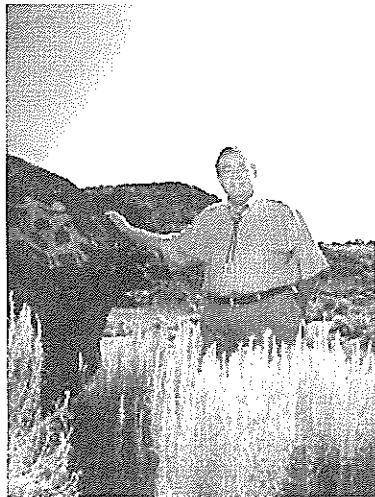


# Rio Grande Sierran

September/October 2001

News of the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club



## Jim Baca Endorsed For Mayor of Albuquerque

by Richard Barish

The Sierra Club has enthusiastically endorsed Jim Baca in his bid to be re-elected as the Mayor of Albuquerque.

Jim Baca is the only mayoral candidate who opposes the extension of Paseo del Norte through Petroglyph National Monument. The Paseo extension would facilitate leapfrog sprawl on the far west side and destroy places held sacred by the Pueblos. Baca has also committed to minimizing the impacts of the Albuquerque drinking water project on the Rio Grande, a major issue for the Club.

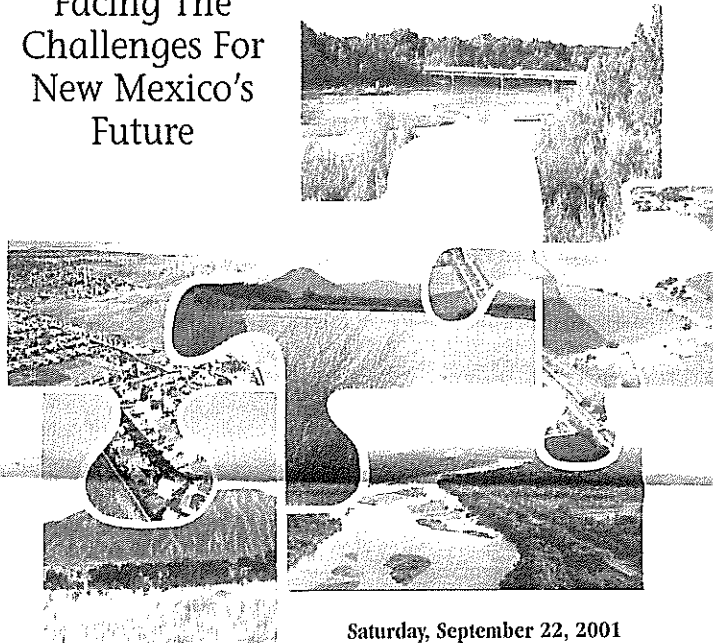
Jim Baca's environmental record as mayor also includes:

- ♦ Stanch opposition to sprawl by actively opposing the extension of Paseo and the northwest loop road, by "smart growth" initiatives that encourage infill development, and by leading the effort to revitalize Albuquerque's

See *Baca* on Page 3

## Connecting Growth, Land & Water

### Facing The Challenges For New Mexico's Future



Saturday, September 22, 2001  
8:30 am to 5:00 pm  
Santa Fe Community College  
6401 Richards Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Further Information on Pages 14 & 15

### Executive Committee Candidates Announced

Kellie Goudreaux  
Jim Hannan  
Jennifer Johnson  
Ted Mertig  
Ken Hughes

See Story on Page 3

### Eric Griego and Miguel Gomez

#### Endorsed In Albuquerque City Council Races

by Richard Barish

The Sierra Club is proud to endorse two outstanding candidates for the Albuquerque City Council, Eric Griego and Miguel Gomez.

Griego is running in District 3, which includes the south valley, downtown, and some of the University area. The race pits Griego against incumbent Adele Baca Hundley and two other candidates.

Griego emphasizes the need for a long-term solution to our water problems, including minimizing impacts of the Albuquerque drinking water project on the Rio Grande. He states that Albuquerque must change its growth strategy by providing incentives for infill, not sprawl growth. Infill would reduce commuter traffic and the resulting air pollu-

See *City Council* on Page 3

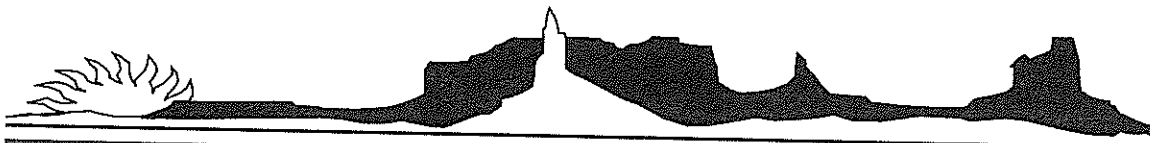


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Sierra Club  
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Please send correspondence to: Jim Hannan  
207 Ricardo Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87501



# Rio Grande Chapter Directory

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**Jennifer Johnson, Conservation Chair**  
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**Norma McCallan**  
471-0005 nmccallan@mindspring.com

**Susan Martin**  
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**Doug Fraser, Santa Fe Group**  
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**Fred Hartline, Pajarito Group**  
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**Ted Mertig, El Paso Group**  
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**Margot Wilson, Southern Group**  
744-5860 margotwilson40@hotmail.com

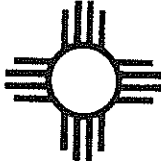
## Staff

**Jennifer de Garmo, Conservation Organizer**  
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243-7771 fax  
110 Second St. SW ste615,  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

## Sierra Club Structure

The Club has three structural levels. The National Board of Directors determines the overall direction of the Club. The National Organization is subdivided into Chapters, and each Chapter is further divided into Groups. One representative from each Chapter reports to the National Board through the Council of Club Leaders.

The largest part of the Chapter's budget goes to the the salary and expenses for Jennifer and a part-time lobbyist, followed by the printing and mailing of this Newsletter.



[www.riogrande.sierraclub.org](http://www.riogrande.sierraclub.org)

**Pajarito Group, P.O. Box 945, Los Alamos, NM 87544**

**Central NM Group**  
PO Box 25342  
Albuquerque, NM 87125-5342  
260-9857

**Santa Fe Group**  
621 Old Santa Fe Trail, #10  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
983-2703

**Sierra Club National**  
85 Second St., 2nd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415 977-5500

**Southern NM Group**  
P.O. Box 3705 UPB  
Las Cruces, NM 88003  
522-3421

**El Paso Group**  
P.O. Box 9191  
El Paso, TX 79983  
915 594-7342

**Southwest Regional Office**  
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Phoenix, AZ 85004  
602 254-9330  
FAX: 258-6533

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**Wilderness** Martin Heinrich 232-7151 mlheinrich@aol.com

Edward Sullivan 255-5966x106sully@nmwild.org

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**Military Issues** Marianne Thaeler 522-3421 marianne.thaeler@sierraclub.org

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Cliff Larsen 466-2128 clarsen@ix.netcomm.com

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**Wildlife** Liz Walsh 915 747-5421 EWalsh@utep.edu

Roger Peterson 983-7559 rogpete@aol.com

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**Political OPEN**

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**Outings** Ted Mertig 915 852-3011 tmertig@earthlink.net

## Regional and National Representatives

**Southwest Region Conservation Committee (SWRCC)**  
Ted Mertig, Susan Martin

**Council of Club Leaders Delegate**  
Barbara Johnson; Norma McCallan (alternate)

## Sierran

**Editor** John Buchser 820-0201 jbuchser@earthlink.net  
223 N. Guadalupe #419, Santa Fe, NM 87501 (email preferred!!)

**Advertising** OPEN

*All phone numbers area code 505 unless otherwise noted.*

The Rio Grande Sierran is published six times a year by the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club as a benefit for Sierra Club members living in New Mexico and West Texas.

Make address changes by contacting Membership Services at 415 977-5649 or send member name and number to [address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto:address.changes@sierraclub.org)

Non-member subscriptions at \$10.00 per year are available. Send checks to Blair Brown, Treasurer; 2226B Wyoming NE, PMB 272, Albuquerque, NM 87112. Please allow 8 weeks for processing.

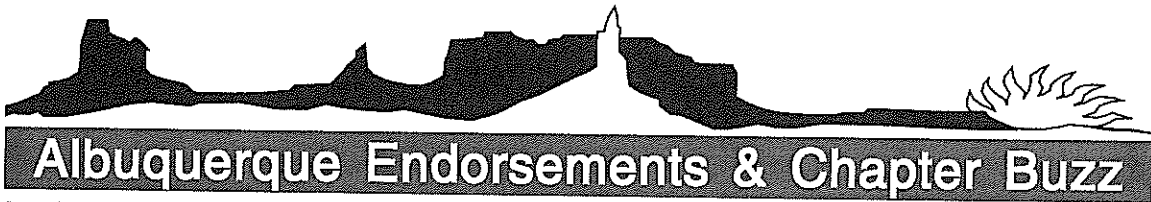
The opinions expressed in signed articles in the Rio Grande Sierran are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of the Sierra Club. Articles may be freely reprinted for non-profit purposes, provided that credit is given to the author and the Rio Grande Sierran (Please let us know if you reprint.) Products and services advertised in the Rio Grande Sierran are not endorsed by the Sierra Club.

Contributions are welcome from members. Email contributions preferred. Send to jbuchser@earthlink.net or mail to John Buchser, 223 N. Guadalupe #419, Santa Fe, NM 87501. All submissions MUST be received by the 10th of the month prior to publication. (The Rio Grande Sierran is published in early January, March, May, July, September, and November.) Photos, artwork and poems are also welcome. Letters and articles are subject to abridgement.

Editorial practices as developed by the Grand Canyon Chapter and adopted by the Rio Grande Chapter will be used in production of the Rio Grande Sierran. Letters to the editor over 500 words will be edited for length or returned to the author for editing. Submissions of Rio Grande Chapter members will take precedence over other submissions.

Content of Group pages are the responsibility of the editor for that group and any policies that are in place from the applicable Group. Contact editor for advertising policy and rates.

**Printed on 100% post-consumer waste newsprint by  
Printworld in El Paso.**



# Albuquerque Endorsements & Chapter Buzz

*Baca from Page 1*

downtown after 32 previous failed attempts

- ◆ Helped save the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow from extinction by making stored City of Albuquerque water available during the critical summers of 1999 and 2000 and supporting the captive breeding program for the silvery minnow at the Albuquerque zoo
- ◆ Helping to ensure a sustainable drinking water supply by implementing new incentives for water conservation and penalties for water wasters
- ◆ Fighting for clean air by increasing funding for transit and increasing the hours of service, which has resulted in increased use of transit, and by increasing funding for bike paths
- ◆ Supported the Mexican wolf re-introduction program
- ◆ Criticized President Bush for his administration's failure to implement the widely popular Forest Service roadless area initiative

Baca has a long history of leadership on environmental issues. Before serving as Albuquerque's Mayor, Baca served two terms as New Mexico State Land Commissioner, and as Director of the federal Bureau of Land Management under President Bill Clinton. He has served on the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, the Wilderness Society, and the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance. Jim is a longtime member of the Sierra Club.

