

San Joaquin Del Rio de Chama Land Grant Comprehensive Managment Plan

Prepared for:

**The Board of Trustees
and General Land Grant Membership**



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**Board of Trustees of the
San Joaquin Del Rio de Chama Land Grant**

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San Joaquin Del Rio de Chama Land Grant Comprehensive Monument Plan

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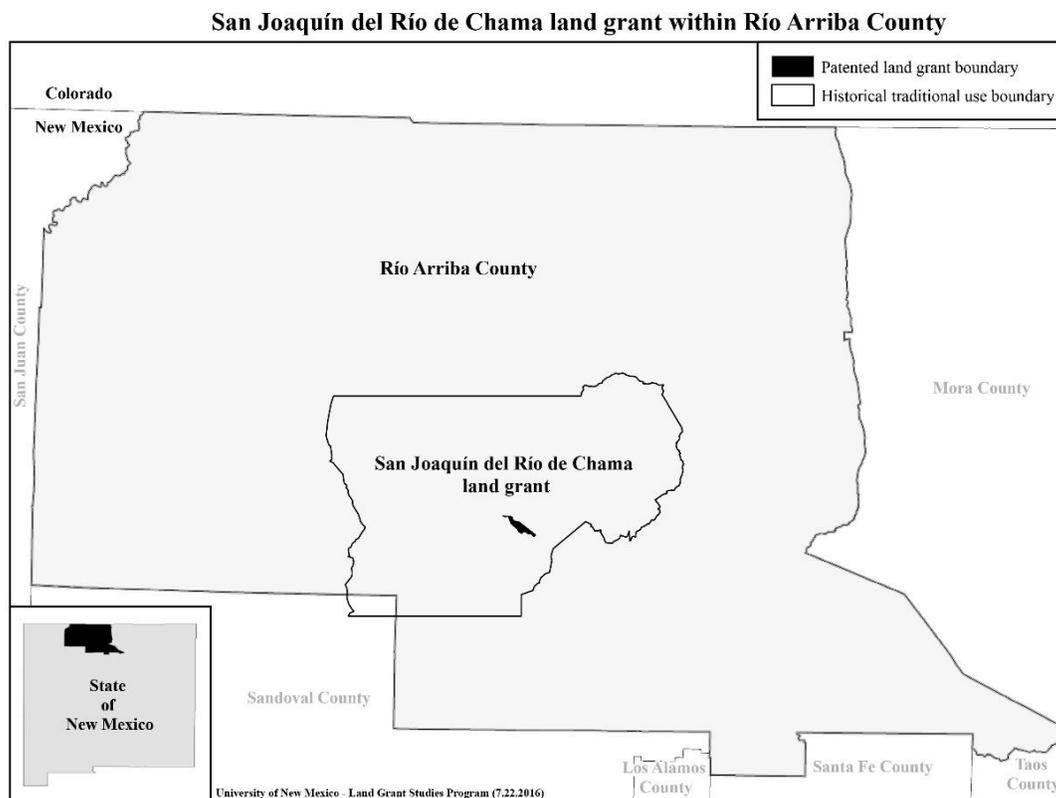
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I. Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) Background

Purpose

The San Joaquin del Rio de Chama Land Grant (SJDRC) Land Grant is located in Rio Arriba County situated in the north face of the Jemez Mountains. The Land Grant is managed as a Political Subdivision of the state of New Mexico under the New Mexico Land Grant statute as described in Chapter 49 for Community Land Grants. The purpose of the land grant is to establish a general management plan for the common land of the land grant; establishment of goals for economic development and community development, capital outlay and improvements, as well as a guiding document for the recovery of formal common lands of the traditional boundary of the SJDRC LG. In addition, this CMP serves as a guiding plan for collaborative management opportunities with the U.S Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Land Office, and Rio Arriba County.

According to Chapter 49 of the General Provision governing land grants, the Board of Trustees of the SJDRC LG have the following responsibilities and powers; in comprehensive planning, management, and governance over the common land, as well as the power to enter in cooperative management agreements with federal and state agencies for the collaborative management of land. In the interest of the SJDRC LG the goal of this CMP is to ensure the best management practices and strategies for the heirs of the LG for future generation to come.



Powers of the San Joaquin Del Rio de Chama Land Grant:

The management and control of all land grants-mercedes and tracts of land to which Sections 49-1-1 through 49-1-18 NMSA 1978 are applicable is vested in a Board of Trustees, to be known as the "Board of Trustees of the land grant-merced del pueblo de _____" (designating the name of the town, colony, pueblo or community), and the board shall have the power to:

A. control, care for and manage the land grant-merced and real estate, prescribe the terms and conditions under which the common lands may be used and enjoyed and make all necessary and proper bylaws, rules and regulations that shall be in substantial compliance with applicable statutes for the government thereof;

B. sue and be sued under the title as set forth in this section;

C. convey, lease or mortgage the common lands of the land grant-merced in accordance with the land grant-merced bylaws;

D. determine the number of animals that may be permitted to graze upon the common lands and determine other uses of the common lands that may be authorized;

E. prescribe the price to be paid for the use of the common lands and resources of the land grant-merced and prohibit a person failing or refusing to pay that amount from using a portion of the common lands while the person continues in default in those payments; provided that the amount fixed shall be in proportion to the number and kinds of livestock pasturing upon the common lands or to other authorized use of the common lands;

F. adopt and use an official seal;

G. appoint judges and clerks of election at all elections provided for in Sections 49-1-1 through 49-1-18 NMSA 1978, subsequent to the first, and canvass the votes cast in those elections;

H. make bylaws, rules and regulations, not in conflict with the constitution and laws of the United States or the state of New Mexico as may be necessary for the protection, improvement and management of the common lands and real estate and for the use and enjoyment of the common lands and of the common waters of the land grant-merced;

I. determine land use, local infrastructure and economic development of the common lands of the land grant-merced;

J. determine zoning of the common lands of the land grant-merced pursuant to a comprehensive plan approved by the local government division of the department of finance and administration that considers the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of the land grant-merced. The department of finance and administration shall act

as arbitrator for zoning conflicts between land grants-mercedes and neighboring municipalities and counties; and

K. enter into memoranda of understanding, contracts and other agreements with a local, state or federal government or a government of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or pueblo, including but not limited to agreements concerning the protection and maintenance of cultural resources.

Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP)

The CMP study boundary territory is the tradition landuse area within the SJDRCLG, which consist of approximately 500,000 acres of land. Although, the land grant was patented for approximately 1,500 acres, it was greatly reduced through the U.S vs Sandoval Supreme Court Case (year) In 2004 the General Accounting office (GAO) acknowledged the Supreme Court decision common land territory was greatly reduced and the court’s recommendation that Congress create an equitable remedy (GAO,2004). Congress has not developed a remedy to the resolve the LG boundary, However the New Mexico State Legislature has developed legislation to assist in the continuance and preservation of community land grants. Therefore, the Board of Trustees of the SJDRCLG recognizes Large amounts of territory that was left out of the patented land of the “Canon de Chama Land Grant” the Traditional land use boundary as the true limits of the SJDRDC Land Grant. This territory is designated at the study area for the purpose of the CMP.

Table 23: Community Land Grants Restricted to Their Individual Allotments

Grant name	CPLC docket number(s)	Claimed acreage	Awarded acreage	Difference (acres)
Cañón de Carnue	74	90,000.00	2,000.59	87,999.41
Cañón de Chama	107	472,737.00	1,422.62	471,314.38
Don Fernando de Taos*	54	1,889.00	1,817.24	71.76
Galisteo (Town of)	149	22,000.00	260.79	21,739.21
Petaca	99,153, 233	186,977.00	1,392.10	185,584.90
San Miguel del Vado	25, 60, 198	315,300.00	5,024.30	310,275.70
Santa Cruz	181, 194	48,000.00	4,567.60	43,432.40
Total: 7 grants		1,136,903.00	16,485.24	1,120,417.76

