

San Juan RC&D

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Kàa-vi Nùu-ci Tuvù-pu ADA Accessible picnic area and trail opens at Vallecito Reservoir

After 3 years of hard work, the Vallecito Service League (VSL) opened a new Americans with Disabilities accessible picnic area and trail at the north end of Vallecito Reservoir. This newly developed site featured a covered pavilion with wheelchair accessible tables, barbeque grill and vault toilet. The 800 foot trail leads to scenic vistas of the reservoir and the stunning views of the high peaks that surround the area.

The Grand Opening recognized the many people and organizations that worked to get this facility constructed. A highlight of the program was a Native American Dance performances by Southern Ute Tribal members.

The naming of the park was selected to honor the original inhabitants of the Vallecito area the Ute People and means Mountain Utes Land in English.

Along the wheelchair accessible trail are several Cultural Scared Trees. These living history monuments are the results of Native Americans peeling off the bark to extract the inter cambium. This process is used for medicinal, and spiritual purposes as well as a source of the sweet inter bark.

The San Juan RC&D assisted this project in serving as fiscal agent for over \$62,500 in grants that it obtained for this community directed project.

