

**From:** Micah Chambers  
**To:** [randal\\_bowman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov); [Downey Magallanes](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Resolution 17-28 Rio Grande del Norte National Monument  
**Date:** Friday, June 16, 2017 7:33:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [attachedFile.html](#)  
[DOC035.PDF](#)

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Harding, Stephenne (Tom Udall)"  
<[Stephenne\\_Harding@tomudall.senate.gov](mailto:Stephenne_Harding@tomudall.senate.gov)>  
**Date:** June 16, 2017 at 6:16:53 PM EDT  
**To:** Micah Chambers <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Bloom, Greg (Tom Udall)" <[Greg\\_Bloom@tomudall.senate.gov](mailto:Greg_Bloom@tomudall.senate.gov)>, "Hermann, Maya (Heinrich)" <[Maya\\_Hermann@heinrich.senate.gov](mailto:Maya_Hermann@heinrich.senate.gov)>  
**Subject:** Resolution 17-28 Rio Grande del Norte National Monument

Micah—

Please find an attached resolution from the Town of Taos Supporting the Rio Grande Del Norte monument. Please consider this part of the Senator's comments on the Monument review process.

Cheers,

Stephenne

Stephenne Harding  
Senior Policy Advisor  
(202) 224-7984  
[Stephenne\\_Harding@tomudall.senate.gov](mailto:Stephenne_Harding@tomudall.senate.gov)



## **RESOLUTION 17-28**

### **A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE RIO GRANDE DEL NORTE NATIONAL MONUMENT.**

**WHEREAS**, the Taos Town Council passed Resolution 12-67 endorsing the permanent protection of the Rio Grande del Norte proposal through the enactment of legislation as a national conservation area or a presidential proclamation as a national monument; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council found that the extraordinary scenic, environmental, cultural, and recreational value of the 242,500 acres of public lands warranted permanent protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument serves as an essential wildlife corridor and critical habitat to a wide variety of animals and birds including big horn sheep, elk, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, otter, cougar, bear, eagles, and various aquatic species, including the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout, New Mexico's State Fish.

**WHEREAS**, significant support for the protection of these lands vital to the environmental and economic interests of northern New Mexico was expressed by a diverse community coalition of ranchers, outdoor recreation enthusiasts, preservationists, and traditional land users; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rio Grande del Norte was designated a National Monument on March 23, 2013 by President Barack Obama, after a successful 25 year effort to build a broad coalition of support, yet derailed legislatively by a dysfunctional congress; and

**WHEREAS**, the designation of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument has definitively improved the lives of residents and visitors to Northern New Mexico by making accessible to all, public lands that offer a paradise for hiking, camping, river rafting, photography, mountain climbing, fishing, and supports traditional land uses including hunting, wood gathering and grazing, and is an outstanding place for observing nature in all of its splendor, and

**WHEREAS**, the designation of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument has led to an increase in visitors to Northern New Mexico, which has in turn encouraged entrepreneurs to start businesses and increase job opportunities in this area; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a 2016 poll of registered voters in Taos County, 95% said that public lands were important to them and that it was important to preserve for special generations; and

**WHEREAS**, these community members are ethnically, economically, and politically diverse yet all agree on the need to protect public lands, and

**WHEREAS**, the designation of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument reflects the values of our community and respects traditional land uses, current land uses, and is a fitting gift to leave to our future generations.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Taos Town Council that we strongly reaffirm our support of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, to protect its scenic, environmental, economic, and recreational values.

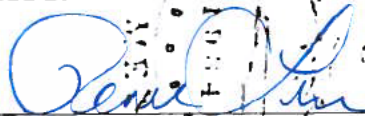
**MAY IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Taos Town Council views any efforts to rescind, minimize, or otherwise harm the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument an affront to the values, culture, and identity of a multiethnic, economically diverse community, and are strongly opposed.


**PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED** this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017, at the Regular Meeting of the Town Council by the following vote:

|                                   |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Evans     | <u>yes</u>    |
| Councilmember Darien Fernandez    | <u>yes</u>    |
| Councilmember George "Fritz" Hahn | <u>yes</u>    |
| Councilmember Judith Cantu        | <u>absent</u> |

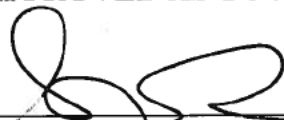
## TOWN OF TAOS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel R. Barrone, Mayor

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Renee Lucero, Town Clerk



## APPROVED AS TO FORM

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen C. Ross, Town Attorney