

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

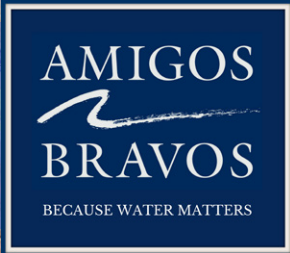


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Our mission

To protect and restore the waters of New Mexico.

Front Cover and Right: "Morning Shadows in the Canyon" painting by Peggy Trigg
Above photo: Nina Anthony

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From the Executive Director

Although the COVID-19 pandemic created substantial challenges for our organization last year (FY20), Amigos Bravos stayed very busy with our work. The era of working virtually presented both challenges and opportunities. The biggest challenge was the lack of personal engagement with our stakeholders. Personal relationships are the lifeblood to organizations like ours. However, the power of those relationships developed over the years helped us to continue our work through the requisite isolation with productive meetings on Zoom, etc. Since we work all over the state, connecting virtually with our partners and stakeholders helped to expand our reach beyond travel to in-person meetings and events. We were able to continue our work with a number of partners across New Mexico to amplify our efforts into desired outcomes.

SOME EXAMPLES OF OUR COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS INCLUDE:

- Continuing our work with our partners in the Communities for Clean Water to address contamination issues in the watersheds around Los Alamos National Laboratory
- Continuing our work with the New Mexico Mining Act Network to address contamination of groundwater and surface water at mine sites

- Collaboration with stakeholders on the Rio Fernando de Taos (Rio Fernando Revitalization Collaborative) to restore this important Taos County watershed to health
- Continuing our partnerships with conservation organizations in the Environmental Alliance of New Mexico (EANM) to advocate for conservation legislation and policy
- Working with a number of organizations to prevent more mining activity at the old Tererro mine near Pecos
- Identifying additional river segments worthy of designation as Outstanding National Resource Waters (**ONRWs**), affording them additional protections. The hearing for the petition for the upper Pecos watershed is scheduled for Summer 2021



I'd like to express my gratitude to our staff, our Board, and our collaborators and supporters across the state for enabling us to continue our mission to protect and restore the waters of New Mexico, even in a challenging year.

For the Rio, Joe Zupan



Protecting Watershed Health

1. PECOS ONRW
2. RIO FERNANDO COLLABORATIVE
3. WATER QUALITY MONITORING / WATER SENTINELS
4. OTTER & BEAVER MONITORING

1. AMIGOS BRAVOS PROVIDES LEADERSHIP TO PROTECT NEW MEXICO'S OUTSTANDING WATER RESOURCES.

Outstanding Waters also known as Outstanding National Resource Waters (**ONRWs**) are rivers, streams, lakes, and wetlands that receive special protections to preserve water quality and ensure future generations of New Mexicans have access to clean water. The protection afforded by Outstanding Waters designation respects the role of clean water as the lifeblood of our communities, ensuring that people from all walks of life can enjoy the benefits of clean water in our special places. In 2020, Amigos Bravos led a statewide Outstanding Waters Coalition that works to promote and elevate Outstanding Waters protections across the state. In addition to leading this statewide effort, Amigos Bravos has provided technical assistance on several specific nominations.

- **Pecos Petition:** Amigos Bravos provided technical support to Pecos watershed stakeholders (San Miguel County, Village of Pecos, New Mexico Acequia Association, Molino de la Isla Farm, and the Upper Pecos Watershed Alliance) in their efforts to protect the headwaters of the Pecos watershed as Outstanding Waters.
- **Recreational Waters Petition:** In 2020 Amigos Bravos worked with the New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish to support their efforts to nominate the Jemez River Headwaters, Upper Rio Grande, and Rio Hondo as Outstanding Waters. As part of this work we created several videos, fact sheets, and other outreach materials. These can be viewed at **WWW.OURNMWATERS.ORG**



Protecting Watershed Health

2. RIO FERNANDO DE TAOS COLLABORATIVE: CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY TO THE RIVER AND LAND THEY LOVE.

The Rio Fernando de Taos Revitalization Collaborative is a dynamic collective of individuals, elected leaders, organizations, and government entities working to revitalize the Rio Fernando by improving water quality and ecological function, restoring acequia systems, strengthening working land capacity, and connecting people to the river and land they love.

Not only is the Rio Fernando Collaborative uniting agencies, elected leaders and individuals – it’s attracting money and resources for these important projects that are often not available to one entity alone.

Projects we worked on and completed in 2020 included:

- Beginning a Realtor acequia education project using EPA funds
- Repairing a small section of fence to protect the Rio Fernando La Jara wetland
- Reviewing the Pueblo Ridge EA and support prescribed fire in the watershed

- Creating three watershed tours about the Rio Fernando’s needs
- Meeting over 12 times as a collaborative to complete project-related tasks and prioritize work for 2021

There are a lot of ways to get involved and learn more. **Visit www.riofernando.org** for more information. **Visit amigosbravos.org/videos** to watch the latest videos showcasing the restoration work being conducted on the Rio Fernando.

BRAVO!

Amigos Bravos was successful at getting language and requirements added to the New Mexico Water Quality Management Plan on climate, Clean Water Act provisions, and monitoring. In total, 39 of 72 comments that were submitted by Amigos Bravos were addressed in the final plan.



Photos (right) by Nina Anthony: New pipe fencing in La Jara Canyon, and (far right) Spring runoff on the Rio Fernando.



Protecting Watershed Health

3. THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER OF 2020, VOLUNTEERS WITH THE AMIGOS BRAVOS CHAPTER OF SIERRA CLUB'S WATER SENTINELS CONTINUED TO GATHER WATER QUALITY DATA FROM DOZENS OF SITES ON LOCAL RIVERS.

