



Taos County Resolution No. 2009-23

TAOS COUNTY
ELAINE S. MONTANO, CLERK
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Book 683 Page 542
1 of 2
05/19/2009 02:08:48 PM
BY AMYR

Endorsing S. 874, El Río Grande Del Norte National Conservation Area Establishment Act

Whereas, the proposed El Río Grande Del Norte National Conservation Area in Taos County is an area of extraordinary scenic, environmental, economic, cultural, and recreational value; and

Whereas, this legislation would designate 235,980 acres of public land in and around Taos County as a National Conservation Area to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management (NCA); and

Whereas, the Conservation Area includes two wilderness areas – the 8,000-acre Río San Antonio Wilderness and the 13,420-acre Cerro del Yuta Wilderness; and

Whereas, the Conservation Area includes the upper reaches of the Rio Grande Gorge, previously designated as a Wild and Scenic River, and protects elk wintering grounds and a migratory corridor for wildlife including birds of prey; and

Whereas, visitors and residents of Taos County today enjoy these public lands for hiking, camping, river rafting, photography, mountain climbing, grazing, hunting, fishing, bird watching, skiing, piñon picking, firewood collection, scenic enjoyment and other uses; and

Whereas, recreation and other uses of the public lands of Taos County are a vital part of the economy; and

Whereas, designating these public lands as a National Conservation Area would better protect their scenic, ecological, economic, cultural, and recreational values in perpetuity from the adverse effects of future development; and

Whereas, the Conservation Area furthers the goals of the Taos County Growth Management Plan; and


Whereas, the Conservation Area will be included as a unit of the National Landscape Conservation System making it eligible for additional funding that may be used for grassland restoration projects; and

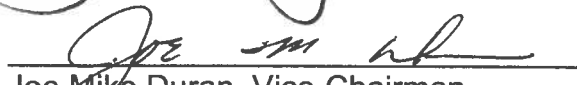
Whereas, the Conservation Area will ensure that these public lands will be conserved and enhanced for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TAOS COUNTY COMMISSION that the Commission recommends that Congress enact S. 874, El Río Grande Del Norte National Conservation Area Establishment Act, and that the legislation include appropriate language to protect the Rio San Antonio Wilderness and the Cerro del Yuta Wilderness in order to protect their scenic, environmental, economic, and recreational values.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 19th DAY OF MAY, 2009.

THE BOARD OF TAOS
 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


 Daniel R. Barrone, Chairman

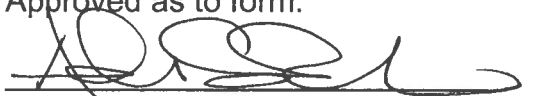

 Joe Mike Duran, Vice-Chairman
 ABSENT

Andrew Chavez, Commissioner
 ABSENT

Charlie J. Gonzales, Commissioner

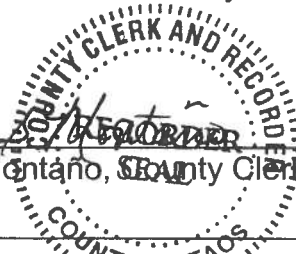

 Nicklos E. Jaramillo, Commissioner

Approved as to form:


 FOR Sammy L. Pacheco, County Attorney

Attest:


 Elaine S. Montano, County Clerk



Vote Record:				
	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
D. Barrone	<u>Yes</u>	No	Abstain	Absent
J.M. Duran	<u>Yes</u>	No	Abstain	Absent
A. Chavez	Yes	No	Abstain	<u>Absent</u>
C. Gonzales	Yes	No	Abstain	<u>Absent</u>
N. Jaramillo	<u>Yes</u>	No	Abstain	Absent

