



May 28, 2025

Tom Schultz  
Forest Service Chief  
Forest Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-0003

Dear Chief Schultz,

On behalf of the Pueblo of Jemez, I hope this reaches you in good health and spirit.

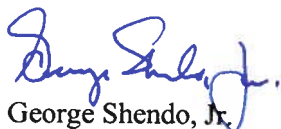
I am warmly inviting you to visit Jemez Pueblo and inviting you to walk our ancestral Pecos lands together. Much of our ancestral Pecos lands and the Pecos watershed are now managed by your agency and I much appreciate the collaboration, respect and dialog we have had over the years with your Santa Fe National Forest staff.

These lands and the waters flowing from them, have sustained and nurtured our people since time immemorial. These lands that are now entrusted to you, continue to hold and protect sacred places for our tribal members. We will never stop from frequenting them for our traditional religious ceremonies.

Several years ago, mining interests within the Pecos watershed that you administer came under threat and we quickly and strongly stood side by side with other tribes, our state leaders, our county leaders, local acequia users, numerous special interest groups, business owners, and even local school groups. With the horrible damages from the mining disaster of 1991 still in our minds, we all united to protect these lands and waters we are so dependent upon. Today, we see our Pecos lands and waters threatened again through recent federal decisions and we are again gathering to stand united.

I invite you to walk these lands with me as soon as you are able. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 575/834-7359.

Sincerely,



George Shendo, Jr.  
Governor

cc: Senator Martin Heinrich  
File

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***Office of the Governor***

4471 Highway 4, Box 100 • Jemez Pueblo • New Mexico • 87024  
(575) 834-7359 • Fax (575) 834-7331