



AMIGOS BRAVOS

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

AMIGOS

BRAVOS
BECAUSE WATER MATTERS

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Our mission

To protect and restore the waters of New Mexico.

Front cover painting titled, "On the Stagecoach Trail" by Taos artist, Tracy Turner Sheppard.

Above photo credit: "Rio Grande at Pilar " by Nina Anthony.

From the Executive Director

Our past fiscal year (FY24) was another busy year at Amigos Bravos. We continued to add to our capacity with a new Policy Specialist, Sarah Knopp, who is based in Albuquerque. Her portfolio of projects includes policies to mitigate mining and other extractive industry impacts to watersheds, including working with policymakers on the so called “produced water” issue, i.e., polluted wastewater from oilfield operations. Just a couple of very important initiatives we have been working on, and will continue to pursue in 2025 include:

Regulation of Oilfield Wastewater (i.e. “Produced Water”)

In 2024, New Mexico Environment Department petitioned the Water Quality Control Commission for a new rule regarding reuse of wastewater, in particular “produced water,” the toxic byproduct of the fracking process. Amigos Bravos and Sierra Club, represented by Tannis Fox of the Western Environmental Law Center, entered the hearing as a party to support the part of the rule that would prohibit the discharge of produced water, treated or untreated, to ground or surface water. Produced water contains over 1,000 known and unknown contaminants, and science has not shown that existing treatment systems can treat the water to levels protective of human health and the environment. Nor do quantity standards for acceptable levels for most of the contaminants exist in any law, federal or state. A second part of the rule, permitting industrial and pilot projects using produced water, was problematic, and was opposed by many parties including ours. In the eleven day hearing, Amigos Bravos and Sierra Club provided testimony from two expert witnesses, and cross-examined industry witnesses who consistently claimed that produced water could be safely treated, but



provided no peer-reviewed science to prove it. The Commission will make a final decision about the rule in the spring of 2025, and we are hopeful that they will prohibit the release of treated or untreated produced water. If they do, New Mexico will be an important national leader in regulation of oilfield waste in the coming era of federal deregulation.

State Surface Water Permitting

In 2023 the U.S. Supreme Court, in a controversial decision (“Sackett decision”) imposed severe limitations on which rivers and streams can be considered waters of the United States and therefore protected under the Clean Water Act. In particular, intermittent and ephemeral water bodies (waters that do not flow year-round) may no longer qualify as waters of the U.S. The net effect has been to remove federal protections for up to 96% of New Mexico’s waters. In response, Amigos Bravos has been leading a coalition of stakeholders

From the Executive Director (continued)

to develop a state surface water permitting program. Over the past couple of years, these efforts have led to “seed funding” from the legislature to the Environment Department to evaluate the establishment of a state surface water permitting program to reinstate such protections at the state level.

Given the recent election of a federal administration that is indifferent to or even hostile to conservation values, it is more important than ever for the state to take over the regulation of pollutants into our state’s rivers, tributaries and wetlands, including those with low flows or that only flow seasonally. We will be working with coalition partners and our supporters at the legislative session in early 2025 to authorize full implementation of a state surface water permitting program.

We view this initiative as critically important to New Mexico’s communities and natural environment.

Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRWs)



Building on our recent success in securing ONRW protections for the upper Pecos, the Rio Hondo, and the Jemez, we have continued

to advocate for additional river miles to receive these protections. AB led a Statewide coalition aimed at supporting a petition to the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) prepared by NMED to nominate additional Criteria One Waters. AB also organized a Statewide call with ONRW supporters to prepare them for the public outreach aspect of the petition and to start securing letters of support and public testimony in support of the petition.

NMED issued a public notice and comment period for the petition in July. Amigos Bravos coordinated a response along with partners and stakeholders that resulted in over 700 public comments, with only one submission in opposition/concern.

The negative comment came from the Department of Game and Fish and our coalition worked with the Department to understand their concern and provide education that shifted the Department to a neutral if not positive position.

On September 10th, NMED successfully petitioned the WQCC for a hearing on the nomination, receiving December 10th as the hearing date. The petition was finalized to include 46 stream segments and over 250 miles of streams. Amigos Bravos is a formal party at the hearing through representation by WELC. Amigos Bravos worked to solicit public comments directly to the WQCC and illustrate the widespread support for the nomination across New Mexico.

As always, we appreciate our members and supporters for enabling us to do this important work.

**For the Rio,
Joe Zupan, Executive Director**

RESTORING WATERSHED HEALTH

Photo Credits (left and right) Jim O'Donnell

Restoring Watershed Health | Native Species

CONSERVING AND RESTORING NATIVE SPECIES TO NEW MEXICO IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR WORK TO PROTECT THE RESILIENCY OF WETLANDS AND AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS



Amigos Bravos believes that restoring watershed health includes supporting the natural actors that helped shape that ecosystem and provide necessary balance. Our native species work started with the reintroduction of the river otter to the Rio Grande and our wetland restoration projects include fish habitat for the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout. In 2024, Amigos Bravos expanded this work to include beaver across New Mexico's watersheds.

