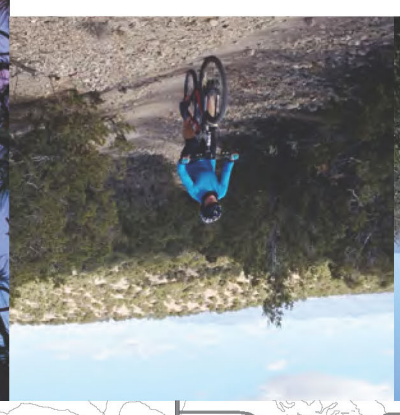
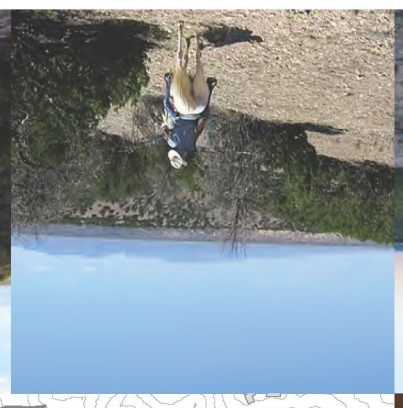
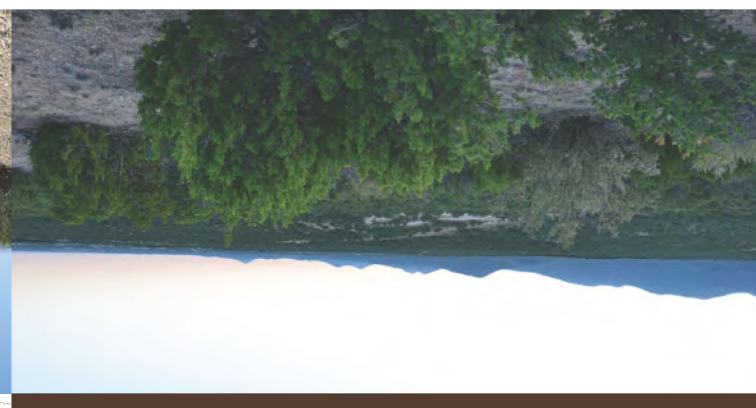
Santa Fe Foothill Trails

Enjoy the foothills of Santa Fe…
by foot, bike, or horseback.

