

President Roosevelt's purpose in establishing this forest reserve. Any permitting came after my time and I believe considerably after my time.

Then after a lengthy search in the archives I found Vernon Bailey's report. It is called "Memorandum Respecting Taos Forest Reservation." It has a handwritten date on it, September 1903. That may have been added by an archivist since Bert Phillips' date was in 1904, but it is signed by Vernon Bailey. It is exhibit No. 7 to the memorandum. It is only two pages and I would like to read it:

While the boundaries of the Taos Forest Reservation are being decided, I should like to keep before you the importance of this reservation to the Taos Indians.

The Pueblo of Taos is at the base of the mountains where Pueblo and Lacerro creeks join on the edge of the plain. For unknown ages the Indians have used the water of these two creeks for irrigation, raising hay for their stock, and grain, vegetables and fruit in abundance for their needs. At the present time they are an industrious, self-supporting people.

A generous land grant from the Spanish crown to the Taos Indians was confirmed by the United States under President Lincoln, but from time to time parts of this land have been taken from the Indians by fraudulent means, until now they have barely enough to support the four or five hundred members of the tribe.

Last fall Mr. Crandall, agent for the Rio Grande pueblos, told me that they held undisputed title to not more than half of the six mile square section of which the pueblo is the centre. A large share of this remnant lies on steep mountain slopes so that only a comparatively small area of valley land can be cultivated.

Still the Indians can make a living on what land they have as long as there is a supply of water for irrigation, but at present there is nothing to prevent outsiders from taking up the land east of them and diverting the water from their creeks to other parts of the valley.

They are in constant dread of this and said to me, "If they take away the water we cannot live."

This would be literally true, for they depend entirely on their crops for a living in a region where nothing can be raised without irrigation.

To ensure the Indians right to the water from their creeks, the line of the forest reservation should be made to join the Indian grant along its east side and as far west along its north and south sides as the unoccupied land extends—as shown by the land office map. It is important that no gap be left where a white man or Mexican can get a foothold between the Indians and the forest reservation.

The Taos Indians are sun worshippers. With their deeply earnest and emotional natures, their religion is an essential part of their life and happiness. A well worn trail leads from the pueblo to the top of Taos Peak (alt. 13,145 feet), where every year they go to worship.

This trail passes their sacred lake at the head of their creek near timberline on the southwest slope of the mountain. Their mountain and lake are not on their own land and could have been taken from them at any time.

Understanding what this would mean to them, you will be glad to know that both their sacred lake and mountain will be in and have the protection of the forest reservation.

Senator ANDERSON. What is that document?

Mr. SCHAAB. This document is a report by Vernon Bailey of the Bureau of Biological Survey of the U.S. Department of Agriculture that bears the date September 1903.

Senator ANDERSON. Have you read his book?

Mr. SCHAAB. No; I haven't read his book.

Senator ANDERSON. It is very interesting. I don't think you can find anywhere in the whole book where in regard to these lands he favors the Department of the Interior against the Forest Service. If you find such a report bring it in, would you please?