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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Sanostee Chapter Members Celebrate Community Based Land Use Plan Certification during TCDC meeting**

SANOSTEE, N.M. – Dorothy Redhorse, Sanostee Chapter Vice-President, thanked everyone for witnessing “a historic moment” for the Sanostee community Friday, Aug. 17 at the Sanostee Chapter Veteran Memorial Center.

The event centered on a special Community Based Land Use Planning certification during a Navajo Nation Transportation and Community Development Committee meeting held in Sanostee.

TCDC members unanimously approved the Sanostee Chapter Community Land Use Plan during the event that had a celebratory theme to it.

The chapter’s land use plan is “one of the finest I’ve seen,” said Roger Joe of the Shiprock Local Governance Support Center.

Raymond Fulton, CLUP member, presented the Sanostee community infrastructure status that includes the existing paved roads, Hwy. 491 and N34. Fulton discussed the existing graded Bureau of Indian Affairs and county roads in the area. He also discussed the existing water pipe lines, electrical power lines, telephone lines and gas lines. Lastly, he discussed the existing sewage system, oil and gas wells, water wells and existing air-strip.

Redhorse who presented the suitability analysis portion of the Land Use Plan said that it will not affect any archaeological or environmentally sensitive sites.

Emil Benally Jr., Sanostee Chapter President, discussed the land use plan. Benally said within the next 10 years, there will be a projected need of 21-61 new houses for the Sanostee community.

There are three recommended housing sites, and four recommended commercial sites.

“This is an occasion that will be long be remembered,” Bodie said. Bodie represents the Sanostee Chapter and is a member of the TCDC committee.

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Seventy-five percent of the homes at Sanostee have water, with 81 percent having electricity, and 5 percent have telephone service.

The Sanostee community land is about 313,576.4 acres, and approximately 2/3 of the land is dry desert land with volcanic rocks, sandstone, buttes and sloping hills.

The land which is located in Northeastern Arizona includes Apache County, Ariz. and San Juan County, N.M. has approximately 1/3 of the land is forest land mixed with rocky terrain.

The traditional Navajo name of Sanostee is Tsé al náz t'íí, and translates to mean "crisscross falling ledges."

The population according to the 2000 U.S. Census is 1,908.