

# The Northern Río Grande National Heritage Area Management Plan



**Northern Río Grande National Heritage Area, Inc.**

Española, New Mexico  
May 2013



## NORTHERN RÍO GRANDE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

May, 2013

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Ms. Sally Jewell  
Secretary of the Interior  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell:

We are pleased to submit to you the Management Plan for the **Northern Río Grande National Heritage Area** pursuant to Title II, Subtitle A of Public Law 109-338, Section 205, which was passed by Congress on October 12, 2006.

Heritage Area designation culminated nearly 20 years of community efforts to identify ways to conserve and sustain the area's life ways, languages, folk arts, and sacred spaces, as well as, its architecture and spectacular natural and scenic landscape. Congress designated over 10,000 square miles of northern New Mexico as the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area, which includes Taos, Rio Arriba and Santa Fe counties. Eight pueblos (Taos, Picuris, Ohkay Owingeh, Santa Clara, San Ildefonso, Nambe, Pojoaque, and Tesuque) and the Jicarilla Apache Nation are sustained in the Heritage Area.

We envision with your approval of this plan, implementing a comprehensive program of interpretation, preservation, revitalization, and community development, through pursuit of the strategic goals developed for the Heritage Area and through the community and organizational partnerships that have been established.

We sincerely appreciate the support and guidance provided by the Federal government agencies, and by the National Park Service in particular, in helping us bring this process and document to conclusion. We particularly wish to acknowledge the efforts of Greg Hendricks and Shirl Kasper of the Intermountain Region in Denver for specific guidance and technical support provided through this process.

We look forward to a continuing partnership with the Department of the Interior and thank you for your interest and consideration in bringing the Northern Río Grande National Heritage Area to reality.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Mortimer  
Board President

Thomas A. Romero  
Executive Director

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