

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/21/2023 11:06:17 PM

First name: Eric

Last name: Patterson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My wife and I live in Valdez, N.M. We operate Stoney Acre Farm. We grow fruit and vegetables which we consume and share with neighbors and friends. We also sell at Farmers' market and a CSA. Our water for household use and especially irrigation comes from the Rio Hondo. We are parciantes of the San Antonio Acequia. The Rio Hondo is an important aspect of our life here in Valdez. In addition, we fish and hike in the forest and wilderness areas upstream from our home. All of our brothers, sisters, children and grandchildren from out of state, along with many of their friends, have visited us often with the idea of recreating, hunting, fishing and hiking in our forest and riparian area.

I have a B.A. in chemistry and am familiar with many of the problems that can come from the contamination of pollutants and over use of river waters. Contamination and inappropriate use of the Rio Hondo could seriously diminish the quality of our daily life in Valdez and very seriously affect our recreation and that of our many out of state visitors. The quality of the water in the Rio Hondo is very important and certainly demands a thorough Environmental Impact Review and an Environmental Impact Statement for any proposed construction upstream from us.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eric E.Patterson