



# Considering Your National Historic Trail in Local Trail Planning

Doña Ana County Trail Summit  
November 8, 2018





## Overview...

- Background on the National Trails System
- National Historic Trails
- El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail
- Updates and Opportunities



# The National Trails System Act

- October 2, 1968 the National Trails System Act was initially signed
- Amended over time







# What is the National Trails System?

## (a) Considerations for determining establishment of trails

*In order to provide for the ever-increasing outdoor recreation needs of an expanding population and in order to promote the preservation of, public access to, travel within, and enjoyment and appreciation of the open-air, outdoor areas and historic resources of the Nation, trails should be established (i) primarily, near the urban areas of the Nation, and (ii) secondarily, within scenic areas and along historic travel routes of the Nation, which are often more remotely located.*



# What is the National Trails System?

## (c) Volunteer citizen involvement

*The Congress recognizes the valuable contributions that volunteers and private, nonprofit trail groups have made to the development and maintenance of the Nation's trails. In recognition of these contributions, it is further the purpose of this chapter to encourage and assist volunteer citizen involvement in the planning, development, maintenance, and management, where appropriate, of trails.*





# National Trails System



**19 National Historic Trails**  
**11 National Scenic Trails**  
**>1200 National Recreation Trails**



## National Historic Trails

...extended trails which follow as closely as possible and practicable the original trails or routes of travel of national historical significance.

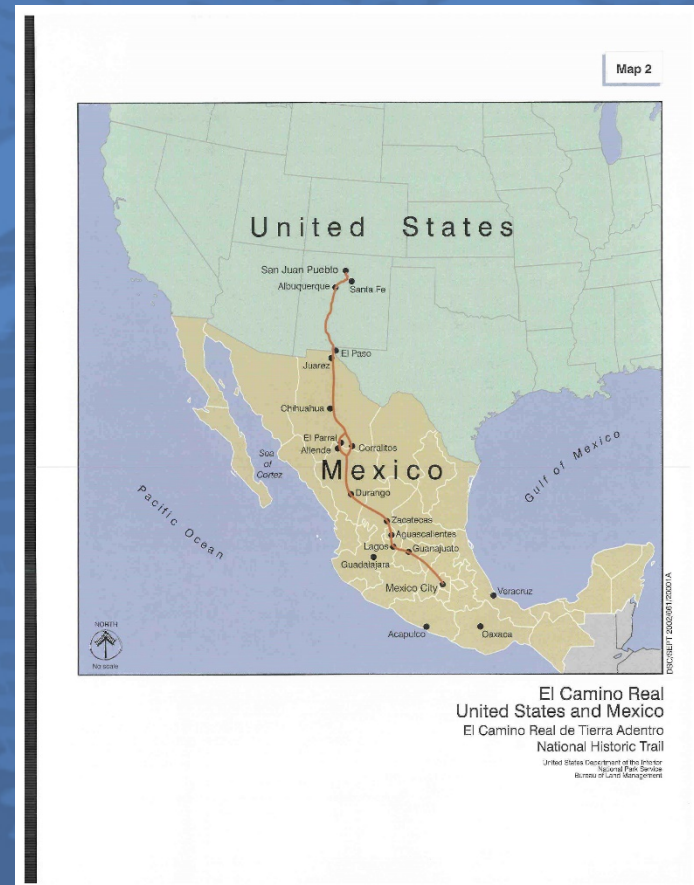






# National Historic Trails

Designation of such trails or routes shall be continuous, but the established or developed trail, and the acquisition thereof, need not be continuous onsite.







## National Historic Trails

National historic trails shall have as their purpose the identification and protection of the historic route and its historic remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment.





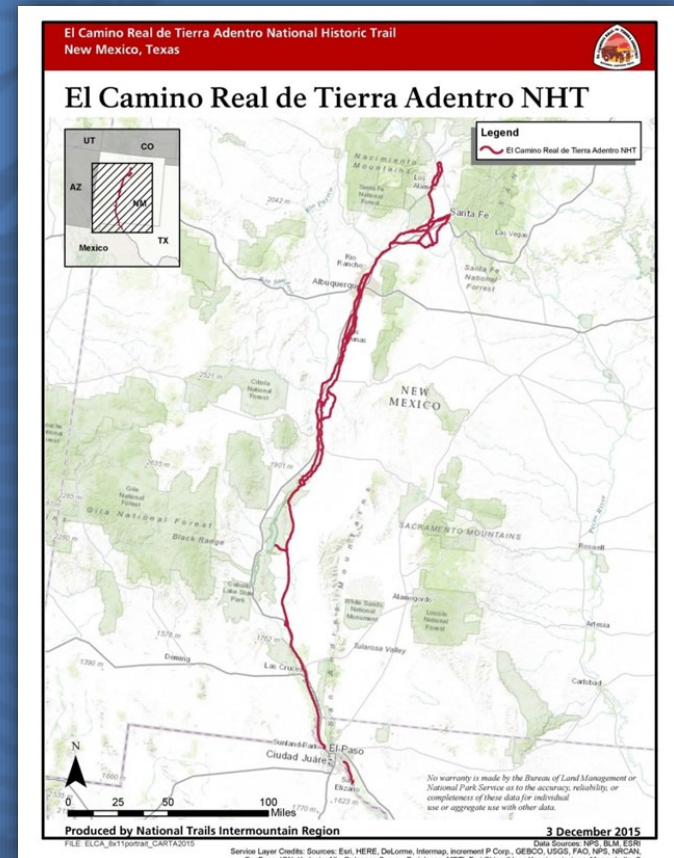
# El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail

