

**New Mexico Geological Society (NMGS) 2026 Fall Field Conference Field Trip
October 22–24, 2026**

Participant Information

Full Name: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Emergency Contact Phone: _____

This agreement applies to my participation in the NMGS field trip on October 22–24, 2026, including field stops, geological demonstrations, walking and hiking, optional hikes offered as part of the field trip, roadside activities, highway crossings, and transportation between designated field-trip assembly points and stops.

Covered transportation includes travel in organizer-arranged vehicles and personal vehicles used to participate in the field-trip itinerary, including boarding and exiting vehicles. This agreement also applies to itinerary changes made by field-trip leaders during these dates.

It does not cover independent activities outside the field-trip itinerary, travel to or from the conference from my home or lodging, or separately scheduled conference social events.

Acknowledgment of Risks

I understand that the field trip involves outdoor activities on public, private, and tribal lands. Participation involves foreseeable and unforeseen risks, including:

- Uneven terrain, loose rock, unstable footing, steep slopes, exposed edges, and falls;
- Walking and hiking that may involve sustained exertion, elevation changes, and higher elevations;
- Falling or dislodged rocks and injuries near geological exposures;
- Heat, cold, wind, precipitation, lightning, sun exposure, dehydration, and sudden changes in weather;
- Encounters with insects, snakes, and other wildlife;
- Roadside stops, highway crossings, moving traffic, and limited visibility;
- Vehicle collisions and injuries while traveling, boarding, or exiting vehicles;
- Remote locations, limited cellular service, and delayed access to emergency assistance or medical care; and
- Acts or omissions of other participants and third parties.

These risks may result in property damage, illness, serious injury, permanent disability, or death.

I understand that safety procedures can reduce risks but cannot eliminate them. I have had an opportunity to review the itinerary and physical demands and to ask questions before participating.

Voluntary Participation and Assumption of Risk

I voluntarily choose to participate. I knowingly assume the risks described above and other risks associated with the covered activities, whether known or unknown, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

I may decline a particular hike, crossing, or other activity that I believe exceeds my abilities or presents an unacceptable risk. I will notify a field-trip leader before separating from the group and follow the leader's directions for a safe alternative.

This assumption of risk does not include claims arising from gross negligence, reckless conduct, willful misconduct, or intentional wrongdoing, or claims that cannot lawfully be waived.

Released Parties

For purposes of this agreement, “Released Parties” means:

- New Mexico Geological Society;
- New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, including the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources;
- United States of America, including the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management;
- State of New Mexico, including the New Mexico State Land Office;
- Pueblo of Santa Ana;
- City of Albuquerque, for field-trip activities on city-managed property;
- Mr. Max Dawkins, in connection with access to property made available for the field trip;
- Other owners, lessees, and authorized managers of property made available for the field trip;
- The foregoing parties’ officers, employees, agents, contractors, volunteers, field-trip leaders, and drivers, including transportation providers, while acting in connection with the covered activities.

Release of Liability and Agreement Not to Sue

TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, I RELEASE THE RELEASED PARTIES FROM CLAIMS ARISING FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN THE COVERED ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL INJURY, ILLNESS, DEATH, OR PROPERTY DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE ORDINARY NEGLIGENCE OF A RELEASED PARTY.

I agree not to bring a lawsuit against a Released Party for a claim that I have validly released under this agreement. This release and agreement not to sue do not apply to gross negligence, reckless conduct, willful misconduct, intentional wrongdoing, or any claim that cannot lawfully be waived.

Limited Indemnification for My Conduct: To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from third-party claims for bodily injury or property damage, but only to the extent caused by my own negligent or wrongful acts or omissions during the covered activities.

This obligation does not require me to indemnify a Released Party for that party’s negligence, gross negligence, reckless conduct, willful misconduct, or intentional wrongdoing. It does not create a separate obligation for me to provide a legal defense.

Physical Demands and Assistance Needs

I understand that activities may differ in difficulty and accessibility. I am responsible for assessing my ability to participate safely and for bringing appropriate footwear, clothing, drinking water, and necessary personal medications.

I will privately notify the designated NMGS field-trip coordinator before participation of any assistance needs or health limitations relevant to my safe participation or emergency response. I do not need to provide a complete medical history on this form.

I will promptly inform a leader if I become ill, injured, fatigued, or unable to continue safely.

Emergency Assistance and Medical Costs

If I become injured or ill, I authorize field-trip leaders to contact emergency services, arrange emergency assistance or evacuation, and provide first aid within their training.

If I am unable to communicate, I authorize emergency responders and qualified medical personnel to provide care as permitted by law.

I understand that NMGS does not guarantee immediate rescue or medical care. I am responsible for medical, ambulance, evacuation, and related expenses incurred on my behalf to the extent those expenses are legally my responsibility.

Safety and Site Rules

I agree to:

- Follow directions from field-trip leaders, authorized site personnel, and emergency responders;
- Remain with my assigned group unless a leader approves another arrangement;
- Cross roads only at designated locations and when directed under the established crossing procedure;
- Recognize that instructions or traffic-control measures do not eliminate traffic risks;
- Comply with applicable laws, landowner rules, tribal requirements, and permit conditions;
- Respect restricted areas, cultural resources, and private property;
- Follow Leave No Trace principles and collect samples only where expressly authorized;
- Use vehicle seat belts where provided; and
- Avoid conduct or impairment that could endanger myself or others.

I understand that leaders may modify or cancel activities for safety or access reasons and may remove a participant who fails to follow safety directions. If removed, I will cooperate with arrangements for safe departure.

Applicable Law and Severability

This agreement is governed by New Mexico law to the extent applicable, subject to controlling federal law and applicable tribal law.

Nothing in this agreement waives, expands, or alters any governmental or tribal sovereign immunity, statutory immunity, jurisdictional limitation, or other protection available under applicable law.

If a provision is held invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions will remain effective to the extent permitted by law.

Participant Acknowledgment and Signature

By signing below, I confirm that:

- I am at least 18 years old;
- I have read and understand this agreement;
- I have had an opportunity to ask questions and receive clarification;
- I understand that I am releasing certain legal claims, including claims based on the ordinary negligence of the Released Parties, to the extent permitted by law; and
- I sign voluntarily.
- By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have read and understand this agreement.

Participant Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____