

Arroyo Hondo Arriba Land Grant



New
Mexico
Legislative
Land Grant
Committee

August 18th,
2022

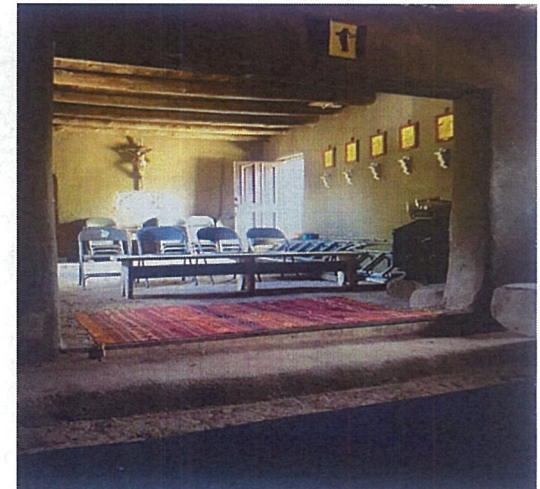
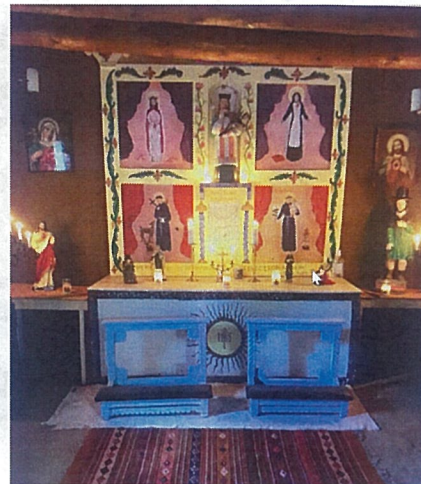
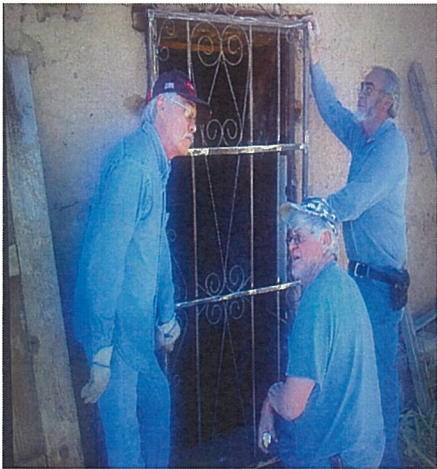
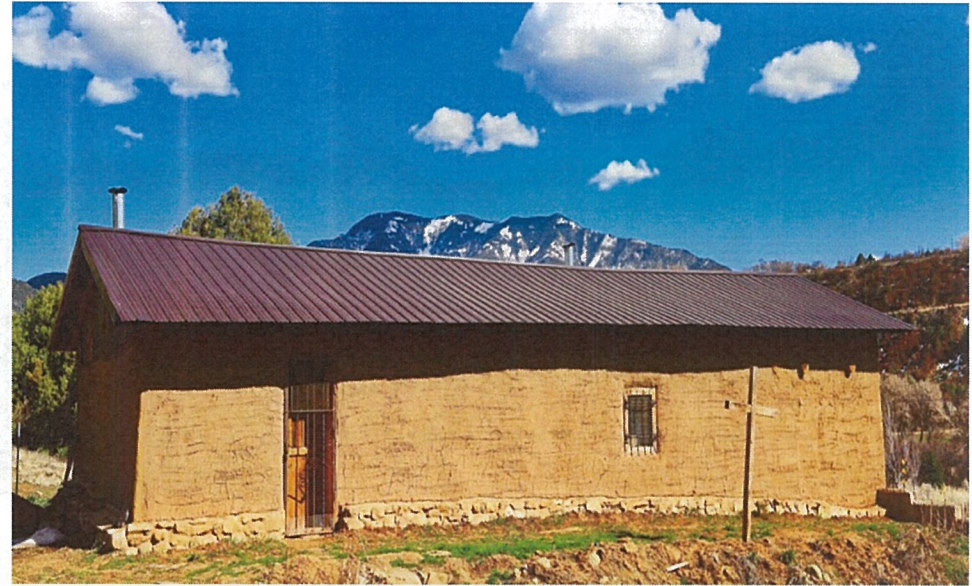
UNM-Taos,
Bataan Hall