The election will take place on October 2, 2001. Albuquerque residents not registered to vote must do so by September 4, 2001. Questions regarding the election or voter registration can be directed to the Albuquerque City Clerk's Office at 768-3030 or [www.cabq.gov/clerk](http://www.cabq.gov/clerk).

Jim needs volunteers if he is going to get re-elected! For more information or to volunteer, call Richard Barish at 232-3013. Contributions to the campaign can be made by check payable to Jim Baca for Mayor and sent to Jim Baca Re-Election Campaign, P.O. Box 7764, Old Albuquerque Station, Albuquerque, NM 87194-7764, or can be made online at Jim's web site, [www.jimbaca.com](http://www.jimbaca.com), where you can also find out more about Jim.

*City Council from Page 1*

tion and would make transit more viable. Griego states that we need to strengthen the proposed solution for Sandia Lab's Mixed Waste Landfill, which includes radioactive waste, by analysis of the contents of the landfill; by more extensive, independent testing of the soil, water, and air surrounding the landfill; and by conducting a feasibility study to determine the best way to ensure that our groundwater and air are not polluted.

In addition to his support for conservation and the natural environment, Griego has been involved in health, safety, and human rights issues while employed as a researcher and policy analyst with the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Congress. He is currently a visiting lecturer at the University of New Mexico where he teaches a course in Global Trade and Social Issues.

Miguel Gomez is running for an open seat in the new District 1, which essentially encompasses the south half of the west side. Gomez states that he will be guided by questions asked by the late David Brower: "What kinds of growth must we have? What kinds can we no longer afford?"

Gomez speaks with dismay about unmanaged growth in Albuquerque. He states that we must stop subsidizing growth on the fringes. He emphasizes the need to save open space and would support an eighth of a cent gross receipts tax to fund open space acquisitions, including areas not acquired because of shortfalls in the last open space gross receipts tax. He states that the survivability and sustainability of the Rio Grande is one of the most important issues facing our community. He supports maintaining sufficient flows in the Rio Grande to ensure a healthy bosque and the survival of species such as the silvery minnow. Gomez supports increased water conservation efforts.

Gomez has worked with the Southwest Voter and Registration and Education Project and is a co-founder of the United Leadership Council, both dedicated to increasing participation in the electoral process and to bringing about reform on issues of social and environmental justice.

If you are interested in working on the campaigns of Eric Griego or Miguel Gomez, or in making financial contributions to their campaigns, contact Richard Barish at 232-3013.

## Executive Committee Candidates Announced

*by Doug Fraser*  
*Chair, Nominating Committee*

The Nominating Committee has announced the slate of candidates who will be running for three year terms on the ExCom starting next January. These activists are:

- Kellie Goudreau
- Jim Hannan
- Jennifer Johnson
- Ted Mertig
- Ken Hughes

If you are interested in running but are not included on this list, please contact a member of the nominating committee to find out if they are willing to place you on the ballot. If they decline to do so, you may obtain the signatures of 100 chapter members who are in good standing (they paid their dues) with the Club and you will appear on ballot. Note you must do this sufficiently in advance of the ballot distribution so that the signatures can be validated.

In is anticipated that the ballot will appear in the November/December of the Rio Grande Sierran, and that the results will be approved at the December Meeting of the ExCom at Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge.

The other members of the nominating committee are: Cheryl Blevins, Ann Falknor, Abe Jacobson, and Cecily Vix.

## Chapter Conservation Committee and Executive Committee September 15 & December 8/9

*by Jim Hannan*

As always, we are pleased to have members attend our Conservation Committee and Executive Committee meetings.

The next meeting is in Albuquerque at the Chapter Office, 110 Second Street, SW. It starts at 8am on September 15 with the Conservation Committee, and continues at 1pm with the Executive Committee.

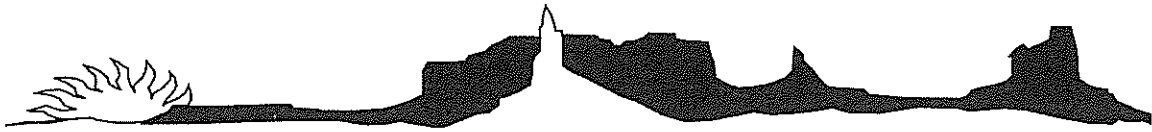
The winter meeting will be held on December 8 & 9 at the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge.

We generally have volunteers bring food for snacks & lunch, so give a member of the Executive Committee a holler if you are planning on coming.



Stay Up To Date!  
[www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)





## SANTA FE GROUP MEETINGS

Tuesday, September 18, 7 PM

### OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS

Using a Power Point slide presentation, Allna Abokde Bokde, Santa Fe County Land Planner, will describe the goals and vision of Santa Fe County's Open Space and Trails Program, its inception, its management and the various sites that have been acquired.

The Open Space and Trails Program is a citizen-based program designed to preserve areas of natural, historical and cultural importance in Santa Fe County, as well as to conserve open space and provide places of public recreation. To fund this acquisition program, voters overwhelmingly approved two bond issues, one in 1998 for \$12 million and one in 2000 for \$20 million.

All those who are interested in preserving the unique natural and cultural heritage of Santa Fe County and who want to know more about this exceptional program and its future development are encouraged to participate and offer their suggestions and comments.

\*\*\*\*\*

### SIERRA YARD SALE FUNDRAISER COMING SOON

Saturday, October 6, 8 AM to 3 PM

1859 Camino de Pablos, the home of Carole Owens

We are seeking donations of *saleable* items (no computers!!). Ask for contributions from friends and neighbors. We prefer that items not be brought in until two weeks before the sale. Drop off small items at the Sierra office at 621 Old Santa Fe Trail (Plaza de Desira), Suite 10. Call Carole (471-4769) to arrange a time to bring large, bulky items directly to her garage. Virginia Westray (466-9133) has a pickup truck available evenings and weekends for heavy items. We still need volunteers for the following:

1. Help price items on Friday 10-5 at Carole's house.
2. Set up at 7 AM and man tables from 8 AM to 3 PM the day of

### NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Doug Frazer

The summer has come to an end. Time to get serious about a conservation program – not just enjoy the wilderness with our hikes and river rafting trips.

The New Mexico Game & Fish Department's attempted addressing of the BLACK BEAR issue has us very concerned – please read Conservation Chair Cliff Larsen's article. Thank you.

### CONSERVATION CHAIR

Cliff Larsen

#### Bears Face Mass Killing in New Mexico

Black bears are in trouble and the New Mexico Game & Fish Commission wants to end those troubles – permanently.

A late spring freeze this year reduced the food available in the mountains of Northern New Mexico, and bears have been ranging into human habitat. More and more houses are being built in remote areas, thus humans are ranging into bear habitat. The increased contact has had unhappy results for both. So far one elderly woman has died, one young camper has been bitten and fifty bears have been exterminated as a result.

The media has played a part in aggravating the situation. Reports pour in about bears in backyards, sleeping in trees and feeding from fruit trees. Game Field Officers attempts to educate and instruct get little coverage. The suggestion to the Game Commission that effort be made to educate communities and individuals about bear-proofing dumpsters, garbage cans and other human food sources was completely ignored. So far, their solution has been to kill more bears.

The unfortunate attitude of the Game Commission is that, unless an animal is of direct use to humans (dog, cat, cow), it can be killed without regard. Then, at least for game animals, there becomes value through the sale of licenses. This has led to the growing issuance of out-of-season "depredation permits" that allow a landowner to sell a license along with a hefty trespass fee. The well-heeled hunter then takes the license (typically elk or deer) and hunts, not on the rancher's land, but often in the nearby forest.

Just what are the plans for the black bear? Shortly, results from a 10-year study on the black bear in New Mexico will be released. The object of the study will be to provide a scientific basis for management of bears in the state. It will be ignored. A task team has been formed whose members represent the diverse interests within the state (hunters, Field Officers, houndsmen, outfitters, environmentalists). Its recommendations will be ignored. At the next Game & Fish Commission meeting, many concerned citizens speak about the

Tuesday, October 16, 7 PM

### WILD UTAH

### AMERICA'S REDROCK WILDERNESS

Wild Utah: America's Redrock Wilderness is a multi-media slideshow documenting citizen efforts to designate public lands in southern Utah's spectacular canyon country as Wilderness under the 1964 Wilderness Act. This 20-minute journey through redrock splendor invigorates and motivates viewers to participate in the movement to protect these unique lands. The show was made possible through the generous donation of photos, music and words from concerned Utahans who wish to pass this heritage onto future generations, including a special reading by Pulitzer Prize winning author Wallace Stegner from his famous Wilderness Letter.

In conjunction with a 30-minute presentation on the current status of the Utah wilderness movement by Bob Brister, Outreach Associate of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, this inspirational and informational event is a must see for citizen's wishing to become personally involved to make the difference in this tremendous American public lands conservation effort.

All meetings, outings, and activities are FREE and open to the public.

Membership meetings are held at the Unitarian Church 107 W. Barcelona St (between Galisteo and Don Gaspar).

\*\*\*\*\*

the sale. If you can come for a two-hour shift, that's great.

3. Clean up afterwards and take remainders to Goodwill.

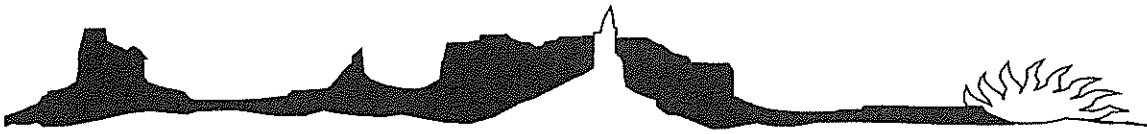
Call Kathy Fraser (662-5294), Barbara Johnson (466-4935) or Norma McCallan (471-0005) to schedule your time.

Carole's house is off of Galisteo, between Zia and Rodeo Roads, the second street on the right when driving south, across from a railroad trestle.

subject. Their opinions will be ignored. Hundreds of letters have poured into Lt. Governor Bradley's office opposing a spring bear hunt. These letters will be ignored. An opinion poll is scheduled to be conducted among hunters on the subject of a spring bear hunt. These results will also be ignored (unless they coincide with the biases of the Commission). The Game & Fish biologists will offer opinions based on their science. They will be ignored. The sad truth is that the Game & Fish Commission answers to no one.

At the coming meeting, a number of awful recommendations concerning bears will be considered and probably adopted. These recommendations in the aggregate will probably extirpate the black bear in New Mexico.

