

Executive Director

Janae@fronteralandalliance.org

Janaé Reneaud Field was raised in the rural community of Carland Michigan. She earned a bachelor of science degree in Wildlife Biology from Michigan State University and then a master's degree in public administration with a concentration in land conservation from Eastern Michigan University. Janaé was the executive director at the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust (Seguin, Texas) until 2011 when she moved to El Paso. Previously, she had served four years as the development and grants manager of the Washtenaw Land Trust in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She has worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife at the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge and has also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Bulgaria.

Development Director

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Kathia Gonzalez, was born and raised in El Paso, Texas and the Chihuahuan Desert will always be her home. Her undergraduate education is in Biology, with a concentration in Ecology and Evolution. Her love for the environment has led her to pursue an advance degree in Environmental Management from Western Colorado University. Kathia shares that it "is an honor to serve my community and be part of a team helping preserve our majestic desert environment." In her free time, you can find her exploring our public spaces, hiking, biking, enjoying a good book, and cooking some delicious vegetarian dishes.

Open Space Manager

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Rocio Ronquillo is Rocio was born and raised in the El Paso- Juarez region. She attended the University of Texas at El Paso, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science with a concentration in Biology. She was very interested in learning more about nature, conservation, and understanding how our environment works from an early age. During her undergraduate year, she worked as a research assistant in the aquatic ecology lab, which led her to have the opportunity to travel and do research in Barrow, Alaska. She has worked for different agencies throughout her professional career, such as the Student Conservation Association as a conservation steward in New Hampshire. She learned and did various projects helping other state parks and nonprofit lands throughout the whole state. Worked for the U.S Forest Service as a Wilderness Ranger intern in the White River National Forest in Dillion, CO. She maintained heavily trafficked trails by scouting recreation sites, clearing fallen trees with crosscuts, coordinating volunteers, and performing site rehabilitation work in preparation for overnight backcountry permit operations.

Education Manager

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Viridiana Orona originates from the El Paso/Juarez border region, where she grew up and pursued her education at The University of Texas at El Paso, achieving both a bachelor's and a master's degree in environmental science. As an undergraduate research assistant, she was actively involved in the aquatic ecology lab, conducting studies on aquatic insects at Rio Bosque Wetland Park and assessing water quality in Barrow, Alaska. During her master's program, her focus shifted to investigating dryland soil carbon dynamics. Additionally, Viridiana gained experience through environmental consulting endeavors and worked as a biological science technician at Saguaro National Park. During her time at the park, she conducted research on the flowering phenology of saguaros and explored nectar preferences among hummingbirds. This role, coupled with her prior experiences, greatly enriched her understanding of desert ecosystems and environments.