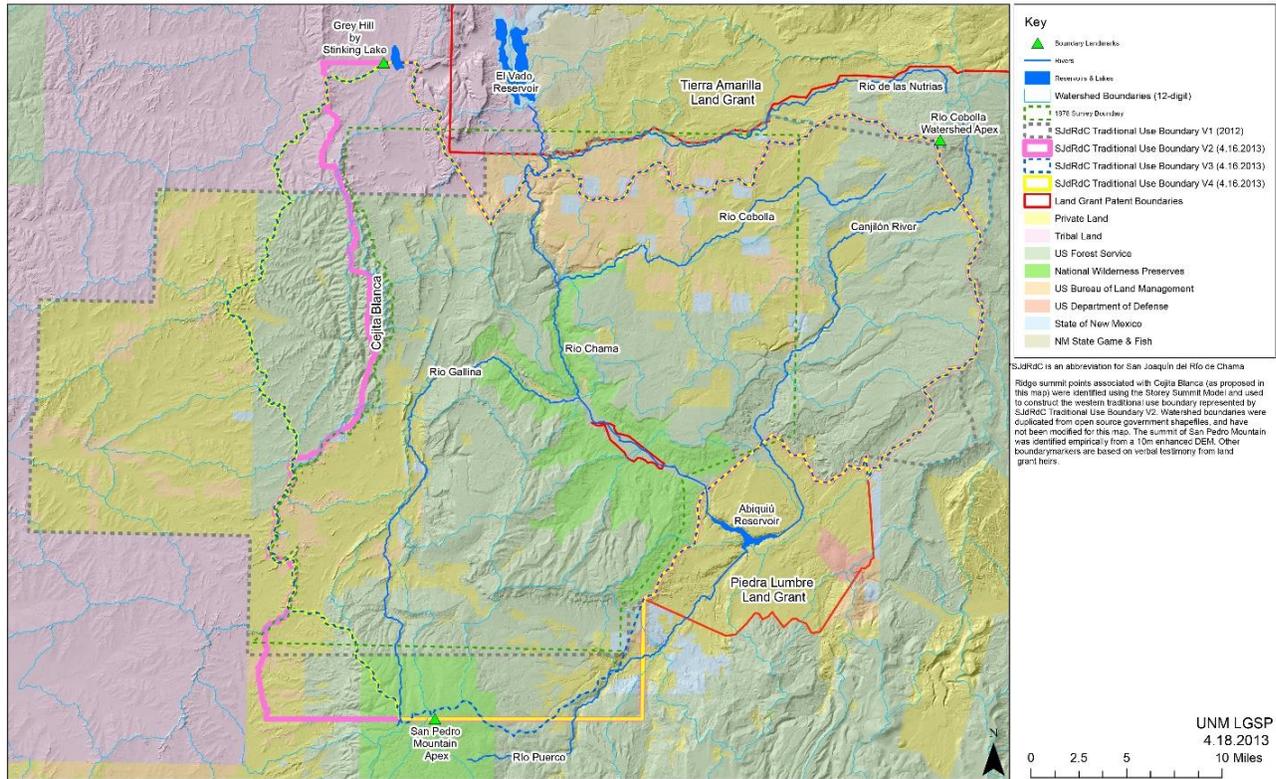
Source: GAO analysis.

*In the CPLC’s 1897 Annual Report, the Don Fernando de Taos land grant was listed with an estimated claimed acreage of 38,400 acres, an estimated approved acreage of 1,000 acres, and an estimated rejected acreage of 37,400 acres. The grant was confirmed by the CPLC on October 5, 1897. The acreage figures presented in table 23 are from the CPLC’s 1904 Annual Report.

Table 1: US vs Sandoval Impacted Community Land Grants (GAO,2004)

Plan Area of the San Joaquin Del Rio Rio Chama Land Grant (See Appendix 1)

San Joaquín del Río de Chama Land Grant traditional use boundary estimates



Comprehensive Management Plan Base Map

Planning Process

For the purpose of developing the CMP, the Land Grant Board of Trustees held several community meetings to solicit input by land grant members. The planning process began with an inventory of the demographic and economic conditions facing the SJDRC Land Grant to identify goals and priorities. During the annual board meeting held in August 2017, the community developed long range goals and strategies for land recovery, economic, and community development. In February of 2018 at a regular scheduled board meeting, the community established plan recommendation and implementation priorities. The final plan was presented at the Annual Meeting on August 4, 2018 and adopted on that same day by the Board of Trustees.



Annual Meeting of the San Joaquin del Rio Chama Land Grant

Land Grant History - from J. J. Bowden

Francisco Salazar, together with his two brothers and twenty-eight poor and needy citizens, petitioned Joaquin Alencaster, the governor of New Mexico, seeking a grant covering a tract of vacant land situated on the Chama River for agricultural and pastoral purposes. Alencaster, under date of July 6, 1806, ordered the Alcalde of Santa Cruz to personally examine the lands solicited by the petitioners and give him a full report on the property before acting upon the request. In response to Alencaster's order, Alcalde Manuel Garcia de la Mora inspected the area and, on July 14, 1806, reported that the requested tract was unoccupied and situated:

... one league from the last grant (that of the Martinez's), to the side on which the sun rises, and that thence to the western boundary, which divides the said Chama River Canon from the Gallina River, there are about two leagues, some-what more or less, of cultivable lands, and, the town being placed in the center, the thirty-one families applying for it may be accommodated, and land enough remain for the increase that they may have in the way of children and sons-in-law and the section of the country is a very desirable one, and the settlers may therefore proceed with their building, and for the other two boundaries there

is assigned them on the north and on the south one league for pastures, for on these two sides no injury can result, as there is neither a settlement nor a grant now made ... and the said Canon is distant from Abiquiu about five leagues.

After carefully studying the report, Alencaster granted. the land to the petitioners on August 1, 1806, and ordered Garcia to place the colonists in possession of the grant and allocate to each of the settlers a lot of land capable of growing three cuartillas of wheat, three almudes of corn, another three of beans, and having a site for a small house and garden. On March 1, 1808, Garcia placed Salazar and the twenty-four other colonists, who finally elected to participate in the project, in legal possession of the grant and allocated an individual farm tract to each of them except Salazar, who received a double allotment. A town site was also set aside and named San Joaquin del Rio de Chama. The following natural objects were designated as the exterior boundaries of the grant:

On the north, the Cebolla Valley; on the east, the boundaries of the Martinez Grant; on the south, the Capulin River; and on the west, the Segita (Cegita) Blanca.

In 1832 Juan de Jesus de Chacon filed a petition in Governor Antonio Chaves' office asking him to enjoin the Alcalde of the Town of Abiquiu from evicting them from the lands upon which they had settled in 1830. It seems that Alcalde Jose Maria Ortiz had allocated and placed Chacon and two associates in possession of certain tracts located within the Canon de Chama Grant as colonists under the Colonization Law. However, the original grantees had protested and the then Alcalde of the Town of Abiquiu, Juan Antonio Gallago, had taken the position that such action was illegal and that they were trespassers and intruders. The question was referred by the governor to the attorney general of New Mexico, Antonio Barreiro, who made an extensive investigation into the matter, and, on May 6, 1832, held that the Canon de Chama Grant was valid and that distributions made by Alcalde Ortiz should be annulled.

The grantees continuously occupied and used the grant except for a number of occasions when it was temporarily abandoned due to Indian hostilities. In spite of the immense size of the grant, only a narrow strip of land lying within the Canon de Chama was cultivated but livestock was pastured upon the adjoining mesas. By 1861 the grant was owned by more than four hundred persons who claimed under and through the original grantees. On January 3, 1861, the claimants submitted a petition^[3] to the Surveyor General seeking the confirmation of their title to the 184,320 acres which they estimated to be embraced within the boundaries of the grant. Surveyor General James K. Proudfit, after carefully considering the record, recommended^[4] to Congress on December 17, 1872, that the grant be recognized and confirmed as a community grant. A preliminary survey of the grant was made by Deputy Surveyor Stephen McElroy in May, 1878. The McElroy Survey, to the surprise of everyone, showed that 472,736.95 acres were embraced within the boundaries set forth in the grant papers.

A bill was presented during the last session of the 46th Congress for the confirmation of the grant. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Private Land Claims for its recommendations. The Committee, in turn, requested the Secretary of Interior to furnish it with more information concerning the grant. In a letter dated May 20, 1880, Commissioner J. A. Williamson traced the history of the grant and concluded by recommending that it be confirmed subject only to the reservation of mineral rights.

No further action was taken on the grant until June 28, 1886, when Surveyor General George W. Julian submitted a Supplemental Report to Congress. He found that the grantees had failed to establish a legal title to the grant and, if they had acquired an equitable title, it was limited to the individual allotments located within the Chama River Canyon, which covered only 166.22 acres. Next, Julian viciously attacked McElroy stating that his survey was manifestly and shockingly incorrect. He asserted that the surveyor had “no right to wander out of the canyon from ten to fifteen miles in search of the natural objects named as the boundaries of the tract but should have sought them within the canyon.”