1. Extend the fall hunting season further: At the Cloudercroft meeting on August 23, the Commission ordered an immediate start to the bear season (September 1). The bow and muzzle-loader season, which is now dog-free, would overlap the new general season and dogs would be freely permitted. The Commission may expand next year's season into August.
  2. Open spring hunting: The spring is not often considered for hunting. Female bears have cubs, all bears are hungry from hibernation and range broadly, paw pads are tender and mobility is low. Spring hunting is regarded in most states as unsportsmanlike. There are currently spring bear seasons in only six states. Several states have eliminated spring seasons as a result of voter initiatives. In no state are dogs permitted during a spring bear season. The Game & Fish Commission, under pressure from dog-hunters, is unlikely to adopt that restriction.
  3. Allow year-round bear hunting on private land: Commissioner Hettinga, a rabid property-rights advocate, would extend the definition of "private land" to include ALL public land leaseholds. This action does two very unattractive things. It privatizes game for the first time (if it's on your land and not a cow, dog or cat, it's yours); and it puts legions of hunters into the forest all year long to take the occasional shot at hikers, campers, bikers and the like. The risk to humans is likely to be far greater from hunters than it would be from any non-human predator.
  4. Use bait to attract bears: The use of bait is unsportsmanlike in the extreme, fills the woods with garbage, habituates bears to human food and lures bears to areas used in other outdoor pursuits.
- As noted, there is little recourse to a Game & Fish Commission order. Nonetheless, come to the next Commission meeting and let them hear your voice. The meeting begins at 9 AM on September 21 at the Doubletree Hotel, 201 Marquette Ave NW, Albuquerque. See you there.



## SANTA FE GROUP OUTINGS

### Sat Sun September

- 1 **Moderate Hike** in high country. Ned Sudborough (474-4055)
- 2 **Strenuous Hike** to Gold Hill, north of Taos. 10 miles RT, 3411' elevation gain. Early start, long day. Call for details. Steve Markowitz (983-2829) or Norbert Sperlich (983-1962)
- 8 **Moderate Hike** up Rio Frijoles (near Cundiyo). Many stream crossings - you will get your feet wet! Dogs allowed. Leave 8:30 AM. Norma McCallan (471-0005)
- 9 **Moderate Hike** Bandelier. 9 miles RT, 1000' elevation gain. Partly on an abandoned trail. Leave 8 AM. Bob McKee (672-3426) Call 471-0005 after Friday afternoon.
- 15 **Moderate Hike** to Nambe Lake, 7 miles RT, 2100' elevation gain. Dogs allowed. Leave 8 AM. Lionel Soracco (983-6715)
- 16 **Moderate Hike** to La Vega. 7 miles RT, 1500' elevation gain. Leave 9 AM. Call leader. David Bryant (1-505-757-3477)
- 22 **Strenuous Hike** to Caballo Peak (Jemez). 14 miles RT, 3300' elevation gain. Some off-trail hiking likely. Call leader. Michael DiRosa (663-0648)
- 23 **Moderate Hike** in high country. Dogs allowed. Call leader. Tobin Oruch (820-2844)
- 29 **Easy Bird-Watching Walk** in or near town. Beginners welcome. Bring binoculars. Leave 8 AM. Ron Duffy (982-2890)
- 29 **Moderate Hike** in Jemez Mountains. Call for details. Norbert Sperlich (983-1962)
- 30 **Strenuous Hike** to Santa Fe Baldy. Leave 7:30 AM. Call for reservation. Jeff Jones (466-2389)

**PLEASE ALWAYS CALL THE OUTINGS LEADER  
PRIOR TO A HIKE  
FOR CONFIRMATION AND DETAILS.**

*For additional outings in northern New Mexico,  
please check the Pajarito Group page(s) in this newsletter.*

### Sat Sun October

- 6 **Moderate Mountain Bike Ride** in the Jemez, likely along San Antonio Canyon near La Cueva, gain less than 1000'. Bike leader Michael Di Rosa (663-0648)
- 7 **Moderate Hike** Leave 8 AM. Art Judd (982-3212)
- Saturday, October 13, to Sunday, October 21  
**Utah Backpack/Carcamp** Exploratory trip on Elk Ridge (east of Natural Bridges, UT), including a probable 3-day backpack into Fable Valley, day hikes on one or more of the trails that lead into Dark Canyon, and checking out the remote BLM land south of Canyonlands. Dogs OK, high terrain vehicles needed, but we'll carpool. Norma McCallan (471-0005)
- 13 **Moderate Hike** to Buckman Mesa, 5.5 miles, 1100' gain, rough terrain. Norbert Sperlich (983-1962)
- 14 **Very Strenuous Hike** to South Truchas Peak via the Dome, 18 miles, 5500' gain. Leave 7 AM. John Buchser (820-0201)
- 20 **Easy Hike** Tent Rocks near Cochiti, 5 miles, some scrambling, a few hundred feet elevation gain. Meet 9 AM at perimeter of Villa Linda Mall lot near Walgreen's. Victor Atyas (438-9434)
- 21 **Moderate Hike** Cañada Bonita and Guaje Canyon (above Los Alamos near Valle Grande), 8 mi, 2300' gain, lve 9 AM or call to meet near Pajarito ski hill. David Bryant (505-757-3477)
- 21 **Strenuous Hike** to Middle Truchas Peak, 10 miles, 4000' gain. John Buchser (820-0201)
- 27 **Easy Bird Walk** - bring binoculars. Ron Duffy (982-2890)
- 27 **Easy Hike** Chamisa Trail, 5 mi, 1200' gain. Dogs allowed. Lve 9 AM. Robert McKee (672-3426 or 471-0005 after 10-26 PM)
- 27 **Very Strenuous Hike** to Wheeler Peak, 14 miles, 4300' gain, early start. Phil Somervell (473-4797)
- 28 **Moderate Hike** to Nambe Lake, 7 miles, 2100' gain, 9 AM (NOTE: DST ends night before). Heather Liston (982-9715)

Santa Fe Group of the Sierra Club  
621 Old Santa Fe Trail, Suite 10, Plaza Destra, Santa Fe, NM 87505  
505 · 983-2703

**Santa Fe Group News**

### Sat Sun November

- 3 **Very Strenuous Hike** to Santa Fe Baldy, 14 miles, 3600' gain. Phil Somervell (473-4797)
- 4 **Easy/Moderate Hike** on Frey Trail in Bandelier, 6 miles, 600' gain. Leave 9 AM from office or call leader to meet at McDonalds in White Rock at 10 AM. Victor Atyas (438-9434)
- 10 **Easy Bird Walk** - bring binoculars. Ron Duffy (982-2890)
- 11 **Moderate Hike** Atalaya Mountain in town, 7 miles, 1800' gain. Leave 9:30 AM. Heather Liston (982-9715)
- 17 **Easy Hike** Cerrillos Hills County Park. 4 to 5 miles, not much elevation gain. Dogs allowed. Leave 9 AM. Robert McKee (672-3426 or 471-0005 after Friday afternoon)
- 18 **Strenuous Hike** to Rancho Viejo, 11.5 miles, 2300' gain. Leave 9 AM. David Bryant (505-757-3477)
- 24 **Easy Hike** on the new DALE BALL NORTH SECTION trail loop in Santa Fe's foothills. Dogs on leash OK. Leave 9:30 AM. Norma McCallan (471-0005)
- 25 **Strenuous Hike** to San Miguel ruins in Dome Wilderness, Bandelier, rough terrain. Norbert Sperlich (983-1962)

**Outings Notes** - Unless otherwise noted, all outings leave from the Sierra office, 621 Old Santa Fe Trail, "Plaza Destra," just south of Keune's Grocery at the corner of Old SF Trail and Paseo de Peralta. Carpooling will be arranged. Each hiker should come prepared to pay 5¢ a mile to the driver of the car in which s/he rides. Bring a lunch, water, sturdy hiking boots or shoes, and clothing suitable for the weather - leader reserves the right to turn away anyone whose equipment or experience appears unsuitable. Leader has right to alter destination of hike or cancel trip due to weather, unfavorable conditions, or insufficient numbers of participants. Unaccompanied minors must have written permission from parents or guardians to participate; permission forms are available at the Sierra Club office. Dogs not permitted on hikes unless noted otherwise. Telephone leader for details of the individual hike. To participate, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver, see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>

### SANTA FE GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION

There are five positions open on the Executive Committee for two-year terms beginning January 1, 2002.

The Nominating Committee of the Santa Fe Group has selected seven candidates. The five incumbents whose terms end this year have all agreed to run again: John Buchser, Eleanor Eisenmenger, Norma McCallan, Paul Paryski and Courtney White. Group activists Lionel Soracco and Jan Kindal have also agreed to run.

Additionally, any member in good standing as of September 1, 2001, may run for election by a petition presented to the Nominating Committee no later than October 10, 2001. The petition must contain the signatures of at least 10 Group members in good standing as of the date of signing the petition. Petitioners must also include a statement to be published in the Sierran, detailing their conservation philosophy and goals for the Group. For further information, potential petitioners may contact George Grossman of the Nominating Committee (982-1024).

Ballots for the election and statements by the candidates will be included in the November-December issue of the *Rio Grande Sierran*, which will be mailed around the first of November.

#### GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Group Executive Committee:	Group Conservation Committee:
Tuesday, October 2, 6:30 PM	Tuesday, September 25, 7 PM
Tuesday, November 6, 6:30 PM	Tuesday, October 23, 7 PM
Water Pot-Luck (John Buchser's house [820-0201]):	
Monday, September 10, 6:30 PM	
Monday, October 8, 6:30 PM	

#### RIO GRANDE SIERRA NOW ON THE 'NET !!

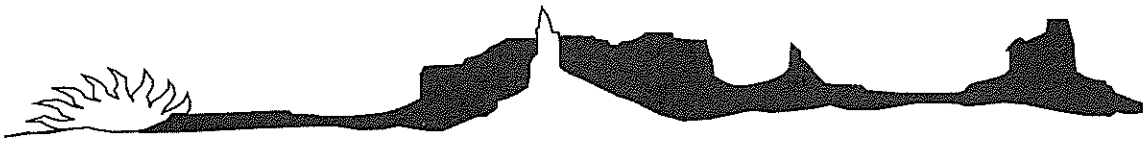
<http://www.riogrande.sierraclub.org/santafe/home.html>

#### ♦ ♦ SANTA FE GROUP OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS ♦ ♦

Chair — Doug Fraser *	474-7615 / 662-4104 fax
Vice-Chair — Barbara Johnson *	466-4935 lunah3@aol.com
Secretary/Treas — Lionel Soracco	983-6715
Political Committee — Susan Martin *	988-5206 smartin@lanl.gov
Membership — Norma McCallan *	471-0005 nmccallan@mindspring.com
Newsletter/Publicity — Kay Carlson	982-3926 kcarlsonwp@earthlink.net
Phone Tree — Dee Sands	455-3005
Chapter Rep — Doug Fraser *	474-7615
Outings — Norbert Sperlich	983-1962
— Tobin Oruch	820-2844 oruch@lanl.gov

Conservation — Cliff Larsen *	466-2128 clarsen1@ix.netcom.com
Mining — Cliff Larsen *	466-2128
Water — John Buchser *	820-0201 jbuchser@earthlink.net
National Parks — Courtney White *	982-5502 widwst@rt66.com
Rangelands — Roger Peterson	983-7559 rogpete@aol.com
Carson Nat'l Forest — George Grossman	982-1024
Activist Outings — Norma McCallan *	471-0005 nmccallan@mindspring.com
Growth — Eleanor Eisenmenger *	820-6401
Paul Paryski *	992-1984 pparyski@aol.com

\* Member of the SF Group Executive Committee



# CENTRAL NEW MEXICO GROUP NEWS

## Why You Must Get Out and Vote for Jim Baca on October 2nd

by Richard Barish

"I know that growth at all costs will destroy what is special and precious about our city, our open space, our bosque, our mountains, our heritage, but we can grow wisely. That's why I stood alone in the last mayoral race, in opposition to the road through the petroglyphs. And today the Petroglyph National Monument is still roadless, still sacred. There are some values worth fighting for."  
- Mayor Jim Baca, from his Candidacy Announcement Speech, June 10, 2001

I once read something rather shocking about Sierra Club members. I read that we do not vote in any greater percentages than the population at large. How could this be?, I thought. I know these people. They're people who care passionately about things, in particular, about the environment. And yet, it seems that we're alienated, as neglectful, as cynical as everyone else when it comes to voting.

