LUNA COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 17

LUNA COUNRY INTERIM LAND USE POLICY, SETTING FORTH GUIDELINES TO PROTECT PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS, ENSURE OPTIMUM USE OF PUBLIC LANDS AND PRESERVE THE CUSTOM AND CULTURE OF LUNA COUNTY

PREAMBLE

We, the Governing Body of Luna County, State of New Mexico, accept, support and sustain the Constitutions of the United States and the State of New Mexico. We have urged, through our elected legislators and the Governor of New Mexico, that the Federal Government comply with the Constitution of the United States, Article One, Section Eight, which limits the authority of the Federal Government to specific lands, and we hereby reaffirm our demand that all lands in Luna County not so specifically designated be relinquished to the citizens thereof.

Further, we reaffirm the fundamental rights of mankind as enumerated in the Declaration of Independence and acknowledge the limited nature of Government as intended by the nation's founding fathers. Based on these cherished traditions, we declare that all natural resource decisions affecting Luna County shall be guided by the principles of protecting private property rights, protecting local custom and culture, maintaining traditional economic structures through self-determination, and opening new economic opportunities through reliance on free markets. Resource decisions made in this manner will enhance environmental quality.

Recognizing that land is essential to local industry and residence, it shall be the policy of this County that the design and development of all federal and state land disposals, including land adjustments and exchanges, be carried out to the benefit of the citizens of Luna County.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS that the Luna County Interim Land Use Policy Plan has been developed by the Luna County Commission to guide the use of public lands and public resources in Luna County and to protect the rights of private landholders.

SEAL

STATE OF NEW MEXICO - COUNTY OF LUNA
I CERTIFY THAT THIS INSTRUMENT WAS FILED FOR RECORD AT 11:55 A.M. ON November 8, 1991 AND RECORDED IN BOOK 21 PAGE 557-576. OF Misc.
NATALIE PACHECO, LUNA COUNTY CLERK BY: Andrea Rodriguez DEPUTY CLERK
RECEPTION NO. 91-04444

Federal and State lands make up a substantial portion of Luna County. Luna County's economy is in part dependent on business activites on federal and state lands. The nature and intent of Luna County's Interim Land Use Policy Plan is to protect the custom and culture of Luna County citizens through the protection of private property rights, the facilitation of a free market economy, and the establishment of a process to ensure self-determination by local communities and individuals.

It is therefore necessary to develop and implement land use planning mechanisms that focus on federal and state land uses and activities. The Interim Land Use Policy Plan is a set of policies for an interval period that shall provide a general planning framework to remain in effect until a permanent Luna County Comprehensive Land Use Plan is developed and approved by the Luna County Commission. The Interim Land Use Policy Plan prepared by the Luna County Land Use Committee is attached hereto and incorporated by reference (Exhibit A.)

The Interim Plan addresses federal and state land use management issues directly and is intended to be used as a positive guide for federal and state land management agencies in their development and implementation of land use plans and management actions. Luna County and its citizens support the continued multiple use of federal and state lands in Luna County. Therefore, it is the policy of Luna County that federal and state agencies shall inform County governments of all pending actions affecting local communities and citizens and coordinate with them in the planning and implementation of those actions, and that the Luna County Commission, when affected by such actions, shall be consulted and coordinated with in accordance with the Laws of New Mexico and the Constitution of the United States of America.

Finally, in compliance with federal and state law, including but not limited to the Federal Land Management and Policy Act of 1976, all federal and state agencies shall comply with the Luna County Land Use Policy Plan and coordinate with the Luna County Commission for the purposes of planning and managing federal and state lands within the geographic boundaries of Luna County, New Mexico. Federal and state agencies proposing actions that will

impact the Luna County Land Use Policy Plan shall prepare and submit in writing, and in a timely manner, report(s) on the purposes, objectives and estimated impacts of such actions, including economic, to the Luna County Commission. These report(s) shall be provided to the Luna County Commission for review and coordination prior to federal and/or state initiation of action.

