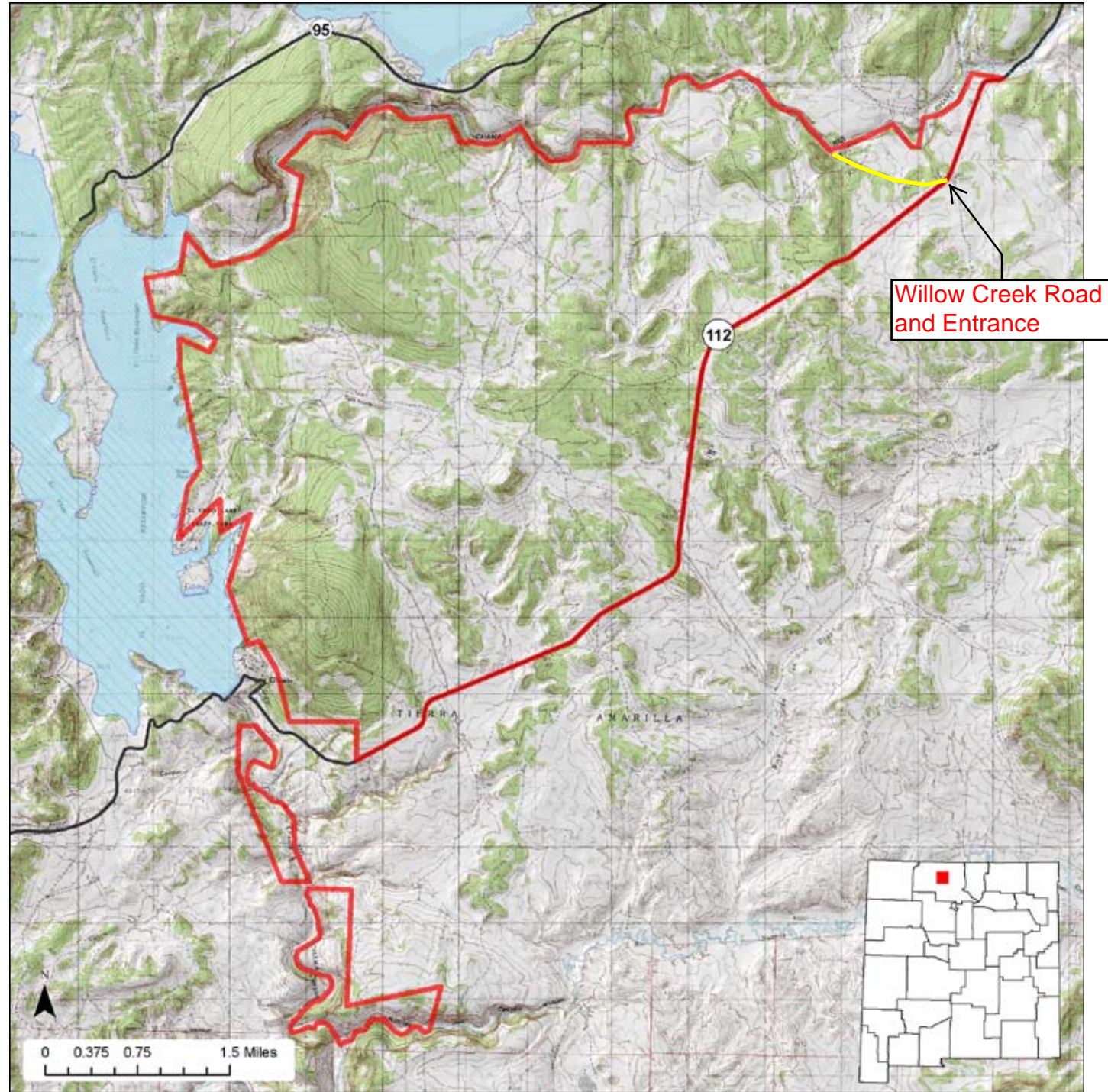




Rio Chama Wildlife Areas



Location: The Rio Chama Wildlife Area is located about 14 miles south of Chama bordering El Vado Reservoir and the Chama River.

Total Acreage: 13,239 acres.

Purchase: The Rio Chama was purchased beginning in 1953 to provide hunting and fishing access.

Description: The Rio Chama offers access to 12.5 miles of the Chama River and 4.5 miles of El Vado reservoir shoreline. There are pinon covered ridges bounding the deep Chama Canyon.

For More information: More information about hunting, fishing and other activities, may be found on the Department's website: www.wildlife.state.nm.us/.

GAIN Activities/Access

- ✓ Wildlife Viewing
- ✓ Photographing
- ✓ Hiking
- ✓ Bicycling
- ✓ Horseback Riding

Hunting and Fishing

- ✓ Hunting
- ✓ Fishing

Closures

- ✓ Yes

Facilities

- ✓ No rest rooms
- ✓ Primitive camping
- ✓ No drinking water

Fees

- ✓ Yes

Motorized Vehicles

- ✓ Not allowed beyond the roadway and parking area

For more information on hunting and fishing rules and seasons, please read current hunting or fishing Rules and Information Booklets available on the Department's website, at Department offices, or from license vendors state-wide.

What to See, Do, and Learn

Closures-GAIN activities (wildlife viewing, photography, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, camping, etc.) and most access is prohibited during published deer and elk hunts and from November 16 -Memorial Day weekend.

Wildlife Viewing-Wildlife watchers may see various wildlife species. Good binoculars are important. The best time to view wildlife is at dawn or dusk. Allowed Memorial Day weekend-November 15.

Photographing-The best time to photograph wildlife is at dawn or dusk. A telephoto lens is important. Allowed Memorial Day weekend-November 15.

Hiking-Hiking is the best way to see wildlife at the Rio Chama Wildlife Area or other wildlife management areas. Allowed Memorial Day weekend-November 15.

Bicycling-Allowed only on established roads. Allowed Memorial Day weekend-November 15. Licensed hunters may ride during their hunt

Horseback Riding-Allowed Memorial Day weekend-November 15. Licensed hunters may ride during their hunt.

Camping-Allowed in designated areas Memorial Day weekend-November 15. Licensed hunters may camp during their hunt.

Fishing-Anglers may access the entire WMA from Memorial Day weekend-November 15, except during published deer and elk hunts. From November 16-Memorial Day Weekend and during published deer and elk hunts, anglers are still allowed fishing access within 200 feet of the Rio Chama. The Rio Chama may be accessed during this time by parking at the entrance to Willow Creek Road off NM-112 and walking or bicycling along the road. Access is also available from Heron Lake Dam/Heron Lake State Park, park use fees may apply.

Hunting-See current Hunting Rules & Information booklet.

Facilities-The Rio Chama Wildlife Area has primitive camping but no rest rooms or drinking water.

Fees-Hunters and anglers must have appropriate licenses and permits. Wildlife viewers, photographers, hikers, bicyclists, and horseback riders must have a valid license or permit. See the Department's website www.wildlife.state.nm.us for more information.

Motorized Vehicles-Not allowed beyond roadway and parking area.