Beavers are integral to building resiliency for our watersheds, downstream communities, and the wildlife that utilize these landscapes.

Beaver improve the watershed by building their dams within the river corridor. These dams create ponds that provide habitat for aquatic invertebrates, fish, waterfowl, and small mammals. The ponds also create the necessary environment for riparian vegetation to flourish which helps alleviate erosion, channelization, and the spread of invasive species. Also importantly, these ponds collect sediment which prevents it from rushing downstream and impacting water quality. As the sediment fills in, it helps aggrade the river channel and reconnects the adjacent floodplain which supports the health of wetlands and riparian corridors. These wetlands in turn soak in the snowmelt runoff, providing filtration for pollutants, and slowly release the cool, clean water to the river which extends the hydrograph throughout the summer months. Without these wetlands, the water would rush down the watershed, exacerbating erosion and flooding risk, and impact the water security of downstream communities and irrigators. By increasing wetlands and riparian zones, beavers also help mitigate the spread of forest fires and catalyze the growth of vegetation after fire events. For these reasons, beavers are considered a keystone species, or one that positively impacts all other species in the ecosystem.

Historically beavers populated almost every stream in New Mexico, helping streams and rivers meander through the landscape and creating lush, wet meadows. However, due to increasing pace of urban development, trapping, and encroachment on their native habitats, beaver populations are a fraction of

Restoring Watershed Health | Native Species

what they once were. This devastating loss of nature's premier engineers is a large reason why New Mexico's streams are alarmingly shifting from perennial flow to intermittent or ephemeral. Amigos Bravos is helping to restore these populations in a number of ways. First, the wetland jewel program is actively working to restore headwater wetland systems to be suitable beaver habitat once again. Our team is also working to alleviate conflict between landowners and beaver by providing education on their benefits as well as building pond levelers. Pond levelers, or beaver deceivers, are a relatively simple installation of drainage pipes that control the height of the beaver pond to a level that will not create flooding issues while maintaining the pond habitat for the beaver. Finally, Amigos Bravos is working with partners and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish to update the agency's policies and procedures around beaver to encourage practices that support beaver relocation and coexistence.

Our team is planning several workshops and opportunities in 2025 for interested participants to help install some of these pond levelers and further engage with beaver restoration across New Mexico. Please join us in bringing back these essential members of our watersheds.



Restoring Watershed Health | Surface Water Quality Permitting

AMIGOS BRAVOS LED A LARGE COALITION TO ADVOCATE FOR A STATE PERMITTING PROGRAM TO PROTECT VULNERABLE NEW MEXICO WATERWAYS AND WETLANDS THAT LOST FEDERAL PROTECTIONS



Because of a reinterpretation of clean water protections at the federal level, the vast majority of New Mexico's waterways are vulnerable to pollution, threatening the health of our state's streams, rivers, and wetlands. New Mexico waters are left even more vulnerable because we do not have a state surface water permitting program to protect waters that no longer have federal protection. The 2023 Sackett vs EPA US Supreme Court decision stripped Clean Water Act protections from most of New Mexico's waters, including wetlands and streams, threatening clean water access for communities, acequias, and Tribes and New Mexican's way of life. As many as 95% of our streams and 88% of our wetlands are now

at risk of being polluted – because New Mexico doesn't have a state permitting program to fill the gaps created by the Supreme Court decision.

If waters aren't federally protected it means that federal permits to regulate and control the discharges of pollution into waterways can't be issued. With the loss of Federal Clean Water Act protections for most of New Mexico's waterways combined with the lack of a state surface water permitting program, it means that there isn't a clean water permitting mechanism to control pollution discharges into almost all of New Mexico's rivers, streams, and wetlands.

In 2024 Amigos Bravos led a large state coalition made up of conservation partners, community Tribal partners, and other community organizations to advocate for a state permitting program. With our partners we engaged in community and Tribal outreach; presented to and engaged with state decision makers and leaders; participated in a state administration led panel process to explore permitting program options; and engaged in public communications and media efforts to communicate the threat to clean water from federal deregulation and the need for a state program to fill the gap. This work led to securing \$7.6 million dollars in 2024 in state funds dedicated to the development of a state surface water permitting program. Next steps in 2025 include advocating for state legislation to authorize a comprehensive state surface water quality permitting program.

Restoring Watershed Health | Wetland Action Plan

AMIGOS BRAVOS RECEIVED FUNDS FROM THE NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT TO CREATE A WETLAND ACTION PLAN FOR THE CRUCES BASIN WETLAND JEWEL AND WILL BEGIN RESTORATION WORK IN 2026

Beginning in 2023 and ending in fall 2024, Amigos Bravos successfully applied for, received funds from the New Mexico Environment Department, and then organized, worked with partners, and completed an entire Wetland Action Plan for the Cruces Basin Wetland Jewel.