Water Sentinels: Rios de Taos is a grassroots, volunteer led community water sampling team started in Taos in 2007 by Amigos Bravos and Sierra Club. Water Sentinels data has brought to light an E. coli impairment on the Rio Fernando, the on-going aluminum impairment on the Red River, and contributed to improvements to the Rio Pueblo through upgrades to the Taos Waste Water Treatment Plant and Reclamation Facility.

While 2020 was a very different year for the Water Sentinels due to impact from Covid-19 — including a late start and fewer volunteers — it didn't prevent us from safely monitoring almost all of our usual sites in 2020.

Results indicate similar issues as in years past — E.coli in the Rio Fernando, and aluminum in the Red River.

In 2021, our objective is to revitalize, continue, and expand this decade-long citizen science project that educates the community and informs policy on five rivers in Taos County. We will expand the group through a concerted outreach effort.

Please fill out the volunteer form on our website if you're interested in becoming a Water Sentinels volunteer. **Visit:**
www.amigosbravos.org/volunteer



Photos: Meg Scherch Peterson



Volunteer **Stephen Fabrey** of Taos takes water samples at a stream below the Taos Valley Regional Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Facility, as part of an effort by nonprofit Amigos Bravos to monitor pollutants in the stream that reach the Rio Pueblo.





If you are interested in monitoring river otters, please contact us to become a River Camera Volunteer. You'll be in charge of one river camera and collecting its data at least once a month.

CONTACT US AT:
www.amigosbravos.org/contact-us

Photo: Nina Anthony, and Otter photo by Gak Stone

4. AMIGOS BRAVOS CONTINUES TO MONITOR EXPANDING POPULATIONS OF RIVER OTTERS THAT WE HELPED REINTRODUCE TO THE UPPER RIO GRANDE CORRIDOR.

The last known native North American River Otter in New Mexico was trapped and killed in the Gila River in southwestern New Mexico in 1953. For thousands of years, river otters were a part of the natural environment of what is now New Mexico. Otters were once abundant enough in the rivers and streams of New Mexico to have been documented many times in the diaries and journals of early travelers in the region.

A reintroduction plan for the upper Rio Grande was implemented in October 2008 by NM Friends of River Otters. NM Friends of River Otters is a coalition of community-based environmental and wildlife organizations, representative State and Federal agencies, and a scientific advisory panel, dedicated to the successful restoration of river otters to NM's waters. Amigos Bravos is a founding member of the coalition and served as a key coordinator of the reintroduction efforts.

As a result of these efforts, a total of 33 river otters were reintroduced to the upper Rio Grande between 2008 and 2010.

Since 2010, Amigos Bravos has monitored our New Mexico river otter's spread through observation reports, river camera monitoring, and mapping. They are spotted frequently in the upper Rio Grande. A recent study estimated that there are approximately 100 river otters across 359 km of the perennial dendritic network from La Mesilla, New Mexico to Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, Colorado. That equates to one otter per 2.2-2.7 miles of waterway.

Otters and beavers promote healthy river ecosystems. Otters are often found in river habitat frequented by beavers. River otters will even den near beavers or take over part of a beaver den as their own. Otters benefit the ecosystem by helping to control the populations of food species they prey upon. For example, Rio Grande river otters are eating crayfish first, an invasive species and therefore benefiting the river as a whole by ridding it of a non-native competitor. Beavers benefit the system by engineering the system in a way that promotes clean water and increases ground water storage for more sustained flows over time. Together, beaver and river otter create a river system where plant-eating beavers live harmoniously with carnivorous river otters.

Holding Polluters Accountable

1. DIRTY WATER RULE LAWSUIT
2. TOXIC POLLUTANTS WORKING GROUP
3. PRODUCED WATER



**LOSS OF PROTECTIONS FOR
NEW MEXICO WATERWAYS DUE
TO 2020 DIRTY WATER RULE.**



PROTECTED



UNPROTECTED

1. THE FORMER TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S "DIRTY WATER RULE" NULLIFIED 50 YEARS OF CLEAN WATER ACT PROTECTIONS. WE'RE TAKING OUR FIGHT TO COURT TO REVERSE THOSE ROLLBACKS.

On June 22, 2020 the Trump Administration's Dirty Water Rule went into effect. This rule has serious impacts for New Mexico's waters and wetlands because it removes federal protections from the majority of New Mexico's waters. Dirty Water Rule, which is officially called the "Navigable Waters Protection Rule", negatively impacts New Mexico more than any other state in the nation for two main reasons:

1) More than 90% of NM Waters are left unprotected under the Rule because the rule removes Clean Water Act protections for ALL ephemeral waters and for any intermittent and perennial waters that do not flow consistently to a larger river.

2) New Mexico is one of only 3 non-delegated states, meaning that EPA administers and issues surface water pollution permits in New Mexico. Since EPA is only able to regulate waters that receive federal protections they can no longer regulate discharges in the majority of New Mexico's rivers. Unfortunately, unlike most other states, NM does not have a state program in place to control surface water discharges into state waters — this means that there is now no program in place to control discharges to the majority of NM waters.

Important NM tributary streams such as the Gila, Santa Fe River, Gallinas, and Rio Costilla provide water for our acequias, wildlife, and recreation, but do not always flow consistently to larger river systems. These waters need protection from unregulated dumping and pollution. In 2020 Amigos Bravos joined with the NM Acequia Association, Gila Resources Information Project, and the NM Environmental Law Center to appeal this rule in New Mexico District Court. We also worked to raise public awareness of this devastating rule.



Holding Polluters Accountable

2. WE PARTNER WITH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION, SHARE LEARNING, ALIGN TO CREATE GREATER IMPACT, AND TO HOLD POLLUTERS ACCOUNTABLE.