Antepasados



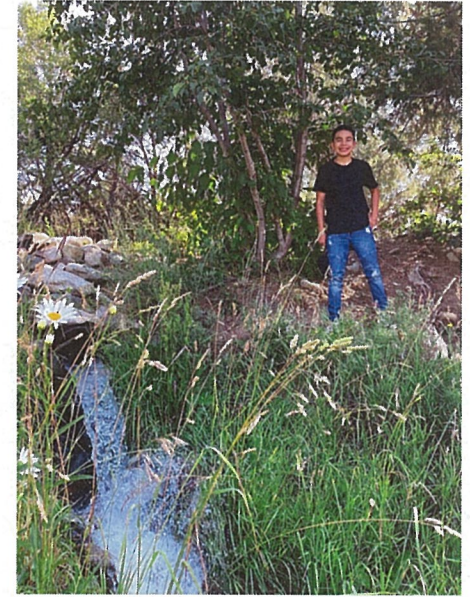
Morada Restoration Project



Community Workdays



AHACLG Youth



Arroyo Hondo Arriba Community Land Grant

The Arroyo Hondo Grant was a community land grant made by the Governor Albert Mayne on April 2, 1815. For unknown reasons the upper village chose to separate from its original mother grant; therefore on May 27th, 1823 Don Vicente Trujillo, Alcalde of the Pueblo of San Geronimo de Taos, per mandate of Governor Don Juan Antonio Viscarra, gave title and possession to 18 settlers of the upper village who chose the name San Antonio to distinguish themselves from the original Arroyo Hondo village.

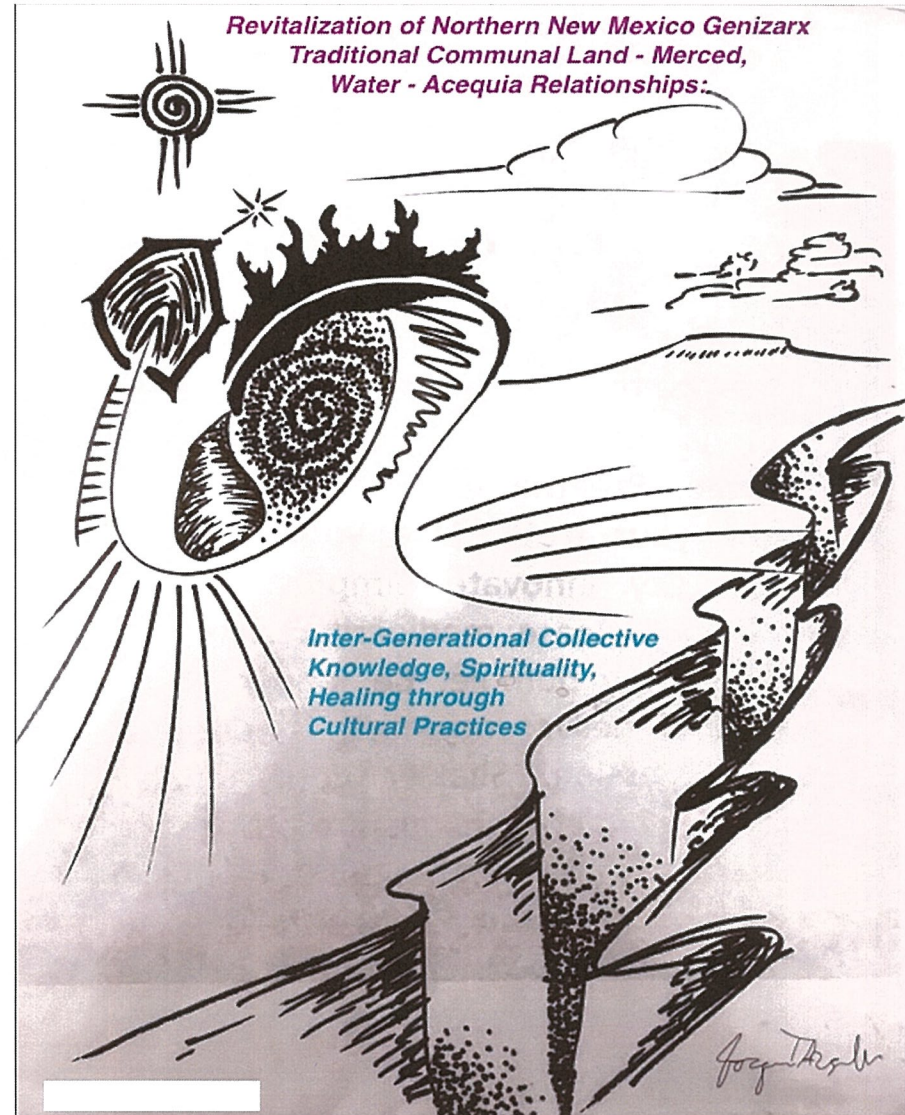
A number of name changes have occurred over generations resulting in the formal name of Arroyo Hondo Arriba Community Land Grant. Its board consists of six members elected each year. Its original size, which was approximately 2 square miles, has been reduced to one third of this over time. Some lands were transferred to private ownership in the 1930's depression era and others were lost through quiet title lawsuits in recent generations.

