



File Code: 1950

Date: September 10, 2008

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

On July 15, 2008 I signed a Decision Memo authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for a New Mexico Trials motorcycle and camping event from October 3 through October 5th in Lake Fork Canyon. I'm writing this letter to clarify some of the mitigation measures written into the original decision.

The original decision includes the following mitigation measures (among others):

Project Specifications and Design Criteria: To avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential impacts of the project, the decision to authorize the special use permit for this project includes the following requirements:

- No **new** areas are to be used, including the camp area and trails.
- To minimize any potential soil erosion, any temporary trails created in the proposed action will be approved in advance by the Forest Service and shall be properly water barred to USFS specs following completion of the competition.
- No off-road or off trail use is authorized. All trials bikes are to be kept on Forest Service roads, and within the approved area, eliminating the potential for cross-country bike traffic.

It appears that these mitigations both prohibit and also allow the use of new, temporary trails for use during this event. For clarification, this event is to result in no new trails given what currently exists on the ground. To prevent new trails from being made, all motorcycle use during this event must occur on existing trails or roads in the approved project area when accessing hard rock or other hard-surfaced trials areas. Thus, there will be no new or temporary roads as part of this decision, although motorcycles may use hard rock or other hard-surfaced areas (which are accessible via existing roads or trails) for trials as part of this decision. Additionally, existing trails used under the permit may be water barred, if determined necessary by a Forest Service employee monitoring this event.

Sincerely,

LINDA RIDDLE
Jemez District Ranger

