



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Pecos/Las Vegas  
Ranger District

P.O. Box 429  
Pecos, NM 87552  
(505) 757-6121

File Code: 1950-1  
Date: April 14, 2006

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Gallinas Municipal Watershed Wildland-Urban Interface Project is now available for public notice and comment (36 CFR 215.3). You may download a copy from the internet at [www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/projects/projects](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/projects/projects), or request one from either the Pecos Ranger Station (18 State Route 63, Pecos) or the Las Vegas Ranger Station (1926 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Las Vegas).

The Gallinas Municipal Watershed is located about 20 miles northwest of the city of Las Vegas, New Mexico. In the EA, we have described and evaluated five alternatives. Four of them would change expected fire behavior in treated stands from a large, high-severity crown fire to a surface fire by removing excess forest fuels while maintaining and protecting water quality, consistent with standards in the Santa Fe National Forest Plan.

We invite you to attend one or both Open Houses to discuss and comment on the EA. The meetings will be held as follows:

Date: **May 11, 2006**  
Times: **Session 1, 1:00 to 4:00 pm; Session 2, 7:00 to 9:00 pm**  
Location: **Kennedy Lounge  
New Mexico Highlands University  
905 University Avenue  
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701**

You may submit comments in several ways: at the public meeting; by writing Joseph Reddan, District Ranger, at the letterhead address; or by e-mailing to [comments-southwestern-santafe-pecos-lasvegas@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-southwestern-santafe-pecos-lasvegas@fs.fed.us) (.doc, .rtf, .txt formats only). If you can only make comments verbally, please contact Julie True at 505-757-6121 to make an appointment. When commenting, please address specific facts and provide supporting rationale that the District Ranger should consider in reaching a decision (CFR 215.6). It is helpful to have your name, address, and telephone number on your comments in case we need to reach you for clarification of them. Comments submitted anonymously will be evaluated; however, those submitting comments anonymously will not have standing to appeal the final decision (36 CFR 215.6(a)(3)).

The comment period ends 30 days after the date that the legal notice is published in the *Albuquerque Journal* (CFR 215.5). Only those who submit timely and substantive comments will have standing to appeal (36 CFR 215.13). Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses, will become part of the public record and available for public inspection.

We look forward to seeing you or hearing from you.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH G. REDDAN  
District Ranger  
Enclosure

