

**NEW MEXICO GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**73<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL FALL FIELD CONFERENCE**  
**October 4-7, 2023**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

The 73<sup>rd</sup> annual Fall Field Conference of the New Mexico Geological Society will be held in the Carlsbad area of southeastern New Mexico, a region last visited by the Society in 2006. The 2023 conference will focus specifically on evaporite karst of the lower Pecos region, and more broadly on the geology and stratigraphy of the Delaware Basin in west Texas and southeastern New Mexico. This region is of immense economic and scientific importance due to its prolific oil and gas production and its designation by the International Union of Geological Sciences as a Global Stratotype Section for rocks of middle Permian age. Evaporite karst phenomena formed in middle and upper Permian strata occur on a variety of scales and are broadly distributed throughout the region.

The 2023 Fall Field Conference will be sponsored by the National Cave and Karst Research Institute. The hosts for this year's conference are Lewis Land (National Cave and Karst Research Institute), Kate Zeigler (Zeigler Geologic Consulting), Peter Hutchinson (THG Geophysics), Issam Bou Jaoude (National Cave and Karst Research Institute), and David McCraw (NMBGMR, ret.).

Authors are asked to provide an intent to submit a manuscript and/or mini-paper to the Guidebook editor listed below on or before **November 15, 2022** by e-mail or letter. The intent to submit should include proposed manuscript title and authorship. We ask that authors observe a 20 page (double-spaced) manuscript limit – about ten printed pages with figures. Papers longer than ten printed pages will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Mini-papers are encouraged and will be limited to 1500 words and one figure. Full-length papers will be subject to external review by reviewers selected by the editors. The editors will review the minipapers. Details of manuscript preparation and format will be provided to authors who submit titles. **February 1, 2023** is the deadline for submission of draft manuscripts for review; manuscript reviews will be returned to the authors by **February 28, 2023**; **April 1, 2023** is the deadline for final manuscript submission, complete with clean figures.

The 2023 field conference tentative itinerary will include an underground tour of Carlsbad Cavern, one of three world heritage sites in the state of New Mexico; and a pre-conference hike to the crest of Guadalupe Peak, the highest point in Texas, in Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Attendees will also have an opportunity to examine upper Permian gypsum karst phenomena of the Castile Formation at Chosa Draw, including Parks Ranch Cave, the second longest gypsum cave in the United States. The final day of the conference will focus on regional carbonate to evaporite facies changes and formation of gypsum cenotes at Bottomless Lakes State Park, at the discharge end of the hydrologic system in the Roswell Artesian Basin.

Lodging for the conference will consist of bunkhouse and tent camping at Washington Ranch, where unique exposures of Quaternary gravels, tufa dams and other tufa deposits can be found along the banks of the Black River, one of the southernmost tributaries of the Pecos River in southeastern New Mexico.

Please direct all communications regarding manuscript submission to Lewis Land (lland@nckri.org).