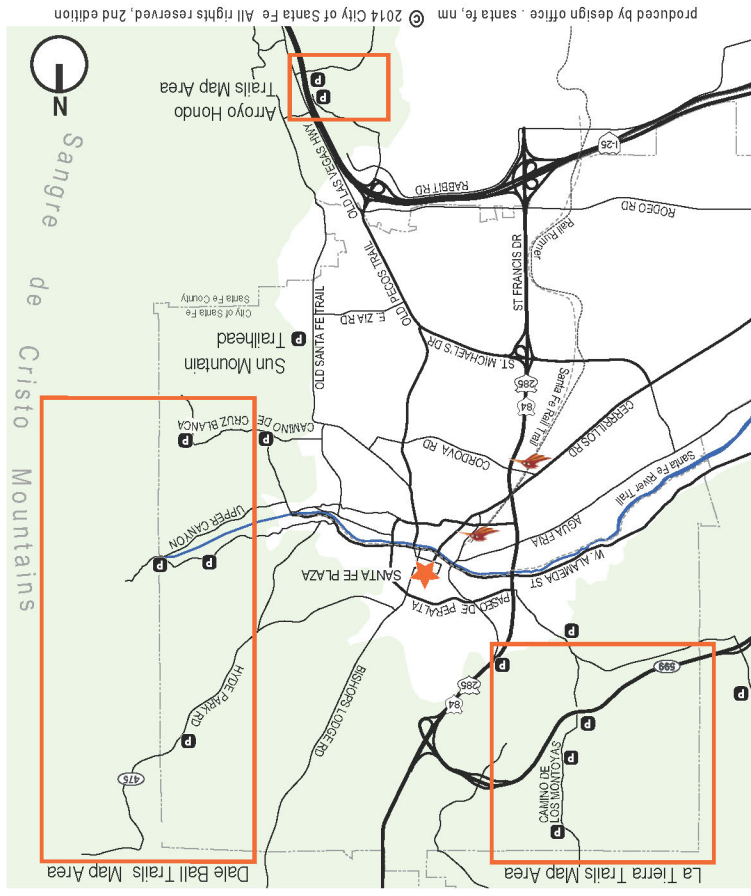






Sangre de Cristo Foothills

The foothills to the east of Santa Fe vary in elevation from 6,940 ft. to 9,121 ft. and provide a variety of habitats for plant and animal communities. The dominantly piñon and juniper vegetation cover serves as protection areas and travel corridors for numerous wildlife species. Efficient use of water drives the overall evolution of life here right down to daily behavior. Most mammals are active at night, so tracks and scat are often all we see of them. Birds are active in the day, and depending on when you are here, so are the reptiles. Some of the most ancient, drought-adapted habitats are microscopic, in bio-crusts woven together of many species. Typical wildlife include: the cottontail rabbit, jackrabbit, burrowing owl, pinyon jay, stellar jay, coyote, bobcat, and mountain lion.



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Trail Safety Reminders and Recommendations

Wear appropriate clothing and shoes for the route you choose.

Bring plenty of water, sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, rain gear, and a first aid kit.

Seasonal conditions vary for each trail area. The higher elevation Dale Ball and connecting trails can be icy in winter and early spring, and the lower elevation La Tierra and Arroyo Hondo Trails can be hot in the daytime during summer months.

If you're visiting from a lower altitude, especially one with higher humidity, be careful not to do too much, too fast. Altitude sickness and dehydration can lead to serious difficulties, so rest often, drink plenty of water, and enjoy the views.

Trail Rules and Etiquette

SHARE THE TRAIL

YIELD TO

- **Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times.**
- **Equestrians are allowed only on Multi-Use and Arroyo Trails.**
- **ATVs / MX vehicles are not allowed on trails except within the designated ATV / MX Park.**
- **No campfires or open flames.**

Help protect our fragile foothills ecosystem, please stay on designated trails.

Do not leave valuables in your vehicle.

Ride / hike the trails at your own risk.

Trails and parking open dawn until dusk.

Contact Information:
Police Non-Emergency (505) 428-3710
City of Santa Fe Parks Division (505) 955-2106
Santa Fe County Open Space & Trails Division (505) 992-9873

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SANTA FE COUNTY OPEN SPACE & TRAILS