The land grant is just 8 miles west of the Taos Ski Valley (TSV) which has caused countless economic, tax, legal and developmental gentrification struggles to maintain ownership over the past several decades. Examples are land loss to luxury housing development on lost *merced* land, the 1970's Condo Wars and now current TSV devastation of the Rio Hondo head waters and their sewage treatment needs for projected limitless development. The historical documents of the land grant, such as the 1914 land grant meeting minutes asserting separation from the previous mother grant and a final degree of ownership from a 1980's lawsuit, have been preserved despite the arson of 3 local businesses that housed documents in the 1960's and through research in the archives of the Taos Assessor and other county government departments.

Recent projects focused on the restoration of our *morada* within our land grant boundaries and collaborating with local villages of San Cristobal, Gallina Canyon and Valdez to receive US Forest Service funds to harvest 300 acres of wood over 3-year thinning project. This Cerro Negro Project adopted governance structures from the local acequia and merced organizational and cultural-historical procedures, forming a six-member commission and appointing a *mayordomo* to oversee the work. Currently, Arroyo Hondo Arriba is one of several *mercedes* which are considered "Partition Land Grants," ineligible for New Mexico political subdivision status and are therefore denied access to state capital funds which could help regain ancestral lands crucial for our sustainable community's existence.

As with many *mercedes* across our state, being comprised of a few dozen members to address necessary quiet titles, title insurance and address frequent "modern development" tourism pressures are infinitely arduous, reflecting our states complex historical past while providing a crucial example for preserving our local *Indo-Hispano/Mestizo/Genizaro* cultural livelihood for future generations.

If you would like more information on this land grant-merced and all the amazing work they are doing for their community, you can contact them at: drsarguello@a.com, manito2@yahoo.com, or mavillarreal@hotmail.com.



Decolonial-Hispanophone perspectives: Spanish-language, anti-racist, curricular-pedagogy materials which highlight indigenous, brown, and black geo-regional traditions of Latin America (Jupp, J.C., et. al., 2020)

Individual, Collective, Cumulative, Cultural & Migration Trauma; Complex or Disenfranchised Grief; Cultural Sustaining Resilience Strategies (Nelson, A., 2019)

Historical Trauma, Genocide, Survival & Unresolved Grief (Brave Heart, M.Y.H., 2018)

Resolana: cultural livelihood of knowledge sharing; "resol or reflection of the sun"; "a place where the sun strikes and reflects off a wall, creating a place of warmth, light and tranquility"...where we "gather to talk"; "a cycle with no beginning or end which functions with all aspects happening simultaneously and constantly" "informal center for communicating." "enlightening through dialogue" "values everyday experiences as the source of knowledge" "belief that wisdom is not the monopoly of the educationally credentialed elite: life itself, is systematically and keenly observed, can and does give all of us the basis for making sound judgments about the nature of our world and the meaning of our existence" "shinning of light on, or being transparent about, opinions, attitudes, stories, knowledge etc. as commitment to learning from one another." (Montiel et. al. 1999, 2017, Chavez, A.S. 2017)

Deficite Discourse (Diindiisi, C. in Shihabi, E.A., 2021)

Arroyo or Arroyo Making (Arguello, J., 2019)