On October 2, we need to buck that trend. All Club members in the City of Albuquerque need to go to the polls and vote for Jim Baca for Mayor. There is simply too much at stake for the environment. Albuquerque needs Jim Baca's leadership.

One major issue that we're facing is the Albuquerque drinking water project. Albuquerque is switching from use of groundwater to use of water imported into the Rio Grande from the San Juan River basin via the Chama River. We all agree that Albuquerque needs to stop unsustainable groundwater mining, but the question is, how are we going to put Albuquerque's San Juan-Chama Project water to use? Are we going to pound a few more nails in the Rio Grande's coffin by putting another dam and drying up the Albuquerque reach in summer? Or are we going to figure out how we can meet Albuquerque's needs while at the same time not harming, and maybe even helping, the river? We desperately need an environmentalist to lead the City at this critical time for the Rio Grande. We need Jim Baca.

Another major issue facing Albuquerque is how we are going to develop as a city. Are we going to sprawl our way to long commutes, dirty air, and a city that feels of us could get excited about living in? Make no mistake: the only reason that Paseo del Norte has not been extended through Petroglyph National Monument, facilitating leapfrog development on the far west side and desecrating a place held sacred by the Pueblo people, is that Jim Baca has been mayor for the past four years. He is the only candidate who opposes the Paseo del Norte extension. In comparison, Marty Chavez's vision is an Albuquerque that "stops at the reservations and to the west at the Rio Puerco." The only thing that will prevent the extension of Paseo through the Monument in the next four years — and the north-west loop road blazing a new trail for sprawl after that — is reelecting Jim Baca as mayor in October.

A lot of you have probably seen the early poll that shows Baca behind in the race. In a seven person field, Jim can pull this race out. But in order to do so, he needs a heavy turnout from all of his traditional bases of support, which includes environmentalists in general and Sierra Club members in particular. Where else are we going to find a mayor who goes out on a political limb to publicly advocate for wolf reintroduction and roadless areas? There is ample reason to be cynical about the electoral process, but we need to suppress our cynicism, and shed our apathy, and get out and vote on October 2. It matters!

Jim Baca may not always be out there tooting his own horn, and he doesn't often get positive coverage from the developer-friendly media in this town. But don't be fooled: Jim Baca is the Sierra Club's kind of a guy. Please vote for him on October 2.

### Sierra Club Endorsements for Albuquerque City Council

#### Miguel Gomez for City Council District 1

Gomez speaks with dismay about unmanaged growth in Albuquerque and states that we must stop subsidizing growth on the fringes. He supports increased water conservation efforts and the need to save open space, including areas not already purchased. He states that the survivability and sustainability of the Rio Grande is one of the most important issues facing our community and supports maintaining sufficient flows in the Rio Grande to ensure a healthy bosque and the survival of species such as the silvery minnow.

Gomez is running for an open seat in the new District 1, which essentially encompasses the southern half of the west side. See additional information on the front page.

#### Eric Griego for City Council District 3

Griego has expressed the need for a long-term solution to our water problems, but including minimizing impacts of the Albuquerque drinking water project on the Rio Grande. He states that Albuquerque must change its growth strategy by providing incentives for infill, not sprawl growth, in order to make transit more viable and reduce commuter traffic and the resulting air pollution. He also states that we need to strengthen the proposed solution for Sandia Lab's Mixed Waste Landfill, including a feasibility study to determine the best way to ensure that our groundwater and air are not polluted.

Griego is running in District 3, which includes the south valley, downtown, and some of the University area. See additional information on the front page.

### Central New Mexico Group

PO Box 25342  
Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87125-5342

#### Executive Committee (area code 505)

Blair Brown	259-7190	bblairb2@aol.com
Steve Capra	843-8696	scapra@nmwild.org
Kellie Goudreau	232-3721	kellie@unm.edu
Martin Heinrich	232-7151	mtheinrich@aol.com
Edward Sullivan	259-5966	sully@nmwild.org

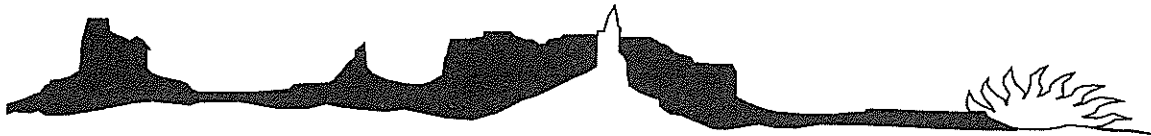
The Executive Committee normally meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM. We meet at various locations, so please contact one of us for the meeting location, or if you have issues you would like to discuss. The meetings are free and open to all members.

#### Project Leaders (area code 505)

Conservation Chair		
Steve Capra	843-8696	scapra@nmwild.org
Membership		
Open		
River Issues		
Richard Barish	232-3013	rdbarish@aol.com
Outings		
David Ther	260-1553	grelbik@worldnet.att.net
Programs		
Open		
Water		
Open		
Newsletter		
Blair Brown	259-7190	bblairb2@aol.com

*The Central New Mexico Group of the Sierra Club  
depends on the efforts of volunteers.  
To join us, give any of us a call.*

## Vote on October 2nd



## Why You Should Care About the Albuquerque Mayor's Race

By Dave Foreman

Because we're talking about Jim Baca that's why !!

As New Mexico's State Land Commissioner and later as Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Jim Baca made a commitment to public lands and their protection. As mayor of Albuquerque, he's fought against mindless development and sprawl. You know the kind. What Ed Abbey called the ideology of the cancer cell.

Jim Baca is the most courageous, honorable, incorruptible, pro-wilderness elected official I have known in my 30 years of conservation. As mayor of Albuquerque, he's supported the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance's Wilderness Areas proposals, reintroduction of wolves, the visionary Sky Islands Wildlands Network, and the Forest Service roadless area protection plan. He's publicly denounced oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. He serves on the boards of The Wilderness Society, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, and New Mexico Wilderness Alliance.

Having the mayor of New Mexico's leading city (and one of the West's leading cities) speaking out on national wilderness issues makes a difference. A big difference. Jim has credibility on these issues few can match. He was born in New Mexico. As a native Westerner and a native New Mexican whose roots stretch back centuries in this place, no one can accuse him of being a carpetbagger waging "war on the West."

Albuquerque's sprawl merchants and the West's landscaping establishment are going all out to defeat Jim Baca for reelection this fall to send a message that the West belongs to the fast-buck crowd. You are the difference. Whether you live in Tucson or Boston or Durango or San Francisco, you can help Jim Baca get the truth out and wage a winning campaign.

Reelecting Jim Baca as Albuquerque's mayor will send a national message on conservation.

Happy Trails

### Get Involved

Jim Baca needs your help. Volunteer to work on election day, post a sign, make phone calls, distribute literature, help with mailings, or help with general office work. Contact Baca Campaign headquarters at 266-3494 or 203-6994.

Even more important, get out and vote for Jim on Election day, Tuesday, October 2nd. You can 'early vote' anytime from September 5th on.

Central New Mexico Group News

### Drink the Rio Grande..? What's Next ?

We have continued to report the progress of the City of Albuquerque's plan to divert water from the Rio Grande, treat the water in a new treatment plant and provide it to all of us through the City's water system.

We have now learned that the release date for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the City of Albuquerque's Drinking Water project has again slipped. We now understand that the release date is late September. Folks at the City tell us that the delays are due to additional work that they feel is necessary to make the DEIS 'a better product'.

So, let's watch for the release notice in the newspapers or on the City's website ([www.cabq.gov](http://www.cabq.gov)) and plan to be involved. It's important that we do this project right!

### How Large is your Ecological Footprint?

According to Reinventing Progress, "the footprint measures human impact on nature. In order to live, people consume what nature offers. So, every one of us has an impact on our planet. This is not bad as long as we don't take more from the Earth than it has to offer. But are we taking more than we should? The Ecological Footprint measures what we consume of nature. It shows how much productive land and water we occupy to produce all the resources we consume and to take in all the waste we make."

You can calculate a rough estimate of your ecological footprint by answering 13 easy questions.

Just visit the website, <http://www.rprogress.org/programs/sustainability/ef/>

### General Meeting Programs

Monday, September 17th at 7:30PM  
RIO GRANDE ISSUES FORUM

Will we as a community choose to keep the Rio Grande as a living river with its glorious cottonwood bosque or will we allow it to continue its decline until it is little more than a dead ditch? Join us for a discussion of the challenges we face to preserve the Rio Grande.

Where: The Unitarian Church at 3701 Carlisle NE, at the corner of Commanche, in the Social Hall.

Monday, October 15th at 7:30PM

The details for this meeting are still being worked out, but join us at the Unitarian Church at 3701 Carlisle NE, at the corner of Commanche, in the Social Hall. Check our website at [riogrande.sierraclub.org/chadir.html](http://riogrande.sierraclub.org/chadir.html) for further info.

### Call for Nominations to the Executive Committee

The Nominating Committee of the Central New Mexico Group is seeking candidates for election to the Group Excom. If you would be interested in being considered for candidacy or know anyone who is, please contact Nominating Committee members Kellie Goudreau at 232-3721 or Blair Brown at 259-7190.

### Children's Water Festival Volunteers Needed!

On November 8 & 9, 2001, 1000 4th grade students from throughout the Middle Rio Grande area will gather at the Albuquerque Convention Center for Water Wonders, Children's Water Festival 2001.

Festival organizers are seeking volunteers to be guides for student groups, assistants for activity presenters, runners to deliver extra supplies wherever needed, photographers, snack servers...you're probably getting the picture, here! It's all easy work and a lot of fun, plus you get lunch and a free T-shirt.

