

New Mexico Gas Company Redonda Compressor Station Synthetic Minor NSR Indian Country
Application

Endangered Species

Listed threatened and endangered species for Valencia County NM per USFWS website:
<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*)

Mexican spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*)

Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)

Rio Grande silvery minnow (*Hybognathus amarus*)

Pecos (=puzzle, =paradox) sunflower (*Helianthus paradoxus*)

New Mexico meadow jumping mouse (*Zapus hudsonius luteus*)

The Yellow billed cuckoo prefers relatively dense tree/shrub vegetation associated with riparian zones along streams. In the southwest, they use riparian woodlands with an intact understory. The compressor location is not located within a woodland or a near a riparian area. Therefore, the potential presence of the yellow billed cuckoo near the compressor is unlikely.

Mexican spotted owls are residents of old-growth or mature forests. They also like canyon habitat within complex watersheds and are usually found in areas with some type of water source. The Redonda compressor station is located in an open area without a dense stand of tall trees or woodlands. It is unlikely that the Mexican spotted owl has the potential to occupy the project area.

The Southwestern willow flycatcher requires dense riparian habitats for nesting. This usually includes standing water. Although the Rio Puerco is approximately 1.5 miles away from Redonda Compressor Station, the Rio Puerco is not part of the Southwestern willow flycatcher's critical habitat. The potential presence of the Southwestern willow flycatcher is not likely.

The Rio Grande silvery minnow prefers shallow low velocity pools with silt bottoms. It has been found in the Rio Grande and Pecos Rivers, not the Rio Puerco the closest waterway to the compressor station. The Rio Grande Silvery Minnow is not likely to be present at the project location.

The Pecos sunflower is a wetland plant that grows on wet soils at seeps or wet meadows. Critical habitat for the Pecos sunflower is not within the project area and the Rio Puerco is approximately 1.5 miles away. Therefore, the potential for its presence is unlikely.

The New Mexico meadow jumping mouse uses moist, streamside dense riparian vegetation, either herbaceous or scrub-shrub wetlands. Since the compressor station does not consist of riparian or wetland vegetation, its present is unlikely.

National Historic Preservation Act Review

A review of the State of New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs Archeological records management section for the compressor stations shows that the station was surveyed in 1990 before the compressor station was constructed, NMCRIS 332695. The survey shows that no sites were found. There are known sites in the area, but since the compressor station is already developed and no expansion of the site is anticipated impacts to archeology is not likely.