POLICIES TO BE IMPLEMENTED:

1. Increase opportunities for local economic development by increasing the amount of patented and nonfederal lands within Luna County.
2. Federal and State land agencies shall not acquire any private lands or rights in private lands within Luna County without first ensuring:
    a. That as a minimum, parity in land ownership status is maintained, and
    b. That private property interests are protected and enhanced.
3. Federally managed lands that are difficult to manage or which lie in insolated tracts shall be targeted for disposal.
4. The general public, the State of New Mexico and local communities shall be notified of, consulted about, and otherwise involved in all federal and state land adjustments in Luna County. Luna County's concurrence shall be required prior to any such land adjustments.
5. The New Mexico State Land Office shall assist Luna County in coordinating land exchanges so as to maximize patented fee simple lands.
6. Luna County, through its Hazardous Waste Management/Civil Emergency Preparedness Officer, shall determine land withdrawals for hazardous and non-hazardous waste storage, as well as the types and points of origin of such waste.
7. Before federal and state land agencies can change land use, trade lands among themselves, or attempt to acquire private lands, either through negotiation or condemnation, adverse impact studies on uses or acquisitions shall be conducted at the expense of the agencies involved. Luna County shall agree with both the adequacy of the study and the consequences of the study, before any such change in land use can take place.

Adverse impact studies shall address community stability, local custom and culture, grazing rights, flood prone areas, and access, in addition to the economic impact to the leaseholder of the lands being studied.

8. In addition to the water use policies set forth in the Interim Land Use Policy, Luna County recognizes the principles contained in the State water law as they exist at this time and accepts U.S. vs. the State of New Mexico, 438 US 696 57 L Ed 2d 1052, 1978, as one of the bases for water use planning.

Ordinance No. 17 and Exhibit A thereto are adopted as an Interim Land Use Policy only and are subject to amendment as situations dictate.

Done at Deming, New Mexico, this 8th day of November, 1991.

LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Edward B. Kretek, Chairman

Valentin M. Bustamante, Member

Bert Irwin, Member

ATTEST:

Natalie Pacheco, Luna County Clerk

(S E A L)

I, Natalie Pacheco, Luna County Clerk, hereby certify that Ordinance No. 17 being the Luna County Interim Land Use Plan, was passed, adopted and approved after being heard at 10:00 AM, Friday, November 8, 1991, being proposed and published per Section 4-37-7, NMSA, 1978 Comp., and said instrument was filed for record at 11:55 A. M., on November, 8, 1991 and recorded in Book 21, Pages 557-576 of Miscellaneous Papers, and will be in full force and effect thirty days hence.

Natalie Pacheco
Natalie Pacheco, Luna County Clerk

GENERAL LAND USE PLAN

I N D E X

TOPIC	PAGE
POLICY STATEMENT.	1
SAMPLE NOTIFICATION LETTER TO AGENCIES.	2
WATER IN LUNA COUNTY.	3-4-5
FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION	5-6
AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION	
A. FARMING.	6
B. RANCHING.	7
LIGHT INDUSTRY.	8
COUNTY ROAD POLICY.	8
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.	9-10
AIRPORTS.	11
TOURISM	12-13
RECREATION: HUNTING/PARKS	14-15
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY	15
HEALTH CARE.	15

GENERAL LAND USE PLAN

POLICY STATEMENT:

The settlers of Luna County were livestock and agriculture-oriented. It is the goal of Luna County Government to protect and perpetuate the interests and values which continue to provide our residents and visitors with a wholesome lifestyle. The historic custom and culture of Luna County has contributed to a 16% population growth in the ten years since 1980.

Luna County's land use policy does not encourage boom-and-bust industry, or short-term economic gain at the expense of tried-and-true commercial activities.

Inter-action with the City of Deming and the Village of Columbus is stressed in order to be apprised of any future annexation plans contemplated by these municipalities. The Extra-Territorial Zoning Ordinance which has been in effect since 1978 has proven instrumental in proper growth control in the "buffer zone" between the City of Deming and Luna County.

