



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Apache-Sitgreaves
National Forests

P.O. Box 640
Springerville, AZ 85938-0640
(928) 333-4301 FAX: 333-5966
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1950

Date: January 30, 2009

Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed is information on the Blue River and KP Creek Wild and Scenic Rivers Suitability Study that is being planned on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests. These rivers were identified for study by the Forest Service as directed in Section 5(d)(1) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The suitability study complies with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as well as policy detailed in Forest Service Handbook 1909.12 Chapter 80, "Wild and Scenic River Evaluation."

A draft proposed action and maps of the areas being analyzed are enclosed. In development and preparation of the project, the participation of interested persons, state and local governments, and Indian tribes is encouraged at this time and throughout the process. Your initial scoping comments on this project are requested at this time.

Comments received in response to this request, including name and address of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. For your scoping comments to be the most useful, please respond by February 16, 2009. Letters should be addressed to:

**Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
Blue River / KP Creek Suitability Study
c/o Deb Bumpus, Ecosystem Staff Officer
P.O. Box 640
Springerville, AZ 85938**

In addition, you may submit comments via FAX to (928) 333-5966; ATTN: Blue River/KP Creek Suitability Study, c/o Deb Bumpus, Ecosystem Staff Officer. Electronic comments via email must be submitted to: comments-southwestern-apache-sitgreaves@fs.fed.us



The Forests plan to mail an environmental assessment to those who respond to this letter, and specific comments on this project will be accepted during a 30-day comment period that is tentatively planned for **March 20, 2009**.

Thank you for your interest in the Blue River / KP Creek Suitability Study.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chris Knopp
CHRIS KNOPP
Forest Supervisor