



November 19, 2021

Michiko Martin, Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
333 Broadway Blvd. SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

**Re: Carson National Forest Plan Interested Person Request**

Regional Forester Martin:

Please accept this request for “interested person” status pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 219.57 concerning the following-described objections to the Carson National Forest Plan Revision.

This request is made on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity (“the Center”) by:

Edward B. Zukoski, Senior Attorney  
Center for Biological Diversity  
1536 Wynkoop Street, Suite 421  
Denver, CO 80202  
(cell) (303) 641-3149  
tzukoski@biologicaldiversity.org

As demonstrated by the Center’s comments submitted on the Carson Forest Plan Revision Draft EIS in 2019, and the Center’s objections to the Proposed Forest Plan Revision and Final EIS earlier this month, the Center has an interest in a wide range of issues concerning forest management addressed by the proposed plan, including but not limited to livestock grazing, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, fuels and vegetation management, climate change, protection of wildlife species and habitats, recreation management, and water resources.

Each of the following objections, to which we request interested person status, raises one or more of these issues, and implicates the Center’s interests in management of the Carson National Forest:

Objection of Western Watersheds Project (dated Nov. 1, 2021), which raises issues of interest to the Center concerning the management of, and the Plan Revision FEIS’s analysis of, livestock grazing, and wildlife impacted by such grazing. The Center is generally supportive of this objection.

Objection of Amigos Bravos et al. (dated Nov. 1, 2021), which raises issues of interest to the Center concerning: (1) the Forest Service’s analysis of Wild and Scenic River Eligibility, (2) Outstanding National Resource Waters protections and plan components; (3) water quality standards. The Center is generally supportive of this objection.

Objection of American Rivers (dated Nov. 1, 2021), which raises issues of interest to the Center concerning the Forest Service's analysis of Wild and Scenic River Eligibility. The Center is generally supportive of this objection.

Objection of NM Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (dated Oct. 31, 2021) which raises issues of interest to the Center concerning the impacts of livestock grazing on wildlife. The Center is generally supportive of this objection.

Objection of Rio Arriba County (dated Oct. 30, 2021), which raises issues of interest to the Center concerning the management of, and the Plan Revision FEIS's analysis of, livestock grazing, valid existing rights, historic and cultural uses of the area, and the use of the best available science. The Center has questions about this objection.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions about this request, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Zukoski' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edward B. Zukoski, Senior Attorney  
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