In that time, we also secured a grant to begin on-the-ground restoration in this Jewel that will implement priority work identified in the plan in the summer of 2026.

The Cruces Basin Wetland Jewel consists of 383 acres of wetlands in the watersheds of Diablo Creek and Beaver Creek in the Cruces Basin Wilderness Area. The Cruces Basin Wetland Action Plan recommends nine priority restoration projects in the Cruces Basin Wilderness Area. Arresting head cuts and slowing gully formation is the primary restoration need to preserve wetland acreage. The headwater reaches of all the streams in the Cruces Basin Wilderness provide opportunities to preserve wetland acreage by stopping numerous head cuts that are under three feet deep.

Wetland Assessment data can be visualized in an **ArcGIS Story Map**,

which is available here:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/78c812f374134d08b172b1013941529f>. The tools recommended to accomplish this work are: beaver dam analog (BDA) and Assisted Log Structure (ALS) complexes with high structure density, Log Flow Splitters, Worm Ditches, Log Step Falls, Zuni Bowls, One-Rock Dams Rock Rundowns, and/or Log Mattresses Types of materials needed will be Logs, branches, rocks, gravel, and sod harvested on-site.

Next Steps:

Amigos Bravos will implement on-the-ground wetland restoration including erosion control structures, reconnecting floodplains, headcut repair and stabilization, and other measures identified by wetland restoration contractors. Detailed restoration plans were completed in October 2024 in the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) approved Wetland Action Plan. Priority species that would benefit from this work include the North American beaver and southwestern willow flycatcher.



HOLDING POLLUTERS ACCOUNTABLE

WARNING

Photo Credit:

Holding Polluters Accountable | Mining

WE CONTINUE TO WORK WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, TRIBAL NATIONS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS ON LEGACY MINE REMEDIATION AND EXPLORATION EFFORTS WITH POTENTIAL WATER QUALITY IMPACTS

Amigos Bravos was founded in 1988 as a result of the struggle to hold Chevron/Molycorp accountable to clean up the molybdenum mine in Questa. This struggle has resulted in the mine being designated a Superfund site and undergoing robust remediation efforts. With the expertise garnered from this effort, Amigos Bravos helped to launch a statewide mining justice coalition, the New Mexico Mining Act Network (NM-MAN).

We continue to monitor remediation efforts at the Chevron/Molycorp mine, and to attend meetings with the Questa community and the federal EPA, which has taken charge of monitoring and enforcing remediation efforts. In 2024, Amigos Bravos helped to relaunch NM-MAN after the Covid pandemic had imposed various organizing obstacles. NM-MAN has held monthly meetings with partners across the state who are engaged in site-based struggles, from the Upper Pecos Watershed (working on a mineral withdrawal for the Pecos) to Mt. Taylor (working to remediate the uranium mine site) and Silver City (working to hold copper mines accountable for remediation and preventing further degradation). These groups engaged in a strategic planning

process, and planned to propose and intervene in two rules before the NM Mining Commission, regarding fees, financial assurances, tailings dam safety, and “zombie mines” on standby status.

Additionally, Amigos Bravos (in addition to Friends of the Florida New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, WildEarth Guardians, and Gila Resources Information Project) was a party to a lawsuit filed to protect the Florida Mountains near Deming New Mexico from dolomite exploration and mining. A Federal District Court for the District of New Mexico ruled in August 2024 in our favor in one of our claims. The court determined that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by neglecting to adequately consider the potential water quality impacts associated with the mine's processing mill. Although the court did not rule in the groups' favor on all issues, the court did find that BLM failed to adequately consider pollution from magnesium sludge, a waste product of dolomite processing. The judge's orders unfortunately did not vacate the permit, and we are still contesting the permit to the BLM and the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division.



Holding Polluters Accountable | Produced Water

AS PART OF OUR DUTY TO SAFEGUARD NEW MEXICO'S FRESH WATER RESOURCES, AMIGOS BRAVOS OPPOSES THE USE OF TREATED OR UNTREATED PRODUCED WATER OUTSIDE OF THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

In 2024, New Mexico Environment Department petitioned the Water Quality Control Commission for a new rule regarding reuse of wastewater, in particular "produced water," the toxic byproduct



of the fracking process. Produced water contains over 1,000 known and unknown contaminants, and science has not shown that existing treatment systems <https://sourcenm.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/B1929-800-220sm.jpg> can treat the water to levels protective of human health and the environment. Nor do quantity standards for acceptable levels for most of the contaminants exist in any law, federal or state.

