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First name: william

Last name: brown

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I own 5.448 acres in Calf Canyon in the upper Gallinas Watershed. I have attached portions a submittal to FEMA that summarizes the effects of the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon fire and subsequent flooding on my property which is located along Calf Creek and borders the USFS on two sides. I am in a small private neighborhood with ~15 cabins . I am a hydrogeologist by education and work.

Members of our neighborhood recently met with Ms. Amina Sena (USFS) and Ms. Shannon Atencio and several of her staff (NM Forestry LV District). We appreciate their time and commitment to resolving issues related to the fire and after effects.

We have several key issues that I believe need addressed by the US Forest Service (USFS).

1) Access to upper Gallinas Canyon is now limited due to the destruction along FS 263 especially where Bridge #3 has washed out. Without a four wheel drive and low water conditions our properties are inaccessible. Additionally, repairs to our cabins and properties cannot be completed as Contractors cannot access them due to weight restrictions on one or more bridges and the aforementioned washed out bridge. Ms Sena relayed to us a potential 3 to 5 year time window related to funding and NEPA requirements before a new bridge and major road repairs could be initiated. CAN THE USFS PLEASE INSTALL A TEMPORARY BRIDGE IN THE INTERIM ON THE LOCATION OF FORMER BRIDGE #3 SO THAT RESIDENTS CAN ACCESS THEIR PROPERTIES AND MAKE REPAIRS? ALSO REINFORCE THE REMAINING DAMAGED BRIDGES TO ALLOW HEAVIER TRAFFIC.

2) Catastrophic flooding has occurred on the Gallinas and side tributaries such as Calf Canyon. CAN THE USFS CONDUCT REVEGETATION EFFORTS IN THE BURN AREAS OF THE WATERSHED TO MINIMIZE THE POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE FLOODS?

3) Huge burn areas are present throughout the Gallinas watershed leaving unsightly burn scars--AS WITH ITEM 2 PLEASE REVEGETATE THESE AREAS HOPEFULLY SOONER RATHER THAN LATER.

4) Hiking Trails in the area including Johnson's Mesa and Burro basin have been severely damaged. Additionally recreational areas such as picnic areas and recreational fishing areas have been damaged. PLEASE REHABILITATE THESE AREAS.

5) The main Gallinas River route through the canyon has several side tributary channels on USFS land that have caused damaging flooding to the Main river and FS 263 - SOME TYPE OF ENGINEERING CONTROLS COULD MITIGATE THE WORST OF THESE FLOODS

Thank you for incorporating my/our concerns. Please keep us in the loop as work in the Watershed continues

William Brown