Meanwhile, the original village of San Joaquin had been abandoned and most of the inhabitants of the grant had moved to Abiquiu, Santa Cruz, or Tierra Amarilla. Speculators and “earth hungry monopolists” quietly began to purchase scores of outstanding interests under the Chama Grant. After the formation of the Court of Private Land Claims, the new owners instituted suit[8] in that forum for the confirmation of their title. After receiving a great deal of oral and documentary evidence, the court, on September 24, 1894, held the grant to be valid but covered only the individual farm tracts situated in the Chama River Canyon which had been allotted to the settlers prior to the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The plaintiffs promptly appealed the decision to the United States Supreme Court which, based on its decision in the Sandoval Case,[9] held[10] that the grant was a community grant and all unallotted lands within its exterior boundaries belonged to the government. A resurvey of the grant was made in accordance with the Supreme Court’s decree in September, 1901, by Deputy Surveyor Joseph F. Thomas. His survey showed that the grant covered only a narrow strip of land containing only 1,422.62 acres, of land situated in the bottom of the Chama River Canyon. A Patent based on the Thomas Survey was issued on May 5, 1905.

While the Supreme Court’s opinion undoubtedly disappointed the owners of the grant, it was accepted as finally fixing the boundaries of the grant. However, on October 17, 1966, the members of an organization called the Federal Alliance of Land Grants took over the rest camp in the Kit Carson National Forest, which is located within the boundaries of the grant set out in the Act of Possession, and established the Pueblo Republic de San Joaquin del Rio de Chama. The leader of the group, Reies Tijerina, claimed that the 500,000 acres covered by the national forest belonged to the “Republic” since it was located on the Canon de Chama Grant under which members of the organization claimed an interest. Tijerina contended that the government was obligated under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo to protect the property rights of Spanish Americans and the members

of his organization were willing to shed their blood to defend their rights. The organization is attempting to raise enough “furor to get their case before the U. S. Supreme Court.” (Bowden, 1973).

II. Existing Conditions of the San Joaquin Del Rio de Chama Land Grant

Existing Land Grant Governance

Today the Board of Trustees is elected by the membership which consist of the heirs of the original grantees of the Land Grant. According to the Board of Trustees, there are approximately 160 families that are heirs to the SJDRCLG who reside in the villages within the traditional boundary, such as Cebolla, Gallina, Capulin, Coyote, Canjilon, Llaves-Costilla and Regina. There are approximately 30 families from these villages that are actively participating as members in community projects of the LG. Since 2005 when the state of New Mexico strengthened the powers of community land grants as political subdivision of the state, the LG has increased its capacity to retrieve former common land, develop community and economic development projects, as well as expand agricultural projects. The purpose of the CMP is to organize strategies and goals to expand common lands, create economic opportunities, and establish collaborative management strategies with federal agencies such as the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

Demographic Profile

According to the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau, the SJDRCLG falls within census tracts 4 and 5 within Rio Arriba County. The population of census tract 4 was 4,766 and the population of census tract 5 was 3,711 (Census,2010). Approximately 70% of the study area is Hispanic. The median income for tract 4 was \$41,688 and \$43,500 for tract 5. Both were higher than the median income for Rio Arriba County as a whole which was \$38,635. The median income for the state of New Mexico in 2010 was \$44,968 which is slightly higher than Rio Arriba County. However, the most significant finding is the demographic age distribution in both census tract 4 and 5. Both census tracts account for a significant aging population which demonstrates a pattern of out migration of working adults between the ages of 25 to 40 that leave the region. Based on the analysis of this study, it is apparent that many working families leave the study area because of the lack of employment opportunity. In order to reverse the out migration pattern of young land grant families, in the area, strategic economic development opportunities need to be developed.

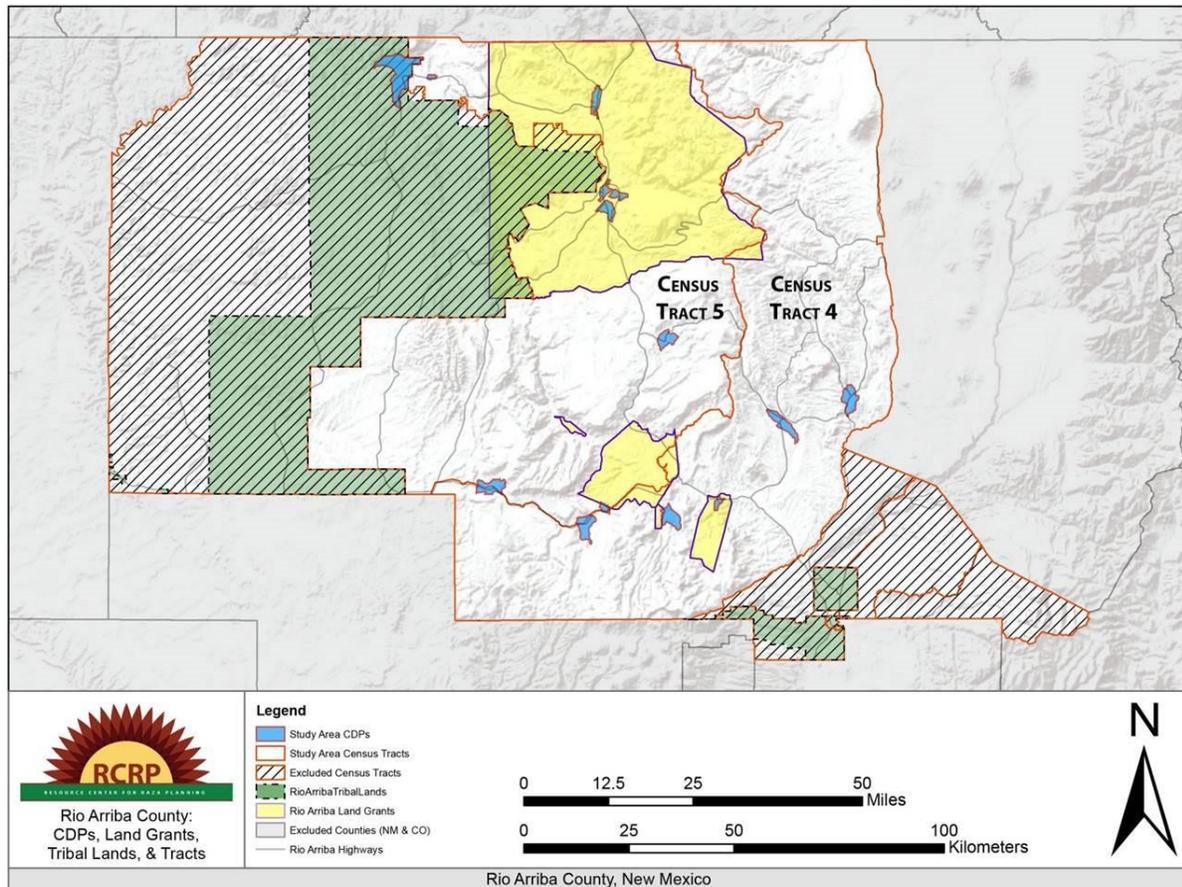
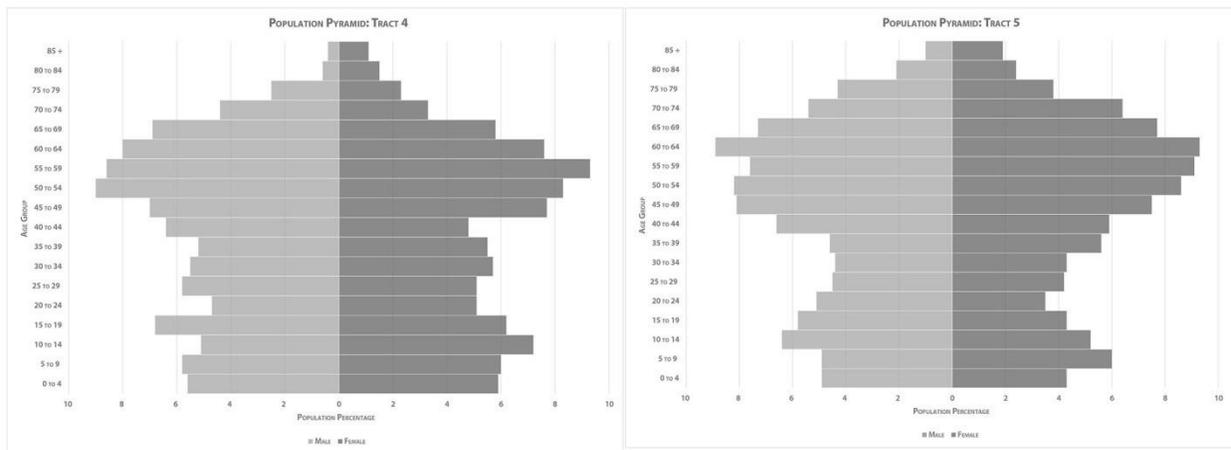


