NPS Form 10-900-a (7-81)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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#71 Los Ojos (Parkview) Fish Hatchery, ill. 59, E end of Hatchery Road.

- 4. <u>Owner</u>: State of New Mexico Property Control Division (Game and Fish Dept.), Santa Fe, New Mexico
- 6. In Existing Surveys: St. Reg. #1113

7. Description: The complex includes four buildings: a pump house to the rear and the main building flanked on either side by the offices and garage. Concrete foundations, stone rubble walls with concrete mortar and four or six-pane casement windows with concrete sills are employed. The side-facing gable roofs (and addition monitor roof over the main building) have moderate overhangs with exposed rafters and purlins.

Located on a gradually sloping site at the foot of the 120-foot-high cliffs between the first and second plateau.

8. <u>Significance</u>: The Los Ojos Hatchery complex is the most prominent reminder of state and federal activity in the area during the 1930's. Although state and federal spending for projects like the hatchery provided local employment, the hatchery also reflected the government's development of the (once communal) surrounding mountains for recreation. So the hatchery was viewed with ambivalence locally, seen as the source of new jobs and as a symbol of the role of outside government in the loss of common lands. In the days before the 1967 Reis Tijerina-led raid on the County Courthouse brought the movement to regain control of the land grant to a head, local rumors spoke of plans to dynamite the hatchery.

The most notable aspect of the complex's design is its Beaux Arts plan. The arrangement of the buildings, their massing and fenestration is rigidly symmetrical. Ramps wind up to the main building's entrance. The eye is led from the auxiliary buildings to the higher roof of the main building, on to the monitor roof and, finally, to the 120-foot-high cliffs behind. This use of order and procession was common in government projects between the World Wars, even in one as modest and remotely-located as a fish hatchery. The general plan appears to have been used elsewhere in the Rockies and up-state New York. The length of the main hatchery building was varied from project to project, depending on the available water flow and local need for recreational fish. The building's rough-faced masonry and hint of the Bungalow Style in its exposed rafters and purlins resembles many other 1930's projects in Federal and State parks and forests across the country. The type might be characterized as "WPA Rustic".

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#71 Los Ojos (Parkview) Fish Hatchery (cont'd)

Although the hatchery may be typical of 1930's government projects, it is departed in important ways from the local Hispanic folk building tradition, a tradition which only worked with adobe and a variety of log timber construction techniques. The use of stone probably indicates the participation of an outside contractor. The hatchery is also among the first few architect-designed buildings in the valley, preceded perhaps by some railroad structures in Chama and the 1916 courthouse in Tierra Amarilla.

10. Acreage: under 1. UTM Ref: 13 359500 4064710

Boundary: A rectangle ten feet beyond the outer buildings of the complex as shown in Map 6.