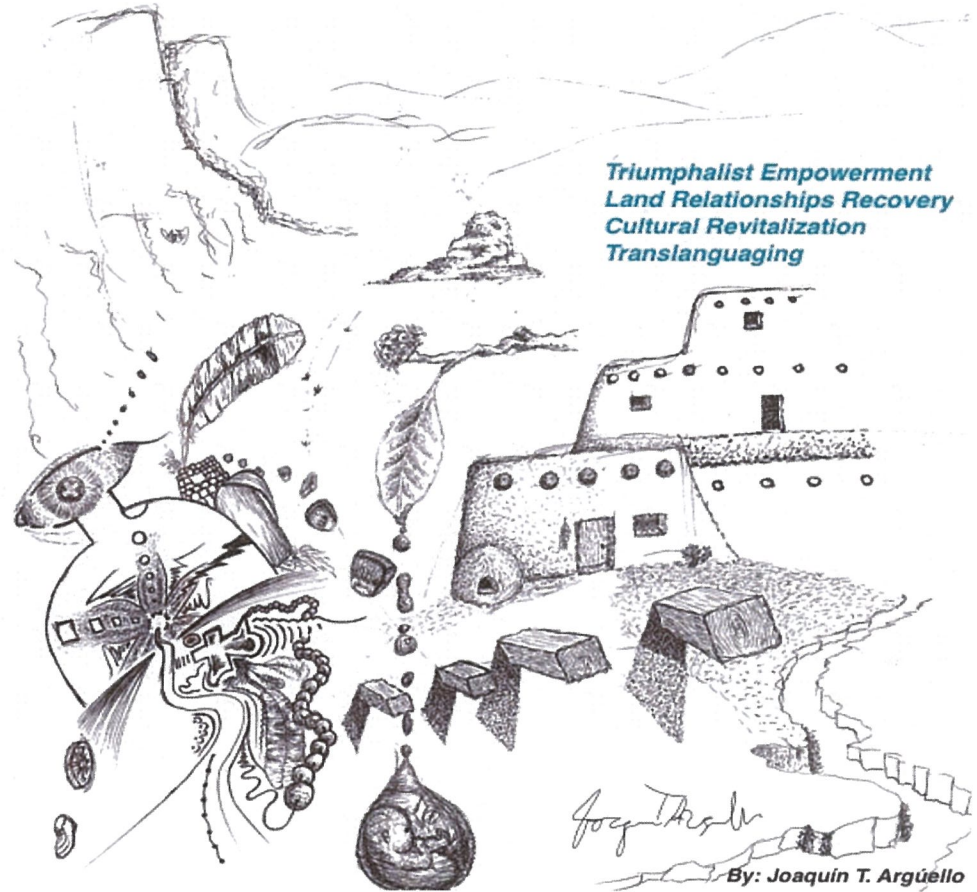
Culturally Sustaining Resiliency Strategies (Arauz, J.C., in Nelson, A., 2019)

Querencia: a deeper understanding, connection, and love built from a sustained period of time in one place learning the area on your own through work and responsibility, and being taught about it from older generations." "inclinación o tendencia del hombre y de ciertos animales a volver al sitio en que se han criado o tienen costumbre de acudir." "a place where one feels safe, a place from which one's strength of character is drawn, where one feels at home." "sense of responsibility to that place, a particular ethic toward the land" "conoce como sus manos" (Arellano, 2007 in Chavez, A.S. 2017)

Mutualismo: like the relationship between bee, plants and animals. "reciprocal mutual aid" "a responsibility to one another, Earth, plants, animals and water." "a responsibility one has, and support one gives, to the people in the communities, the land, and water" (Rivera, et. al., 2014 in Chavez, A.S., 2017)