Figure of Census Tracts

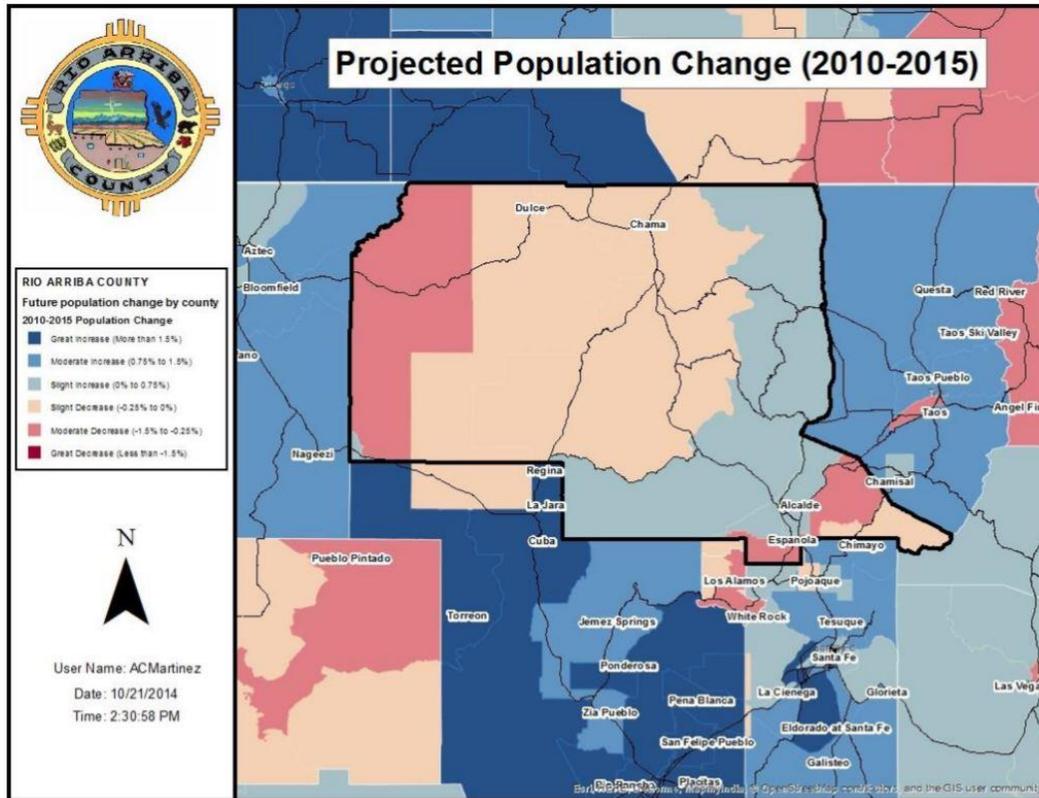
For the purpose of this study, a population pyramid was plotted graphically to show the distribution of age groups in 5 year cohorts. Typically, a local population with a strong local economy and jobs where young family are present, would show a typical pyramid shape with a large base and a narrow tip. By contrast, examining the population pyramid for census tracts 4 and 5 in Rio Arriba County, we see a smaller population between the ages of 19-39 years of age, which suggest young families are leaving the region in search of employment. This data shows the lack of employment opportunities within the rural part of Rio Arriba County. For example, there have been a number elementary school closures such in Coyote, Cebolla, and Lyndrith Elementary and forcing the busing of school children over long distances.

Since WWII, up until the 2000 census, Rio Arriba experienced a growth in population. According to the Rio Arriba County Comprehensive Plan (2009,12), However since 2000, Rio Arriba county population has decreased from 42,000 to approximately 39,174 based on the 2017 U.S. Census estimate. The recent loss of population and lack of growth is based on the large amounts of federal land which accounts for 70% of the county's land base. In addition, federal management policies since the 1970s regarding logging, grazing, and use

of federal land has further negatively impacted the economic base of Rio Arriba county and more specifically the SJDRDC Land Grant.



The analysis of the demographic profile examined for the purpose of this CMP will require the LG to actively participate in land use management policies and economic development strategies to further build a local economy. Also, the LG, along with Rio Arriba County and the State of New Mexico, will need to establish collaborative partnerships to expand economic development opportunities in the region. Finally, the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management play a critical role in establishing collaborative partnerships with the LG to expand grazing and timber production, as well as other material harvesting to assist in providing stability to the economic conditions that current federal policies are having on rural northern New Mexico.



Rio Arriba County Projected Growth from Comprehensive Plan

Natural Resources

The SJDRDCLG has significant natural resources that have historically supported the traditional uses of the villages located within the LG. These include agriculture, hunting, fishing, wood fuel, herb gathering, water harvesting, and building materials etc. The Land Grant has several major critical watersheds that flow into the Rio Chama, San Juan and upper Rio Puerco Basin. Many land grant members still depend on irrigated agriculture and livestock grazing as a major form of income. The management of Forest Service, BLM land and State Trust land is critical to maintaining the watershed health of the SJDRDCLG. Existing management practices of the Forest Service and BLM have often favored outside national interest rather than management practices that support the sustainability and economic viability of communities in the LG. The SJCDRCLG should plan in conjunction with land management agencies to ensure that collaborative management of former common land is managed in the interest of the land grant. –state water plan basin (use the map).

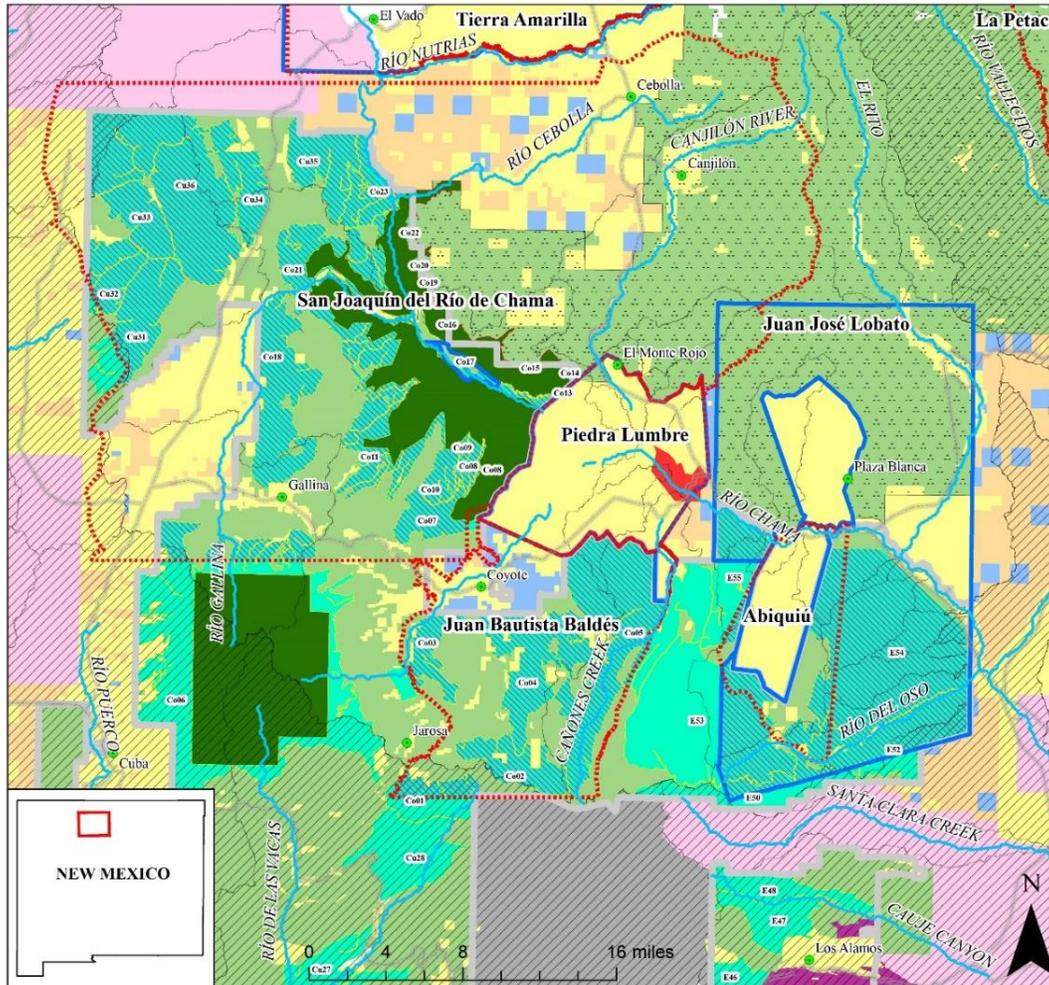
In 1978 the United States Congress designated the Chama River Canyon Wilderness (CRCW) which has a total of 46,052 acres. In addition, 31 miles of the Chama River within the CRCW was designated a Federal Wild and Scenic River in 1988. The San Pedro wilderness designation encompasses 41,132 acres on the North Slope of the Jemez