PARKS DIVISION

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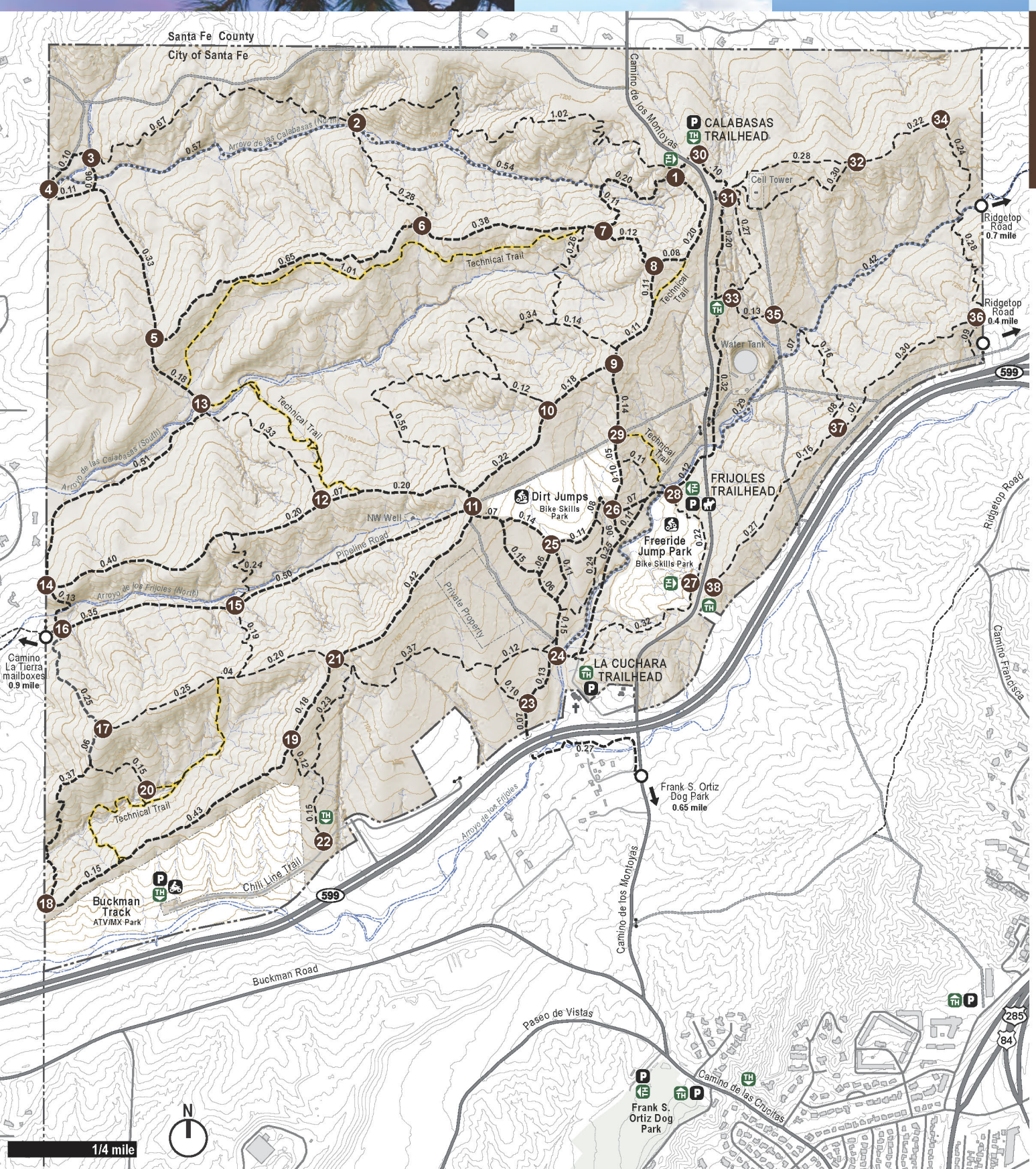
La Tierra TRAILS



MAP INFORMATION

TRAILS	USERS		
Multi-Use Trail			10 ft. Contour
Arroyo Trail		#	Trail Junction
Hiker / Biker Trail		TH	Trailhead
Technical Trail		P	Parking (10+ vehicles)
Offsite Trail			Horse Trailer Parking
0.00 Trail Segment Distance (miles)			Trail Access Point

Welcome to the La Tierra Trails

The La Tierra Trail system offers 25+ miles of hiker, biker, and equestrian trails, plus designated technical parks for BMX, mountain bikes, and ATV/MX. With an elevation range of 350 vertical feet over a 1,500 acre area, the La Tierra Trails are designated as easy to moderate hiking trails and easy to moderate biking trails, all within three miles of the Santa Fe Plaza.

Multi-Use trails are generally wider trails with less abrupt grade changes, while Hiker-Biker trails are mostly narrower, single-track trails. Some trails within the system are identified as 'technical trails' with features or steeper grades.

Route suggestions include:

A Short Hike *(2.0 miles)*
Park at the Calabasas Trailhead off Camino de los Montoyas. Start at junction 1 proceed to 2 6 7 and return to 1

Ridgetop Loop with Good Views *(2.7 miles)*
Park at La Cuchara Trailhead. Start at 24 proceed to 21 17 16 14 12 11 25 and back to the trailhead.

