New Mexico Designated Unique or Valuable Scenic Landscapes

This list is for NRCS planning purposes only, it is not a comprehensive or official list.

Scenic Byways

New Mexico has 26 designated scenic byways, totaling over 2,900 miles across a diverse landscape. Byways are established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads with high scenic value based on one or more intrinsic qualities - archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, or scenic. Eight of the scenic byways are designated as National Scenic Byways (indicated by a "*").

For maps and descriptions of the byways, visit www.nmscenicbyways.com

Abo Pass Trail	Puye Cliffs Scenic Byway
Billy the Kid National Scenic Byway*	Quebradas Back Country Byway
Corrales Road Scenic Byway	Historic Route 66 National Scenic Byway*
Dry Cimmaron	Salt Missions Trail Byway
El Camino Real National Scenic Byway*	Santa Fe National Forest Scenic Byway
Enchanted Circle Scenic Byway	Santa Fe Trail National Scenic Byway*
Geronimo Trail National Scenic Byway*	Socorro Historical District Scenic Byway
Guadalupe Back Country Byway	Sunspot Scenic Byway
Jemez Mountain Trail National Scenic Byway*	The High Road to Taos Byway
La Frontera Del Llano	Trail of the Ancients
Lake Valley Back Country Byway	Trail of the Mountain Spirits National Scenic Byway*
Mesalands Scenic Byway	Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway*
Narrow Gauge Railroad Scenic Byway	Wild Rivers Back Country Byway

Dark Sky Places

International Dark Sky (IDS) places are locations of exceptional nighttime beauty, dark skies education, and preservation of the nighttime environment; to ensure starry spaces for future generations. They can be designated on any lands that meet certain dark sky criteria. In New Mexico, Clayton Lake State Park has been designated.

For more information, visit: www.darksky.org

National and State Parks

New Mexico has thirteen national parks and thirty-five state parks.

The National Park Service (NPS)

NPS website provides an interactive map of the parks. <u>http://www.nps.gov/state/nm/</u>

New Mexico State Park's

NMED website provides an interactive map of the parks. http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/FindaPark.html

Grant Funded Scenic Preservation/Enhancement Project Areas

Rivers, Trails, & Conservation Assistance Projects Historic Preservation Tax Credit Projects Land & Water Conservation Fund Grants Projects

Preserve America Grants Project areas are mapped by NPS (see website above).

Wild and Scenic Rivers

New Mexico has four designated Wild and Scenic Rivers: the Rio Grande/Red River, The Rio Chama, the Pecos, and the east fork of the Jemez River. Wild and Scenic Rivers are preserved for possessing outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values.

For maps and descriptions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers, visit www.nps.gov

Wilderness Areas

New Mexico has twenty-five designated Wilderness Areas; congressionally protected places where the earth and its community of life are essentially undisturbed. They are lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and the US Forest Service.

For maps and descriptions of Wilderness Areas, visit www.wilderness.net/map