

Potential Property Acquisitions in Southwestern New Mexico

**August 27, 2015
New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting
Santa Fe, NM**

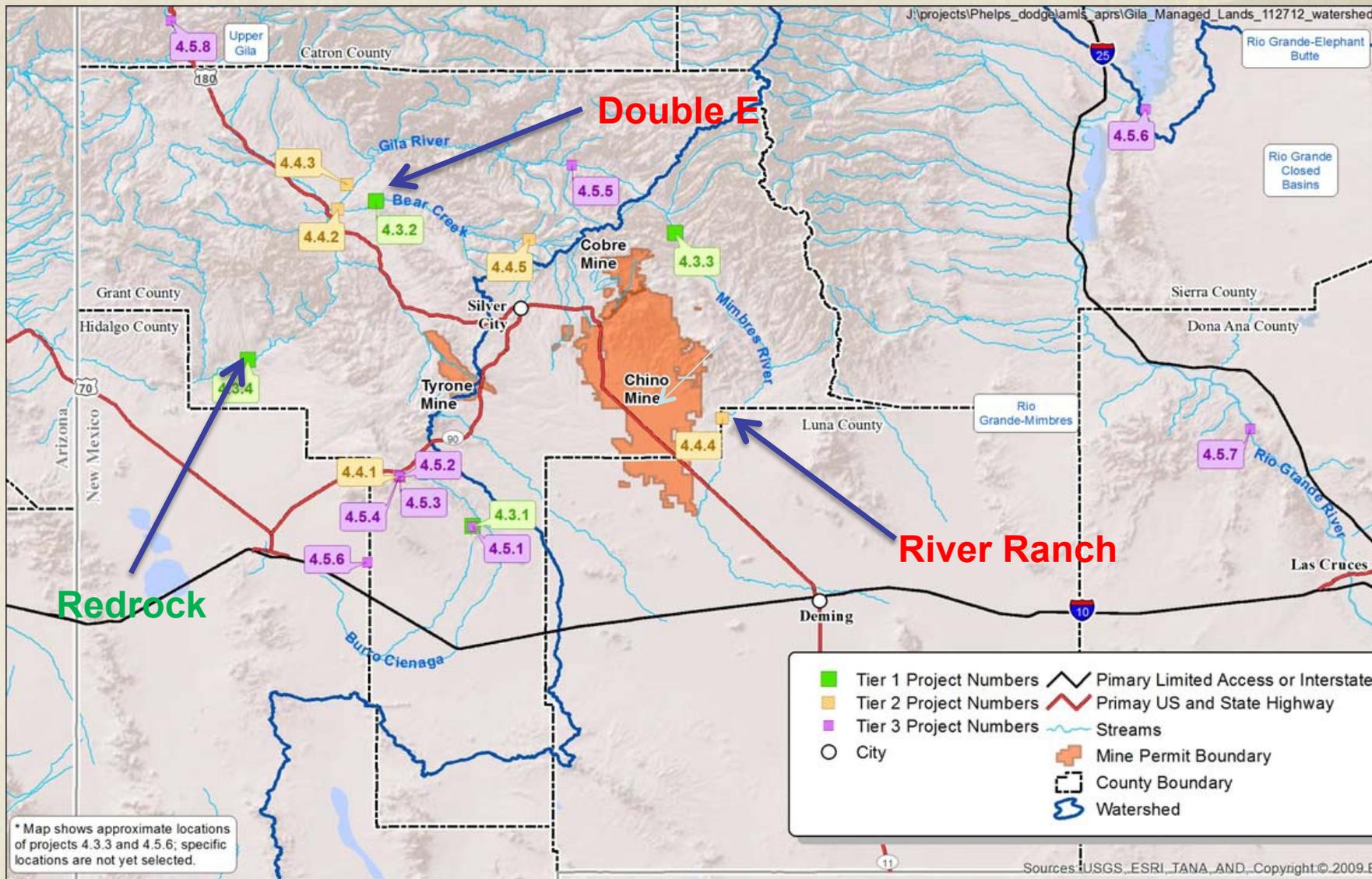


Background

- The NM Office of Natural Resources Trustee and the USFWS (“Trustees”) developed Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) for the Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. (FMI) mine sites near Silver City
- It was determined that wildlife and wildlife habitat resources had been injured by hazardous substances released from three copper mining facilities owned by FMI.

Background

- The Trustees determined that wildlife and wildlife habitat suffered injury due the mine sites and brought claims against FMI
- FMI paid a \$5.5 million settlement and transferred 714ac of grassland to City of Rocks State Park
- Funds form the settlement are to go towards conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat



* Map shows approximate locations of projects 4.3.3 and 4.5.6; specific locations are not yet selected.

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|---|---|---|
| 4.3.1 Burro Cienega Side Channel, Floodplain, and Low Terrace Restoration | 4.4.3 Porter Property Habitat Protection and Improvement | 4.5.4 Grassland Restoration through Aerial Treatment of Mes |
| 4.3.2 Double E Ranch Habitat Protection and Improvement | 4.4.4 River Ranch Habitat Protection and Improvement | 4.5.5 Meadow Creek Restoration |
| 4.3.3 Mimbres River Watershed Wildlife and Habitat Restoration* | 4.4.5 Upper Bear Creek Habitat Protection and Improvement | 4.5.6 Migratory Bird Grassland Restoration* |
| 4.3.4 Redrock Property Habitat Protection and Improvement | 4.5.1 Burro Cienega Grassland Restoration | 4.5.7 Swan Pond Habitat Restoration |
| 4.4.1 Burro Cienega Stream Stabilization Restoration | 4.5.2 Burro Cienega Pinyon and Juniper Restoration | 4.5.8 York Canyon Rehabilitation |
| 4.4.2 Davis Property Habitat Protection and Improvement | 4.5.3 Burro Cienega Stock Pond Restoration | |

The Trustees identified 21 potential restoration projects.
Of primary interest to NMDGF:

Double E Ranch

Habitat Protection and Improvement

Protect native riparian habitat along **Bear Creek** through the purchase and conservation of the Double E Ranch.

