



**File Code:** 1950

**Date:** December 29, 2009

#### Interested Parties

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 the Santa Fe National Forest sent out a notice that the Forest-wide Recreation Improvements Project Environmental Assessment (EA) was available for formal comment. Since the projects occur on three administrative units on the forest, three separate decisions were signed on the projects covered in the assessment. You are receiving this letter because you may be interested in or are affected by the project or you have commented on the project Environmental Assessment.

A Decision Notice (DN) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was signed on December 18<sup>th</sup>, by Cuba District Ranger Derek Padilla. This decision approves the construction of host site facilities at the Rio De Las Vacas Campground. This includes installing a parking pad, a below ground waste holding tank and potable water tank. Power will be provided to the host site by running overhead wire from an existing overhead powerline.

On December 21<sup>st</sup>, Pecos/Las Vegas District Ranger Steve Romero signed a DN/FONSI to approve the construction of host site facilities at E.V. Long, El Porvenir and Holy Ghost Campgrounds. At all three campgrounds a parking pad, a below ground waste holding tank and a potable water tank will be installed. At E.V. Long and El Porvenir campgrounds, power will be provided to the host site by running a buried cable from an existing overhead powerline. At Holy Ghost, power will be provided to the host site by running a buried cable from a solar collector installed at a location uphill of the host site.

Finally, also on December 21<sup>st</sup>, Daniel J Jirón Santa Fe National Forest Supervisor signed a DN/FONSI to approve the implementation of recreation improvements at the Whirlpool Site on the Coyote Ranger District. The specific actions that I am authorizing under the Whirlpool site decision include the construction of two toilet buildings at the Whirlpool site on the Rio Chama. This decision also includes a non-significant Forest Plan Amendment for this project. This amendment is limited to a dispersed site on the Rio Chama and allows the forest to construct permanent toilet buildings rather than using portable facilities.

All three of these decisions are subject to administrative review (appeal) pursuant to 36 CFR Part 215. Individuals or organizations who provided comment or otherwise expressed interest in the proposed action by the close of the comment period may appeal. The notice of appeal must meet the appeal content requirements at 36 CFR 215.14. Appeals, including attachments, must be filed within 45 days from the publication date of the notice of decision in the *Albuquerque Journal*, the newspaper of record. Please note that the Appeal Deciding Officer is different for the Whirlpool DN/FONSI.



The Appeal Deciding Officer for the Whirlpool Site Project is: Regional Forester, Appeal Deciding Officer, 333 Broadway SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102 or fax to (505)842-3173. Electronic appeals must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to [appeals-southwestern-regional-office@fs.fed.us](mailto:appeals-southwestern-regional-office@fs.fed.us).

The Appeal Deciding Officer for the Rio De Las Vacas Campground Project or the E.V. Long, El Porvenir and Holy Ghost Campgrounds Project is: Appeal Deciding Officer, Daniel J Jirón, Forest Supervisor, 11 Forest Lane, Santa Fe, NM 87508 Fax:(505) 438-5390. Electronic appeals must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to [appeals-southwestern-santafe@fs.fed.us](mailto:appeals-southwestern-santafe@fs.fed.us).

The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered appeals are: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to an electronic message, a verification of identity will be required. A scanned signature is one way to provide verification.

In accordance with 36 CFR Section 215.14, it is the responsibility of those who appeal a decision to provide the Appeal Deciding Officer sufficient evidence and rationale to show why the Responsible Official's decision should be remanded or revised.

- State that the document is a Notice of Appeal filed pursuant to 36 CFR Part 215.
- List the name, address and telephone number of the appellant.
- Identify the decision document by title and subject, date of decision, and name and the title of the Responsible Official.
- Identify the specific change(s) in the decision that the appellant seeks or portion of the decision to which the appellant objects.
- State how the Responsible Official's decision fails to consider comments previously provided and, if applicable, how the appellant believes the decision violates federal law, regulation, or policy.

Copies of the Forest-wide Recreation Improvements Environmental Assessment (EA), and the DN and FONSI for each of the three projects are available by request at the Santa Fe Forest Supervisors Office located at 11 Forest Lane, Santa Fe, NM 87508, phone: 505-438-5448, e-mail: [cnapp@fs.fed.us](mailto:cnapp@fs.fed.us). These documents are also available at [www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/projects/projects/campground\\_improvements/campground\\_project.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/projects/projects/campground_improvements/campground_project.html)

I would like to thank you for your interest in this Santa Fe National Forest project.

Sincerely,

  
DANIEL J. JIRÓN  
Forest Supervisor