



All Pueblo
Council of
Governors

Officers:
Mark Mitchell, Chairman
Jerome Lucero, Vice-Chairman
Governor Val Panteah Sr., Secretary

RESOLUTION

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

RESOLUTION NO. APCG 2022 – 11

**SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF THE UPPER RIO GRANDE, JEMEZ
HEADWATERS, LAKE FORK, AND HONDO RIVERS AS OUTSTANDING WATERS**

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG) is comprised of the nineteen Sovereign Pueblos of New Mexico including the Pueblos of New Mexico including the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zia, ad Zuni; and 1 Sovereign Pueblo, Ysleta Del Sur, located in the State of Texas, and:

WHEREAS, the 20 Pueblos possess inherent government authority and sovereignty over our lands and which include the protection of language, culture, and tradition,

WHEREAS, mineral exploration can cause serious impacts to water quality and the US Environmental Protection Agency estimates that 40 percent of the watersheds in the western United States are contaminated by pollution from hard rock mines;

WHEREAS, mineral exploration is expected to increase nationwide and in New Mexico to meet demand under the Defense Production Act;

WHEREAS, increased recreation in and use of New Mexico watersheds is putting strain on water quality and habitat;

WHEREAS, Increased sediment loading from roads and development can impair water quality;

WHEREAS, New Mexico's watersheds are vulnerable to climate change with temperature impairment being the largest cause of impairment in New Mexico streams;

WHEREAS, the APCG recognizes that the cold and clean waters of the Upper Rio Grande, Jemez, and Rio Hondo watersheds are part of the ancestral homelands of Pueblo peoples and are the lifeblood of the people and ecosystems that are connected to these watersheds;

WHEREAS, Pueblos Peoples perform ceremonies using the sacred waters of these rivers; and

WHEREAS, we as Native Peoples see the sacredness of the water ecosystem that sustain life to all the birds, animals, plants, and aquatic life that humans greatly benefit from;

Acoma

Cochiti

Isleta

Jemez

Laguna

Nambe

Ohkay Owingeh

Picuris

Pojoaque

Sandia

San Felipe

San Ildefonso

Santa Ana

Santa Clara

Santo Domingo

Taos

Tesuque

Ysleta del Sur

Zia

Zuni



All Pueblo Council of

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Acoma

WHEREAS, Outstanding National Resource Water (ONRW) designation, as per 20.6.4 NMAC, protects water quality for future generations;

Cochiti

WHEREAS, the headwaters of the Jemez River (East Fork of Jemez River, San Antonio Creek, and Redondo Creek), the Upper Rio Grande from the state line down to the Rio Pueblo de Taos, the Rio Hondo from the USFS boundary to the headwaters, and the Lake Fork of the Rio Hondo from the confluence of the Rio Hondo upstream to the headwaters have been nominated as ONRWS by the New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division as per requirements in 20.6.4 NMAC; and

Isleta

Jemez

WHEREAS, there is a hearing on this nomination set for June 14th, 2022 in front of the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission.

Laguna

Nambe

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the APCG supports protecting the Upper Rio Grande from the Rio Pueblo upstream to the state line; the Rio Hondo from the U.S. Forest Service Boundary upstream to the headwaters; Lake Fork of the Rio Hondo from the Rio Hondo to the headwaters; the East Fork of the Jemez River from San Antonio Creek to its headwaters; San Antonio Creek from the East Fork of the Jemez River to the headwaters; and Redondo Creek from Sulphur Creek to its headwaters as Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRWs).

Ohkay Owingeh

Picuris

Pojoaque

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, the All Pueblo Council of Governors Chairman and his designee(s) do all that is necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

Sandia

CERTIFICATION

San Felipe

We, the undersigned officials of the All Pueblo Council of Governors hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. APCG 2022-11 was considered and adopted at duly called council meeting held on 26th day of May 2022, and at which time a quorum was present and the same was approved by a vote of 16 favor, 0 against, 1 abstain, and 3 absent.

San Ildefonso

Santa Ana

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Santa Clara

Santo Domingo

By:

Mark Mitchell, APCG Chairman

Taos

Tesuque

ATTEST:

Ysleta del Sur

Governor Val R. Panteah Sr., APCG Secretary

Zia

Zuni