CHACO
WILL
NEVER BE
RUINS
Mission Statement

Pueblo Action Alliance is a community driven organization that promotes cultural sustainability and community defense by addressing environmental and social impacts in Indigenous communities.

Vision Statement

We are the descendents of Pueblo revolutionaries and carry the revolutionary spirit of the 1680 Pueblo Revolt. We have the right to our own Indigenous self-determination & sovereignty and ability to create communities and economies that meet the needs of our Pueblo people. Cultivating ancestral wisdom helps to evolve modern organizing strategies and tactics to protect our cultural integrity. We embody Pueblo-centric grassroots organizing to mobilize our people on the issues that are most important to us. We view Indigenous solutions as means to dismantle and eradicate white supremacy, capitalism, imperialism, patriarchy and extractive colonialism. The liberation of Indigenous Peoples is the liberation for all.
PAA’s 10 Points of Unity

These 10 Points of Unity are to accomplish PAA’s long term vision of unifying and mobilizing Pueblo people. PAA’s organizing strategies and tactics are shaped by these points of unity and encompass the values that Pueblo people have protected since first colonial contact. Those of Pueblo descent who align with these points of unity are eligible for membership.

1. To fight and protect our birthright as Pueblo Indigenous people

2. To heal from cycles of trauma and oppression; to heal the land and waters

3. To create intergenerational spaces to learn and grow

4. To preserve Indigenous languages, traditional teachings, and oral his/herstories

5. To dismantle and eradicate oppressive systems and European occupations that have killed, harmed and assimilated Indigenous people

6. To build international solidarity with the Indigenous global struggle

7. To mobilize a united Pueblo front

8. To obtain land and water back

9. To embrace intersectional identities by erasing the euro-centric disease that has occupied the Indigenous spirit, mind, and body

10. To restore balance of power among people of all genders

Traditional Core-Values

Although Pueblo people come from different communities with different languages, creation stories, and traditional societal structures, the teachings of traditional core values reign united and true throughout the 20 Pueblo nations. Pueblo Action Alliance organizes and creates spaces based on the teachings of Pueblo traditional core-values. This list is not limited to the infinite teachings passed down by our ancestors but provides a grounding in which we embody as we move towards liberation and revolution.

1. Respect

2. Consent

3. Protection of Sacred entities

4. Cultural Sustainability

5. Community Defense

6. Indigenous Self-Determination and Sovereignty

7. Traditional and Popular Education
Once a thriving trade center, the ancestral architecture aligns with the constellations of the night sky. A road map of the cosmos and ancestors. With great houses, kivas and central meeting places, this place brings all Pueblo communities to a central space throughout spectrums of time.

Pueblo people have a spiritual connection to Chaco and still perceive this central place spiritually active and important. It is a sacred place, an extension of our present cultural integrity, lifeways and spirituality.

Today, it has continued the opportunity to create sacred spaces, bring generations together, and continue the sharing of knowledge. Chaco is our home, Chaco will NEVER be “ruins” and we demand the liberation of this sacred place.

Visit our website puebloactionalliance.org for more information surrounding the protection of Greater Chaco.
Protect Greater Chaco

Chaco holds a place of significance in creation for the 23 tribal nations in so-called New Mexico. Yet, its global centrism has grativated our relatives from the north and south of Turtle Island. Indigenous peoples have migrated, traded, shared ceremonies and songs, seeds, and feathers on the land and within the walls of Chaco.

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Land, water, and mineral colonial resource exploitation is a reoccurring reality on the stolen ancestral lands of the Pueblo, Diné and Apache people; what is now known now as the Greater Chaco region (San Juan Basin) has been heavily fracked by oil and gas industry.

What Is Fracking?

It is a violent penetration of our earth mother. Hydraulic Fracturing is a way to extract crude oil and natural gas from the geologic shale beds underneath the surface. Wells extend vertically for 5,000 ft to 9,000 ft deep and then extend up to 5,000 ft horizontally. A fracking phase can last from 2 to 5 days.

Air Pollution:
NOx CO VOC PM10
Horizontal Drilling Increases by 260% to 276%

Water Consumption:
Vertical - 283,500 gallons per well
Horizontal - 1,020,000 gallons per well
VIOLENCE ON THE LAND IS VIOLENCE ON OUR BODIES
What is a Sacrifice Zone?

The Four Corners area was historically deemed as a National Sacrifice Area. A sacrifice area or zone, is a geographic location that is categorized as “locally unwanted land use” (LULU) which is permanently desecrated by resource exploitation and exploration. In the Greater Chaco Region, Pueblo, Diné and Apache people receive unequal treatment and unequal protection, if any at all, in LULUs. And industry deposit pollutants from their fracking operations in these designated areas.

Swallow the sickly sludge of blackened mud, our elders cry from tears above, they merge with earth and drown in sorrow. They pierce her heart with strife to grip on gold, To bleed her dry, on stolen land, what they call a sacrifice? Is a an atrocity in our eyes, white lies to subtle ties of falsified goals greed, on the Front Lines of Toxic combat of Chemical Exposure on indigenous land, sacrificed elements of sediments our settlements eradicated, we stand in solidarity for missing murdered souls in pursuit of hallow ambition’s, welcome to the Sacrifice Zone.

-Trenton DeVore of Satori Set Walatowa Pueblo
This image indicates the common symptoms and health impacts known to be linked to chemicals associated with unconventional oil and gas development, including some of the chemicals captured in air samples as part of this project.

**Brain and Nervous System**
Dizziness, headache, confusion, memory problems, impaired motor function: Hydrogen, sulfide, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, methylene chloride

**Lungs**
Cough, asthma, difficulty breathing, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), silicosis, lung cancer: Fine particulate matter, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, hydrogen sulfide, ozone, silica, radon, methane, children and pregnant women are especially vulnerable to these impacts

**Skin**
Irritation, rashes, hair loss: Benzene, toluene, nitrogen oxide

**Eyes, Nose and throat**
Rashes, irritation, tearing eyes, bloody nose, cancer of the nose and throat: Benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, hydrogen sulfide, nitrogen oxide, formaldehyde

**Heart and Blood**
Anemia, chest pain, heart attack: Arsenic, carbon monoxide, fine particulate matter, radium

**Digestive System and Liver**
Irritation of stomach and intestines, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, liver damage: Formaldehyde, arsenic, xylenes

**Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals**
The endocrine system is the body's hormonal messenger and exposures that impact this system can affect any part of the body. Of the more than 600 different chemicals used in fracking, at least 37% are endocrine disrupting chemicals

Information: Amanda Wait/NonprofitDesign.com
Illustration: Marcus Trujillo/Pueblo Action Alliance
Solidarity Statement

We believe in building relationships that respect ancestral territories that transcend past political borders that impose imperialism and border town violence. We move forward to build solidarity that speaks to Spiritual and Natural Law. To build Indigenous nationhood, we are in solidarity against the exploitation of our cultural resources on our ancestral territories. We can learn from one another and create different models to maintain and sustain our inherent sovereign obligations as Indigenous peoples.

End Extractive Colonialism!

WE DEMAND

That oil and gas industry leave the Greater Chaco Region

That the entire nuclear fuel chain be dismantled

That resource extraction end on our ancestral lands

That tribes exercise their sovereignty against the colonial system

Resources

+ All Pueblo Council of Governors
+ Anti War Coalition
+ Dine CARE
+ Laguna Acoma Coalition for a Safe Environment
+ Nuclear Issues Study Group
+ Seeding Sovereignty
+ Tewa Women United
+ The Red Nation
+ Three Sisters Collective