Amigos Bravos and Sierra Club, represented by Tannis Fox of the Western Environmental Law Center, entered the hearing in front of the

WQCC as a party to support the part of the proposed rule that would prohibit the discharge of produced water, treated or untreated, to ground or surface water. A second part of the proposed rule, permitting industrial and pilot projects using produced water, is problematic, and was opposed by many parties including ours. In the eleven day hearing, Amigos Bravos and Sierra Club provided testimony from two expert witnesses, Christopher Lewis, who testified about the body of scientific research on treatment and composition of produced water, and Charles DeSallin, who testified on historical and legal perspectives on the rulemaking process. Our counsel also cross-examined industry witnesses who consistently claimed that produced water could be safely treated, but provided no peer-reviewed science to prove it. Amigos Bravos also organized public comments, and many people from the communities that we represent testified in the robust public comment periods.

The Commission will make a final decision about the rule in the spring of 2025, and we are hopeful that they will prohibit the release of treated or untreated produced water. If they do, New Mexico will be an important national leader in regulation of oilfield waste in the coming era of federal

Holding Polluters Accountable | Produced Water

deregulation of all industry waste, and in particular produced water. 2.5 billion barrels of produced water were generated in New Mexico in 2024, and that quantity is rising. The most common method of treating produced water has been to inject it into deep saltwater injection wells. Science from Texas and Oklahoma shows that this practice creates earthquakes. We believe that the oil and gas industry should first focus on recycling and reusing produced water, and if necessary slow production until new technologies exist to clean the toxic waste, and until science can verify that all of the known and unknown constituents are removed.

In December of 2023, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham introduced her plan to create a “Strategic Water Supply.” This was a plan to use state funds to subsidize the treatment of produced water and deep aquifer brackish water by treatment companies that are often affiliated with oil and gas giants. The treated water would then be used for industrial purposes, with the Environment and Energy Departments acting as brokers between treaters and end users. The initial proposal in the 2024 legislative session was to use \$500M of public funds to subsidize this program, even though no scientific evidence exists that the water can be treated to acceptable standards. In the 2024 legislative session, Amigos Bravos and other groups successfully opposed this program, and it was not implemented.



Holding Polluters Accountable | PFAS Technical Support

AMIGOS BRAVOS HAS BEEN PROVIDING TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE RESIDENTS OF LA CIENEGUILLA TO HELP OFFSET THE IMPACTS OF GROUNDWATER POLLUTION FROM PFAS CONTAMINATION IN PRIVATE WELLS



La Cieneguilla, a small, quiet community located south of Santa Fe and west of La Cienega, is notable for its proximity to the La Cieneguilla Petroglyphs, an ancient rock art site on a mesa overlooking the Santa Fe River. Its recognition as a place rich in historical and cultural significance became overshadowed in 2023 after industrial PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) infiltration in La Cieneguilla's groundwater was discovered, and several private wells tested positive for these types of PFAS.

The people of La Cieneguilla rely on their private wells to water their gardens, care for their livestock, clean and maintain their homes, use for everyday cooking, and nourish their bodies by drinking the water. The water in those wells can no longer be used for consumption, nor can the soils, livestock, or gardens be used for agriculture or livelihood, as this industrial type of PFAS has infiltrated those natural systems and their yields. Amigos Bravos has been working with the community of La Cieneguilla to help them find resources to offset the immediate impacts of groundwater contamination while the NMED looks for solutions for long-term PFAS contamination mitigation.

Since November 2023, when the PFAS groundwater contamination findings in La Cieneguilla were publically released, Amigos Bravos has provided support through access and connection to environmental justice and health resources including reaching out to regulatory contacts and sharing technical information and resources with community members. Amigos Bravos is actively engaged with the community, and has provided letters of support, and comments to FEMA regarding the need for federal assistance for La Cieneguilla. Amigos Bravos has spoken with EPA Region 6, the New Mexico Federal Delegation, New Mexico State Legislators, and Santa Fe County commissioners about PFAS in La Cieneguilla and provides updates and resources on PFAS to those entities, and regularly collaborates with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED).

In a March 14, 2024 PFAS Town Hall at the Santa Fe Community College, more than 200 concerned residents were in attendance including Amigos Bravos staff. Amigos Bravos met with several residents to discuss the ongoing PFAS contamination issue, gathering information on residents' needs and

Holding Polluters Accountable | PFAS Technical Support

concerns. Amigos Bravos continues to support finding health resources and explore ways for the community to access clean drinking water as well addressing the existing pollution in water wells.

Amigos Bravos has made a request for an Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry/Center for Disease Control (ATSDR/CDC) community health assessment with the New Mexico Department of Health in conjunction with the University of New Mexico Cancer Study to review the incidence of cancer in La Cieneguilla, and an assessment in regards to possible health impacts from long-term PFAS exposure. Based on findings of the public health assessment, further investigation may be prompted in regard to possible correlation between the contaminated wells and incidence of cancer among several residents within La Cieneguilla. The PFAS Cancer Study for La Cieneguilla is ongoing and may take several months and Amigos Bravos is providing updates, support and guidance to La Cieneguilla residents throughout the CDC/ATSDR community health assessment.