Mountain Biking and Trail Running Loop *(10.0 miles)*
Park at La Cuchara Trailhead. Start at 24 proceed to 19 18 17 16 14 13 5 3 2 1. Cross road to east side to 30 32 34 36 37 35 33 31 30. Cross road to west side to 1 8 9. Take long loop up to 10. Take longer route down and back up to 11 21 24 and back to the trailhead.

Map data source: 2013 City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County GIS data

Dale Ball AND CONNECTING TRAILS

MAP INFORMATION

TRAILS	USERS		
Hiker / Biker Trail		0.00	Trail Segment Distance (miles)
Connecting Trails		474	Forest Service Trail
Preserve Trail		#	Trail Junction
20 ft. Contour		TH	Trailhead
		P	Parking (10+ vehicles)

Welcome to the Santa Fe Foothill Trails

The Santa Fe Foothill Trails system includes 34 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails that extend across land owned by the City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, the National Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy and private land. Trails start just two miles from the Santa Fe Plaza and include the following trails:

Dale Ball Trail system	23.4	miles
Nature Conservancy Preserve Trail	1.3	miles
Dorothy Stewart Trail	1.6	miles
Atalaya Trail	5.4	miles
La Piedra Trail	1.6	miles
Little Tesuque Trail	1.7	miles

With an elevation range of approximately 1,800 feet, views from the Santa Fe Foothill Trails include stunning panoramas of the Rio Grande Valley's mountain ranges and the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. The trails also connect to an extensive network of trails in the Santa Fe National Forest.

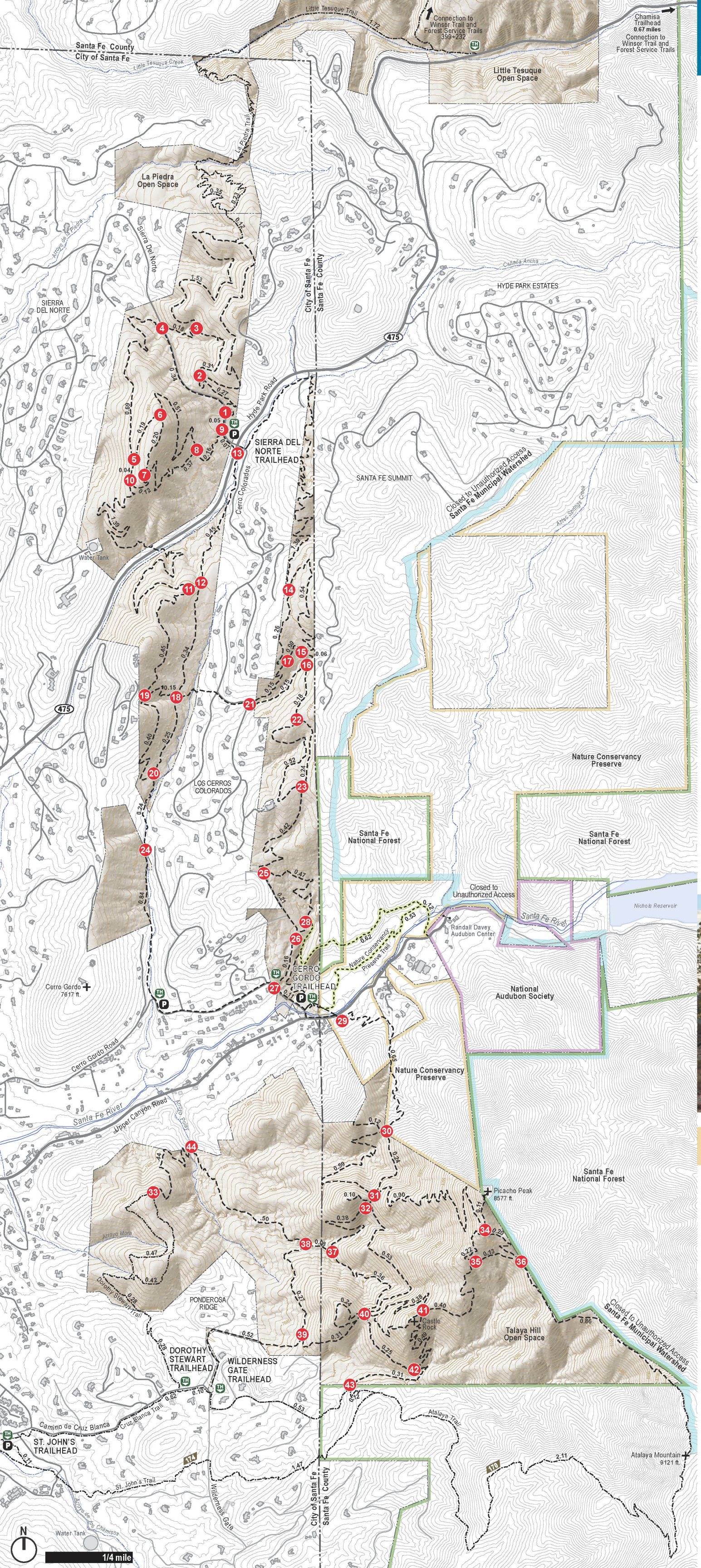
Route suggestions include:

