

Notice of Decision
Dry Lakes Land Exchange
Southwestern Region
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
Lakeside RD, Navajo County, AZ
Alpine and Springerville RD's, Apache County, AZ

As the Responsible Official, Forest Supervisor Elaine J. Zieroth, Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, signed a Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on December 20, 2005 approving the Dry Lakes Land Exchange. The selected alternative (Alternative 2) includes the exchange of 586.4 acres of non-Federal land for 176.9 acres of Federal land. The non-Federal land consists of five parcels of land, four on the Apache National Forest and one on the Sitgreaves National Forest for Federal land consisting of five parcels on the Sitgreaves National Forest within the Lakeside Ranger District. Copies of the Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice/FONSI are available at the Apache-Sitgreaves Forest Supervisor's Office at 309 South Mountain Avenue, Springerville, AZ 85938, phone: 928-333-4301 and the Lakeside District Ranger's Office at 2202 W. White Mountain Blvd., Lakeside, AZ 85929, phone: 928-368-5111; or on the internet at www.fs.fed.us/r3/asnf at the Projects and Plans link.

Decision Subject to Appeal: This Decision is subject to administrative review (appeal) pursuant to 36 CFR Part 215. The appeal must be filed (regular mail, fax, e-mail, hand-delivery, or express delivery) with the Appeal Deciding Officer. Send appeals to Appeal Deciding Officer, Southwestern Region Office, 333 Broadway, SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102. Federal Express and hand-delivery address is the same. Telephone is 505-842-3271; and Fax is 928-505-3142.

The business hours for those submitting hand-delivered appeals are: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MT, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. An electronic appeal must be submitted in a format such as an e-mail message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), and Word (.doc) to appeals-southwestern-apache-sitgreaves@fs.fed.us. The appeal must have an identifiable name attached or verification of identity will be required. A scanned signature may serve as verification on electronic appeals.

Appeals, including attachments, must be filed within 45 days from the publication date of this notice in the *White Mountain Independent*, the newspaper of record. The publication date in the *White Mountain Independent* is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Those wishing to appeal this decision should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Individuals or organizations who submitted substantive comments during the comment period specified at 215.6 may appeal this decision. The notice of appeal must meet the appeal content requirements at 36 CFR 215.14.

Implementation of Decision: If no appeals are filed within the 45-day time period, implementation of the decision may occur on, but not before, 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period. When appeals are filed, implementation may occur on, but not before, the 15th business day following the date of the last appeal disposition.

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