The New Mexico Environment Department (**NMED**) regulates groundwater quality through the use of numerical standards for contaminants and toxic pollutants, and through a risk based narrative standard for toxic pollutants. These standards are used in many ways by different bureaus within NMED to protect groundwater resources, most commonly through discharge permits issued by the Ground Water Quality

Bureau. Both types of standards are also used to direct contamination clean-up efforts when contamination has already occurred. These standards and the codification of toxic pollutants within the New Mexico Administrative Code (**NMAC**) are important and relevant to everyone who relies on the groundwater resources within the borders of the State of New Mexico.

From 2016 through 2018, the New Mexico Environment Department and various other parties engaged in the process of amending some of the standards found in the groundwater regulations contained in 20.6.2 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC). Many of the numerical standards were revised to be the same as drinking water Maximum Contaminant



Holding Polluters Accountable

Levels from the Federal Environmental Protection Agency. This resulted in more stringent standards for several contaminants, and less stringent standards for a few contaminants. In addition, numerical standards were adopted for 13 new contaminants. Most importantly, additional contaminants were added to the list of “toxic pollutants” and the narrative standard that applied to the toxic pollutants was moved from the definitions section of the regulations into the standards section.

During this rule revision, two groups and NMED agreed to engage with an expanded group of stakeholders to work toward identifying

additional contaminants that should be included in the list of toxic pollutants. This stipulated agreement required the formation of the New Mexico Toxic Pollutants Working Group (**NM-TPWG**) and includes a three-member steering committee comprised of NMED, Amigos Bravos, and the Gila Resources Information Project (GRIP). The steering committee is currently in the process of identifying additional interested groups to participate in the NM-TPWG, including representatives from tribal governments or intertribal consortia. The NM-TPWG will have a complete and confirmed list of members by Spring 2021.

THROUGH PARTICIPATION WITH THE NEW MEXICO TOXIC POLLUTANTS WORKING GROUP, AMIGOS BRAVOS OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:

1. Change the cancer risk from 1/100,000 to 1/1,000,000.
2. Update the definition of toxic pollutant.
3. Expand the list of toxic pollutants, and include contaminants of emerging concern.
4. Add more constituents (types) of PFAS to expand the list, and include a numeric standard for certain types of PFAS.
5. Add additional high priority pollutants to the list such as Gadolinium, and other health industry and research by-products such as nanoparticles and quantum dots.
6. Add more constituents (types) of Phthalates to expand the list, and include a numeric standard for certain types of Phthalates.
7. Expand and add to the list of pollutants associated with produced water.
8. Conduct comprehensive analyses to identify what our current standards may be missing and identify top priorities.

Holding Polluters Accountable

3. AMIGOS BRAVOS HAS BEEN A PROPONENT OF LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO REGULATE SPILLS OF TOXIC WASTEWATER FROM THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY AND WILL CONTINUE THE FIGHT.

“Produced water” is a benign-sounding term for what should more accurately be called “wastewater from oil and gas operations.” In the process of extracting oil and gas from subsurface formations, a lot of produced water is also generated as a byproduct. Some estimates say that for every barrel of oil produced, an average of about 10 barrels of this water (although it varies widely depending on location) is also produced.

In the arid west, it is tempting to look at this as a potential source of “new” water. In addition, this wastewater is a headache for the oil and gas industry because it is expensive for them to dispose of it. Consequently, there is a movement across the country to figure out ways to “safely” reuse this wastewater. The New Mexico legislature added its own impetus in the 2019 legislative session, by passing HB546 (which includes “The Produced Water Act”) and charges New Mexico regulatory agencies with studying

the issue of the use, disposal, and potential reuse applications of produced water, and to commence rule-making based on their findings.

It has long been legal in New Mexico for the oil and gas industry to reuse produced water within the industry, for example as a source of water for fracking operations, etc. This type of reuse at least has the benefit of lessening the use of freshwater resources for such purposes. Produced water that is not reused in this way is typically put in evaporation pits or re-injected in deep disposal wells. However, cheerleaders for additional applications of produced water have been advocating for using it in roadbuilding and construction, discharge to surface water bodies, and even for crop irrigation.