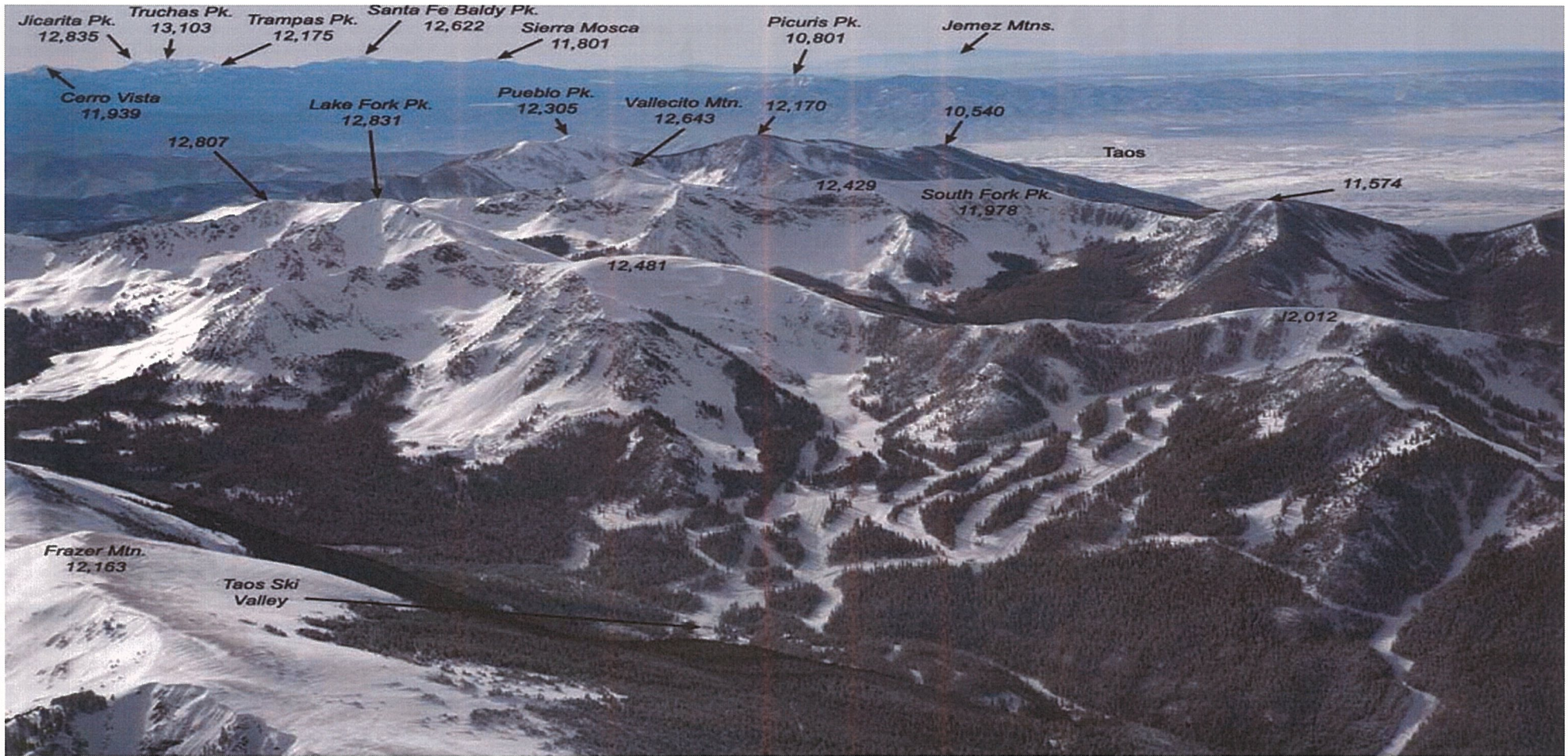
Jupp, J.C., González Delgado, M. Calderón Berumen, F., Hesse, C. (2020). Decolonial-Hispanophone Curriculum: A preliminary sketch and invitation to a South-South dialogue: *Transnational Curriculum Inquiry*, 17(2), 72-94.
 Brave Heart, M.Y.H., (2018). Integrating the Legacy of Collective & Cumulative Massive Group Trauma in Behavioral Health Treatment, Research, Training and Supervision. NASW-NM Conf.
 Diindiisi, C. in Shihabi, E.A., (2021). What will a US Investigation into Native American Boarding Schools Uncover. The Stream
 Nelson, A., (2019). Intro to Critical Trauma Theory & Relationship to Substance Use Disorders in Latinx Community. Presented by National Hispanic & Latino Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network & National Latino Behavioral Health Association.
 Chavez, A.S., (2017). Traditional New Mexico Framework and Curriculum for Community Building. Self Published.