Luna County's land use philosophy is not anti-growth or status quo; it is growth in the proper direction. Luna County is convinced we should build and improve on what we have rather than direct our time, energies and limited funds toward any change which is not synonymous with progress.

We conclude by thanking Catron and Hidalgo Counties for generously sharing information generated in the development of their respective land use policies.

LUNA COUNTY LAND USE COMMITTEE

Tommy Perez, Chairman

Ed Beck, Member

Ross May, Member

Eunice Dean Nunn, Member

Juanita L. Bullington, Member

GENERAL LAND USE POLICY

SAMPLE LETTER TO BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE, ASCS OFFICE, U.S. IMMIGRATION (BORDER PATROL): U.S. TREASURY (CUSTOMS SERVICE) (AND ANY OTHER AGENCIES YOU FEEL APPROPRIATE)
W/COPIES TO OUR CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION/STATE SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVES, DEPT. OF FISH AND GAME AND STATE LAND OFFICE, DEPENDING ON SUBJECT.

Dear_____: In accordance with Sec. 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, (FLPMA), the Luna County Board of County Commissioners requests timely notification...

of any land use or regulatory changes contemplated by the Bureau (BLM)

of any plans contemplated by the Service which will impact on Luna County (IMMIGRATION/TREASURY).

of any regulations which would affect Luna County (U.S. Fish & Wildlife)

Further on BLM/U. S. Fish and Wildlife letter:

"We would like to receive written notice thirty (30) days prior to:

a. the initiation of any resource management planning;

b. the initiation of any recovery planning;

c. the listing, de-listing or reclassification of any threatened or endangered species;

d. the adoption of any protective regulation;

e. the adoption of any land use plan;

f. the adoption of any allotment management plan; or

g. any allotment evaluation and grazing decisions.

Please understand that the citizens of Luna County are affected by any of the above processes. Therefore, the Luna County Commission must be involved in the decision-making process to ensure that local perspectives and potential economic impact are addressed and assessed."

Sincerely,

LUNA COUNTY BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Edward B. Kretek, Chairman

Valentin M. Bustamante, Member

Bert Irwin, Member

NOTE: LETTERS WILL BE TAILORED TO INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES STATUTORY AND REGULATORY POWERS.

PROPOSED LAND USE POLICY

1. Luna County should adopt a flexible system of land use regulation which should preserve the predominantly rural character of land use in the County. Emphasis should be placed on environmental impacts and quality of life impacts.

2. Performance standards should be developed to address the impact of uses which include, but are not limited to, residential uses, agriculture, manufacturing, landfills, and commercial development.

3. Performance standards should also be developed to protect neighboring property and the community as a whole against the impact of uses which may create flooding, erosion, ground water contamination, noise, dangerous traffic, odors, blight, and other hazards.

4. The Luna County Subdivision Regulations should be consistent with any other land use regulation developed.

5. The Luna County Subdivision Regulations should continue to be carefully administered and enforced to assure environmental preservation and consumer protection.

WATER IN LUNA COUNTY

A. POLICY

The Luna County Commission recognizes and declares that water in Luna County was developed by private individuals. The Taylor Grazing Act allowed graxing permits to those who already owned lease property and controlled water.

1. The maintenance of the present level of the economic and general welfare of the people of this County, and the future growth and development of the County the increased economic and general welfare of the people thereof are in large part dependent upon a proper utilization and control of the water resources of this County, and such use and control is therefore a matter of greatest concern and highest priority.

2. Proper utilization and control of the water resources of this County can be achieved only through a coordinated, integrated County, regional, and State water resources policy, through plans and programs for the development of such water resources and through other activities designed to encourage, promote, and secure the maximum beneficial use and control of such water resources, as carried out by the County, the Southwest Council of Government (COG) and Black Range Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D), and the State of New Mexico.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. The Luna County Commission supports water planning efforts by the County, the Southwest COG and Black Range RC&D, and the Office of the State Engineer.
2. The City should take necessary steps to purchase the water required to meet its own needs for the next 40 years.