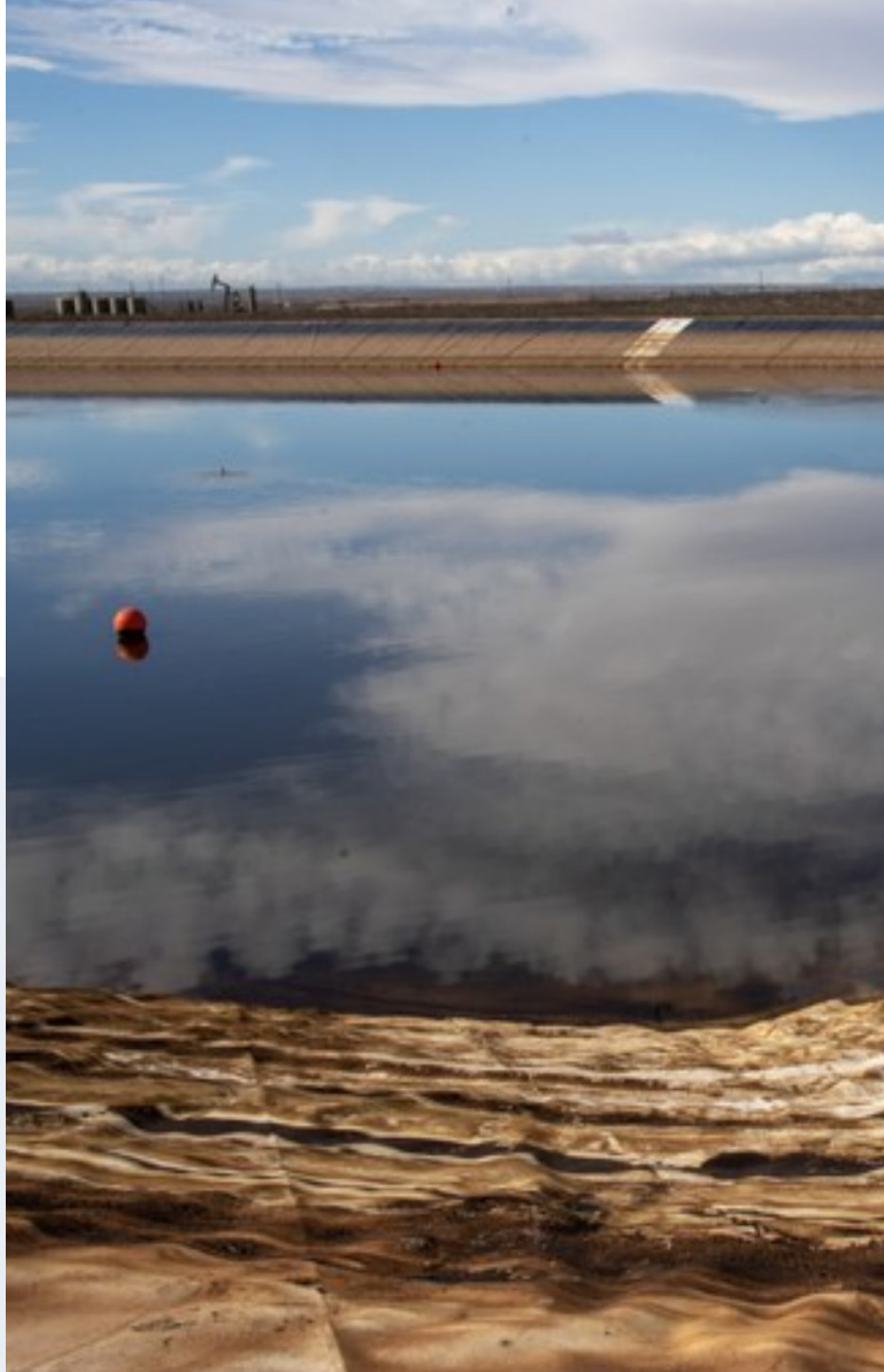
The problem with using produced water outside the industry is that it contains many unknown pollutants. First and foremost, it is almost always highly saline (“saltwater”) and not usable for humans, animals, or crops without treatment. In addition to salt, produced water often contains constituents found in oil production, including carcinogens such as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene. New Mexico’s unique geology often introduces other dangerous constituents, such as arsenic and radionuclides such as radium. Beyond these predictable

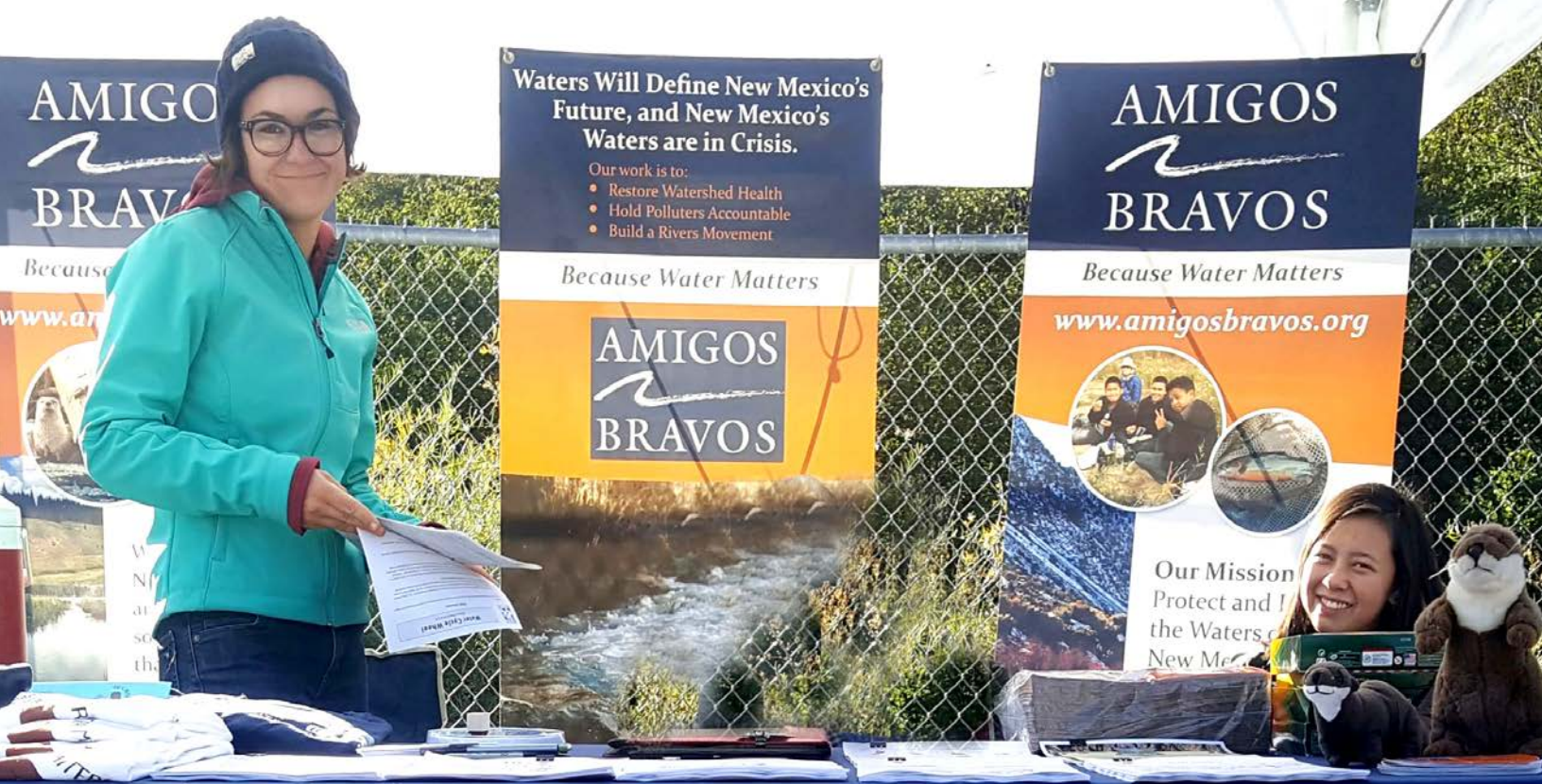
contaminants, produced water often contains “flowback water” from oil and gas fracking fluids, which contain any number of proprietary chemicals that the industry does not want to disclose for competitive reasons.