Santa Fe County, with funding from NMED, has contracted with INTERA (an environmental and water-resource consulting firm) who is performing groundwater PFAS sampling and testing in La Cienega and La Cieneguilla. Preliminary findings show that La Cieneguilla has been contaminated with industrial types of PFAS that are not typically found in homes and can be more acutely toxic; while, to date, La Cienega's groundwater shows only consumer (non-industrial) types of PFAS concerningly and widely found in homes from personal/consumer products.

Thanks to a group of private citizens, funding has been awarded to Amigos Bravos through the Santa Fe Community Foundation for further INTERA-led sampling and testing of groundwater wells specifically for La Cieneguilla. This funding is provided solely for expanding La Cieneguilla PFAS water sampling that will improve understanding of the possible source of the industrial PFAS plume in the area through more and robust data. Amigos Bravos is collaborating with INTERA to host a public meeting in La Cieneguilla for those residents after the discovery and modeling phase of the project



is complete. Amigos Bravos is providing technical support to INTERA by providing groundwater and historical information to the firm as we collaboratively seek to understand the nature and extent of the industrial PFAS plume in La Cieneguilla.

Robert Romero, chairman of the La Cienega Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association, tells SFR the news of PFAS contamination in the area worries local residents.

Santa Fe Reporter article:

<https://sfreporter.com/news/troubled-water/>

BUILDING A WATERS MOVEMENT



Building a Waters Movement | Education & Outreach

AMIGOS BRAVOS WORKS TO GIVE EVERY RESIDENT AND CHILD THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO RESPONSIBLY PROTECT AND RESTORE THEIR LOCAL WATERSHEDS

In 2024, Amigos Bravos once again contracted with Taos artist and watershed enthusiast, Scott Sutton, to create a transportable 3D model of the Upper Rio Grande watershed that will be displayed at the Imagine Children's Museum when it is not being transported by staff on site to schools. The vision for the 3D Upper Rio Grande Basin watershed table is to create an easily transportable watershed table for educational purposes. The design of the Upper Rio Grande Basin watershed table will enable Amigos Bravos to transport it to different locations such as schools or other events where it can be used to educate the community about the importance of healthy rivers and the restoration of our watersheds.

The Upper Rio Grande Basin Watershed Table will function as a three-dimensional educational art project enabling participants to highlight the thirteen – HUC 10 sub-watersheds that include:

1. Rio Costillo
2. Latir Creek
3. Rito Primero
- 4 Red River
5. Rio Pueblo de Taos
6. Rio Fernando
7. Rio Grande Del Rancho
8. Arroyo Aquaje De La Petaca
9. Rio Embudo
10. Rio Chama
11. Rio Tesuque
12. Rio Santa Cruz
13. Pojoaque Creek



Buildings a Waters Movement | Education & Outreach

AMIGOS BRAVOS OFFERS A RANGE OF INTERNSHIPS TO INTRODUCE STUDENTS TO WATER-FOCUSED ENVIRONMENTAL CAREERS

Amigos Bravos internships are designed to provide current and recent high school, undergraduate and graduate students with a wealth of opportunities to support new generations of environmental policy-makers, attorneys, on-the-ground water restoration professionals, and other clean water advocates, through positions that are project-focused with a set goal.

Chilton Tippin was the community and water relations intern for Amigos Bravos from January to June 2024. Originally from El Paso, Texas, he worked on several campaigns with Amigos Bravos while conducting his dissertation field research in cultural anthropology for the University of Colorado Boulder. These efforts included writing public comments for the hexavalent chromium plume spreading beneath

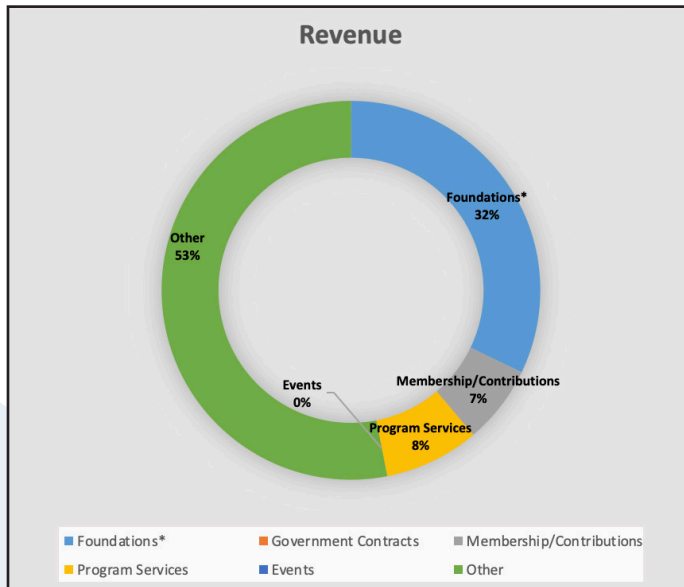
Los Alamos; helping with drone flights for restoration work along the Rio Fernando; gathering information and setting up community connections with La Cieneguilla residents impacted by PFAS in their drinking water supply; tabling at the roundhouse, the Taos Center for the Arts, and Taos Pueblo; generating an infographic for the Protect NM Waters campaign; moderating a community discussion in Las Cruces about