“Purchased by the State Game Commission”

River Ranch

Habitat Protection and Improvement

Protect and restore native riparian habitat along the **Mimbres River** through the purchase and conservation of the River Ranch property.

“Purchased by the State Game Commission”

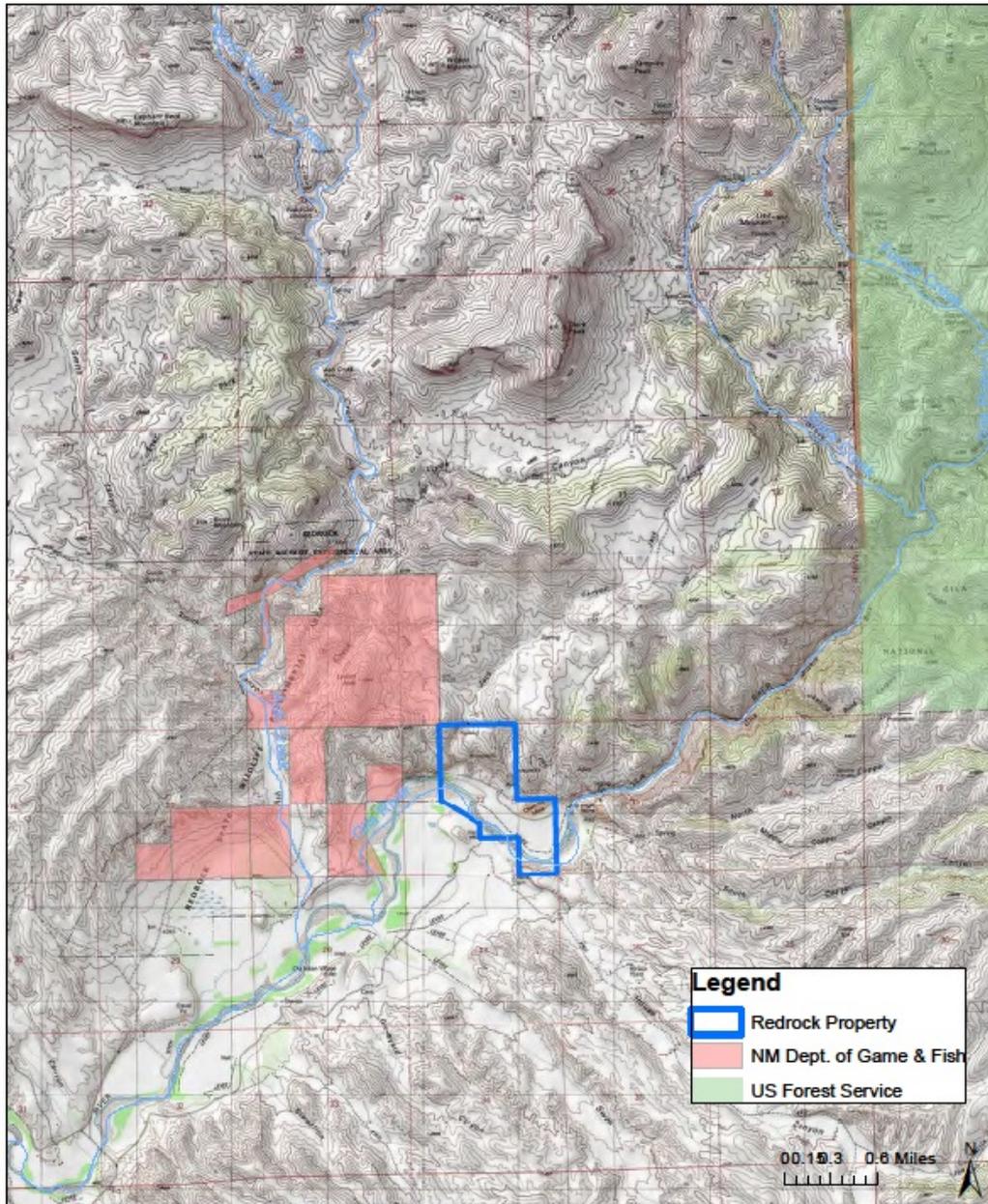
Redrock Property

Habitat Protection and Improvement

Protect and restore native riparian habitat along the **Gila River** through the purchase and conservation of the Redrock property.

- This property consists of 130 acres along the Gila River. The upper Gila River is one of the Southwest's only free-flowing rivers, and its natural flow regime supports an exceptional array of biological diversity, both on land and in water.
- It directly adjoins the State Game Commission owned Redrock WMA.
- Initial proposal did not include water rights, but the owner may be willing to include 2-3 acre feet with the sale.

Figure 1: Redrock Overview



* Owned by TNC and the State of New Mexico

- Property along Gila River supports a wide array of wildlife, including multiple threatened or endangered species.
- The Gila River Watershed provides important riparian habitat for migratory birds
- May provide additional dove, quail and javelina hunting
- Would increased access to natural areas near the river.

Questions?