Amigos Bravos’ position is that there are too many unknowns in produced water to safely treat it for use outside of the industry, and even if you could identify every single contaminant (which today is definitely not the case) the cost of treating the water to remove all these contaminants would be so prohibitively expensive as to make it impossible. Amigos Bravos is engaged with the staff at both the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (**EMNRD**) and the Environment Department (**NMED**) as they develop rulemaking and study the issue, and we have already provided numerous public comments outlining our concerns to both agencies.

Right: Produced water holding pond in the Permian Basin. To read more about Produced water in New Mexico visit, <https://searchlightnm.org/wastewater-everywhere/>

Photo: Donald J. Unser, Searchlight New Mexico.





Building a Water Movement

1. VIRTUAL 'RALLY FOR THE RIO' / NEW WEBSITE LAUNCH
2. COUSE PASTURE CLEANUP
3. BUILDING STEWARDSHIP: ALEXES PAIGE ALBILLAR

Building a Waters Movement

1. RIVERS CONNECT US TO NATURE AND TO EACH OTHER. AFTER A VIRTUAL RALLY FOR THE RIO DUE TO COVID, WE LOOK FORWARD TO RE-CONNECTING WITH BOTH – IN PERSON.

Last summer and autumn, on just about any given day during the pandemic, the shores of the Rio Grande were flooded with people. Families having picnics; people floating downstream on inner tubes and kayaks; people fly fishing; people hiking along the banks or just taking a refreshing dip in the cool waters. Nature and water provided a welcome respite from the confines of COVID-19 isolation.

Sadly, a ban on mass gatherings meant the cancellation of our annual Rally for the Rio, a community engagement event held on the banks of the Rio Grande at the County Line pullout, near Pilar, NM.

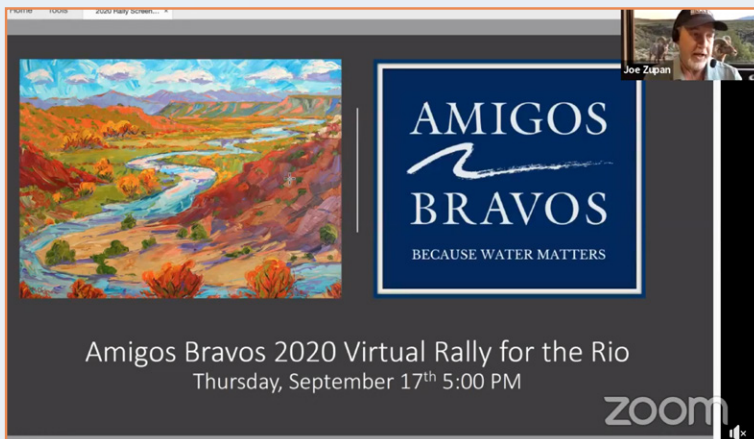
In lieu of our live event, we held a Virtual Rally for the Rio in September that was live streamed on Zoom and Facebook. Special guest, NM House Representative Melanie Stansbury, joined Amigos Bravos staff and Board President, Cisco Guevara, to discuss important water-related projects taking place despite the pandemic. If all goes well with getting the pandemic under control, we look forward to once again gathering at the river when the COVID coast is clear.

BRAVO!

SAME MISSION. NEW WEBSITE.

While the Trump Administration rolled back bedrock laws to protect clean air and water, we rolled out our shiny new website that showcases how we protect and restore the waters of New Mexico, hold polluters accountable, and are building a clean water movement through education and outreach.

Visit: www.amigosbravos.org



Left photo: Nina Anthony

Building a Waters Movement

2. AMIGOS BRAVOS' LOOKS FORWARD TO THE CREATION OF A LONG-TERM SUSTAINABLE PLAN FOR THE COUSE PASTURE THAT BENEFITS OUR ENTIRE COMMUNITY.

Due to COVID precautions, Amigos Bravos cancelled our 14th Annual Taos County Rivers and Land Cleanup. Illegal dump sites are a growing problem in Taos, New Mexico, where Amigos Bravos is headquartered. Couse Pasture in Taos, familiarly known as "the Field" to many long- time residents, is located just up the road from the Amigos Bravos office. Over the years, the pasture has fallen into dire environmental decline, and has been plagued with illegal dumping, itinerant encampments, and become a place for those suffering from substance abuse to hide and feed their addictions.