B. POLICY

The Luna County Commission declares that its public interest and public welfare in water resources is represented by the following declarations of policy:

a. The County's water should serve the health, safety, and general welfare of citizens of the County. The County defines its "public welfare" as remaining predominantly rural, and encouraging water use in the traditional pursuits of agriculture and mining, while also recognizing the need to preserve its water quality. The County also recognized that it has no jurisdiction over water transfers, however, with the State Engineer's Office having sole jurisdiction over these transfer applications and the appropriation of these waters for beneficial use, but that the State Engineer should recognize the County's definition of its "public welfare" in considering these decisions.

b. Existing rights, established duties of water, and relative priorities concerning the use of the waters of this County and the laws governing the same are to be protected and preserved subject to the principle that all of the waters within the State of New Mexico belong to the public for use by the people for beneficial purposes without waste.

c. It is in the public interest that integration and coordination of uses of water and augmentation of existing supplies for all beneficial purposes be achieved for the maximum economic development thereof for the benefit of Luna County and, ultimately, the State of New Mexico as a whole.

d. That adequate and safe supplies be preserved and protected for human consumption, while conserving maximum supplies for other beneficial uses.

e. The County shall prohibit land uses that would be constructed in a manner that risks contamination of the water supply.

f. That the County should utilize its land use, planning and zoning authority to preserve water supply and to prevent groundwater contamination. The land use regulations developed by the County shall require that state-of-the-art technology be employed to bring risks of contamination to as near zero as possible and require monitoring to ensure that there are no problems.

g. The maintenance of minimum perennial stream flows sufficient to support aquatic life, to minimize pollution and to maintain recreation values shall be fostered and encouraged if existing rights and priorities under existing laws will permit.

h. When proposed uses of water are in mutually exclusive conflict, or when available supplies of water are insufficient for all who desire to use them, preference shall be given to human consumption purposes over all other uses; and then agriculture and livestock consumption over other uses, and thereafter other beneficial purposes in such order as may be in the public interest, consistent with subsection i, below, and as otherwise determined by the County Commission.

i. It is in the public interest to conserve the highest use of the water for all purposes including domestic use, irrigation, municipal water supply, industrial purposes, fire protection, protection of game, fish, and wildlife, preservation of scenic attractions, or any other beneficial use to which the water may be applied for which it may have a special value to the public.

j. It is in the public interest of the County that the State retain its closed basin policy, and that water right for groundwater not be transferred to other basins.

k. The City of Deming has long been known for its "99% pure water," and any proposed development should be consistent with maintaining the purity of this finite resource.

l. We oppose any agency action which would adversely impact Luna County' rechargeable basin.

FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION

POLICY

Luna County participates in the Flood Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) program, in order to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of County citizens and preserve property in the County from flooding, and also in order to obtain mapping of flood hazard areas for utilization in planning for future development in the County.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. The County Commission has met with representatives of FEMA and studied all relevant information to be sure that it understands all of the ramifications of participation in the program.
2. The County includes representatives from the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in floodplain discussions since it may be necessary to utilize SCS assistance in mapping the County for floodplain purposes.

3. The County Commission informs the public concerning its proposed participation in the FEMA program, so that citizens will understand the benefits of the program, as well as the requirements which the program imposes on development.

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION

A. FARMING:

POLICY

Luna County supports State legislation which taxes land in agricultural production at a lower rate than land which is subdivided and committed to other uses, as set forth in Sections 7-36-20 and 7-36-21 NMSA 1978. The County would also support statewide "right-to-farm" legislation, which protects farming and livestock activities from allegations of nuisance from newcomers who reside in newly subdivided and developed land in agricultural areas. In the event that the State does not expand its agricultural policy further than its existing tax policy, then the County hereby adopts its own right-to-farm policy, stating that it believes that farming and ranching activities in Luna County should not be threatened by residents or occupants of agricultural areas which are diverted to nonagricultural uses and now find agricultural uses to be a nuisance. Existing agricultural activities will be given priorities over new uses on former agricultural land. If, however, a subdivision or other nonagricultural land use has been established in the vicinity of land in agricultural production, and the owner of the land in production chooses to change that use to a different agricultural activity, e.g., from growing crops to a food processing or feedlot operation, then the person proposing to change the use shall address the impact of this change in use on neighboring property. A change in crops will not be considered a change in agricultural use, requiring analysis of impact on neighboring property, however.