Earliest Euro-American trade route in  
the United States

Designated 2000

NM/TX/Mexico

Bureau of Land Management and  
National Park Service co-administer  
the trail







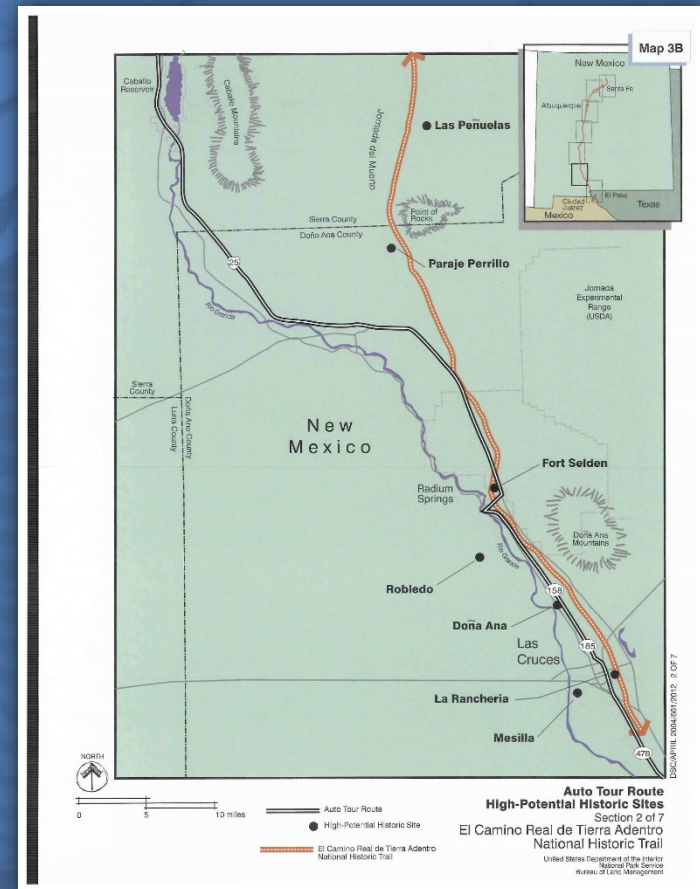
# El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail

Doña Ana County

8 Places to Go

8 High Potential Sites

3 High Potential  
Segments





## Partnership Certifications

- 1) Fort Selden Historic Site
- 2) Antonio Store: Doña Ana
- 3) Barncastle House, John M. and John D.: Doña Ana
- 4) Branigan Cultural Center: Las Cruces
- 5) New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum: Las Cruces
- 6) Mesilla Plaza: in Central Mesilla





# Opportunity – Marking/Signing

The screenshot displays the 'National Historic Trails Sign Planning Map' web application. The interface includes a browser window with the URL 'National Historic Trails Sign Planning Map'. The map shows a red route through the Tularosa Valley in New Mexico, with various sign icons placed along it. The legend on the left lists categories such as 'NHT\_Historic\_Route', 'NHT\_Auto\_Tour\_Route', 'NHT\_Crossing', and 'NHT\_Site'. An inset photo shows a physical sign for 'El Camino Real Interpretive Trail' on a roadside.

**Legend**

- NHT\_Historic\_Route**
  - Historic\_Route
  - Historic\_Route\_Next\_X\_Miles
  - Historic\_Route\_Left
  - Historic\_Route\_Right
  - Historic\_Route\_Both\_Directions
- NHT\_Auto\_Tour\_Route**
  - Auto\_Tour\_Route
  - Auto\_Tour\_Route\_Arrow\_Left\_And\_Right
  - Auto\_Tour\_Route\_Left\_Arrow
  - Auto\_Tour\_Route\_Right\_Arrow
  - Auto\_Tour\_Route\_Straight\_Arrow
- NHT\_Crossing**
  - Crossing
- NHT\_Site**
  - Site\_Identification\_Entrance
  - Site\_Name
  - Site\_Name\_Left\_Arrow

Map labels include: Sierra, Rio Grande, Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks National Monument, Dona Ana, Las Cruces, White Sands Missile Range, White Sands National Monument, TULAROSA VALLEY, Alamogordo, Otero, Fort Bliss, El Paso, Hudspeth, NEW MEXICO, TEXAS, UNITED STATES, MEXICO, Juarez, Paso, Carretera Ciudad Juarez-Juanos.

Scale: 0 10 20mi

Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, USGS, NGA, EPA, NPS



# Opportunity – Trail Planning & Development







## In Partnership...

working to  
protect, develop,  
and promote  
national historic  
trails.

[blm.gov/nm](http://blm.gov/nm)  
[nps.gov/elca](http://nps.gov/elca)



*Discover. Connect. Explore.*

# #FINDYOURTRAIL