Nearly one generation ago, this Field was a gathering place for families to take in its natural beauty as a natural gem in the heart of Taos, and especially a place safe for children to play and explore. The North end of the pasture, along Quesnel St. and Kit Carson Road, was once a marshland with willow trees and cattails as part of the original plain of Taos' wetland and fertile-crescent. The South end of the pasture was where neighborhood children and families would gather to play baseball or engage in other fun and friendly



Jake Cisneros, Couse Foundation administrative assistant, (left), and Charles Whitson, Taos Main Street executive director, give two thumbs-up after helping clean up the Couse Pasture on Friday (Nov. 6). The dumpster is full of just a portion of the garbage removed by volunteers from the property near downtown Taos.

Building a Waters Movement

pastimes among the billowing native grasses that were once ringed with wild irises and edible roses.

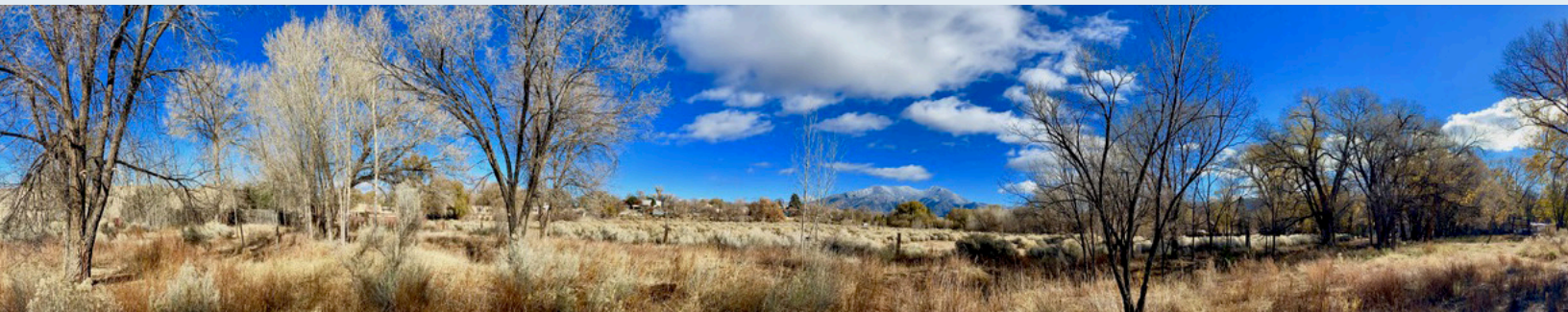
This once beautiful gem fell into the grim cycle of illegal dumping that plagues New Mexico, and was no longer safe for children to play in, or for nature lovers to explore the native plants and natural wetlands. Today, the North end of Couse Pasture is dry and the natural wetland gone. The South end is riddled with invasive species such as elms, thistles, and burdock. The entirety of the pasture was defiled with trash, broken glass, biohazards, and drug paraphernalia such as needles, until a small group of volunteer – 19 in total – descended onto “The Field” for a grassroots cleanup in October and November of 2020.

Neighbors adjacent to Couse Pasture, members of the Couse Family, the Couse-Sharp Foundation, a Town of Taos Councilperson, Hotel Willa Management, Taos Main Street, and Amigos Bravos, took on the task to clean up this 19-

acre tract in the middle of the Town of Taos. The effort was sponsored by the Casetta Group, Ace Hardware and McDonald’s. Amigos Bravos supplied personnel and American Rivers trash bags.

As a neighbor to the Couse Pasture and as an organization that also works to combat illegal dumping in New Mexico, Amigos Bravos Amigos Bravos is thankful for the generosity of all the volunteers who rolled up their sleeves to donate their time and effort to give back to the Couse family in care of their Pasture, and the beauty that they generously shared with Taos’ friends and neighbors for so many years. Moving forward, it is Amigos Bravos’ hope that we all continue to be good friends and neighbors as we care for the land and for one another.

The results of the cleanup were published in the Taos News: www.taosnews.com/opinion/my-turn/opinion-couse-pasture-cleanup-big-success/article_8615263c-5da9-5103-8c55-35d522c035dd.html



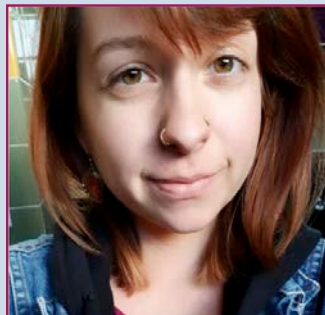
Building a Waters Movement

3. NURTURING FUTURE WATER STEWARDS THROUGH OUR INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

The internship program at Amigos Bravos provides an opportunity for high school and college students to obtain hands-on experience in water policy, science-based research, and hands-on restoration work.

The spirit of the Amigos Bravos internship program is one of mutual benefit. The intern expects to learn new tasks and acquire new capabilities, and Amigos Bravos expects to receive competent assistance on a viable research project. It is our hope that the experience gained through internships will be invaluable in future career pursuits.

In the summer of 2020, **Alexes Paige Albillar** joined Amigos Bravos as a Field, Policy, and Watershed Outreach Intern. Alexes' work with Amigos was enabled through a bridge program with the University of New Mexico, Taos Natural Resource Program and Northern New Mexico Climate Change Corps and Leadership in



Forestry Training: UNNM-T, CCC-LIFT USDA Grant under the direction of Dr. Brooke Zanetell. Alexes' research and outreach skills under

this internship produced a valuable, short research paper: **DRIFT Snowmaking Additive; Snowmaking in the Southwest** that focuses on chemicals utilized by Sipapu Ski Area, in the Carson National Forest, for snowmaking that eventually enters the watershed. The paper has proved a valuable asset for Amigos Bravos and our constituents, and is referenced regularly when investigating such chemicals and their effects on ski area downstream agricultural communities.