the Interstate Stream and Water Commission's Regional Water Planning efforts; and gathering data from EPA's ECHO Database on expired permits and permit violators in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's Sackett Decision. Most importantly, Amigos Bravos was instrumental in facilitating his PhD research. The team offered their expertise, connections, and friendship, all of which put him at the heart of the grassroots struggle to protect clean water in the state of New Mexico. He remains incredibly grateful to "the Amigos" and will be sure to

mention as much in writing when he (someday) finishes his dissertation.



Financial Report

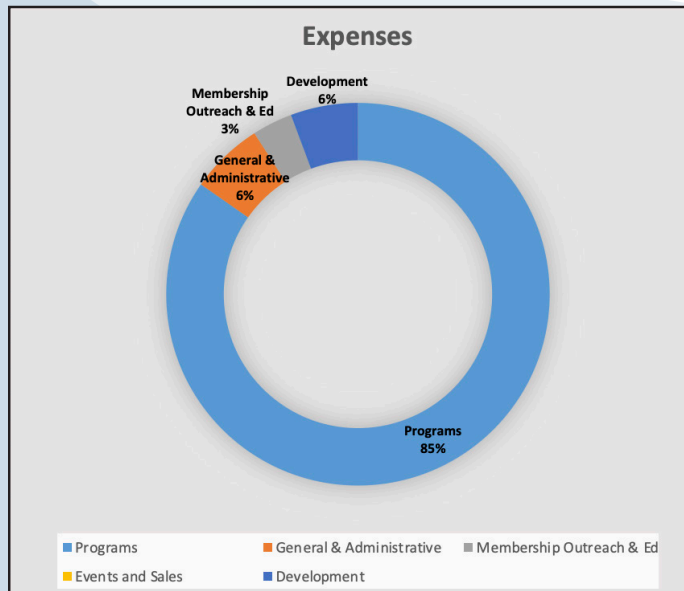


FISCAL YEAR 2024 (OCTOBER 1, 2023 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2024)

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 Foundation and Taos Community Foundation.

REVENUE:

Foundations*	549,980
Government Contracts.....	0
Membership / Contributions	114,519
Program Services	139,008
Events	0
Other	908,532
Total:	1,712,039



FISCAL YEAR 2024 (OCTOBER 1, 2023 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2024)

EXPENSES:

Programs.....	905,631
General & Administrative	66,164
Membership Outreach & Ed	36,310
Events and Sales	0
Development	60,749
Total:	1,068,854

Net Excess or <Deficit> 643,185

Staff, Appreciation & Thank You

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Francisco "Cisco" Guevara, *President*
Peggy Nelson, *Vice President*
Nicola Ulibarri, *Treasurer*
Liliana Castillo, *Secretary*
Gordon "Jock" Jacober
Eleanor Bravo
Maria Nájera



STAFF

Joseph Zupan, *Executive Director*
Rachel Conn, *Deputy Director*
Shannon Romeling, *Projects and Foundation Coordinator*
Nina Anthony, *Membership & Marketing Coordinator*
Elena Fernandez, *Projects Specialist and Internship Coordinator*
Steven Fry, *Policy and Project Specialist*



**WE HAD MORE THAN 70 VOLUNTEERS
AT OUR 2024 MIDNIGHT MEADOWS ANNUAL
RESTORATION WEEKEND. A RECORD!**

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Photo: Nina Anthony

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

**FRIENDS
OF NM
WATERS
\$1 TO \$99**

Dr. Mercedes Agogino
Swami Eric Albrecht
Lynn Aldrich
Mary Alvarado
Nina Anthony
Jerry Bassalleck
Rose and Daniel Bauhs
Joe Becker
Alana Benjamin
Jean Bergeron and
Maureen Robins
Leslie Bishop
Katherine and Patricia Boyle
Ria Burnett
Janet Byrne
Mary Carey
Andrea Castellanos
Nancy Cella
Frankie Chamberlain
Jeffrey Colledge
Jennie and Michael Crews
Nancy and Steve Crochet
Christine and
Paul Drumright
Ellen Durant
Kristina and Phil Fisher
Michael Flood
Kay and John Foster
Steve Glass