Mountains in 1964. This wilderness is completely carved out of the historic common lands and managed by the Forest Service and BLM. The LG opposes any additional wilderness designation or any other type of federal designation in the former common lands, which will leads to degradation of the watershed because of the restrictions on active management practices that are important to maintaining a healthy forest and watershed.



Chama River Canyon Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Character areas in the Santa Fe National Forest, watershed characteristics, and overlaps with active community land grants



- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Land grant patented boundaries | Forest Service |
| Land grant traditional use boundaries | Bureau of Land Management |
| Proposed Wilderness Character areas | Private |
| Wilderness Character areas overlapping land grants | Tribal |
| Watersheds flowing through land grants (blank) | Department of Defense |
| Watersheds draining away from land grants | Department of Energy |
| Designated Wilderness Areas | Jemez National Preserve |
| Outline of Santa Fe National Forest | State of New Mexico |
| Carson National Forest | |
| Major rivers and streams | |
| Highways | |
| Cities, towns, and communities | |

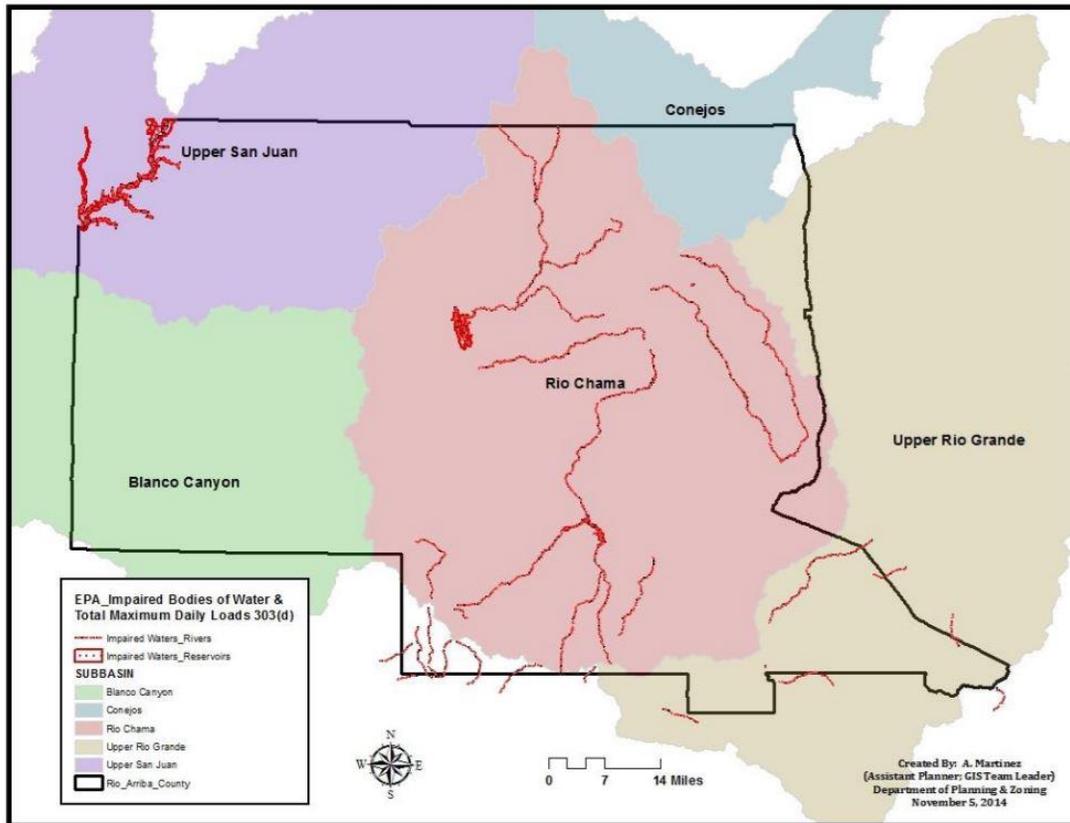
Notes:
 - Watershed features shown in grey cross-hatch flow away from land grants, and areas without grey cross-hatch flow into or through land grants
 - Acreages of overlaps are provided in a table which is separate to this map

University of New Mexico
 Land Grant Studies Program
 25 September 2016



Surface Water/Ground Water Rights

Many land grant heirs in the communities of Gallina, Coyote, Capulin, Cebolla, Llaves-Costilla, Regina and Canjilon have water rights associated with irrigated farmland that is held in private land. In addition, land grant heirs also own water rights associated with stock tanks, ojitos, and springs used for the raising of livestock, domestic and spiritual on small holding claims and homesteads that were once common land. The LG should work to ensure the protection of surface and ground water supply for the common lands. The collective management of water by the land grant will be critical for maintaining the future use for agriculture, as well as securing water rights for acquisition for future use on common land. The land grant and the acequia commissions located within the traditional land grant boundary area should work collaboratively to preserve and protect the water sources of the Land Grant. Any water transfers out of the traditional boundary of the land grant should be protested and deemed detrimental to the water supply and sustainability of traditional communities of the SJDRCLG. According to the Rio Arriba County Comprehensive Plan, there are number of impaired water bodies identified by the Environmental Protection Agency. The land grant should further investigate as to why some water bodies in the traditional boundary are impaired, what are the sources causing the impairment, as well as disclose what is the criteria used to identify an impaired water body. The state Environment Department should consult with the Board of Trustees when a water body is deemed impaired and work with the agency to correct the impaired water body.



Wildlife Management

Located within the Traditional Boundary there are numerous different wildlife species such as raptors, hawks, mule deer, elk coyote, black bear among other animals can be The traditional boundary serve as habitat for wildlife. A major concern of the LG is that the hunting and fishing rights have not been preserved by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo by the New Mexico Game and Fish. The objective of the SJDRCLG will be to develop best management practices on common lands and advocate for the projection and recognition of traditional and fishing rights for land grant members. A further concern is the loss of grazing habitat due to the unmanaged populations of Elk and their negative impacts to grazing land and other wildlife species such a mule deer.