Comparisons on 1989-1990-1991 acreage in Luna County are as follows:

CROP	ACREAGE		
	1991	1990	1989
ALFALFA	2428.7	2056.4	1737.2
BARLEY	294.8	644.3	449.8
BEANS	212.4	452.5	333.0
CABBAGE	45.8		16.7
CANTALOUPES	14.3		24.7
CARROTS	88.0	48.5	95.7
CHILE	11576.0	10029.9	8138.6
CORN	892.8	821.5	1200.7
CRP	3068.4	3068.4	3068.4
CUCUMBERS	108.5	304.9	
ELS COTTON	1127.9	2398.7	3726.3
FALOW	19706.6	20793.9	19493.2
GRAPES	231.7		31.6
GRASS	1082.5	1073.9	150.5
LETTUCE	76.1		38.0
OATS	517.4	223.5	200.3
ONIONS	2392.1	2147.1	1783.0
OTHER		1492.7	122.6
PECANS	1054.7		871.2
PISTACHOS	35.0		35.0
PUMPKINS	106.3	142.0	41.0
SORGHUM	1235.1	1707.4	2283.2
SPINACH	118.9		134.4
SQUASH	51.3	93.1	30.5
UPLAND COTTON	6804.1	6089.4	6649.9
WATERMELONS	30.0	101.1	36.2
WHEAT	1863.3	1165.3	2196.4

AGRICULTURE PRESERVATION, CONTINUED:

B. RANCHING:

POLICY: Land management decisions will be made in accordance with the provisions of the Public Range Lands Improvement Act of 1978 (PRIA)

1. Most of the ranches in Luna County include some federal leased land, and since the BLM issues grazing permits on the majority of these ranches, a joint management plan is still encouraged.

2. Good stewardship on these Federal permits should be recognized.

3. It should be pointed out that even though these ranches are permitted by the BLM, nearly all the permanent watering sites are on privately-owned and controlled land, i.e., controlled by the individual ranchers, such as designated "base waters."

4. Luna County is fortunate to have the Gila Wilderness Area nearby, where people can go and enjoy a true wilderness setting. Since the proposed wilderness areas within Luna County (Cooke's Range, Cedar Grove, and the Floridas) do not meet the wilderness characteristics as defined by Federal guidelines, and since the BLM has not endorsed these sites, same should be abolished once-and-for-all from future Wilderness Area consideration.

5. The BLM proposes the limited use or closure of some roads in Luna County. Care should be taken to first determine the impact on tourism, hunting, mining and other factors related to economics, before a blanket closure of any roads.

6. Care should be taken to protect all elements of the environment.

7. Extreme diligence should be exercised to protect private property rights and guard against any infringement thereof.

8. The BLM proposes to eliminate certain state and private lands (through exchange or purchase) within Luna County. Their plan is to block up certain areas with totally Federally-owned lands. If this goal were to be achieved, the BLM would then be completely autocratic.

9. Any net loss of private land should be opposed.

10. The BLM proposes to create several new areas which will negatively impact on private rights. These areas are classified as "Areas of Critical Environmental Concern" (ACEC). Because of the highly restrictive nature of this classification, ACEC's should be vehemently opposed.

11. Aggressively oppose the inclusion of any so-called "endangered species" (animal, vegetable or mineral) which would prove detrimental to the economy without first conducting a lengthy study by more than one group or agency, especially those species which are of local concern.