Linda Glickstein
Go Lively Foundation
Kristin Graziano and
Joan Kendel
Keith Grover
Barbara Hill
Harriet Harris
Meg Huchmann and
William Hutchinson
Mark Henderson
John Johnson
Emily Joyce
Dylan Kenin
Brian Kitts
Marlene and Jon Klingel
Mary Knudsen
Rand Levitt
Randall LaGro
Ingrid Lincoln
Lucy Lippard
Cliff Loucks
Ashton Lundgren
Abigail Mattaro
Brian and Sharon Mulrey
Deborah Newberg
Betsy Nichols
Sarah Noss
Therese and David Patton
Deborah Patton
Jeannie Pearle
Betsy Peirce
Marlene Perrotte
Meg and Bruce Peterson
Judy and Randolph Pierce
Joan Quinn

Joe Riddell
Hildegard Reiser
Ann and Mark Robertson
Steven Robinson
Rebecca Rossi
JoAnn Sartorius
Dr. Melissa Savage
Stephen Schmidt
Susan Selbin
Joan and Lawrence
Shandler
Holland Shepherd
Ray Shortridge
Samuel Sloan
Jean Stevens
Jennifer and James Stoner
Jeffrey Sussmann
Marilyn Szydjowski
Daisan Taylor-Glass and
Mark Glass
David Thompson
Ellen & James Tuomey
Steve Verchinski
Laura Watchempino
David Thomas White
Katherine White
Katherine Winslow-Pond
Teresa and Karl
Workman
Angie Wulfow
Caryle and William
Zorumski

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

WATER ADVOCATES \$100 TO \$249

Larry Adams
Janice Arrott
Mary Jo Bacchus (In
memory of William)
Sharon and Robert Barton
Jerry Bassalleck
Judith Bell
Bonnie and Bob Bishop
Per Bjorkman
Sara and Bob Blair
Mary Pat Bleesz
Catherine Boyle
Martha Burk
Janine Burke
Sharon and Robert Barton
William Burgin
Mary Jo Carey
Liliana Castillo-LeFever
Karen Cohen and
Robert Templeton
Sally Corning and
Edison Buchanan
Jefferson Cowie
Wendy Cox
Charles de Saillan
Debbie and Dennis Devine
Charly Drobeck
Katherine Duff
Ellen Durant
Naomi Engelman

Karl Eschenbach
Brent Faulkner
Robert Fitch
Michael Flood
Peter French
Thomas French
Ken Gallard
Janet Gilchrist
Arifa Goodman
Gloria and Robin Gaupp
Rachel Hands
Mellisa Haye-Cserhart and
Alex Cserhart
Dr. David Henkel
Elizabeth Hoobler
Tracy Hughes
Hummingbird Intermediate
Fund
Randy Hutchins
Nancy Johnson and
Kim Buehre
Michael Jensen
Dr. Laurence Johnston
Lydia Johnston
Summers and Norton
Kalishman
Susan Lanier
Robert Lawrence
Marcy Leavitt
Cliff Loucks
Elizabeth and Harry
Linneman
Linda and Arthur Lynch
Dudley Maurita and
William Slade

Sally Corning and
Edison Mayer
Carrie and Stephen Miller
Teresa Paisano
Barbara Riedl
Becky Roh and
Andrew Leonard
Diana Rushing and
Lewis Rosenthal
Sawnie Morris and
Brian Shields
Shanron and Brian
Mulroney
Angelisa Murray
Kathryn Mutz
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Photo: Geraint Smith