**Indigenous Knowledge & Cultural Practices; Self-Determination
 Communal or Collective Knowledge and Generational Transmission
 Indigenous & African Epistemologies; Curanderismo;
 Cultural Sustaining Pedagogies: Latinx Indigenities
 Decolonizing classroom**



**Triumphalist Empowerment
 Land Relationships Recovery
 Cultural Revitalization
 Translanguaging**

By: Joaquín T. Argüello



TAOS REGION CLEAN ENERGY

TRANSPORTATION & RECREATION CORRIDOR

This proposal was reportedly submitted to the Taos County Commission weeks prior to the public EMERGENCY zoom meeting but was marked as “Confidential” and withheld from public release despite the need for public transparency due to the importance of its content.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL

Therefore, the residents of Taos County only received access to this document 24 hours prior to the “Emergency” Taos County Commission meeting. Despite this intensional exclusionary circumstance there were 60+ participants all of whom that represented only community interest expressed serious concern and opposition to the entire and or most of the element of this proposal especially \$140 million of public funding being used to help a private for profit business.

The local and statewide governmental employees who received this proposal were requested to be listed so that the requested corrections to false claims could be addressed and resubmitted but this has not been produced.

DRAFT #3

January 24, 2022

Rio Hondo, a soon-to-be designated
onal Resource Waters; infrastructure
enhance water quality; forest health
; protect fish species. Includes
rojects on Rio Lucero (Taos Pueblo

of the Outstanding National Waters

The water and sewer upgrade claims do not reference planned yet undisclosed high density
luxury development which have been greatly opposed

Water Infrastructure Upgrades Upper Rio Hondo watershed

Water Fund forest health and
ter protection.

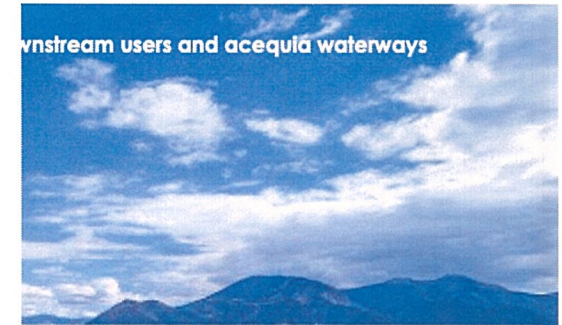
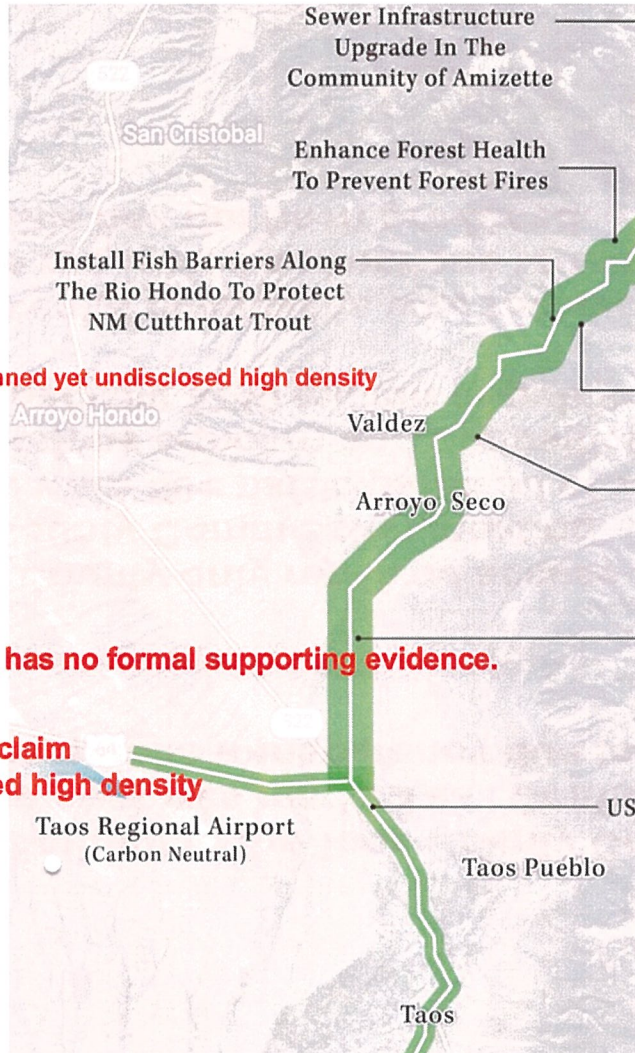
The claims of collaboration with the Taos Pueblo has no formal supporting evidence.