If you would like to help, send an email note to [landwater@hotmail.com](mailto:landwater@hotmail.com) or call Tim at 266-3706

*Editor's Note: The Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club is a financial contributor to the Children's Water Festival.*

### Goodbye to the Parking Lot !

For well over a decade, hundreds of dedicated members of the Central New Mexico Group worked the parking lot during the State Fair. Over the years, nearly \$100,000 was raised to be used for local conservation initiatives. Imagine how much more environmental damage would have occurred without the contributions of those hundreds of volunteers and the thousands of dollars they raised!

But this year, there will be no Sierra Club parking lot. The CNM Group has been forced to move out of the office space on San Pedro mainly because the grumpy new owner wants to run his own parking lot business.

So it is the end of an era - and the beginning of a new one. All of us who worked those shifts over the years should feel proud of what we accomplished together. Then, we should think about what we'll do next to help the local environment. Here are some suggestions:

Make a donation to reelect Mayor Jim Baca  
Volunteer to help Mayor Baca win the mayor's race

Thanks to all of the Parking Lot Sierrans!

### Outings

Sunday, Sep 16: Pine Shadow-Kayscer Mill Loop Hike  
Moderate to strenuous hike to the summit of Manzano Peak.  
9 miles round trip, approx. 2500 ft. elevation gain.

Call David at 260-1553.

Sunday, Oct 7: Cerro Blanco-Fourth of July Loop Hike  
Moderate hike to the crest of the Manzano Mountains for spectacular views. The maples should be in full color! 4.5 miles round trip, 1200 ft. elevation gain. Leisurely pace. Call David at 260-1553.

October 20-21: Astronomy Car Camp - Magdalena Mountains  
Join us for a weekend car camp under the stars and away from the city lights. We will see a variety of objects including star clusters, nebulae and planets. Bring your telescopes and/or binoculars! (you are welcome to come without). Sunday morning we will take a hike. For details and reservations, call Tom Leck, 291-1707 (evenings).

A Note from the Chair

### Use Your Purchasing Power!

Live by the sword, die by the sword! In this case it's: Live by the dollar; die by the dollar!

In the best of all possible worlds, there would undoubtedly be a better system for determining success of an idea or a product. However, as long as we are stuck with our present system of free-market economics, why not use it to our benefit and to the benefit of our environment?

I've just returned home from Germany, where the small neighborhood shops are collapsing under the pressure of huge new supermarkets selling at cut-rate prices. Of course we did this to ourselves here years ago by shopping where the prices were lowest!

On the local scene several nurseries have gone out of business because we've patronized the big home improvement warehouses instead. I think back to the days when we had a high-quality backpacking store in El Paso and wonder if its demise had anything to do with so many of us buying mail order. The implications for local business of buying on-line are truly frightening, but at least there's no automobile involved!

It's not just how we buy that's important. *What* we buy is crucial.

In particular, we should be aware of the consequences on our environment of what we eat. The amount of water and land that it takes to raise a cow should make one think twice before buying meat. (Remember too: You are what you eat!) Demanding, and paying extra for, organically grown food and clothing is *good* for Mother Earth.

The same applies to buying lumber: Look for the stamp indicating it came from a tree farm instead of public land.

In the area of transportation, can you imagine how rapidly our public transportation system would improve if we all began to take the bus? Of course, living where we could walk to work would be still better, another reason to abandon our pattern of single-zone suburban neighborhoods. If we must drive, choosing one of the new gas-electric hybrids would send a powerful message to the makers of the Expedition and Escalade. At home here in El Paso, why not choose to pay a little extra for wind power to encourage El Paso Electric to build more wind turbines?

And finally, let us consider the impact of our investments. What is the cost in human life and environmental destruction of demanding ever-higher profits? Wouldn't it be better to support life-friendly companies at the expense of greater dividends?

I hope the message is clear. We're not trying to tell you how to spend your money. We're only suggesting that you use it to promote your values, even if it means spending a bit more! Quality and progress do not come cheaply. In areas where our government is not responding to our needs, we may have to reach for our wallets!

Laurence Gibson,  
Chair El Paso Regional Group Sierra Club

#### Executive Committee Report

### Exciting Times . . . Help Make a Difference

Your group Executive Committee is in the throes of several exciting initiatives. Adding to the ferment are several new, young(er) faces.

One is Bill Addington Guerra, our Border Issues Chair. Bill is a real eco-hero for his work stopping the nuclear waste dump near Sierra Blanca.

Rick Provencio of the Texas Workforce Commission is asking the right questions as he assists us in our planning.

Jose Escobedo of the Catholic Diocesan Environmental Peace and Justice Ministry is helping us follow the PSB's proceedings. He will soon lead an Issue Outing to one of the colonias. There we'll investigate the highest-priced water service in El Paso, to prove the axiom, "The poor pay more". Hot Issues are:

- PSB Land Sale: We're calling for a moratorium on this one, which was approved by the Ramirez administration last January. It's

"touch and go" as real estate matters are discussed in closed-door executive session. The old procedure of selling off a chunk of land to pay for water infrastructure and keep rates artificially low just doesn't cut it any more. Of course, the sale fuels another round of development, which then uses more water (gotta have that golf course, right?), which then requires more infrastructure, which then . . . You get the idea!

- Mountain Zoning: Everyone says this ordinance, a product of the 80's, is getting "long in the tooth". (Thank you, Charlie Edgren.) We're advocating a complete upgrade to a new and higher community standard.
- Jobe Concrete Products McKelligon Quarry: Here again, what may have been acceptable years ago in Old El Paso just doesn't fit with our new image and the concept of showing a clean, new face to the world. (Did you say "Border Health Institute?") This operation wasn't stopped years ago because of fears about what it would cost. And now? Think megabucks. Rumor has it Jobe is in negotiation with the Japanese! We're working with Save Our Franklin Mountains on possible economic sanctions. Letters to the Editor are simply not working!

### Call for Ex Com Nominees

Annual Executive Committee elections are coming up for both the El Paso Regional Group and the Rio Grande Chapter. Please contact a Nominating Committee member if you would like to be considered for candidacy.

El Paso Group Nom Com members are: Ted Mertig, Shirley Phillips, and Rollin Wickenden. Candidates may also be nominated by petition.

Ann Falknor is our rep to the Chapter Nom Com. Details of that election will appear in your *Sierran*.

In accordance with our bylaws, we have established the following schedule for the El Paso Regional Group election:

- October 2: Last day to submit names to Nominating Committee
- October 3: Nominating Committee reports candidates to the Executive Committee
- October 17: Last day to submit petitions
- November 7: Executive Committee appoints Election Committee
- November 14: Printing of eligible voter list from the national database
- November 19: Printing and mailing of the ballots
- December 31: Last day to return ballots
- January 9: Counting of ballots, 6:00 PM, Jaxon's Restaurant, 1135 Airway, El Paso

### Jobe Issue Outing Report

By Laurence Gibson

On Saturday morning, Aug 11th, 11 activists gathered at the Karl Wyler Aerial Tramway to look over the Jobe Concrete Products McKelligon Quarry. The group, half Sierrans, included our oldest member, Rafacla Schuller, and two members of the Piñon family, Joe and Gilbert. Joe, a pharmacist living in the neighborhood, has been fighting the quarry for 40 years!

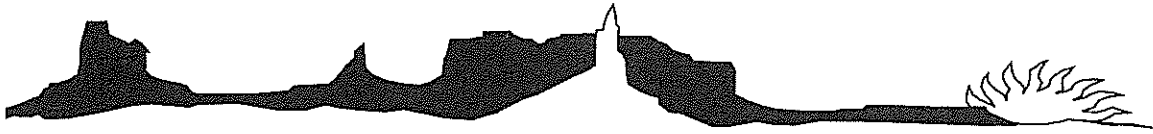
We observed the huge operation from the north end of the parking lot. Efforts to control pollution were obvious as a water truck continually sprayed the talcum-powdery plateau. A new and larger ponding area, apparently to receive waste from cement trucks, was evident. In former times this waste flowed across Alabama to a ponding area.

One of our party, a former assistant principal at Burnett School, had had respiratory problems during his four-year stay there. Joe showed us areas of moldy soil and said this stuff has made its way into the ductwork of local buildings, possibly even the school. Joe also wondered about possible water pollution from percolation through the arroyo and the deep sediment of the ponding area. A related issue mentioned was Jobe's effort to reduce quarry production below a certain level in order to operate under less stringent regulations.

We also traced the quarry's property boundaries. The southern boundary is in an arroyo a few yards from the tramway parking lot. The northern one is near the VFW Post building in the canyon. Jobe was quoted as saying the western boundary is near the black strata of

*"Jobe" continued on next page*





**Outings**

**Sep 15: Colonia Water Issue Outing**

Place: East El Paso  
 Class: Easy  
 Length: 3 hours  
 Elevation gain: none  
 Leader: Jose M. Escobedo: 751-1834 (H)  
 El Paso Water Utilities says the fresh water in the Hueco Bolson is likely to run out in 2025. We do not have to wait 25 years to see the effect that no water, or very expensive water, has on families in El Paso. We will visit three colonias and talk with residents of each. This will be a great chance for those working on the Water Awareness Plan to learn more about this aspect of El Paso's water situation. Meet at Petro Truck Stop for car pool: 1-10 at Horizon.

**Sep 22-23: Tejas-Marcus-Bush Mountain Backpack**

Place: Guadalupe Mountain National Park  
 Class: Moderate +  
 Length: 13 miles  
 Elevation gain: 2,400 feet  
 Leader: Ann Falknor: 833-9162 (H)  
 If you need to "get away from it all", this is a great trip for you! Dog Canyon Campground almost straddles the Texas-New Mexico state line. A super place to car camp, it was temporarily closed last spring because of mountain lion activity! As with all backpacks in the Guads, you must count on carrying 4 to 6 quarts of water for a night in the backcountry, an extra 9-13 pounds. Saturday will be fairly easy, though, with only 4.7 miles and a 1,300-foot climb over to Mesclero Campground. Sunday AM the loop leaves the Tejas for the Marcus Trail, heading back north for about 5 miles to intersect the Bush Mountain Trail for the 3.5 miles back to Dog Canyon. Come see what a well-run National Park looks like.

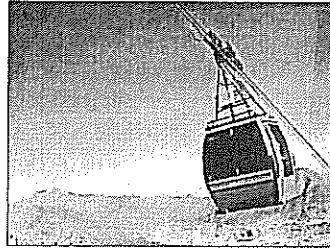
**Sep 29-30: Crest-Snowshed Trail Backpack**

Place: Chiracahua Mountains west of Columbus, NM  
 Class: Moderate +  
 Length: 12 miles  
 Elevation gain: 500 feet  
 Leader: Carolina Greenfield: 594-7342 (H)  
 The Chiracahuas are unique, just 2 hours west of Sunland Park on

the excellent Columbus Highway, and a world-class bird sanctuary where the tropical Mexican habitat pushes across from Mexico. We'll begin Saturday morning from Rustler Park at 9,000 feet, cruising south along the Crest Trail to Snowshed Peak. This section, ordinarily fairly easy, could be tough unless Coronado National Forest trail crews (Are there such a thing?) have cleaned up recent blow-downs, hence the + rating! After overnighiting near a spring, we'll descend the Snowshed Trail almost 3,000 feet over the six miles down to our vehicles at the Herb Martyr trailhead.