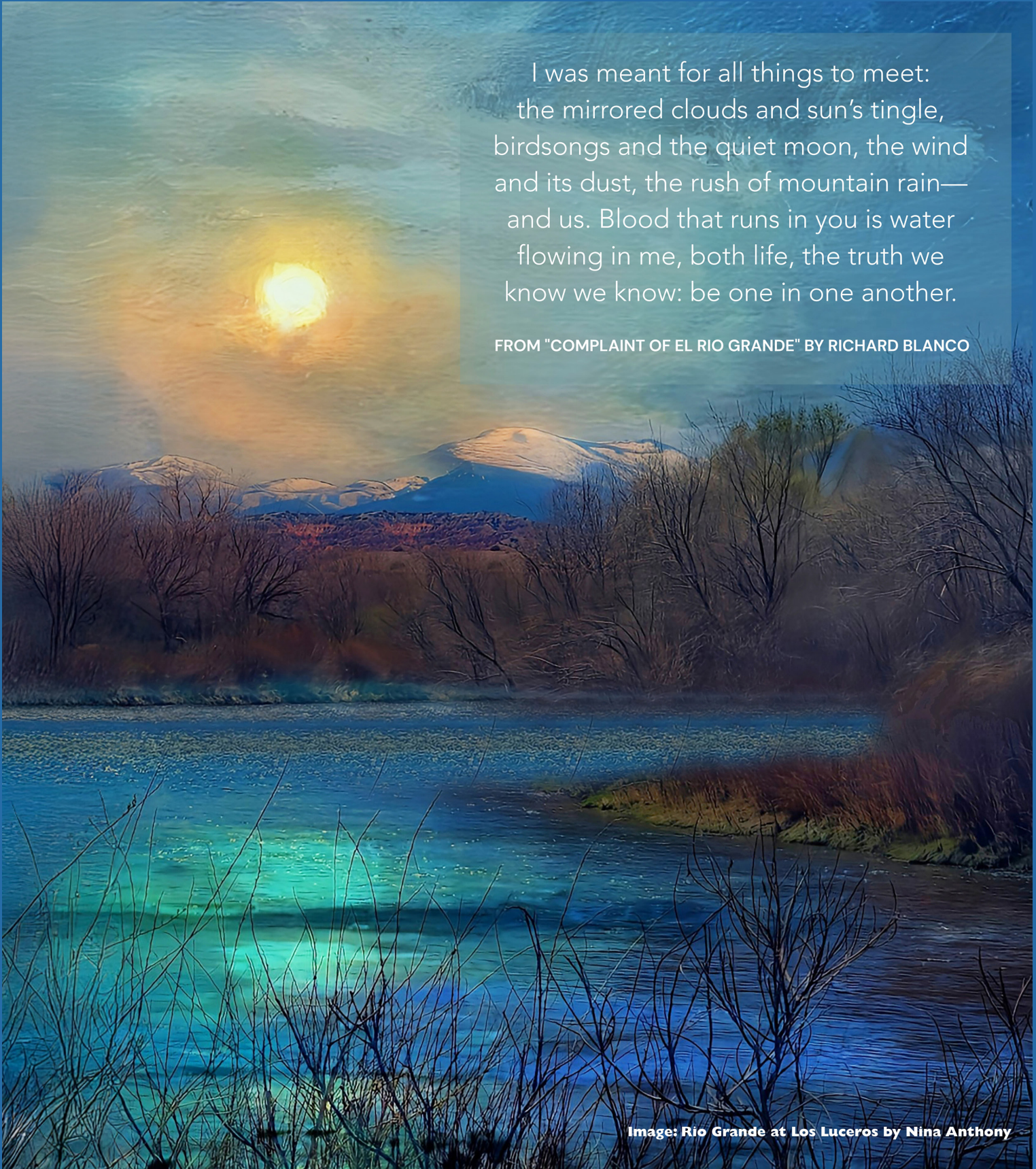
NEW MEXICO'S RIVERS NOMINATED AS MOST ENDANGERED IN THE COUNTRY

In April of 2024 Amigos Bravos and our New Mexico partners worked to nominate all of the rivers in New Mexico as the most endangered in the country due to the loss of federal clean water protections for the majority of our waterways. As a result, American Rivers named the Rivers of New Mexico #1 on its annual list of America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

Every year American Rivers reviews nominations for America's Most Endangered Rivers® from local groups and individuals across the country, and selects rivers based on three criteria:

- 1) The river's significance to people and wildlife
- 2) The magnitude of the threat to the river and communities, especially in light of climate change and environmental injustice
- 3) A decision in the next 12 months that the public can influence

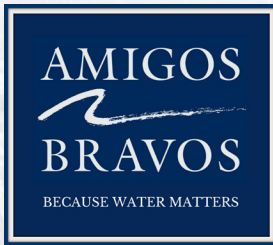
The 2023 Supreme Court's Sackett v. EPA ruling stripped federal protections for half the nation's wetlands and up to 4 million miles of streams - the drinking water sources for 40 million Americans. The threat is particularly acute in New Mexico, despite the state's commitment and proven record of protecting its clean water and natural resources. This is because the court decision cut protections for streams that only run during the rainy season or for periods of the year after snowmelt- typical in an arid environment. The nomination and listing served as an important rallying cry for adopting state-level protections to fill the gap in protections left by the loss of federal jurisdiction.

A painting of a river at sunset. The sun is a bright yellow orb in the upper left, casting a warm glow over the scene. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. In the background, there are snow-capped mountains. The middle ground shows a wide river with lily pads. The foreground is filled with bare, dark trees and branches. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

I was meant for all things to meet:
the mirrored clouds and sun's tingle,
birdsongs and the quiet moon, the wind
and its dust, the rush of mountain rain—
and us. Blood that runs in you is water
flowing in me, both life, the truth we
know we know: be one in one another.

FROM "COMPLAINT OF EL RIO GRANDE" BY RICHARD BLANCO

Image: Rio Grande at Los Luceros by Nina Anthony



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 mailed to:

Amigos Bravos, Inc.
P.O. Box 238
Taos, NM 87564

Scan to donate securely online or visit,
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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.