



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Southwestern Region 3
Carson National Forest

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File Code: 2230/1570

Date: October 24, 20022002

Sebedeo Chacon
President
Jarita Mesa Livestock Association
Star Route Box 6A
Ojo Caliente, NM 87549

Re: Appeal # 02-03-02-0002-A251

Dear Mr. Chacon:

I received your letter dated October 10, 2002. Thank you for clarifying the misconception concerning the 36 CFR 251 appeal process. It appears to me that both Acting District Ranger Buck Sanchez and the Association left the meeting with very different views of what had been discussed and/or agreed to.

In the future, I have directed that all meetings between permittees and forest personnel regarding these matters be facilitated and/or recorded. Copies will be provided to each entity for your review and your records.

Thank you for your efforts to remove your cattle from the allotment by Oct. 15, 2002. Ranger Sanchez has informed me that you made a good faith effort to remove your livestock. As long as other permittees made a good faith effort to find and remove their livestock, there is no need for penalties as this was the date I negotiated with you.

Regarding the pending appeal, I want to keep you informed on the appeal process. The 36 CFR 251 appeal was based on Ranger Sanchez' decision to remove cattle from the Jarita Mesa allotment by Sept. 30, 2002. Via telephone conversations, I have listened to your concerns and we have reached a common understanding and agreement to remove cattle from the allotment by October 15, 2002. This is two weeks later than the Rangers' initial decision to exit the allotment.



We have reached an informal resolution to the appeal as per 36 CFR 251.93(a) and (b). Ranger Sanchez has withdrawn his initial decision for livestock to leave the allotment by Sept 30, 2002 and he accepts our agreement to leave by Oct 15, 2002. Therefore, I am dismissing the appeal and closing the record per 36 CFR 251.92(c).

I am willing to sit and talk with you and the Jarita Mesa Livestock Association, at your convenience, concerning lines of communication, allowable use standards, and environmental assessments. I will include the District Ranger and Range Staff since the discussions will involve their areas of responsibility. Please work with Resource Staff Officer Dan Rael to schedule a date and time.

Thank you for your cooperation. If there are questions, please contact Dan Rael, or myself at (505) 758-6200.

Sincerely,

/s/ Martin D. Chavez, Jr.
MARTIN D. CHAVEZ, JR.
Forest Supervisor

cc: Berwyn Brown, Patrick L Jackson, Buck Sanchez