*"Jobe" continued from previous page*

rock halfway up the mountain. What nobody is saying is that the quarry property also extends westward into Franklin Mountains State Park, an in-holding so to speak, which actually crosses the crest of the Franklins to the West Side in the southwest corner.



Wylor Aerial Tramway Photo by Texas Parks and Wildlife

When Franklin Mountains State Park was formed in the 70's, Austin didn't provide money to buy the quarry, at that time in the name of El Paso Sand. The lesson here is that it never pays to delay a purchase. We saw that when Richard Knapp tripled his money by driving a bulldozer up North Franklin Peak! The Jobe property is now linked to a British multinational called RMC International. Rumor has it Jobe is in negotiations with a Japanese firm. What do you suppose that's going to do to the price tag?

**The Lorax - El Paso Group**

**Sierra Club - El Paso Regional Group Directory (Area Code 915)**

<http://texas.sierraclub.org/elpaso>

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 lgibson@utep.edu  
 Ted Mertig: 852-3011  
 tmertig@earthlink.net

**Outings**

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 lgibson@utep.edu  
 Rollin Wickenden:  
 rwickgila@aol.com

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Jamie Newlin: 584-1471  
 chaetura@juno.com

**Programs**

Open

**Transportation**

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 sundayt@zianet.com

**Web Master**

Terry Sunday: 584-9301  
 sundayt@zianet.com

**Wetlands**

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**Wilderness/Parks/Refuges**

Ted Mertig: 852-3011  
 tmertig@earthlink.net



# The Year Ahead for the Southern New Mexico Group

Don Dearholt, Chair  
August 27, 2001

Our goals for this year of rebuilding are to have several outings and several programs, and to begin to prioritize our efforts on conservation. Several of our programs will be designed to facilitate our efforts to come to understand in which areas of conservation we can be most effective, given the variety of interests of the activists involved, and the issues before us.

Our first program is a Gathering of the Green, scheduled for Friday, September 28, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Preciado Park on the NMSU campus in Las Cruces. The park is on Gregg St., between Williams and Sweet; it is just south of the Education building, which is on Stewart Street, and it is also just west of the tennis courts on Williams. We'll probably begin setting up the volleyball net around 5:00, and encourage frisbee and other similar activities until it's time to eat. All environmental organizations in the area of which we are aware are being invited, and of course anyone and everyone is welcome! After some volleyball and a potluck dinner, we'll provide time for each organization to describe their objectives and current projects, and thus facilitate the potential synergy from common interests we expect to become evident. Please bring a dish to share, and your own tableware. A variety of beverages will be provided.

Our next program will be a presentation by Werner Fornos, president of the Population Institute, who will talk on Thursday, October 11, at the Hardman Hall, NMSU Campus, Room 106 at 7:00 p.m. This program is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the Unitarian Church.

Additional programs in the planning stage include ecological research in the area, open spaces, water issues, and an end-of-year program consisting of readings and music associated with the environment and conservation, followed immediately by a marvelous selection of desserts!

We have four outings currently scheduled, and expect to incorporate a wider variety of more local outings as the weather cools.

If you are interested in participating in the revitalization of the Southern New Mexico Group, please contact Don Dearholt at 505-522-3035.

## General Meetings

Executive Committee Meetings are typically the first Wednesday of the month--all members are welcome to attend. Call Cheryll at 524-4861 for time and place.

## Outings

### September 29, Saturday

Day hike to Willie White Canyon in the Sacramentos near Cludcroft. Moderate difficulty; about 7-8 miles. This is a pretty hike at about 9000' elevation; possibly some fall color, too. Bring lunch and water.

*Call 522-4527 for information and departure point in Las Cruces.*

### October 13, Saturday

Day hike to Hillsboro Peak. This is a moderate hike of 10 miles over an improved trail with an elevation gain of about 1,800 feet. Aspen color should be good with great views. Bring lunch and water.

*Call 526-7811 for departure poin and to reserve space.*

### October 27, Saturday

Day hike in the Sacramento Mountains near Cludcroft. We will hike the Rim Trail for an approximate distance of 5 miles at 8,500'-9,000' elevation. Bring lunch and water.

*Call 526-7811 to reserve space and for departure location.*

### November 17, Saturday

Baylor Pass hike, roundtrip over and back. This is a moderately rated day hike of about 13 miles. Bring lunch and water.

*Call 522-4527 for departure information or questions.*

***Any questions about outings, call Outings Chair, Ben Zerbey at 526-7811***

## Group Directory

Southern N.M. Group

Executive Committee

P.O. Box 3705 UPB

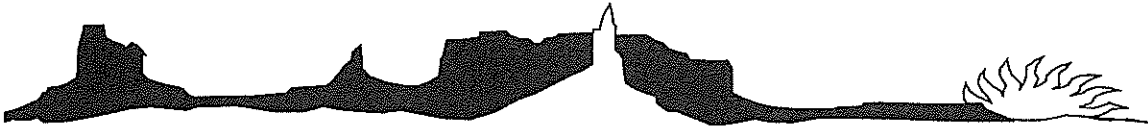
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003

Don Dearholt 522-3035  
Chair dearholt@cs.nmsu.edu

Margo Wilson 744-5860  
Vice Chair, margotwilson40@hotmail.com  
Chapter Rep.

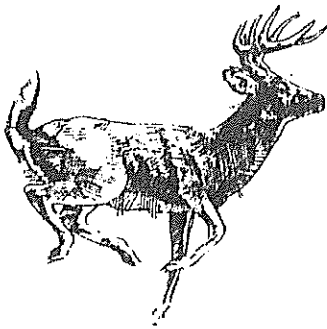
Cheryll Blevins 524-4861  
Treasurer/Secretary spotblev@earthlink.net

David Farrell 895-3352  
Legislative Issues dafarrelli@hotmail.com



**Group Directory**  
**Pajarito Group of the Sierran Club**

Ilse Bleck Chair	662-2368 <a href="mailto:ibleck@yahoo.com">ibleck@yahoo.com</a>
Matt Heavner Vice Chair	829-3645 <a href="mailto:heavner@jemez.com">heavner@jemez.com</a>
Carole Jacobson Sec./Treasurer	672-9579 <a href="mailto:abe.jacobson@worldnet.att.net">abe.jacobson@worldnet.att.net</a>
Jody Benson	day: 667-8465 evenings: 662-4782
Chuck Pergler Conservation	661-6169 <a href="mailto:perNEPA@gateway.net">perNEPA@gateway.net</a>
Kim Manley	662-6163 <a href="mailto:kmmngeol@ix.netcom.com">kmmngeol@ix.netcom.com</a>
Ilse Bleck Chapter Representative	662-2358 <a href="mailto:ibleck@yahoo.com">ibleck@yahoo.com</a>



### General Meetings

*There will be no general meetings in September and October.*

All general meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at Mesa Public Library, at 7 PM and are open to the public.

#### Other Meetings:

Conservation Committee meetings are on the second Wednesday and Executive Committee meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month. All meetings are at Mesa Public Library, at 7 PM and are open to the public.

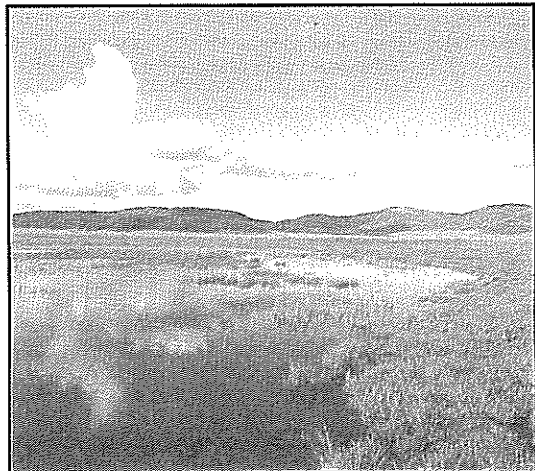
#### September Open Meeting:

*The Black Hills*, Tom Jervis

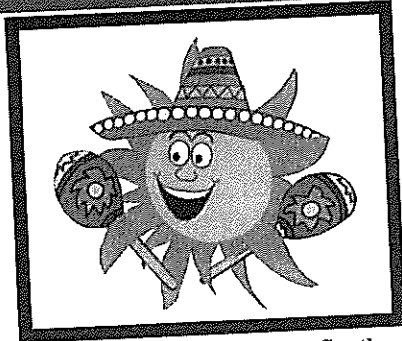
Come on a slide-illustrated tour of the Black Hills of South Dakota, where the buffalo roam, deer and antelope play, and it is easy to tell the sheep from the goats. Eastern and western species come together in this island in the plains.

### Outings

Look under Santa Fe Group Outings for outings in northern New Mexico.



# Autumn Happenings



## Solar Fiesta Combines Sustainable Living with Southwestern Culture

If you don't like it when the lights go out in a blackout, or if you just hate getting the utility bill these days, then you ought to treat yourself to learning about how to empower yourself at the Solar Fiesta! The Solar Fiesta – a renewable energy and sustainable building educational fair will be held Saturday and Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am to 5pm at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque.

The Fiesta is organized by the New Mexico Solar Energy Association, and is being sponsored primarily by Sandia National Labs and PNM and features classes and exhibits focusing on builders, teachers, and the individual homeowner. Topics on the agenda include:

**Technology** – Photovoltaic Stand Alone, Residential Tie-in and Small Business Options Batteries, Inverters, Net-Metering, Cool Casings, Hydrogen Fuel Cells, Energy Efficiency, Home Energy Audits, What Difference does a Light Bulb Make? Biodiesel Plants, Wind Energy Systems, Financing a Solar Home, Electric Automobiles, Building Solar Model Cars,

**Building** – Holistic Residential Design, Solar Hot Water Heating Options, Solar Tubes for Natural Lighting, Quantative Passive Solar Home Designs, Composting Toilets, Green Architecture, Radiant Solar Floor Heating, Green Building, Strawbale Building, Making Adobe Bricks, Earthships.

**Sustainable Living** – Defining Organic, Living Solar: A Pueblo Woman's View, Solar Cooking, Environmentally Conscious Investment Strategies, Medicinal Herbs of New Mexico, Permaculture, Vermaculture, Recycling on a City Wide Basis, Cooking from an adobe oven, Chemical Free Pest Control, Electric Bicycles.

**Education** – How to Get A Solar Education, Energy Curriculum (a course for teachers-must register in advance), Energy Education for and from government officials, Mesa del Sol: The Dream. There will be educational activities for kids where they can get pinwheels for completing various tasks.

