Project Year-End Summary Report 2020

Title of Project: Taos Land Trust Native Plant Propagation Project

Begin your answers in the box right beside each question and the space will expand to accommodate. Limit your report to two pages if possible. More detailed presentations, articles or posters are welcome separately.*

- 1. Organization or Individual who Received the Grant: Taos Land Trust
- 2. Amount of Grant: \$ 1497.90
- 3. Was additional outside funding obtained? (check box that applies) Yes ⊠ No ☐ Source(s) if you checked "yes." Santa Fe Community Foundation Permaculture Grant, Northern Rio Grande Natural Heritage Area Grant, NM YCC Program, Vista Grande High School, NMDA Healthy Soils
- 4. Briefly, how was the grant money from the Carter Conservation Fund used? The Carter Conservation Funds were used to increase the capacity at Rio Fernando Park for native plant propagation, wetlands restoration, pollinator habitat restoration, and educational programming around all of these activities.
- 5. Write an abstract or summary of the activities performed and the progress that was made this year on your project. Save any conclusions, lessons learned, and benefits achieved for the final section 6.

Setup and outfit a multi-use and collaboratively operated greenhouse at Rio Fernando Park. The greenhouse belongs to the Taos Chapter of the Native Plant Society and is operated in collaboration between the Taos NPS and the Taos Land Trust for the practical propagation of native plants and educational programming around these activities.

Support the maintenance and replanting of a native pollinator garden in conjunction with a pollinator concentrator sculpture site.

Plant native tree and shrub seedlings in the wetlands of Rio Fernando Park, and create protection from beavers.

Continuing invasive species mitigation efforts in both the wetlands and uplands areas.

Prepare and no-till seed drill a 2-acre section with native wildflower and grass seed.

6. State any conclusions. Include any lessons learned that would assist others. What benefit to you, the community or the environment has resulted or do you hope will result from your use of our funding?

We learned that native plant educational projects become more invigorated when they receive community support and direct involvement. The greenhouse construction and subsequent activities became one of the focal points of interest for many people that visited the park during the growing seasons. Many youth crew members and volunteers participated in all of the construction, maintenance, and plant propagation activities in the greenhouse and many came away with a deeper understanding of significance of native plants, and how to raise them from seeds and cuttings. We hope that these activities will continue indefinitely into the future through earnest collaboration and community interest. Through the season, Taos Chapter Native Plant Society members, Taos Land Trust Staff, youth interns, and volunteers made a schedule and took turns monitoring and checking on the planting projects. The ability to make a collaboratively run greenhouse operate smoothly was one of the primary successes of the year at Rio Fernando Park, especially in a time when group gatherings were extremely limited for safety.

Please send your completed form as an email attachment to cartergrantapps@gmail.com.

* To remain in good standing for any future funding from the Native Plant Society of New Mexico, plan to write an article (600-1000 words) for our quarterly newsletter, <u>or</u> create and present a poster at our annual statewide conference, <u>or</u> send us a copy of a published article connected with the past year's work, <u>or</u> work with a local chapter of NPSNM to make an illustrated, educational presentation.

Our next state conference is scheduled for August 20-22 in Alamogordo. Contact our Otero chapter for additional information. Find information about our regional chapters on our website www.npsnm.org. Write to cartergrantapps@gmail.com at any time with questions.