Cultural Resources

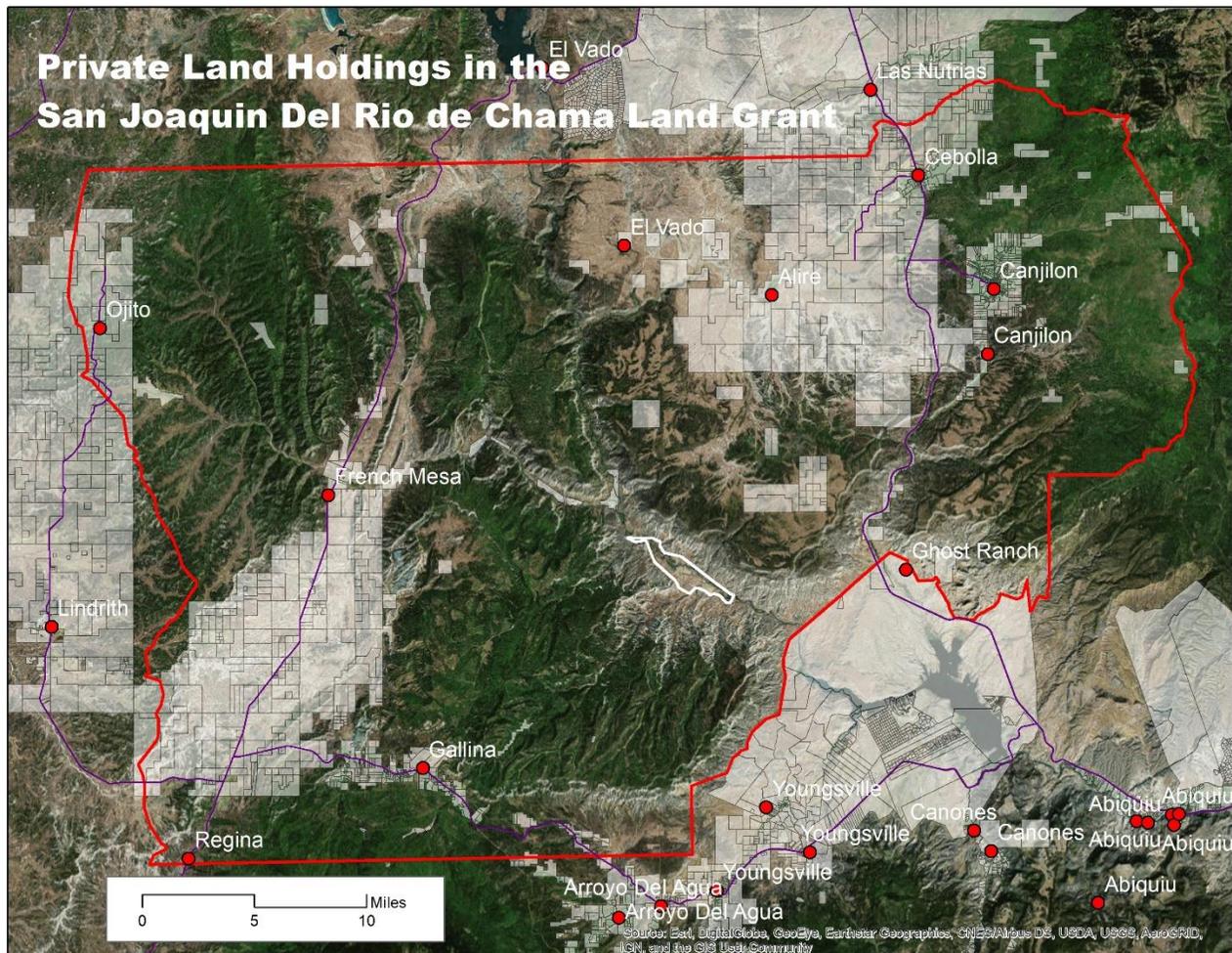
There are many cultural resources in SJDRCLG that should be maintained, protected and preserved for future generations. Some of the cultural resources are landscape features, historic acequias, cemeteries, calvarios, descansos, and buildings such as moradas and capillas as well as prehistoric and historic cultural sites. The Land Grant's should prioritize historic preservation projects and identify future projects. The Land Grant's cultural history is based on the Spanish colonial buffer settlement patterns and was the crossroads of nomadic people such as the Ute, Navajo, Comanche, and Apache which is reflected in the ethnic and cultural landscape of the SJDRCLG. The ritual traditions of the "La Cofradia de Nuestra Jesus de Nazareno" and catholic faith are very important aspect of the land grant history and contemporary cultural practices. Therefore, active cultural management of resources is critical to maintaining the history and culture of the land grant.



Land Use Conditions

Most of the land use located within the traditional boundaries of the Land Grant falls within the agricultural designation (CRAD) zoning of Rio Arriba County which allows for a residential home on a $\frac{3}{4}$ acre of land. Irrigated land allows for the development of residential use however the zoning code; requires that agricultural land be clustered in order to preserve the water rights. Commercial and institutional uses, such as commercial businesses, schools, and community centers, requires specific approval of a site plan and land use approval by the Board of County Commissioners. Industrial and mining issues also require specific approval and designation. According to Chapter 49, the Board of Trustees of a land grant have the authority to designate zoning to common lands. After passage of this CMP, the Board of Trustees should designate the specific land use for tracts of common land in SJDRCLG.

The land uses that exist within the traditional boundary of the SJDRCLG are rural residential within the traditional villages, along with irrigated agriculture. Additional land uses such as commercial, schools, churches, and post offices also exist with the traditional land grant boundary. Ranching located on private and public rangeland account for the majority of the land use within the traditional land grant located on private land holdings as well as public land.



Private Land Holdings in the SJDRCLand Grant Traditional Boundary

Economic Development

New Mexico's economy has been based on jobs within the government sector, oil and gas, as well as service sector jobs based in tourism. Economic development in the state of New Mexico, as well as the Rio Arriba County, remains a major issue since job growth and economic recovery in the region has been slow since the 2008 national recession. The federal budget sequestered of 2013 significantly reduced employment in federal agencies. New Mexico is still maintaining a strong agricultural economy that demonstrates growth in rural Northern New Mexico and Rio Arriba County. Despite the tourism sector remaining an important segment of the economy, this sector is more negatively affected by external concerns, such as climate and fuel prices and other factors. For example, January of 2018 saw a huge reduction in snowfall, which accounted for a loss in revenue and jobs at ski resorts in Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado. In the summer of 2019, closures to state and national parks and forest impacted tourism in Rio Arriba county as well as regional destinations such as Chama and Abiquiu Lake. Based on analysis of the

economic and demographic conditions and trends in section II of this CMP, there maybe economic development potential in agriculture, senior and healthcare services, as well as services related to recreation and tourism.

III. Plan Strategies, Goals, and Recommendations and implementation

After analysis of the existing conditions inventory, discussion by the Board of Trustees, and input by the membership recommendations were developed to guide the land recovery, economic development, community development projects, as well as form inter-agency partnerships through the state and federal agencies to implement the CMP recommendations. The following goals are established as a guide for project development over the next 10 years in order to make progress and achieving project outcomes in order to improve and enhance the general welfare of the SJDRCLG as follows:

