



2013 Performance Report

Archuleta County, Colorado

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado Inc. (Region 9), is a nonprofit, 501 (c) 6 public private partnership that promotes and coordinates economic and community development efforts throughout southwest Colorado. Region 9 covers five counties, ten municipalities and the two Native American Tribes in Colorado (Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute).

Incorporated in 1989, Region 9 is led by a 26-member board of directors; 17 from local governmental jurisdictions and 9 from the private sector.

2013 Board Representatives

Todd Starr – Archuleta County
David Mitchem – Pagosa Springs
Mary Jo Coulehan – At large
Derek Farrah – Loan Committee
Bob Eggleston – Loan Committee

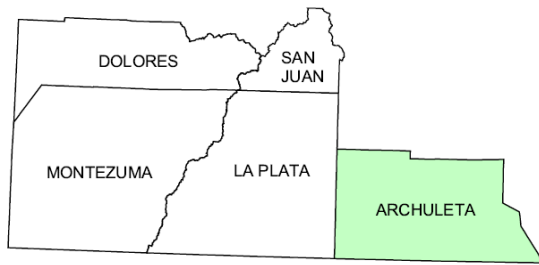


Region 9 programs include business loans, producing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs), Southwest Enterprise Zone administration, staffing the Regional Transportation Planning Commission, and working with the Four Corners Film Office.

Region 9 Staff

Ed Morlan – Executive Director
Laura Lewis Marchino – Assistant Director
Terry Blair-Burton – Office Manager
Jenny Stollar – Business Loan Officer
Susan Curmano – Loan Serving Technician
Shirley Jones – Accountant

In addition to these programs Region 9 also provides social and economic data, technical assistance and research for local and regional projects.



Archuleta County Quick Facts

Land Area: 1,355 sq. miles
 2012 Population: 12,144
 2012 Total Employment: 5,450
 Top Employment Sector (# of jobs): Services
 Top Employment Sector (income): Services
 2012 Per Capita Income: \$34,128

Technical Assistance – Region 9 continues to provide technical assistance by participating in community meetings, writing and administering grants, and advocating for Archuleta County at regional, state and federal levels. Below are some specific examples:

- Established State Geothermal Task Force in 2012 to assist Archuleta County and area landowners by simplifying and streamlining permitting and regulatory processes to facilitate exploration and utilization of geothermal resources.
- Provides assistance and financial support to the Pagosa Springs CDC, a county-level economic development organization and serve on the Advisory Board.
- Provided support for regional Four Corners Film Office increasing production opportunities in Archuleta County. Productions included: Epiphany Picture’s Girl in the Lake; web series for Land Rover; “A Person Known to Me” Detective adventure filmed; Animal Planet/Finding Bigfoot and Bounty Hunter filming.
- Assisted Parelli Natural-Horse-Man-Ship to receive \$500K in job creation incentive money from the State to locate their world corporate headquarters in Pagosa Springs.
- Nominated Skywerks as a Colorado Company to Watch.
- Provide bookkeeping services for SW Travel Region.
- Closely partner and provide financial assistance and staffing support to the SW Small Business Development Center.
- Advocates and supports Pagosa Springs Chamber.
- Provides Growth Company Initiative services to emerging growth companies and identified Skywerx and Voormi as a company with that potential.
- Spearheaded update of Regional Transportation Plan with CDOT.
- Coordinating Sector Partnerships in Energy and also Agriculture.
- Exploring development of an EB-5 Regional Center.
- Coordinating Colorado Blueprint efforts and updates in region.
- Assisting Liberty Theatre to receive state money to upgrade to a digital format.
- Conducted Implan analysis for Chimney Rock

Regional Initiatives – Region 9 works across the region which includes several efforts that have the potential to positively impact your county. Below is a list of some of those initiatives.

Northern New Mexico stakeholders are working on an initiative to bring a branch rail line up to Farmington, NM, connecting our region to the transcontinental rail line that goes through

Gallup, N.M. The time line is estimated at eight years but would greatly reduce transportation distances for many commodities such as energy and agricultural products.

CNG Refueling station efforts are underway in Northern New Mexico and Colorado to develop fueling locations for compressed natural gas vehicles. CDOT has put aside some funding for stations in Colorado and 4CORE has been working to get a refueling station in Durango that could be used by area fleet vehicles and possibly expand to the general public.

Archuleta County helped develop 1041 regulations pertaining to geothermal development for the state, and with the Town of Pagosa Springs, is forming an Authority. They are exploring the feasibility of their geothermal resources in heating buildings and using geothermal to generate electricity to sell to the grid. There are several other Colorado counties with Geothermal that are collaborating around this energy resource.

Enterprise Zones – All of Archuleta County is currently a designated Enhanced Rural Enterprise Zone (EREZ) through 2014 with the exception of the Southern Ute Reservation lands, which have been excluded following the wishes of the Southern Ute Tribal government. This program provides financial incentives to businesses to promote and encourage new job creation. A business (which includes a farm or mine) located within these boundaries may be eligible for EZ tax credits, including capital investment tax credits, job tax credits, research and development tax credits, and other credits and incentives.

From 1992 through December 2013, Archuleta County businesses claimed approximately **\$70,504,825** in eligible investments, resulting in **\$1,975,679** in certified tax credits, and created **1,183** jobs. The 2013 numbers show a gain of 8 jobs from a total number of 41 businesses claiming tax credits. The job gains are significantly lower than the previous year, as are the tax credits going to \$103,550.

The currently designated Enterprise Zone Contribution Projects that benefit Archuleta County include:

- Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta
- Pagosa Springs CDC
- Dr. Mary Fisher Medical Foundation
- Archuleta County Education Center
- Geothermal Greenhouse Project
- Axis Health Systems
- 4CORE
- Housing Solutions
- Four Corners Film Office

This designation allows donor contributions of at least \$100 or more (depending on the project) to be eligible for a 25% state tax credit on cash donations, and a 12.5% state tax credit on in-

kind donations. In 2013, projects have brought in cash and in-kind contributions valued at **\$4,304,361**.

Reports – A number of research reports have been prepared by Region 9 that include data specific to Archuleta County:

- 2013 – Archuleta County Geothermal Construction IMPLAN Analysis
- 2013 – *Region 9 Report –includes Archuleta Data snapshot*
- 2012 – *Retail Data for Decision Makers*
- 2013 – *Livable Wages*

These reports, as well as other publications of interest, can be found at www.scan.org.

Loans – In the past 24 years, Region 9 has provided business loans totaling **\$1,557,379** (through June 2013) and resulting in **90 jobs** in Archuleta. Current loans include:

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|------------------------------------|-----------|
| • Allen’s Autobody | \$ 30,000 |
| • CT’s Automotive | \$ 35,000 |
| • Earthsense Herbals, LLC | \$ 6,500 |
| • Enchanted Valley Farm, LLC | \$ 20,000 |
| • In Balance Physical Therapy, LLC | \$ 67,500 |
| • Pagosa Recovery Center | \$ 20,000 |
| • Pagosa Verde | \$ 32,500 |
| • Quantum Travel Group, Inc. | \$ 22,500 |
| • Terry’s Ace Hardware | \$225,000 |
| • Tony’s Taps | \$ 60,000 |
| • Tapestry, LCC | \$ 25,000 |