A Short Hike with Great Views *(1.8 miles)*
Park at the Sierra del Norte Trailhead. Start at junction 9. Proceed to 8 then to 6 5 10 7. Return via 8. Complete the hike at junction 9.

A Long, Strenuous Hike with Great Views *(9.1 miles)*
Park at St. John's College parking lot. Take St. John's Trail 174 to Atalaya Trail 170, and on to the peak of Atalaya. Proceed north along the ridge to 36 34 and take the spur that goes to the top of Picacho Peak. Return to 34 and then down through 31 32 37 38 44 33 where you join the Dorothy Stewart Trail. Take it to the small parking lot on Cruz Blanca, cross the road and take the Cruz Blanca Trail west to the St. John's College parking lot.

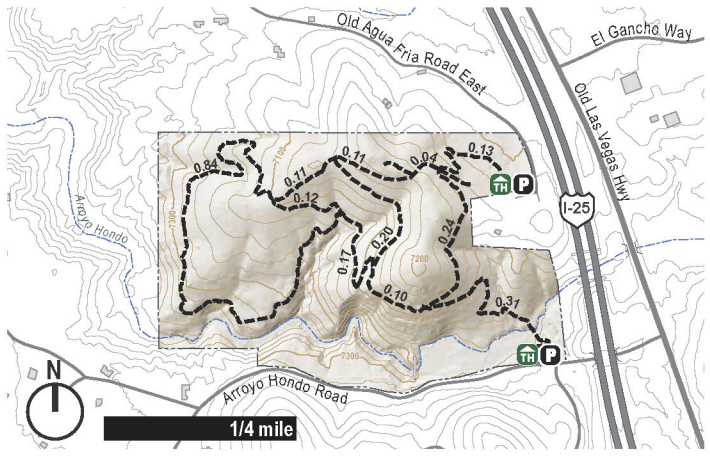
A Good Mountain Bike Ride *(9.5 miles)*
Park at the Sierra del Norte Trailhead. Start on the 1 2 outer loop to 3 4 5 10 11 19 20 24 27 26 25 23. Take the left trail to 22 16 15 14 13 9 and back to the parking lot.

Map data sources: 2013 City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, The Nature Conservancy, and National Forest Service GIS



ARROYO HONDO OPEN SPACE

MAP INFORMATION

TRAILS	USERS
Multi-Use Trail	
0.00 Trail Segment Distance (miles)	
Trailhead	
Parking (10+ vehicles)	
20 ft. Contour	

The Arroyo Hondo Trail system includes approximately 3 miles of hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian trails (elevation range of 260 ft.) that provide access to panoramic views of the Galisteo Basin, Cerrillos Hills, Ortiz Mountains, and the Arroyo Hondo. The Arroyo Hondo Pueblo site and the historic dam can be seen from vista points.