POLICY

Luna County encourages the development of light industry, which it defines as business operations such as wholesaling, shipping, and all manufacturing, assembling, testing, fabricating, packaging, or other type of industrial uses excluding uses classified as "heavy industry," but would regulate these uses to assure that they do not adversely affect the environment or neighboring property owners.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. Luna County should allow light industrial uses in all areas of the County where not otherwise prohibited.
2. Luna County should utilize performance standards to assure that light industrial uses do not adversely affect the environment or neighboring property owners.

COUNTY ROAD POLICY

POLICY

Luna County is concerned about the closure of private roads, limiting reasonable access to their property by property owners. The County has no legal obligation to maintain private roads or other roads not part of the County road system as established by the County in accordance with established policy (roads are considered for acceptance on County Road Maintenance System in January of each odd-numbered year).

BOOK 21 PAGE 570

POLICY

Luna County has taken positive action on Economic Development. Industries and businesses thought to be a benefit to the county are actively recruited. A County Manager and Board of County Commissioners, that are pro development make Luna County a good place to do business.

STRATEGIES

1. The county has a good agricultural base, we are working to attract packing or processing companies, to add value to the produce before it leaves the county.

2. The county is working with the farmers to help find markets for rotation crops.

3. The county owns an industrial park on the Mexican border and has hired a person to promote border business and maquilas.

4. There is an airport in the industrial park, it has been extended to 5000 feet with plans to pave it, install lights and to petition Customs to provide service.

5. The county is working with the West Mexico Vegetable Growers Association, and others to facilitate the local farmers access to Agri-Maquila contacts.

6. The county works with the Joint Border Research Institute from NMSU, for help developing leads, contacts and information exchange.

7. The County Commission is exploring all sources for funding to pave the Columbus Anapra Road, a road that would tie the Columbus port of entry with Santa Teresa, Sunland Park and El Paso.

8. The county has contacted the School of Business at Western New Mexico University and requested their help and participation in development.

9. The county cooperates with the local EDC, and is doing some co-op advertising with them at this time.

10. The county has engaged Best Real Estate to aid in developing the Columbus industrial park.

11. The county will assist potential businesses find capital for their development.

12. The Colonia program has been instituted, by the County Commission, this program provides for funding for water and sewer systems if needed.

13. A committee is working on the installation of E-911 for Luna County.

14. Anticipating growth coming with development, Luna County has a Rural Addressing program. This takes a lot of time and energy, and hopefully will be completed within the next year or two, and will aid in orderly growth.

15. The county is working with the Columbus Stockyards on their expansion.

16. The county has purchased 56 acres of land North of town, on rail for future development or possibly recycling.

17. The county has developed good relations with the Officials and business people in Palomas, Mexico. This should minimize misunderstanding and help the development of twin-plants.

18. The county is working with Mexican officials to have signs installed at the junction of the Nuevo Casas Grande highway and the highway to Palomas, Mexico, to direct traffic to Luna County.

19. The county should encourage local business to advertise in the Casas Grande newspaper to attract more Mexican business.

POLICY

The county realizes the value of airports to continued development. There are three airports in Luna County, located to provide easy access and still minimize negative impact from noise etc.. Deming has the largest airport with one of it's runways over 6000 feet. There is a privatly owned airport in Columbus. It has 4210 feet of East/West runway, and 2610 feet of North/South runway. There is a 5000 foot strip in the Columbus International Industrial Park.

STRATEGIES

The only airport in county jurisdiction is in the Columbus Park. It has just been extended to 5000 feet. the runway is so positioned as to provide a divider between the stockyard and the rest of the park. It is on the Road Department's plan to pave it this fall. Long term plans are to install lights and provide Customs service.

The prevailing winds are from the west.

GENERAL LAND USE POLICY

TOURISM:

Luna County continues to actively promote tourism through representation on the Deming-Luna County Tourist Development Committee (funded by Lodgers' Tax), as well as maintaining close ties with the Deming-Luna County Chamber of Commerce, Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Deming Main Street, our local Economic Development Corporation, and the Silver Spikes, a group of business and civic leaders who work with all the aforementioned organizations to promote the City, County and the State.

