

## Cristobal de La Serna Land Grant Committee Update

Presenter: Jose Mondragon, Secretary of the Board of Trustees

1. Working on our new political subdivision status
  - a. This status has given the land grant the opportunity to use public funds to reacquire and clean up the common lands.
2. Short Term Goals
  - a. Solid Waste – addressing illegal dumping. The goal is to purchase property that is being used as an illegal dumping site and to turn it into a communal area and business center for the land grant.
  - b. Matanza in partnership with the Ranchos de Taos Neighborhood Association and Alianza Agriculture to celebrate our community and engage La Serna heirs.
  - c. Membership Drive to encourage enrolling in the heirship registry. A meal will be provided for heirs who attend the event at the Talpa Community Center.
  - d. Linero forest thinning project – Recruiting lineros to thin fifty-one-acre parcels to help mitigate fire risk and watershed pollution.
3. Long Term Goals
  - a. Solid Waste – Prevention and education on illegal dumping in the common lands of the land grant.
  - b. Land acquisition – Acquire lands to be used as common land amongst heirs for traditional land use.
    - i. La Serna has approved to purchase one-hundred and sixty acres of linas to be used as common land.
  - c. Positive community outreach – We hope to have an annual (matanza, annual membership drive and we'd like to have a monthly community dinner.)
4. How can our Legislator help?
  - a. Madam Chair and member of the committee – we request your support in the passing of legislation to assist us in keeping our land grant clean and legislation that supports self-governance of our land grant.
5. Thank you
  - a. Madam Chair and members of the committee – our land grant thanks you for the continuous support. With your assistance, we have been able to purchase over a hundred acres of common lands for traditional use to encourage community involvement within the heirship and surrounding communities. We'd appreciate your continued support for our capital outlay projects, which include continued purchases of linas for common use, funds for a building to house the business activities of the land grant and funds to contribute to fencing and purchasing of an ATV for mobility throughout the land grant. Madam Chair and members of the committee – thank you for the opportunity to be here today and allowing me to present on behalf of our land grant and we look forward to working with the legislative committee.

Below are pictures of an illegal dump site in La Serna land grant

