Building Efficiencies:

- The Advantage Exteriors crew installed Quad-Lock R-22 components below grade and R-30 components on the exposed wall surfaces.
- The owners selected dual pane windows and an in-floor radiant heat system. These choices, together with the extensive solar gain from the sun hall design, should allow the structure to operate at a 70% savings over a comparable structure in Pinedale, WY. (At publication, the home has not yet been completed so energy performance data is not available.)
- Final exterior and interior wall finishes as well as window installation methods will affect the overall energy efficiency of the structure.

Summary:

The structural shell of the 4160 sqft earth sheltered home was completed in 64 labor days by a crew of four. The visible portions of the exterior design features reflect a southwestern Santa Fe style home and incorporate as many energy saving products as possible. Approximately 250 yards of concrete went into the 550 linear feet of footers and walls and 4100 sqft of roof. The design includes a retaining wall on either end of the home constructed in a 35-foot radius, allowing more southern exposure and an additional window into the master bedroom. Rapid weather changes and countless mosquitoes were the largest environmental factors to overcome.