50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS AND HISTORIC TRAILS ACT LECTURE SERIES

Friday, July 6, 6 PM
Steve Harris: Chama River Flow Project
Rio Grande Lower Gorge Visitor Center, 2873 State Road 68, Pilar, NM (575-751-4869)
Steve Harris is Executive Director of Rio Grande Restoration non-profit river conservation group dedicated to protection of the ecological and economic values provided by the Rio Grande. In this capacity he writes, speaks and advocates for the resolution of river issues, especially policies to protect flowing water. He has participated in river restoration projects, such as the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program, in public policy forums, such as regional water planning and presently manages the Rio Chama Flow Project. He is also, since 1976, the owner of the river touring company Far-Flung Adventures, which has introduced thousands of persons to the Rio Grande.

Friday, August 3, 6 PM
Dr. Paul Bauer: The Rio Grande
Rio Grande Lower Gorge Visitor Center, 2873 State Road 68, Pilar, NM (575-751-4869)
Dr. Bauer is a recently retired principal geologist and former associate director at the New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources at New Mexico Tech. He received a Ph.D. in geology from NM Tech in 1988. He subsequently served as manager of the state’s Geologic Mapping Program for 12 years. Since his first Taos Box trip in 1980, he has spent much of the last 30+ years investigating the geology and hydrogeology of north-central New Mexico, with an emphasis on the Taos County region. In 2011, he combined an enthusiasm for whitewater adventures with an interest in earth science education by publishing the award-winning book The Rio Grande: A River Guide to the Geology and Landscapes of Northern New Mexico, which won the a National Outdoor Book Award for best Outdoor Adventure Guidebook.

Friday, September 7, 6 PM
Janet MacKenzie: The El Camino Real
Rio Grande Lower Gorge Visitor Center, 2873 State Road 68, Pilar, NM (575-751-4869)
Janet MacKenzie has done archaeological excavation and survey in the UK, Canada, Peru and New Mexico since 1972, especially on fortified sites associated with a walled trade route on the continental divide in the northern sierra de Peru. Janet was the MPP Project Director 2015-2018 and now, as Chief Archaeologist, oversees the archaeological activities of the project. She has volunteered with the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area, Archaeological Records Management Section of the New Mexico Heritage Preservation Office, and the Archaeological Society of New Mexico and its Rock Art Council, Mesa Prieta, at the northern end of the Spanish Royal Road features the largest assemblage of Historic Period petroglyphs in New Mexico.

Friday, October 5, 6 pm
Mark Henderson: The Old Spanish Trail
Rio Grande Lower Gorge Visitor Center, 2873 State Road 68, Pilar, NM (575-751-4869)
Mark Henderson was an archeologist with the US Civil Service from 1977-2007. Mark's favorite assignments as a Civil Servant were working with volunteers in archeological site stewardship. Upon retirement in 2007 Mark established Chupadera Archeological Resources LLC in with the purpose of "encouraging public participation in the archeological research in the US Great Basins and Southwest." From 2007-2009 Mark served as Vice President of the Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA) where he continues as a member and volunteer, encouraging citizen stewardship and use of the Trail. Mark serves on the Board of Directors of the Taos County Historical Society, is an advisor for the Town of Taos on Acquia Revitalization and a member of the “Shepherds” volunteer collection management and research team with SMU-Taos and the Taos Archaeological Society.