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First name: George

Last name: Ramirez

Organization: Manzano Land Grant

Title:

Comments: The attached file is a scan of the original hard copy letter addressing inventory polygons D4ADJ4 and D4ADJ5 (scanned and entered by Forest Service personnel).

Sept. 25, 2015

To: Cibola National Forest "Supervisor"

Regarding your MOU and Cibola National Forest evaluation process.

I George Romero (President) of the Manzano Land Grant and the board of Commissioners are requesting the removal of the Cibola National Forest plan revision D4 ADJ4 as a suitable wilderness designation.

We feel that the memorandum of understanding clearly violates our rights and is not a cooperation of communication. It prohibits and prevents us from communicating, By changing the procedures on meaningful participation in Forest Service decision making on resources and use of Forest Land.

These rights and privileges are secured by Federal Laws. The Constitution and Bill of Rights of the United States, Treaties, and International Law. First Amendment to the US Constitution Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Principles and terms of contracts and agreements with the Forest Service also secure some of these rights and privileges.

These rights and privileges are not simply matters of legal record, in most cases, they constitute the methods which have been established historically to protect the rights reserved by Land Grant and Indian communities upon arrival in the southwest of the United States Government and the Forest Service. Many of these rights predate the National Forest Management Act and indeed, creation of the Cibola itself. Some are rights of individual forest users, others are rights of the institution (Tribes, Land Grant communities) themselves.

Finally and most importantly these rights protect the Lifeblood of the communities to whom they are guaranteed. For example, the right to be free from overly burdensome restrictions upon religious uses of the forest (a right secured by the United States and New Mexico Constitution as a right which is central to the very existence of the Chicano and Indian communities to whom it is guaranteed. Other examples include historical rights and privileges to access to and use of the forest for traditional small-scale resource utilization, These rights and privileges are not only matters of community economic existence but are also essential to the cultural and physical survival of the communities and its members.

Also we have Land Tenure issues. Much of the land was taken with the understanding that communities rights to the use of land forever (obviously within reasonable bounds of environmental sound resource management.) These rights protected by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo 1846 have never been relinquished by the communities.

It also doesn't make sense in Bartolo Canyon on the south side of the forest road, (the way the wilderness boundaries show)-(A long narrow finger shape) "Two miles Long" down to the land grant boundaries. It will

prevent any type of thinning or access in case of wild fires, which would endanger the health safety, and welfare of the New Mexican citizens and private lands.

Sincerely,
President George Ramirez
Cell (505)221-3427
Manzano Land Grant
HC66 Box 245
Mountainair, NM 87031