This year's Solar Fiesta is enhanced through cultural participation by the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. They are planning performances by Native American Dancers, and a Navajo Comedian. The KUNM program "Singing Wire" will be broadcast live from the site on Sunday. Craftspeople will display their wares and there will be an exhibition of making frybread from an adobe oven. The Pueblo Children's building will be open for the younger set. La Mantanita Co-op is hosting a Solar Cooking contest on Sunday, with the winners receiving gift certificates to their store.

NMSEA is also planning a panel discussion with New Mexico government leaders concerning such issues as solar tax credits, deregulation, and the future of alternative electrical generation in New Mexico on a utility scale.

The Sunchaser educational trailer will be there along with the Solar Villager Sun Oven and various other displays being brought in. Of course, the IPCC has a standing PV display in the form of their Solar Car Port. This structure provides the power for the building and net meters to the grid. A Raffle for solar products including a small Solar electric system on a stand that can be used for a house or cabin, and a solar oven is already ongoing and will conclude on Sunday afternoon. Tickets can be purchased in advance on our website. [www.nmsea.org](http://www.nmsea.org). Exhibitions include Tire Pounding 101 for those thinking of building an Earthship, building a Strawbale wall, and making adobe bricks. Displays include a comparison of solar power, wind power and peddle power. Laguna Elementary school will bring it's Indian Dancers to the Fiesta. Los Tapatios de Frances Lujan will grace the Fiesta with their fiery Hispanic dances, and there will be a Solar Kids area where accomplishing certain tasks earns them a pinwheel.

The New Mexico Solar Energy Association has been providing education and guidance on renewable energy and passive solar building for 29 years – longer than any other similar organization in the country. At the time of this release, the Solar Fiesta is also sponsored by the Sandia National Laboratories, the Public Service Company of New Mexico, Matrix Solar Technologies, Industrial Battery Specialists, New Mexico Solar Energy Industries Association, Backwoods Home Magazine, Home Power Magazine, and the Alliance for Green Development.

The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center is located on 12<sup>th</sup> street just north of I-40. Admission to the exhibit area is \$2/adult and \$1/kids. Classes are \$5.00 each, a day pass for \$20 or a weekend pass for \$35. Volunteers can earn their way into the classes. For a complete listing of classes and times contact NMSEA at 1-888-886-6765 and leave your address. A program will be sent to you. NMSEA is still looking for volunteers for the event, if you are interested please call the above number and someone will get in touch.

Come and join the Fun at the Solar Fiesta!

## Bright Shadows

7-2001

I've been through  
the black stick orchard,  
the crispy char  
marking my socks.  
How hot that day- when the onyx bones,  
still fire soaked  
allowed the sun  
down straight to the footpath  
casting bright shadows  
where new growth  
would be winging it,  
headlong blind.

by SKornGood@aol.com

## Game and Fish Neglects Responsibility to Boreal Toad

by James A. Bailey

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish has refused to sign an interstate conservation plan to protect the endangered boreal toad. Signing the plan's conservation agreement would have committed the Department to recognize and implement its responsibilities under current state law.

The boreal toad is listed as endangered under the New Mexico Wildlife Conservation Act. In fact, the species may already be extinct in our state. The boreal toad has declined throughout its range in the United States and is a candidate for federal listing under the Endangered Species Act. None have been found in their originally small New Mexico range in Rio Arriba County since 1985.

Wildlife Departments in Colorado and Wyoming have signed conservation agreements as part of the Boreal Toad Conservation Plan. Five federal agencies, including the Carson National Forest, also have signed agreements. Implementing the Plan could forestall federal listing of the boreal toad. New Mexico's signature would have committed the Department of Game and Fish to (1) be represented on the interstate recovery team; (2) survey for toads should there be any rumors of remaining animals; and (3) implement and enforce the New Mexico Wildlife Conservation Act to protect any boreal toads that might be found. In fact, all these commitments exist in the Wildlife Conservation Act, which is administered by the Game and Fish Department. Although the Department would have incurred no new responsibilities, Director Larry Bell refused to sign the conservation agreement.

The issue is larger than protecting a species that may already be gone from our state. This petty refusal to associate with an endangered species typifies the positions of the Game and Fish Director and the State Game Commission on nongame and endangered species. For most of New Mexico's wildlife, conservation and management are being neglected. (Most information for this opinion was obtained from the Colorado Division of Wildlife which coordinated development of the Boreal Toad Plan.)

# Bush Energy Plan: Build More!

## Sierra Club Advocates Alternatives to New Coal-Fired Power Plants

From [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)

President Bush says we need to drill for oil and gas on America's public lands, build 1,300 new power plants and increase our reliance on nuclear power. But there's a better way to meet America's energy needs. We must increase our energy efficiency, expand our use of clean, renewable energy and switch from dirty coal power to cleaner natural gas. At the same time, we can and must protect our public lands.

The president's plan calls for oil and gas exploration on public lands. We don't have to sacrifice these lands to meet our nation's energy needs. The president's plan calls for 1,300 new power plants by 2020. Where will he put all these plants? We can choose a better future. A Department of Energy study shows that we can avoid the need for approximately 610 of the new power plants with energy-efficiency measures and avoid another 180 plants by using renewable energy. We could meet remaining demand by replacing old, dirty coal-fired power plants with new, cleaner, high-efficiency natural gas plants.

We could meet remaining demand by replacing old, dirty coal-fired power plants with new, cleaner, high-efficiency natural gas plants.

The president's plan calls for an expansion of nuclear power. But there is no safe way to store the dangerous radioactive waste from existing nuclear plants, and nuclear energy could only be expanded with huge federal subsidies. We should instead invest those monies in wind, solar, geothermal and other renewable technologies that can help meet our energy needs and protect the environment.

### *Dig, Drill and Destroy*

President Bush's "dig, drill and destroy" approach to energy policy puts some of America's most treasured wildlands at risk in a shortsighted attempt to address energy needs. Wildlands from the remote coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to the waters off the California shore could be threatened by oil spills and the inevitable degradation that large-scale operations cause. In addition, neighborhoods all across the United States would be at risk of increased air pollution and resulting health problems from new power plants.

Multinational oil companies already have access to the bulk of public lands in the West — 95 percent of lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management in the Rocky Mountain West are available for oil and gas leasing. Yet Bush's energy plan would target for industrial development the few remaining pristine wild areas of the West, as well as fragile coastal waters currently protected from industrial development.

Fortunately, we have other choices: There are quicker, cleaner, cheaper and safer ways to solve our energy problems. By making our appliances and cars more energy efficient and switching our focus to renewable energy options like solar and wind power and cleaner natural gas, we make an immediate impact, save money, maintain the quality of life in our neighborhoods and preserve our wild places for generations to come.

### *Lands At Risk*

Among the special places at risk from Bush's energy plan are our national monuments. His plan would "review public lands withdrawals" and "impediments to oil and gas leasing" on our public lands. Both President Bush and Interior Secretary Gale Norton have indicated they would exploit our national monuments for oil and gas extraction and coal mining, despite overwhelming public opposition. In fact, 68 percent of Americans oppose oil drilling in national monuments. National monuments at risk include:

- ◆ Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah
- ◆ Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument in Montana
- ◆ Carrizo Plain National Monument in California
- ◆ California Coastal National Monument
- ◆ Hanford Reach National Monument in Washington.
- ◆ Canyons of the Ancients National Monument in Colorado

Other special places in the West have been protected from destructive development through administrative actions, as agencies recognized the ir-

reparable harm that energy development would exact on these fragile landscapes. But under the Bush administration energy plan, these protections could be stripped away. Endangered public lands include:

- ◆ Rocky Mountain Front in Montana
  - ◆ Bridger-Teton National Forest in Wyoming
  - ◆ Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Plain in Alaska
  - ◆ Weatherman Draw (Valley of the Chiefs) in Montana.
- Other federal public lands currently free from destructive oil and gas development but threatened by Bush's drive to expand energy exploration include:
- ◆ Wilderness-quality lands in Utah's Book Cliffs
  - ◆ Jack Morrow Hills of Wyoming's Red Desert
  - ◆ Little Missouri National Grasslands in North Dakota
  - ◆ Otero Mesa in New Mexico
  - ◆ Vermillion Basin in Colorado
  - ◆ Green River Basin in Wyoming
  - ◆ Valle Vidal/Carson National Forest in New Mexico.

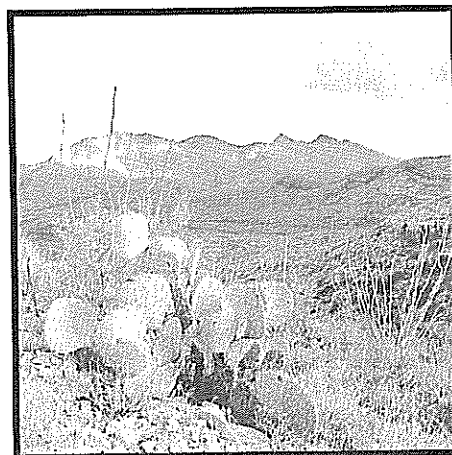
### *A Balanced Energy Plan*

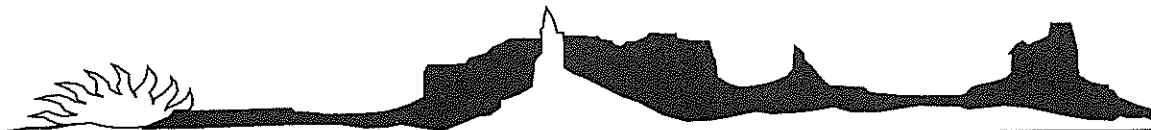
President Bush's energy plan relies heavily on drilling for oil, mining for coal and expanding nuclear power. The president's plan won't work. We need a plan that is quicker, cheaper, cleaner and safer. Instead of relying on 20th-century energy sources, we need a plan that will move us into the 21st century, and that will shift our focus from coal and nuclear to renewable energy sources and energy efficiency.

The president has included \$2 billion in his budget for the coal industry, and he supports so-called "clean coal." The fact is that coal is not clean. In the electric-utility sector, coal-fired power plants are responsible for 88 percent of carbon-dioxide emissions, which contribute to global warming; 93 percent of smog-forming nitrogen-oxide emissions; and 99 percent of mercury emissions, which contaminate our water and land.

Instead of depending on big oil and dirty coal for our energy needs, we should be adopting an energy policy that is based on energy efficiency, renewable energy and responsible supply. Increasing energy efficiency guarantees that we won't waste as much energy in the first place. For example, raising our automobile fuel-economy standards to an average of 40 miles per gallon would cut global warming pollution by 600 million metric tons, save consumers at least \$45 billion at the gas pump and save 1 billion barrels of oil per year. Increasing the energy efficiency of our residential air conditioners by 30 percent, versus the 20 percent increase that the president proposed, could eliminate the need for 43 new power plants.

We also need to substantially increase our use of renewable energy. Wind power has become competitive with natural gas, and the Department of Energy has estimated that wind power could be expanded to serve the electricity needs of 10 million homes. In addition, 200,000 homes in the United States use some type of photovoltaic solar technology and the market is expanding by 15 percent annually. We need to supplement these clean options with responsible use of fossil fuels, replacing our coal-fired power plants with cleaner-burning natural gas.



