

RIO BOSQUE NEWS

A newsletter reporting on events at Rio Bosque Wetlands Park

Subscription rates:
Individual: \$250-\$499
Family: \$75-\$249

few native cottonwoods, willows and mesquites, but the vast majority of the trees were exotic saltcedars.

Today, the landscape is much different. An 18-foot-tall border wall separates the park from the Rio Grande, severing any connection between the two. And the saltcedars, once widespread throughout the park, have been reduced to 2 remnant stands.

Still, Rio Bosque remains an appropriate name, but now for different reasons. The "Rio" defining the park today is the former bend of the Rio Grande that winds through the park for 2 miles. Cut off when the river was channelized in the 1930s, this bend was re-built in 1997 as part of the wetland project at the park. And "Bosque" now applies to two defining

features: the cottonwoods and an extensive every year along the screwbean mesquite (tornillo) spread in the park's uplands. It's even more appropriate today.

BIRD BASH REHASH

The Big Bosque Bird Bash held at the park Nov 10 was a big hit! Many thanks go to the Friends of the Rio Bosque for organizing the bash and the City of El Paso's Parks and Recreation Department for its great support.



providing and setting up tents, tables and chairs for the event. Thanks also go to El Paso/Trans Pecos Audubon Society, Frontera Land Alliance, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and TransPecos Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists for participating and sharing their knowledge of our region's environment with visitors that day

The park's pages on this new site are now live at: <https://www.utep.edu/cerm/riobosque/riobosquehome.html> A mouthful to be

NEW RIO BOSQUE WEBSITE

Fans of the Rio Bosque website were dismayed when they could not access it in recent weeks. Now it is back. The site is part of the broader site of UTEP's Center for Environmental Resource Management (CERM). CERM has been updating its site, a process that included moving to a new web address.