

DRAFT

RESOLUTION NO. 2003 – ____

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
THE RÍO PUERCO Y RÍO JEMEZ SUBREGIONAL WATER PLAN**

WHEREAS, the diverse communities, water users and stakeholders in Río Puerco y Río Jemez Subregional Water Planning Region, part of the Middle Rio Grande Water Planning Region, wish to work cooperatively to protect, preserve and enhance the sustainability of water resources of the Region, and

WHEREAS, the Río Puerco y Río Jemez Subregional Water Planning Steering Committees, which are comprised of diverse constituencies in the watersheds, have undertaken a regional water planning process with extensive public involvement, and

WHEREAS, the planning process had the benefit of \$35,000 in grants from the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission, as well as contributions from from Cuba Soil & Water Conservation District and other participants, and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committees have identified numerous issues including the intense variability of supply from year to year, the strong potential for decades of drought, the relationship between surface water and ground water, the need to respect water rights as personal property, the need to recognize public welfare interests of the community, and the need for wise stewardship to protect future generations, and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committees have adopted the following mission statement:

The residents of the Río Puerco y Río Jemez Sub-watersheds promote a sustainable balance between the availability and use of water, promote healthy watersheds, and retention of a rural lifestyle to benefit local communities and residents, and,

WHEREAS, the Steering Committees have adopted the following goals:

- 1. Ensure treaty, water and acequia rights to preserve and protect local agricultural traditions.*
- 2. Restore and manage the watersheds on public and private land to enhance water production, retention, and quality, to reduce the threat of wildfire, and to preserve natural systems dependent on water.*
- 3. Retain land use patterns that support and ensure a rural lifestyle and economy.*
- 4. Promote education for area residents regarding the connection between land use, water and environmental health, and ways to conserve water. These concepts should be incorporated into the curriculum of area schools'.*
- 5. Support the cultural and spiritual values of water, and the universal need for and importance of water.*

6. *Provide for monitoring implementation of the water plan.*

7. *Promote the conservation of water, and*

WHEREAS, through this planning process, the Steering Committees have developed a set of objectives and alternatives to support the mission and goals, which may be pursued jointly by the Steering Committees, by an individual entity, or by entities working together in a cooperative effort; and

WHEREAS, the sixteen regions of the state are expected to submit a regional plan to the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission for acceptance and use in the statewide water plan, and

WHEREAS, the Interstate Stream Commission has requested that each Regional Water Plan be endorsed by the local governments in the Region prior to its submittal to the Interstate Stream Commission, and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committees decided to ask for endorsements from major land managers and water use planners / providers as well;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of _____, that, the Governing Body endorses the Río Puerco y Río Jemez Subregional Water Plan and will evaluate the alternatives in developing future water plans.

This resolution was passed by the Governing Body of _____ during its regular meeting on the ____ day of _____ in the year 2003.

NAME

TITLE

DATE