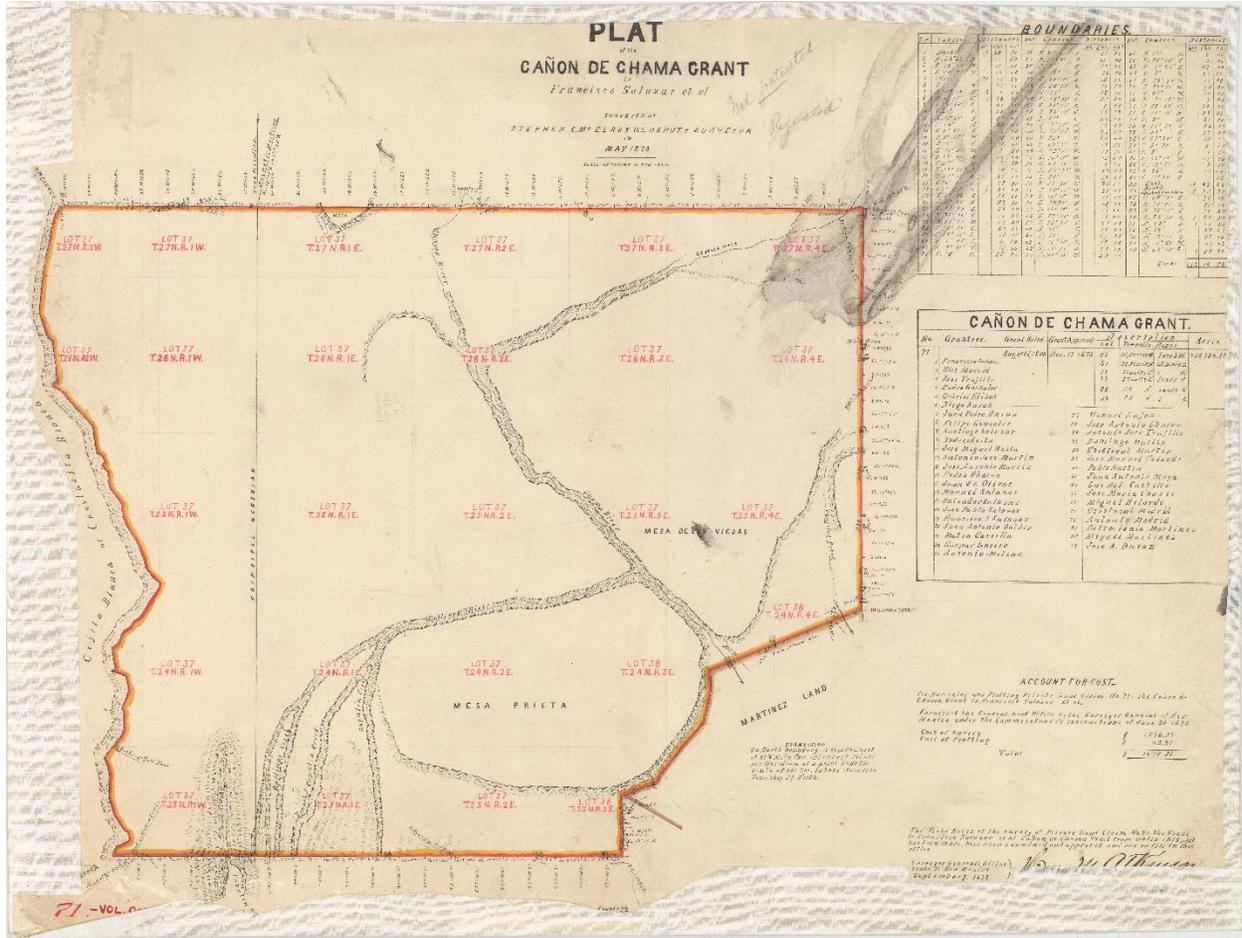
Restoration of Former Common Lands

Restore and acquire BLM, Forest Service, state owned properties within the historic boundaries of the SJDRCLG through targeted land acquisition. The historic loss of common land by the land grant through the U.S. vs Sandoval has still not been resolved. The land grant should continue to press U.S. congress to remedy through the return of federal land and/or a combination of funding through a trust fund. In addition, the land grant should seek the purchase any former common lands.

Plan Goal Priority for Common Land Recovery: Re-acquire former common land back into the ownership of the land grant.

Implementation Strategy:

- Return of common land through of resolution by Congress of U.S. vs Sandoval decision;
- Seek funding from the State of New Mexico through capital outlay appropriation to purchase private land holding within the traditional boundary area of the land grant;
- Seek funding through federal grants and/or foundations such as the Trust for Public Lands to acquire tracts of land to put back into common land; and
- Seek opportunities through the State of New Mexico to acquire State Lands through legislation.
- Develop cooperative management agreements with Federal and State agencies to collaboratively manage former common land for the interest of the heirs of the land grant.
- Discourage federal agencies from further designation of Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River that prevent the traditional use of land by land grant heirs.



Plan Goal Priority for Economic Development: Acquire the Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center (PLVC) in collaboration with adjacent land grants to create economic development for the land grant as well as create jobs for land grant members. Work to develop the (PLVC) master plan after acquisition of the site is implemented.

Project Objective:

The acquisition of the of the PLVC would provide economic opportunity for local community land grants being impacted by the outmigration of young families from the Rio Chama region. Under the current conditions, the US Forest Service lacks the resources and funding to reopen and operate the PLVC, The following opportunities were identified as opportunities for acquiring the PLVC:

- Economic Development
- Local Job Creation
- Develop Community Use of the PLVC

- Provide a Public Benefit to Residents and Tourists
- Develop Capacity of Land Grant Communities to Pursue Development Projects

Implementation Strategy:

Based on community meetings with stakeholders from the Canjilon Ranger District, of the US Forest Service and Land Grant Communities made up of the San Joaquin del Rio de Chama, Juan Bautista Valdez, as well as the New Mexico Land Grant Council; it is recommended that the PLVC be considered for disposal for community and economic development purposes. The disposal is justified based on the budget of the Canjilon Ranger District to manage and maintain the (PLVC). The uses generated would also provide a public benefit through education, recreation, and services to Rio Arriba County, the State of New Mexico and the broader American public. Based on a community visioning session with land grant communities on May 16, 2016 and site planning analysis, the following phased development options were generated as potential community and economic development strategies for the PLVC:

Phase I Option: Short Term

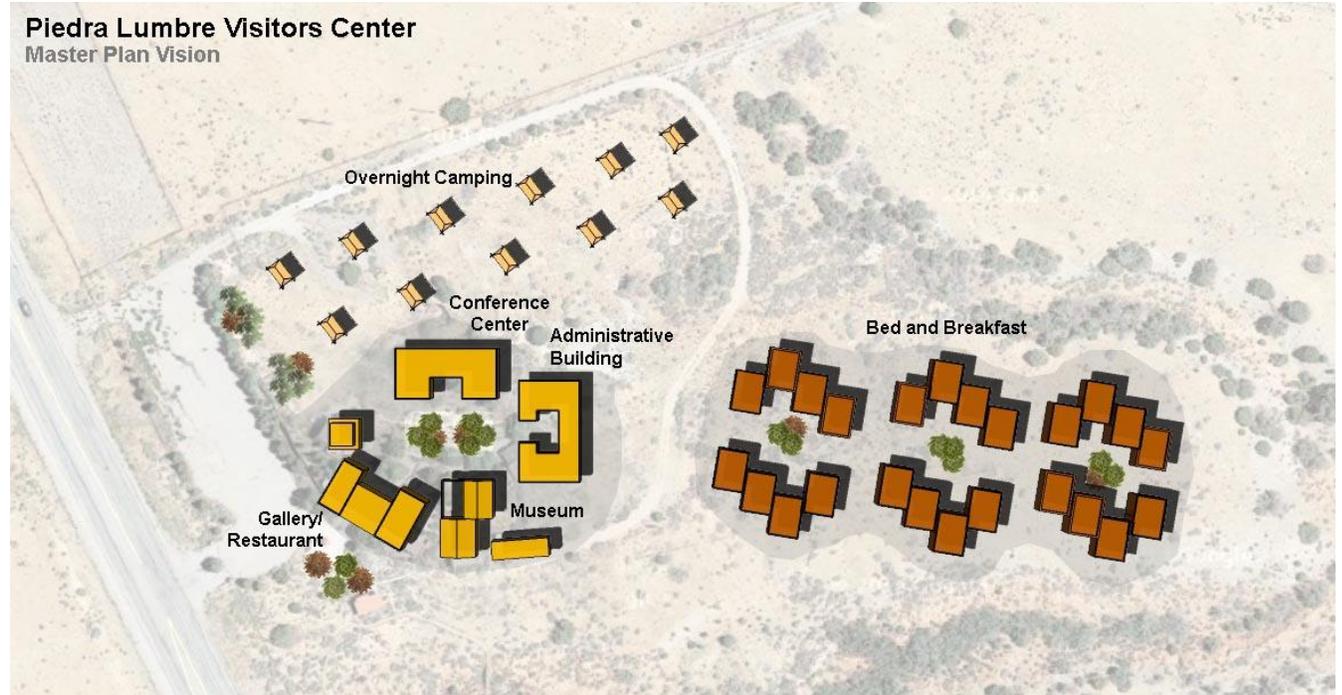
- Utilize Museum and Theater
- Re-open Observation Tower
- Create Information Center for the General Public
- Support Community Programing for Communities
- Develop Youth Educational and Development Programing
- Cooperate with Northern New Mexico Producers and Marking Co-op to Facilitate Services for Livestock Sales.

Phase II Option: Potential Uses Long Term in addition to uses in Phase I

- Open Restaurant / Art Gallery
- Develop Working Ranch/Farm
- Camping Facilities
- RV Facilities
- Conference Center

