



October 25, 2022

Pueblo of Jemez Natural Resource Department
Attention: John Galavan
PO Box 100
Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024

Dear Pueblo of Jemez Natural Resource Department Team including Tribal Forestry Manager John Galvan and the Tribal Forestry Crew,

We are very pleased and proud to present you with the 2022 Climate Innovation Award for your dynamic, dedicated and outstanding leadership in forest health and wildfire prevention. For generations up to this most challenging year, the Pueblo of Jemez has been practicing sound forest management that not only reduces the risk of catastrophic wildfires and carefully and bravely responds to dangerous fires when they happen, but also proactively promotes overall forest wellness and protects vital natural resources including water and wildlife. You have a steeped heritage of wildfire prevention, which the federal government, New Mexico and our wider society should pay close attention to, collaborate with and learn from.

Among dozens of highlights from the Pueblo of Jemez, here are a handful of vital approaches to note: introducing small purposeful burns before the peak natural fire season; using fire preemptively in dozens of small patches; trees immediately near the pueblo homes have been harvested for heating fuel and thinning has reduced the landscape's combustibility and created defensible zones; and using fire on the landscape during safe weather conditions to lessen the likelihood of burns during dangerous weather conditions.

The Climate Change Leadership Institute is a community focused non profit organization in New Mexico. We spearhead direct action campaigns and honor stellar displays of teamwork (visit our website www.takeresponsibility.us for more information). Each year we give out seed grant leadership awards for courage, justice, action, education, conservation and innovation — all ingredients we must solidify in order to prevail in the climate crisis. Your stewardship through fire prevention and forest health is definitely deserving of a climate innovation award and seed grant which hopefully you can use for the Tribal Forestry Crew and to train your young people in carrying on the dynamic tradition into the future.

With much appreciation,

Robb Hirsch
Founder and Executive Director