What the Public Still Needs to See

A factual briefing on the Taos Plateau aerial tebuthiuron treatment | November 2026

What was announced	What the underlying EA says
BLM said approximately 2,929 acres north of Cerro Chiflo and east of Cerro de la Olla would receive aerial tebuthiuron pellets over roughly three days, subject to weather.	The 2020 Cones Fire EA authorizes aerial tebuthiuron as part of a larger fire/fuels project, names livestock grazing among objectives, and says permittees supported the project.

The public question

This is not a claim that grazing use is illegitimate or that any person acted improperly. It is a request for full transparency before a native sagebrush landscape is chemically altered at scale. A press release should not be the public record.

Four records the public should have now

Ask	Record needed	Why it matters
1	Exact treatment polygons	Release GIS files and maps showing where pellets were applied and the buffers around waterways, playas, drainages, species habitat, and cultural resources.
2	Product and application record	Release the product formulation, rate, total quantity, manufacturer/lot, aerial applicator, contract, flight logs, and invoices.
3	Who benefits and who participated	Release allotment overlap, permittee consultation records, cooperative-monitoring agreements, and any anticipated forage/AUM or economic-benefit analysis.
4	Evidence after treatment	Release pre-treatment baselines, monitoring protocol, reference sites, raw data, QA/QC, and all post-treatment results, including adverse or ambiguous results.

A clear public request

“Before further aerial herbicide application, release the treatment map, rate and quantity, contractor and flight records, water and species exclusions, grazing-allotment overlap, monitoring plan, and evidence for the claimed public benefits.”

Sources: BLM Cones Fire EA, DOI-BLM-NM-F020-2020-0017-EA (2020); BLM northern Taos treatment announcement (October 21, 2026); BLM vegetation-treatment and pesticide-use policies. This briefing distinguishes documented facts from questions requiring records.