



**Aubrey Dunn, State Land Commissioner
State of New Mexico**

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Emily Strickler, Assistant Commissioner for Communications

(505) 827-3650 - office

(505) 470-8829 - mobile

estrickler@slo.state.nm.us

****Media Advisory****

Land Exchange Closing Between the Land Office and the Pueblo of Cochiti

Santa Fe, NM – The New Mexico State Land Office will host a closing ceremony to celebrate the significant land exchange between the Land Office and the Pueblo of Cochiti.

State Trust Land within the former Cañada de Cochiti Land Grant is being traded to the Pueblo of Cochiti for Cochiti-owned property at 311 Old Santa Fe Trail in Santa Fe. The Pueblo purchased the property at Old Santa Fe Trail, which includes Garrett's Desert Inn, in order to directly make this trade with the State Land Office.

The State Trust Land being exchanged has great cultural significance to the Cochiti people, as it is part of their ancestral lands. Over time, the land was acquired by different entities, and eventually was acquired by the State Land Office in a separate land exchange with the University of New Mexico for the Mesa Del Sol property located south of Albuquerque. The Pueblo of Cochiti has tried for years to reclaim this section of ancestral land, and it is under the administration of New Mexico State Land Commissioner Aubrey Dunn that the exchange will finally take place. The trade marks the return of Cochiti's ancestral land, while at the same time the Land Office is acquiring an income producing property for the beneficiaries of the Trust.

Remarks will be given by New Mexico State Land Commissioner Aubrey Dunn, Pueblo of Cochiti Governor Nicholas Garcia and Pueblo of Cochiti Former Governor Dr. Joseph Henry Suina.

What: Land Exchange Closing

When: Thursday, September 29th, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.

Where: New Mexico State Land Office
310 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, NM

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