Luna County supports---with in-kind services as well as financial assistance---the Annual Deming Duck Races, the Southwest New Mexico State Fair, the Deming Arts Council, and all civic functions held in the Luna County Courthouse Park.

The following is a list of Annual County-Community events which draw many tourists as well as local participation:

EVENT	MONTH	PURPOSE
COLUMBUS MEMORIAL SERVICE	MARCH	HONORS THOSE KILLED IN PANCHO VILLA RAID
ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP	MARCH	GATHERING OF ROCKHOUNDERS TO DISPLAY WARES AND VISIT-SPONSORED BY GEM & MINERALS SOCIETY
OLDTIMERS CELEBRATION	APRIL	LONGTIME RESIDENTS OF AREA ARE HONORED
LAW ENFORCEMENT EMS BIKE CLASSIC	APRIL	FUND RAISER FOR COLUMBUS EMS
FIDDLERS' CONTEST	MAY	FIDDLERS' COMPETITION; SPONSORED BY LCROA
ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR	JUNE	LOCAL AND OUT-OF-TOWN PROFESSIONAL AND AMATUER ARTS AND CRAFTS DISPLAY-SPONSORED BY WOMEN'S DIVISION OF DEMING-LUNA COUNTY CofC
ST. ANN'S FESTIVAL	FATHER'S DAY JUNE	BARBEQUE/FUND RAISER; ST. ANN'S CH
BUTTERFIELD TRAIL DAYS	JULY 4TH	COMMEMORATES BUTTERFIELD STAGE LINE FOUNDED IN 1857 BY MR. JOHN BUTTERFIELD
GREAT AMERICAN DUCK RACES	AUGUST	INTERNATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED SPORTING EVENT (!)
SOUTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR	OCTOBER	YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE COMPETE IN LIVESTOCK EXHIBITIONS AND RODEO EVENTS. COMPETITION ALSO EXTENDS TO CULINARY EXPERTISE, ARTS AND CRAFTS
COLUMBUS DAY CELEBRATION	OCTOBER	COLUMBUS DAY CELEBRATION - COMMEMORATES NAME OF VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS
KLOBASE FESTIVAL	OCTOBER	AN OLD AND HONORED TRADITION, FIRST HELD IN 1928 AND CALLED "THE BESEDA' KLOBASE WAS INSPIRED BY OUR LOCAL CZECHOSLOVAKIAN COMMUNITY AND IS SPONSORED BY HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

GENERAL LAND USE POLICY

TOURISM, CONTINUED

EVENT	MONTH	PURPOSE
GOBLINS AND GHOSTIES CELEBRATION	OCTOBER	HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION HELD AT COLUMBUS SCHOOL; BENEFITS PTA
DEMING/LUNA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND MAIN STREET HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION	OCTOBER	HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES LOCAL YOUTH
VETERANS' DAY CELEBRATION	NOVEMBER	HELD AT AMERICAN LEGION POST #1916 IN COLUMBUS - HONORS VETERANS RECOGNITION CEREMONIES ARE ALSO HELD IN DEMING
COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL	DECEMBER	OPEN HOUSE HELD BY BUSINESSES. CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW AT COLUMBUS FIRE BARN
DEMING CHURCHES CHRISTMAS BAZAAR	NOVEMBER	BENEFITS GO TO MIMBRES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME - TO BE HELD AT DEMING CIVIC CENTER-LA MISSION
DEMING MERCHANTS CHRISTMAS	NOVEMBER	DEMING MERCHANTS WILL HOST OPEN HOUSES IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL PLACES OF BUSINESS.
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY	DECEMBER	VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS YOUTH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION - VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS FIRE BARN

NOTE: DEMING COWBOY POLO AND SADDLE CLUB - GYMKHANA, RODEO, ROPINGS - HELD THROUHOUT YEAR - BENEFITS YOUTH
ADDITIONAL EVENTS MAY BE SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. DEMING-LUNA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND DEMING MAIN STREET MAINTAIN UP-TO-DATE SCHEDULES OF EVENTS

LUNA COUNTY ALSO SUPPORTS TOURISM AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES IN THE VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS. IN ADDITION TO BEING A "GATEWAY TO MEXICO", COLUMBUS IS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR NATIONAL HISTORICAL DESIGNATION. COLUMBUS IS ALSO A COMMUNITY WITH AN ARTISTIC CORE AND IS THE FIRST IN LUNA COUNTY TO CONSTRUCT A BED-AND-BREAKFAST.

