



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Recreation Site Improvements

Category: Roads, Construction, Habitat / Hazardous Fuels

BLM
New Mexico

Multiple Projects Benefit Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks Monument

With the recent ARRA funding, the BLM will soon begin paving, construction, and habitat restoration/hazardous fuels projects in Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument, one of the BLM's most spectacular and popular recreation sites.



Kasha Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument

The national monument is located in north-central New Mexico in the foothills of the Jemez Mountains. It is about 50 miles north of Albuquerque, New Mexico, in Sandoval County, in the BLM Rio Puerco Field Office.

The BLM is contracting to pave five miles of access road into the monument. The purpose of the paving is to improve the quality of the road, reduce the need to close it after heavy rain and snow, and minimize the dust stirred up from the current dirt road.

In addition, the BLM will upgrade the Veterans Memorial Overlook Recreation Site. Picnic area and trail development will consist of improving the parking area and adding picnic tables, shelters, a comfort

station, trash receptacles, interpretive panels, small kiosks and benches. The parking area and overlook sites will be landscaped, a one mile trail will be completed, and 1,500 feet of split rail fencing will be constructed. These handicap-accessible facilities will be able to accommodate Veterans' ceremonies and other public events, as well as picnicking and hiking.

A landscape restoration project in the Monument is also planned, which will include vegetation thinning and prescribed fire. In addition to improving habitat health, this project will reduce fire hazards around recreational facilities and identified cultural resources. A cultural clearance will be conducted as part of these treatments.

Contracts for these projects are expected to be awarded in spring of 2010 with completion by fall of 2010.



This road to the monument will be improved.

BLM Contact: Don Ellsworth, New Mexico State Office, 505-761-8900

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

