



## TOWN OF RED RIVER

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May 24, 2017

Secretary Ryan Zinke  
Monument Review, MS-1530  
US Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington DC 20240

Re: DOI-2017-0002 Monument Review

Dear Secretary Zinke,

As the Mayor of the Town of Red River, New Mexico, I am writing to express my concern over the recent Executive Order to review recently designated Monuments and to voice my support for the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument.

The Town of Red River is surrounded by Public Lands, and our local economy is based on tourism and outdoor recreation. People visit Red River to enjoy the beauty of the natural surroundings, and to hunt and fish on Public Lands, including the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument.

Many of our visitors are avid ORV/OHV users, and some of our surrounding public lands on have restrictions on ATV use. The Rio Grande Del Norte National Monument offers those visitors, more opportunities to explore the great outdoors, with fewer restrictions on motorized use.

Tourism brings billions of dollars into New Mexico, and the Town of Red River directly benefits from public lands conservation, specifically from the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. When people come to Red River to hunt and fish, and to recreate on our public lands, it creates jobs and generates revenue for our town and our local businesses.

Mr. Secretary, the Town of Red River not only supported the Monument Designation for Rio Grande del Norte, but were active participants in the National Monument process, going back to supporting the efforts to establish the area as a National Conservation Area, beginning in 2009. As Mayor, I attended and spoke at public meetings, and submitted letters of support to our local BLM Taos Field Office.

Secretary Zinke, please be assured that the Red River community was involved with and participated in the process to establish the Rio Grande del Norte. The Town of Red River strongly supports this National Monument designation, and I am asking you to recommend that the Rio Grande del Norte not be modified in any way.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Linda Calhoun, Mayor  
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