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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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El Paso Museum of Archaeology Celebrates Castner Range

Poppies Fest, New Mural, and Federal Designation

EL PASO, Texas— The City of El Paso Museum of Archaeology (EPMArch) invites the community to visit and help celebrate the current programming happening at Castner Range to include Poppies Fest, a new mural at the museum site, and the most recent Caster Range National Monument Designation.

Poppies Fest

Happening every Saturday through April 1, EPMArch is celebrating Poppies Fest with free activities for the whole family and the opportunity to view this year's poppies bloom.

- March 25, 10 am – 3 pm
Featuring the City's Quality of Life organizations with activities and programming for all ages
- April 1, 9 am – 12 pm
Live Active EP joins EPMArch to close the celebration with a 1-mile walk through Castner Range, fitness and health organization booths and activities for the whole family

New Mural Highlighting Castner Range

In partnership with the Frontera Land Alliance and El Paso Community Foundation, a new mural by local artist Jesus "Cimi" Alvarado is underway. The mural, located on the southern façade of EPMArch, will highlight Castner Range's natural, archaeological, and historical features.

Jesus "Cimi" Alvarado began his artistic career as a graffiti artist in El Paso and his footprint can be found throughout the City's historic Segundo Barrio and beyond. His work is entirely rooted in the community he's working within at a particular time, and his process usually includes elements of community brainstorming and participation within the creation of each public work.

Caster Range Designation

On March 21, 2023, President Joe Biden signed a proclamation establishing Caster Range as a National Monument. The designation ensures the protection of the land's unique cultural, historical, scientific, and environmental attributes.

Castner Range features 7,081 acres containing prehistoric habitation dating back more than 10,000 years and is the ancestral homeland of the Comanche and Apache people. It is home to rare and endangered wildlife including the Yellow Mexican Poppy, the site of EPMArch, hiking trails, and more.

For more information on the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, visit www.EPMArch.org.

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
Among All Members of the Community

Media contact: Rick Isaias
Strategic Communications
isaiasra@elpasotexas.gov
(O): 915.212.1077
(M): 915.355.6611