RECREATION AND HUNTING:

Luna County supports a full utilization of the natural resources on all its Federal Lands, within the Multiple-Use Concept.

Outdoor recreation is important to people of all ages, and local Federal Lands should remain "OPEN" for all to use and enjoy.

Since a large percentage of our local population is senior citizens, ready accessibility to scenic and natural areas of the County should be maintained and further developed.

No one because of advanced age or physical disability should be prohibited from getting out and experiencing first-hand the natural beauty this area affords.

HUNTING is an important wildlife management tool, and we support the concept of hunting on Federal Lands as another of its positive Multiple-Uses. Hunters are to be encouraged to respect private property rights on both Patented and Federal Lands.

We support further study into shorter hunting seasons, thereby allowing native wildlife a longer time period to recoup from extended hunting seasons, in order to better breed and raise their families.

Relative to exotic and foreign wildlife species, we support a more aggressive management program to stabilize herd size and thus prevent over-grazing and competition with native game and domestic livestock for forage.

We encourage and expect U. S. Fish and Wildlife, the New Mexico Department of Fish and Game and the Bureau of Land Management to work closer together on exotic wildlife management; stablizing herd size and containment of the exotic species to a specific geographical sector are most important facets of wildlife management.

Should a situation arise where exotic species of wildlife are deemed unmanageable by the original Habitat Management Plan (HMP), the State and Federal Agencies involved should quickly deploy whatever wildlife management procedures deemed appropriate to correct the situation.

Should Federal and State agencies fail to fulfill their responsibilities to the economic detriment of Luna County or any of its citizens, Luna County would have the option to exercise economic redress from the appropriate agency.

We oppose the re-introduction of any wolf species into Luna County.

GENERAL LAND USE PLAN

RECREATION/PARKS

Luna Countians at present (without designated Wilderness Areas or Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, i.e., A.C.E.C.), have the opportunitv to escape the sights, sounds and smells of development with existing conditions.

The unique petroglyphs in the Cooke's Peak area deserve some road development and publicity as a tourist attraction, with due respect for private property and access laws.

Rockhound Park, Spring Canyon Park and Pancho Villa Park should all be video-taped and these tapes made available for viewing at the Chamber of Commerce Welcome Center.

The City of Deming needs to be encouraged to spend more time and money on the development of the Centennial Park.

LITTERING: Luna County should explore an enforceable ordinance to control littering within the County.

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Luna County appreciates our retirement community, most of whom have relocated here to enjoy the very way of life we are seeking to preserve.

Luna County Government actively supports our fine Senior Citizens Center and the many programs available to the retired and semi-retired. We also support the local Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and the many hours of community service they provide. 1990 Census Data reflects 20% of Luna County's population is 65-years and older.

HEALTH CARE

Deming-Luna County has a fine, primary-care County-owned hospital and nursing home---Mimbres Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home. Luna County is experiencing the need for additional physicians, as are most rural areas throughout the United States. To counter this problem, the City, County and concerned citizens have embarked on a concentrated effort to recruit physicians interested in locating in our area on a long-term basis. Concrete efforts to date are: Creation of Hospital Foundation to assist in physician recruitment; Donation of Deming Health Clinic to the Hospital Foundation by Dr. P. A. Feil (to house incoming physicians); Pledge of $200,000 from City of Deming and $25,000 from Luna County for physician recruitment, enactment of 1/4% gross receipts tax by Luna County for Indigent Health Care, and applications for several grants relating to Health Care.