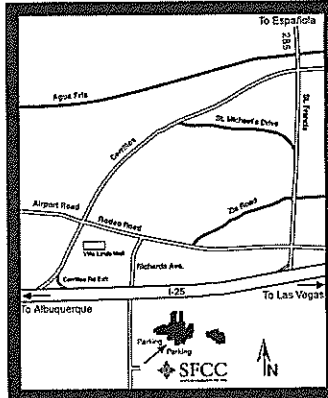


# Connecting Growth, Land & Water

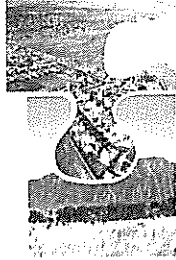
## Connecting Growth, Land & Water

Facing the Challenges for New Mexico's Future

The past several decades have seen unprecedented growth in New Mexico, straining land and water resources as well as creating numerous problems for communities. Growth, land, and water impact each other; yet they are rarely discussed at the same time. There are reasons for this. While land is managed by cities and counties, water is administered at the state level by the State Engineer's office. But if we fail to create connections between growth, land, and water, we may find that we no longer like where we live or that we do not have enough water to support the people who live here.



### CONNECTING GROWTH, LAND & WATER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION



Saturday, September 22, 2001  
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Jemez Rooms, Main Building  
Santa Fe Community College  
6401 Richards Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico

**\$25 per person preregistered - see form below**  
**(Preregistration deadline is Thursday, Sept. 20)**  
**\$35 per person at the door**

*Registration fee includes materials, lunch and refreshments.*

Please indicate the names of the people attending the conference (please print)

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_  
3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_  
5) \_\_\_\_\_ 6) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Organization if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed (payable to 1000 Friends of New Mexico)  Visa  MasterCard

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form with payment to:  
1000 Friends of New Mexico  
1001 Marquette, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102  
Credit card registrants may fax to 505/248-1361  
Questions? Call 1000 Friends at 505/848-8232



New Mexico PIRG Education Fund

THE SANTA FE LAND USE RESOURCE CENTER



Scholarships are available, please call 1000 Friends & identify yourself as a Sierra Club member.  
Contact John Buchser if housing is needed (jbuchser@earthlink.net or 820-0201.)



# Connecting Growth, Land & Water

## Draft Agenda

(Please note that only speakers in **bold** are confirmed as of press time)

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Land and Water Development in the New West' - **William Riebsame Travis**  
Land Use & Water -**David DiCicco**, Architect and Planning Consultant  
Consuelo Bokum, Director, Water Project, 1000 Friends of New Mexico
- 10:25 Break
- 10:45 Panel: The Disconnects  
Subdivisions/Rural Sprawl/Domestic Wells, **Patsy Sanchez**, Planning Administrator, Lincoln County  
Commodity v. Community, **Paula Garcia**, Executive Director, New Mexico Acequia Association  
Water Budgets, **Frank Titus**, Ph.D. Geology and **Reed Liming**, City Planner, City of Santa Fe
- 11:30 Questions
- 12:00 Lunch [buffet]
- 1:00 **Ed Marston**, publisher *High Country News*
- 1:45 Panel: Making the Connections  
Link planning to actions - **Lora Lucero**, Editor, *Land Use Law and Zoning Digest* and American Planning Association  
Staff Attorney  
Colonias/Water Quality, **Ray Padilla**, Program Director, Colonias Development Council  
Create and use tool kits at local level - **Judy Stevens**, Research Director, Santa Fe Land Use Resource Center  
Respect natural and cultural resources - **Brian Vallo**, Manager, Acoma Pueblo Visitor Center
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Discussion Groups: Tools for Making the Connections
- State-wide Initiatives and Legislation* (subdivision, consistency):  
**Lora Lucero** Editor, *Land Use Law and Zoning Digest* and American Planning Association Staff Attorney. **Elaine Hebard**,  
**Lehua Lopez Mau**, **Barbara Rosnagel**
- Urban Initiatives*  
A discussion of how we connect land use plans and regulations with water assessments, plans and regulations in urban areas.  
**Judy Stevens**, Research Director, Santa Fe Land Use Resource Center,  
**Neva van Peski**, **Dr. Czerniak**, **Steve Bernstein**
- Rural Initiatives:*  
A discussion of ways to protect rural and agricultural lands from sprawl.  
**Moises Gonzales**, Assistant Planning Director, Rio Arriba County  
**Courtney White**, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Quivira Coalition  
**Ray Garcia**, **Jim McCord**
- Choosing Markets or Community Action*  
**David Benavides**
- Developing Inter-Governmental Agreements*  
**Edward Archuleta**, Director Santa Fe Project, 1000 Friends of New Mexico  
**Jack Wright**, **Paul Campos**
- Water as a Natural Resource and Water Quality*  
**Deb Hibbard**  
**Maxine Goad**, retired after 25 years working on water quality issues at the New Mexico Environment Department,  
member Sierra Club water committee
- 4:00 Open mike
- 4:30 Summation/Closing



## Outing Outlook

by Norma McCallan

As I write this in Sandpoint, Idaho, on a visit to my daughter and grandchildren, August is ticking away, the days are still hot, and the wildflowers are less prolific. Next week we will continue on the train to Glacier N.P. for a national Sierra Club service trip. Last month we spent a marvelous three weeks in Norway, including a twelve day Sierra hut to hut backpack. I feel very blessed for the opportunity to see such a diversity of scenery and cultures in one summer.

New Mexico, too, offers a wonderful diversity of cultures, climates, wilderness and wildlife. One of the best ways to appreciate our beautiful (though in some cases fragile or endangered) lands is to go on a variety of outings around the state. Below are listed a few early fall outings. Because I was unable to reach all the Groups, it is incomplete. Be sure to check the Group pages for more details on these and additional outings. Always call the leader to confirm the trip, and arrange meeting time and place.

- ◆ Sun Sept 16 PINE SHADOW/KAISER MILL LOOP, MANZANO MOUNTAINS. David Ther, 260-1553. Moderate/strenuous hike to Manzano Peak, highest in the range, 2500' elevation gain.
- ◆ Sat Sept 22 CABALLO PEAK. Michael DiRosa 663-0648. Strenuous hike to this prominent peak in the Jemez, 14 miles r.t., 3300' elevation gain. Great views.
- ◆ Sun Sept 30 SANTA FE BALDY. Jeff Jones 466-2389. Strenuous hike to Santa Fe's highest peak at 12,600+.
- ◆ Sun Oct 7 CERRO BLANCO/FOURTH OF JULY LOOP, MANZANO MOUNTAINS. David Ther, 260-1553. Moderate hike, spectacular views, maples should be in full color, 1200' elevation gain.
- ◆ Sat Oct 13 HILLSBORO PEAK. Ben Zerbey 526-7811. 10 mile hike on a good trail, 1800' elevation gain, to this well known peak west of Hillsboro. Aspen color should be great.
- ◆ Sat Oct 13-Sun Oct 21 UTAH CARCAMP/BACKPACK. Norma McCallan 471-0005. Exploratory trip near Elk Ridge, including a 3 day backpack to Fable Valley, day hike(s) into Dark Canyon, and exploration of the BLM lands just south of Canyonlands N.P. Dogs ok. High clearance vehicles necessary (but carpooling encouraged).
- ◆ Sat/Sun Oct 20-21 ASTRONOMY CAR CAMP, MAGDALENA MOUNTAINS. Tom Leck 291-1707. Bring binoculars, telescopes for great night time viewing away from city lights, and enjoy a Sunday morning hike.
- ◆ Sat Oct 27 SACRAMENTO MOUNTAINS. Ben Zerbey 526-7811. Day hike along the Crest Trail of these little known mountains for about 5 miles, at 8500-9000'

The Sierra Club has now officially adopted a standard sign in Waiver for all Club outings, be they National, Group, Chapter, or ICO. It is in the process of being implemented across the country, so expect to see it soon. If you are curious, the text can be viewed at <http://sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/> or call 415-977-5630. This is a good time to remind everyone that although carpooling to trailheads is encouraged (to save gas, lessen air pollution, etc.), the Club assumes no liability for driving arrangements. They are strictly up to the participants.

**INPUT WANTED:** Articles/photos about hiking/backpacking/biking/cross-country skiing; equipment commentaries; threatened or endangered areas; trip information you would like to share with the Rio Grande Chapter membership. Let's get some more outings content in the Sierran! Contact me, [nmccallan@mindspring.com](mailto:nmccallan@mindspring.com), or our editor John Buchser [jbuchser@earthlink.net](mailto:jbuchser@earthlink.net).



### Connecting Growth, Land & Water: Facing The Challenges For New Mexico's Future

Saturday, September 22, 2001

FEATURED SPEAKER:  
**ED MARSTON**

Ed Marston has been the publisher since 1983 of *High Country News*, a regional newspaper covering the western United States for 21,000 subscribers. Ed received his BS from City College of New York and his Ph.D. in experimental physics from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1968. He and his wife, Betsy, have lived in Paoonia, Colorado since 1974, except for a 1990-1991 sabbatical at Stanford University as a John S. Knight Journalism Fellow. The Marstons founded and ran a local weekly newspaper, *North Fork Times*, from 1975 to 1980, and a regional biweekly, *Western Colorado Report*, from 1982 to 1983. Ed has written or edited three books: *The Dynamic Environment* (John Wiley and Sons, 1975); *Western Water Made Simple* (Island Press, 1987), and *Reopening the Western Frontier* (Island Press, 1989). He is also on the Advisory Council of the Rocky Mountain Office of the Environmental Defense Fund.



FEATURED SPEAKER:  
**WILLIAM R. TRAVIS**

William Travis earned degrees in Geography at the University of Florida, University of Utah, and Clark University. He is an associate professor of Geography at the University of Colorado. He teaches classes on environmental geography, public lands, land use and the American West. His research focuses on the human geography of the American West, especially how people live in, and change, western landscapes. His current work examines how changing land use patterns affect both cultural and ecological landscapes, especially in areas subject to rapid development, like the edges of western cities and resort towns in the Rocky Mountains. Bill is general editor of the *Atlas of the New West*, an examination of the changing geography of the American West, published by W. W. Norton. The Atlas tracks trends in development, environment, and culture with maps on everything from declining wildlife species to cowboy poetry festivals. He is working on two books: *A Handbook for the New West*, a sequel to the Atlas, with historian Patricia Limerick. His other project is a detailed look at how current land use and development patterns are changing the West.

## All Creatures Great and Small

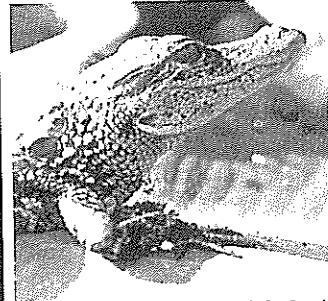


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"Every good thing, great and small, needs defense."—John Muir

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