Caja del Rio – Gates – New Mexico



2017 AERC Trails Grant



Phase II Caja plan – install seven metal livestock gates in the Caja del Rio, USFS Santa Fe National Forest. Funds approved: up to \$3,000.

Kudos to our gate installation team in the Caja. It took two days with two teams of about seven people to dig and install ten-foot railroad ties. Then, after the cement had a chance to set, we installed seven new gates at critical points for not only the endurance ride but also for our recreational riders and for our cattlemen's association. It is possible to make a difference in this world!

So, thanks to our Caza Ladron Hunt folks, Northern NM Horsemen's Association, and AERC.

Special thanks are due to Roger Taylor, who has secure two Caja grants now—one in 2007 was an

\$80,000 RTP grant. He comes out hauling materials, bringing out friends to assist (including one with a tractor and auger) and then is hands-on during installation. He has come out to support the Caja ride nearly every year since 2004, first mentoring me and then mentoring others. He has been there many, many times as a day manager, letting me and others ride. He has gathered the troops as far as the radio guys, and he has been a presence representing AERC regional and national capabilities during our Forest Service meeting. So, we installed some gates today. People deserve credit, but Roger has been the linchpin at the Caja and at our Southwest Region rides.

-Deidre Monroe