

November 19, 2021

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

Re: Santa Fe 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 Santa Fe 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 Santa Fe 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 Santa Fe National Forest:

<u>Objection of Western Watersheds Project</u> (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 NM Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (dated Oct. 21, 2021) which raises issues of interest to the Center concerning land acquisition, special uses, and wild horse and burro management. The Center has questions about this objection.

<u>Objection of Valerie Gremillion, Ph.D</u> (dated Nov. 1, 2021), which raises issues concerning the Forest Service's analysis of vegetation treatments and climate change. The Center has questions about this objection.

<u>Objection of Comexico LLC</u> (dated Nov. 1, 2021), which raises issues concerning the designation and protection of certain wilderness lands on the Forest. The Center has questions about this objection.

Objection of Craig Jolly (dated Oct. 31, 2021), which raises issues concerning the Plan's management of livestock grazing. The Center has questions about this objection.

Objection of Wild Watershed (dated Oct. 29, 2021), which raises issues concerning the Plan's management of white pines, and the air quality impacts of prescribed fire. The Center has questions about this objection.

Objection of New Mexico Cattle Growers Association (dated Sep. 24, 2021), which raises issues concerning the management of vegetation and fire on the Forest. The Center has questions about this objection.

Objection of William Gooch (dated Oct. 16, 2021) requesting that the whole plan be scrapped b/c of the plan's over-aggressive approach to logging and burning in the name of restoration/resilience. 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,

Edward B. Zukoski, Senior Attorney

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