

Michael R. Sandoval Cabinet Secretary

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## NMDOT supports travel restrictions on Pueblos and Reservations

Please limit outdoor activities in these areas

SANTA FE – As part of New Mexico's response to limit the spread of COVID-19, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham announced a public health order on Tuesday, March 24, 2020. New Mexico residents have been instructed to stay home except for outings absolutely necessary for health, safety, and welfare.

In recent days, several Pueblos have seen an influx of visitors to nearby recreational areas posing a potential threat to vulnerable communities impacted by limited health and safety resources.

Following state and national trends, Pueblos have implemented travel bans and restrictions and closed all tribal gaming facilities and operations in New Mexico.

NMDOT recognizes the challenges with staying home for long periods of time as well as the benefits of visiting the beautiful recreational areas in and around Pueblo communities. However, at this time, the pueblos and reservations would sincerely appreciate the public's understanding and cooperation in staying home and avoiding these areas.

While state roads remain open, we ask the traveling public not to get out of their vehicles on Pueblo or Reservation land. At this time, Pueblos are closed to the public.

The stay-at-home advisory is in effect until April 10, 2020 and no trips to recreational sites in Pueblo communities are allowed.

Members of the public who have questions or would like information regarding travel to or through Pueblo communities may contact the All Pueblo Council of Governors at: <u>APCG@indianpueblo.org</u>