o habitat conservation on Rio

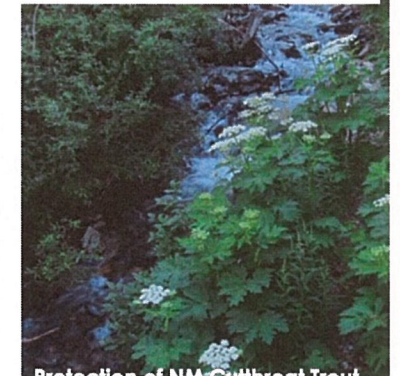
The 5 MILLION GALLON water tank: water rights claim
questioned, concerns of water use for unexplained high density
luxury development expansion

r Tank for economic resiliency
gency fire suppression

imited fish barriers to protect
NM Cutthroat Trout



This picture of water sampling
was said to have been poached
from a not-for profit web site
with out permission from the
adult or the youth who is minor
an do verbal or written legal
permision was given for the
use of their images.



Being that the TSV purposefully provided false claims about one supposed collaborating supporter the other entities listed here with no formal document evidence of the claimed support should be considered suspect until otherwise proven. Other listed entities appear listed in the budget therefore bought off and not representing the community's interest.

imous and astic Support!

listed here as well lawmakers have his Clean Energy oncept and have reliminary verbal of endorsement.

This quote of support and the list was an intentional gross misrepresentation of minimal informal communication by the TSV Inc. with only 2 acequia commissioners from only 1 local acequia who awaited follow up communications about specific details of this proposal that was never shared.

- **Kit Carson Electric** - solar power generation, EV charging
- **NCRTD** - EV public transportation system
- **NMDOT** – roadway improvements
- **NM Outdoor Recreation Division** - Outstanding Waters division
- **State of New Mexico** - partnership funding, public highways
- **Local Municipalities**
 - Taos County – economic development / fiscal agent
 - Town of Taos – economic development / airport
 - Village of Taos Ski Valley – infrastructure, public transportation
- **Rio Hondo Acequias Associations** – water quality monitoring
- **Rocky Mountain Youth Corps** – forest health
- **Taos Pueblo** – NM Route 150 multi-use bike path, forest land protection
- **Taos Ski Valley, Inc** – project coordination
- **The Nature Conservancy** - Rio Grande Water Fund, forest land protection

SAVE the RIO HONDO

WATER, WILDLIFE, & WILDERNESS

Comment NOW (by May 6) on Taos Ski Valley Inc's MASSIVE EXPANSION

Submit comments to: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=61390>

Note. The website address is CASE SENSITIVE!

Dear James Duran, Carson National Forest Supervisor,

Please accept these Public Comments as part of your Scoping Process considering Taos Ski Valley Inc's Proposed Gondola & Other Improvements.

I support:

- A full **Environmental Impact Study** of impacts on the Rio Hondo water quality & quantity, and impacts to forest health and wildlife.
- Full **disclosure of TSV water rights** and proof that there is enough water currently available to support the expansion without further tapping of springs, groundwater, and streams.
- Full **disclosure of any TSV inc. water right permit violations** including any exceedances of water rights used for snow-making, etc.
- A **functioning Water Treatment Plant** that can handle peak tourism.

I oppose:

- **5,000,000 gallon water tank** near Lift #2.
- **High-Speed Gondola** along the Lake Fork of the Rio Hondo that will cause unnecessary destruction & disturbance to the stream and corridor. Ski lifts & Twining Road already connect the base area to the Kachina basin.
- **Nordic/snow-shoe trail system** on forested mountainside above Rio Hondo. This would require forest-thinning and grading that would cause erosion and disturb wildlife. This trail system should be relocated where development has already occurred and forest disturbance is not required.
- **More commercial construction** such as hotels that increase water demand on the Rio Hondo and its springs, groundwater, and tributaries.

Show a River Some Love!

- For more info, an expanded comment letter, and photos of the 1980s Funeral for the Rio Hondo, visit

www.FriendsOfTheRioHondo.com

UPPER ARROYO HONDO COMMUNITY LAND GRANT ASSOCIATION

