



LaVESTA Annual Report

2025/ 2026

Season



Thanks to donors like you, our momentum carried strong into the 2025/2026 season, and we're excited to share some of the projects and milestones your generosity helped bring to life:

Land Conservation: On April 7th 2026, after three years of work, LaVESTA signed and notarized an easement with the Ejido of El Sargento y su Anexo La Ventana that establishes 200 hectares of accessible protected land - an unprecedented achievement in the whole of Baja California Sur!

Programs: Trail Rescue, School Educational Hikes, Kids Mountain Bike Classes, Kids Bike Library, Strider Bike Program, and Trail Maintenance.

New Trails! Double Barrel, and reroutes of trails that were blocked by fences (El Jalito and Punta Gorda.)

With more trail work, community programs, and conservation opportunities on the horizon, we're looking forward to another year of building, maintaining, and celebrating the outdoor spaces that make La Ventana and El Sargento special. **We're grateful to have you with us**—and we can't wait to cross paths on the trails or at a LaVESTA event soon.





Community



Park Easement

Together, LaVESTA and the Ejido, **conserved 200 hectares of land and trails** in the hills above El Sargento that previously had no protections!

The signed and notarized **servidumbre (easement) contract** ensures access cannot be restricted, and the land cannot be developed.



The creation of the Park was authorized through several **Ejido Assemblies** that go back to December 2024. In addition, representative from **Registro Agrario Nacional (RAN)** from La Paz reviewed it and, **CONANP** (*Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas* - National Commission of Natural Protected Areas - a federal agency of the Mexican government) participated in the signing of the servidumbre contract as Predio Dominante, giving their formal seal of approval to the project.

Key Contract Details:

- The renewable servidumbre has a duration of **20 years**.
- **Access to trails** and protection of the land is **guaranteed**.
- It was redacted by a Conservation Lawyer, discussed and edited with the help of the Ejido, the Ejido lawyer, and the Registro Agrario Nacional representative for La Paz.
- LaVESTA makes a monetary payment each year to the Ejido community to keep the land in conservation.





Student Educational Hikes

This year, in addition to bringing the local Primary Schools out, both the Los Planes High School and Primary Schools were introduced to the Park. Every school outing involves both in classroom discussions as well outdoor activities and a guided hike.

This year the program was officially approved by the School Superintendent in La Paz, in addition to the directors of the respective schools.



Trail Maintenance/Building

Weekly trail maintenance sessions were held in both the South Trails and North Trails. Reroutes were made for closed trails, and have you checked out the new Double Barrel trail yet?



Kids MTB Classes and Bike Library



The Bike library now contains 20 mountain bikes, maintained and safe for use on the trails by the kids.

Twenty-two guided MTB classes were held this season.

Kids also learned basic hands bike maintenance skills.



Trail Rescue

The trail rescue team grew the volunteer base this year, held five organized training sessions, aided in two serious rescues, and secured additional vials of anti-venom to bring the total to 8 (each expires after 3 years) A free community resource for all!



How we operate

LaVESTA is run by volunteers and fueled by your generous donations.

LaVESTA maintains a modest and strict budget, setting aside most money for community based kids programs and trail maintenance.

Kids programs are vital to LaVESTA's goal for bringing the importance of land conservation to the community.

This year was exceptional because LaVESTA invested a fair amount of money in lawyer and notary fees to make the Park a reality.

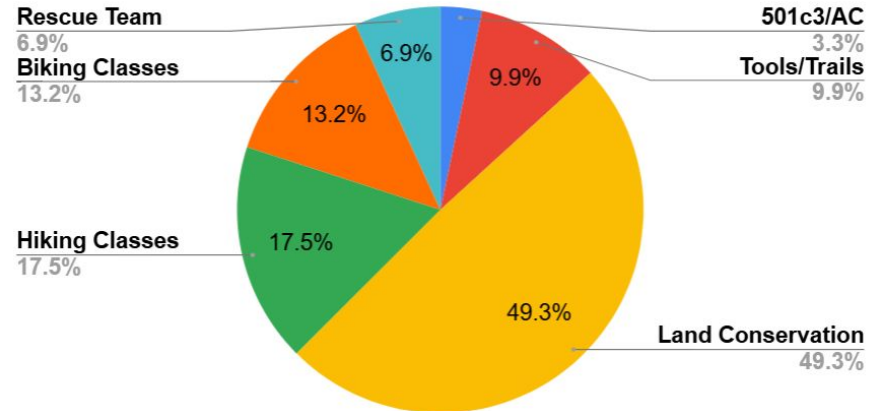
Going forward LaVESTA's budget will continue to focus on building a community around the trails and covering the yearly easement payment.

Fundraising efforts will be ramped up to face this challenge.

Fundraising

Have you heard about the [LaVESTA ICE Fund](#) created this year? This restricted fund, was created to give donors extra piece of mind when donating to LaVESTA. With your continued generous support, our goal is to build this fund, to pay the monetary park incentive every year and fund our essential community programs that make the park a success.

We will try to raise enough funds to allow us to focus even more on community building and land conservation efforts. <https://lavesta.org/donate>



Future

2026 /
2027
Season

We have lots in store for 2026/27!

Join us for our **Park Inauguration Dec. 5th, 2026** at Quercus, by the Pista Pista Trail. Ribbon cutting and events for schools, families, hikers, and bikers.

We plan to **expand the hiking program** for schools, start with a new cohort of riders for **MTB classes** and **Strider bikes** classes for the little ones.

And of course, more **trail maintenance** and **rescue team training**!

South Trail Conservation?

If our fundraising efforts are successful and we get a good response from the community, we will try to protect the land and South Trails in La Ventana.

What is LaVESTA?

LaVESTA is not just a big group of passionate volunteers, Mexican educators, trail crew, and rescue team members. LaVESTA is a **civil association in Mexico** and a **501c3 in the USA** lead by a working board of directors.

The civil association status allows LaVESTA to “exist” as an entity in Mexico that can sign contracts, talk with local government representatives, and have a bank account. Being a 501c3 in the USA is similar and allows donations from the USA to be entirely tax deductible.

LaVESTA has a set of **bylaws** that regulate its purpose and governance, available upon request. **LaVESTA's mission** is:

- *To conserve access to trails in La Ventana and El Sargento, BCS, Mexico*
- *To promote usage of the trails for recreation, by involving youth, providing access to outdoor instruction, and providing affordable access to gear to enjoy outdoor activities.*
- *To maintain the trails so that they are safe to use for mountain biking, hiking, running and any non-motorized use.*
- *To establish and maintain a rescue system in the trails of La Ventana and El Sargento.*

Governance

The 501c3 and the A.C. entities have clear rules on how to change governors and members in their statute. The two entities share the majority of its respective members.

LaVESTA A.C. is the entity that signed the Easement Contract. Further details available upon Request. <https://lavesta.org>