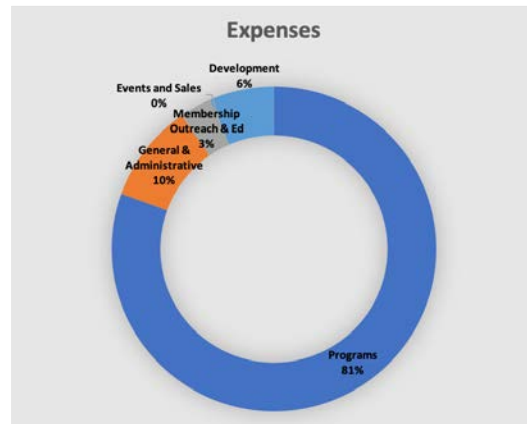
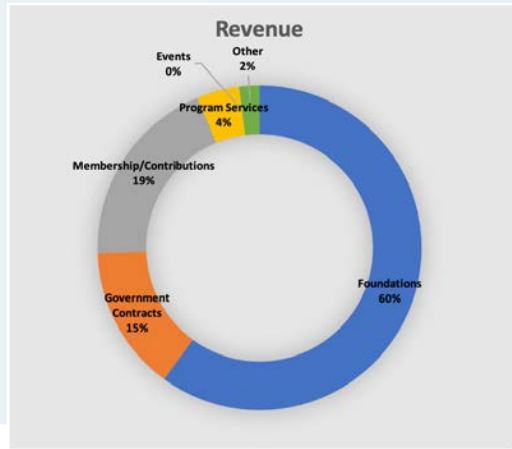
Alexes' investigative work also provided useful information, as an informal yet informative data set, on those respondent ski areas within New Mexico and Southern Colorado that utilize chemicals for snowmaking.



A scenic view of a lake surrounded by a dense forest of evergreen trees under a cloudy sky. The lake is in the foreground, with a path leading to it from the bottom left. The forest is composed of tall, thin evergreen trees, some of which are dead or dying. The sky is blue with white clouds. The text "Financial Reports Appreciation & Membership Levels" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Financial Reports Appreciation & Membership Levels

Financial Report



FISCAL YEAR 2020 (OCTOBER 1, 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2020)

Amigos Bravos is protecting its long-term financial viability by building its capital reserve fund, implementing a planned giving campaign, and growing endowment funds for Amigos Bravos housed at the New Mexico Community Foundation and the Taos Community Foundation.

REVENUE:

Foundations.....	431,848
Government Contracts.....	103,950
Membership / Contributions	138,508
Program Services	30,505
Events	0
Other	14,525

Total: 719,336

FISCAL YEAR 2020 (OCTOBER 1, 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2020)

Amigos Bravos ended its fiscal year with a modest decrease in net assets.

EXPENSES:

Programs.....	580,376
General & Administrative	70,932
Membership Outreach & Ed	22,818
Events and Sales	160
Development	46,500

Total: 720,786

Net Excess or <Deficit> (1,450)

Appreciation & Thank you

NEW MEXICO COMMUNITIES: THE FOUNDATION OF OUR WORK.

The foundation of our work is New Mexico communities, the traditions they hold dear and the water that sustains them. Guided by the wisdom of our Board and staff, our commitment to water protection is deeply rooted in the principles of equity, justice and sustainability inherent to the diverse communities of New Mexico.

As we move into 2021 and beyond, communities and their waterways will come under increasing pressure to quench the thirst of rapidly expanding growth. Rivers and watersheds will feel the brunt of every aspect of development, no matter how positive we may view that development or



how valued their contributions to our economies.

“The Water Foundation is proud to support Amigos Bravos for their deep understanding of water policy and management, their generous and collaborative engagement with partners, and their tenacious and indomitable spirit to protect the natural treasures of New Mexico.”

– Andrew Fahlund, Senior Program Officer

Through our advocacy and policy work along with our on-the-ground protection and restoration achievements, we hold hope for the future and its generations to come.

As we move forward together, we encourage you to join us in gratitude for the profound majesty of our landscapes and rivers and the fortitude and resilience of our communities. After reading through this report, take a moment to congratulate yourselves for being part of the creation of a clean water movement based on social and environmental principals.

We truly value the belief in our work that is symbolized with every new and renewed membership, foundation grant and inkind donation we receive. We thank each and every one of the individuals, families, businesses, organizations and charitable foundations who put their trust and support in our Fiscal Year 2020 efforts.

Appreciation & Thank you

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Francisco "Cisco" Guevara, *President*

Peggy Nelson, *Vice President*

Nicola Ulibarri, *Treasurer*

Liliana Castillo

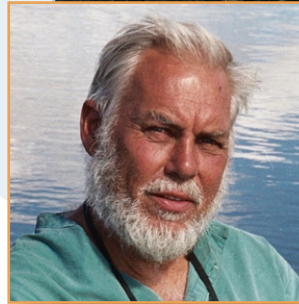
Gordon "Jock" Jacober

Eleanor Bravo

Jeremy Vesbach

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Board or Directors and Staff of Amigos Bravos would like to extend a special thank you to our former Treasurer, **Jon Klingel**, (right) who stepped down from our Board in 2020 after serving with us for 17 years.



