

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge and The Rio Grande Phenology Trail



Cottonwood Tree at Sevilleta: Breaking Leaf Bud

Photo By: E. Dicharry

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is one of the largest refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System in the lower 48 states. The 230,000 acre refuge includes four different biomes that intersect and support a wide array of biological diversity.



**Sevilleta NWR Visitor Center
Cottonwood Tree with Red Catkins**
Photo By: E. Dicharry

In March 2016, Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge began participating in the Rio Grande Phenology Trail.

Phenology refers to key seasonal changes in plants and animals from year to year—such as flowering, emergence of insects and migration of birds—especially their timing and relationship with weather and climate.

What Sevilleta NWR is Studying:
Cottonwood Trees (*Populus deltoides*)
FourWing Saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*)
Honey Mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*)
New Mexico Whiptail Lizards

On March 24, 2016

Sevilleta started collecting data and adding it to Nature's Notebook



Male Fourwing Salt Bush at Sevilleta NWR

Photo By: E. Dicharry

**Other Species may be added to the Sevilleta
NWR Phenology Study**



New Mexico Whiptail (*Cnemidophorus neomexicanus*).
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For More Information Contact:
Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge
<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta/>
Or

<https://www.usanpn.org/nn/RioGrandePhenologyTrail>
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