

Ancones Ranch Conservation Easement



Participants

- Vernon and Dora Casados:
Owners/Grantor
- New Mexico Department of Game and Fish: Grantee 50% owner
- New Mexico Land Conservancy:
Managing/Grantee (holds and manages Easement) 50% owner

Funding


- Easement cost: \$150,000
- Easement appraised value: \$835,000
- Tax credit to Grantor for donated value of property interest
- Funding: Land, Wildlife, and Conservation Easement (LWCE) appropriation

Easement Map



ANCONES RANCH
CONSERVATION
EASEMENT

RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NM

 CONSERVATION EASEMENT
BOUNDARY - 185 ACRES

AERIAL IMAGERY CIRCA 2005



New Mexico
LAND CONSERVANCY
Preserving New Mexico's Land Heritage

Easement Description

- 107 Acres prime irrigated farmland,
- 42 Acres riparian habitat on Chama River
- Approximately 3/4 mile Chama River
- 46 Acres mixed pinyon-juniper uplands
- 293.5 Acre-feet / year water rights
- Scenic area visible from Rio Arriba CR340
- Close to Parkview Fish Hatchery

Protected Values

- Natural habitat, game, and non-game
- Conservation values
- Agriculture production
- Water rights
- Open space and scenic vistas



Protections

- No subdivision of property
- New construction limited to 2 building envelopes (7.5 acres total)
- Water rights will not be separated from land
- Agricultural production will be sustainable
- Riparian areas not to be modified or impaired
- No clear cutting of trees or brush
- No new roads
- No recreational off-road vehicle use

Protections Continued

- Soil, sand, gravel, and rock mining for Easement property only
- No refuse dumping
- No storage, disposal, or release of hazardous materials
- Commercial activity restrictions
- Recreation limited to low impact activities
- No public access granted by easement
- Signs limited in purpose, size, and color

Recommendation

- Move to authorize the Chairman to execute documentation required to effect the purchase of a conservation easement over approximately 196 acres of the Ancones Ranch in Rio Arriba County for an amount not to exceed \$150,000. Execution of such documentation to be subject to approval of the Department and counsel to the Commission. Completion of the acquisition to occur not later than March 31, 2009.