STAFF

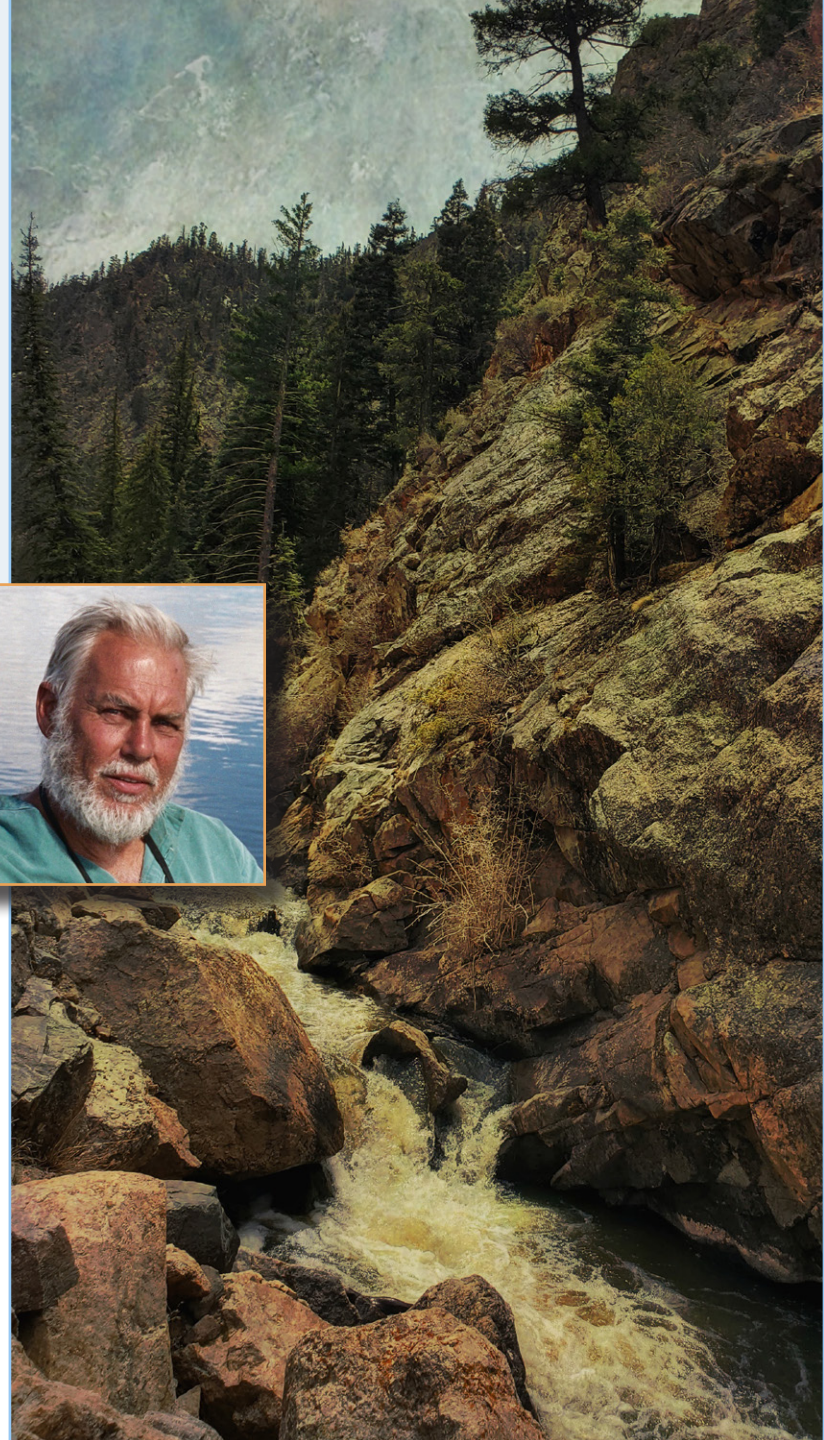
Joseph Zupan, *Executive Director*

Rachel Conn, *Projects Director*

Shannon Romeling, *Projects +
Foundation Coordinator*

Nina Anthony, *Donor +
Communications Coordinator*

Elena Fernandez, *Projects Associate*



Membership Levels: WE COULDN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU.

FRIENDS OF NM WATERS \$1 TO \$99

Charles Anderson
Mary Bacchus
Avelina Bardwell, MD
Jerry Sue Bassalleck
Joe Becker
Bobbe Besold and
Douglas Bruce
Roberts
Karen Blackmore
Gary Bommelaere
Nicholas David Brown
Gaia Mika and Hank
Brussleback
Mark Bundy
Kathleen Burg
Martha Burk and
Ralph Estes
A. Janine Burke
Mary Jo Carey
Patrick and Barbara
Carr
Lawrence Carreon
Ann Caylor
Nancy Cella

Tom Coen
Douglas Conwell
Sonya Luz Costanza
Jennie and Michael
Crews
Nancy and Steve
Crochet
Susan and David
Daney
Mike Dilworth
Gus Dizerega
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"I've been working with Amigos Bravos most recently on the proposed Tererro Mine exploratory project near my home village of Pecos. We work together as part of a larger coalition to protect the Pecos River from pollution and degradation. We're also working together to pursue Outstanding National Resource Water (ONRW) protection for the Pecos. Amigos Bravos are experts in river protection and have the science and networks to support their work."

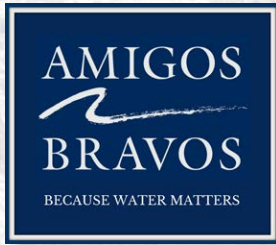
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San Miguel County Commissioner and
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“Who hears the rippling
of rivers will not despair
of anything.”

— Henry David Thoreau



Together, we can protect the sacred waters on which all life depends.

Amigos Bravos relies on charitable gifts from individuals, families and foundations to continue our work on water-related issues that affect communities across New Mexico. With your support, together, we can accomplish our goals. To learn more about work and to become a part of it, please visit our website, www.amigosbravos.org.

Donations can be made online at <https://www.amigosbravos.org/donate> or mailed to:

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Please feel free to stop by our offices if you have questions about our work and/or would like to learn about ways you can help support it. We're located at 114 Des Georges Place in the historic district of Taos, New Mexico.

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