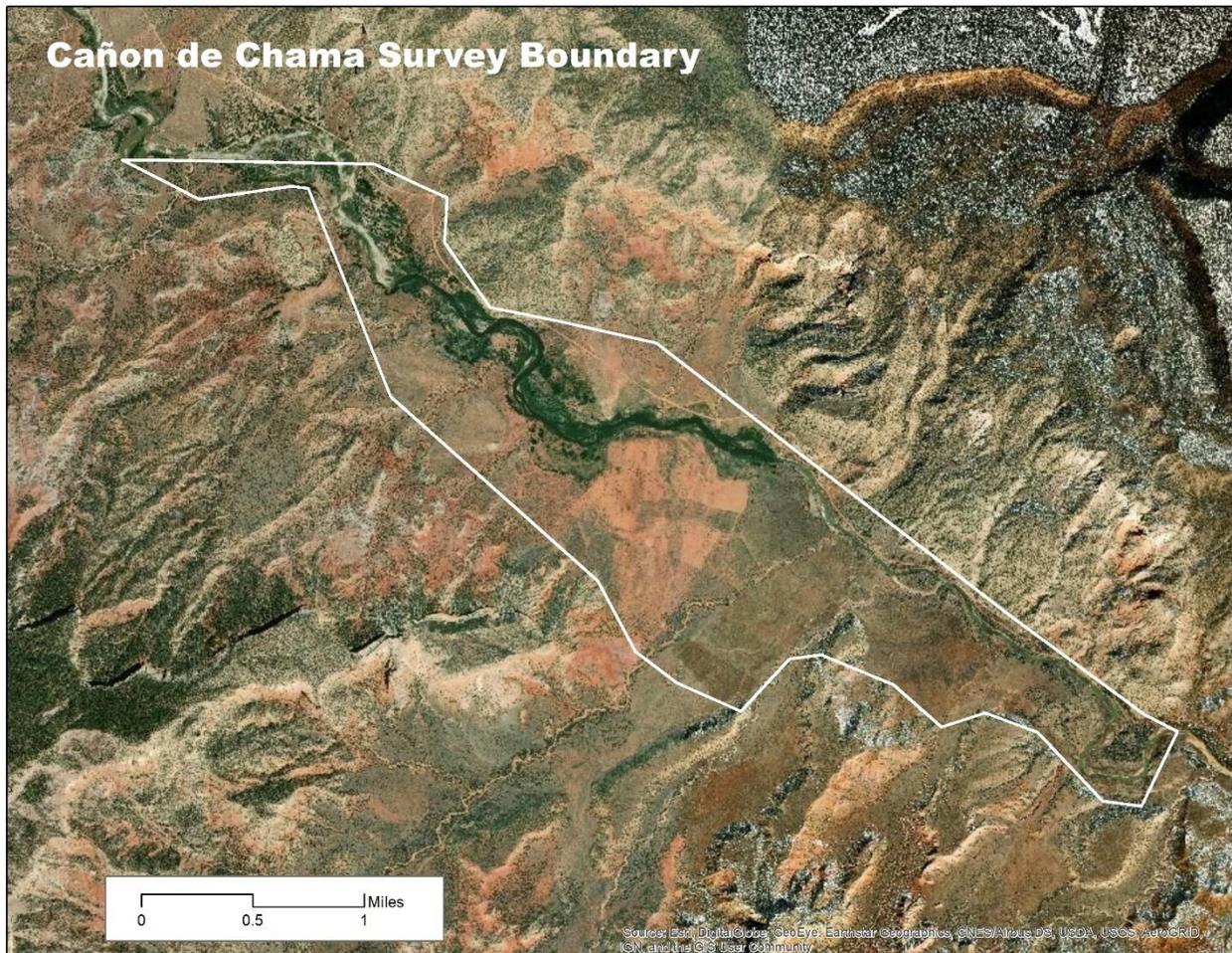
Phase III Option: Includes Uses in addition to uses in Phase I and Phase II

- Bed and Breakfast
- Travel Center Gas Station
- Craft Brewery/Winery
- Support Eco-Tourism





Plan Goal Priority for the Canon de Chama Tract: Develop a conservation management plan for agricultural and conservation benefit to the SJCRC land grant heirs.



Project Objective:

Goals:

- Develop 200 acres for irrigation agriculture
- Enhance wildlife as well as restore hunting rights for land grant members
- Develop dryland Forage
- Implement best practices for rangeland and farmland management
- Preserve 5 acre land grant cemetery
- Fence 5 acre Cemetery
- Preserve Original Village

Implementation Strategy

- Complete Conservation Management Plan
- Enter cooperative management agreement with the Forest Service
- Implement cropland and rangeland programs
- Mentor land grant youth into agriculture
- Create partnerships with New Mexico State University, University of New Mexico, and Northern New Mexico College for collaborative field school opportunities
- Agri-tourism

Plan Goal Priority for community development and historic preservation at the village scale for Gallina/Capulin and Cebolla Communities.

The purpose of the community development project within the existing communities of the SJDRCLG to preserve as well as promote community and economic development. Projects should include those that promote economic development, village preservation, preservation of the acequia culture, promoting community education, youth development, as well a cultural based education. Projects at the community scale are intended to retain the promote inter-generational learning and collaboration.

Goals for the Community of Gallina/Capulin

- Renovate Community Sala
- Renovate Historic School Site Structure
- Restore Historic School Site for Community Use and Research Center
- Continue to Maintain Community Cemetery
- Maintain Morada

Implement Community Programs

- Youth agricultural and cultural education programs
- Adult education and agricultural programs
- Develop local grower's cooperatives for economic development
- Develop conservation programs for the preservation of land grant lands

Funding

- State and Federal Grant
- Private Foundations
- Partnerships with Rio Arriba County
- Develop effort in conjunction with other Community Land Grants

Develop Land Grant Village Center in Gallina/Capulin



Maintain and Preserve Historic Morada and Church Site

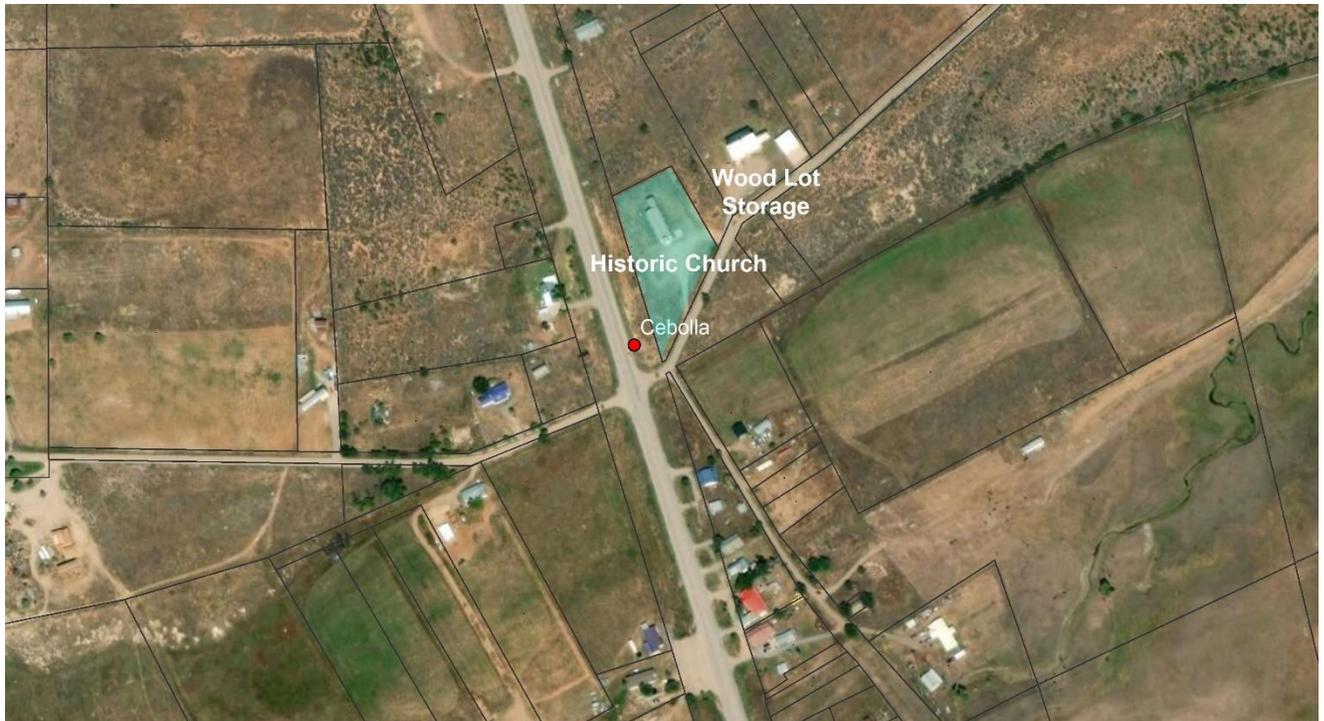


Maintain and Preserve Campo Santo in Gallina



Goals for the Community of Cebolla

- Develop Community and Economic Development Opportunities
- Acquire Property for Wood Lot Storage and Wood Hauling
- Maintain Church and Campo Santo
- Purchase property along Highway to develop Commercial Enterprises and Community based Economic Development Projects.



Plan Goal Strategy for Future Village Scale Opportunities

- Develop additional community development projects for villages such as llaves-Costilla, Regina, and Canjilon
- Hold community meetings to develop priorities for community assets and resources
- Develop community scale projects that leverage community participation
- Identify community lands in these villages to acquire support for community development

Sources

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Appendix 1: SJDRCLG CMP MAP