



# CAJA DEL RIO PROTECTION ACT

119TH CONGRESS



## OVERVIEW

The proposed legislation establishes two new protected areas near Santa Fe — the Caja del Rio Special Management Area (SMA) and National Conservation Area (NCA) — to conserve and permanently protect our cultural, ecological, and spiritual values.

## SPONSORS



**U.S. SENATORS**  
Martin Heinrich  
Ben Ray Luján



**U.S. REPRESENTATIVES**  
Teresa Leger Fernández  
Melanie Stansbury  
Gabe Vasquez

## KEY PROVISIONS



Protects public lands from sale or privatization.



Prohibits new roads, mining, and rights-of-way, ensuring the EPCU line will be the last to cross the Caja del Rio plateau.



Requires consultation with area tribes and coordination with Traditional Historic Communities.



Preserves traditional uses such as herb and mineral gathering, hunting and grazing.



Protects confidential Indigenous knowledge and sacred site locations from disclosure under the FOIA.



Reduces unauthorized roads and limits motor vehicle use.

## ENDORSED BY



All Pueblo Council of Governors



Santa Fe County Commission



Sandoval County Commission



Santa Fe Mayor Michael Garcia

CONSERVING OUR HERITAGE. PROTECTING OUR FUTURE.