

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

Cell: 303-913-2435

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

#### Agency emergency contact numbers:

Lowell Evans, Archaeologist

Bureau of Land Management

San Luis Valley Field Office

1313 E. HWY 160

Monte Vista, CO 81144

(719) 588-5188

[ltevans@blm.gov](mailto:ltevans@blm.gov)

#### Local medical facilities

Del Norte Clinic

310C County Road 14

Del Norte, CO 81132

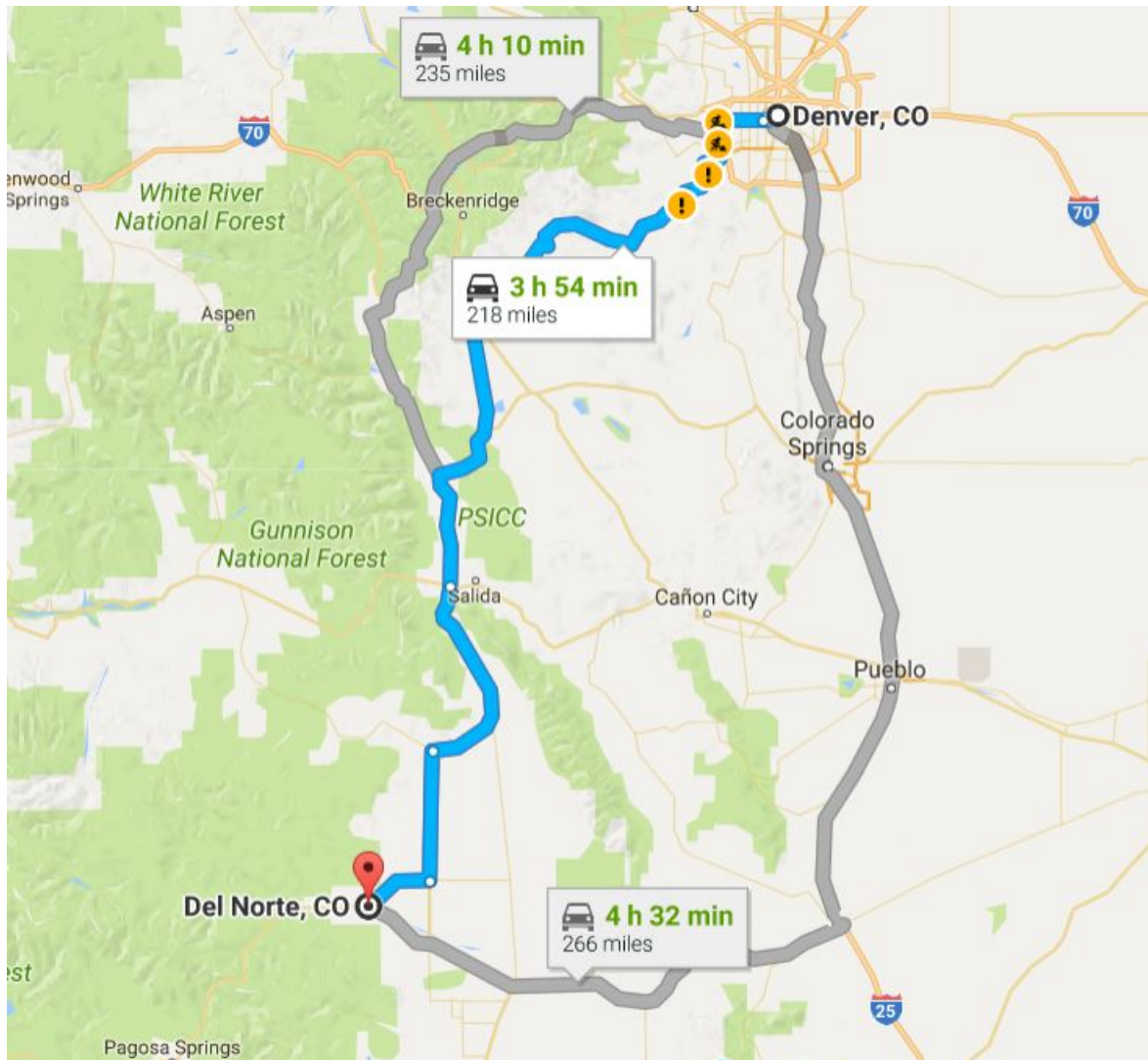
Tel: 719-657-2418

Monte Vista Medical Center

1033 2nd Avenue

Monte Vista, CO 81144

Tel: 719-852-8827





### Arrival and Departure form

**Please fill out and return to PCRG no later than July 15.**

Due to the small size of the project we ask that all participants plan to stay for the entirety of the project.

<b>Name(s)</b>	
<b>Will you arrive in time for dinner on August 17 (6:30ish)?</b>	
<b>Do you have any food or other 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>Are you willing to drive your vehicle to and from the project area on some days?</b>	
<b>Comments/Special Circumstances</b>	