



File Code: 1950
Route To:

Date: July 24, 2003

Subject: Viveash Supplement Decision Decision

To: Concerned Citizen

On July 23, 2003, I made a decision to approve the independent road management actions described on page 2-11 of the Viveash Salvage FEIS. After carefully reviewing the FEIS and Supplement as well as comments received on the Draft Supplement, I have decided to go forward with the following road projects:

- Murphy's private land access will remove approximately 5 miles of existing roadway in the Willow Creek Watershed and replace it with approximately 1.5 to 2 miles of new road located upslope.
- A portion of Forest Road (FR) 86 will be realigned. The realignment covers approximately 1.5 miles beginning at the junction of FR 86/92 and ending at the Manzanares Creek crossing. The realigned segment of road will have a Maintenance Level (ML) of 3.
- FR 86 from the Manzanares Creek crossing to the Bull Creek crossing will also be realigned for 2.3 miles.
- Approximately 1 mile of FR 92 within the Rito de la Osha Creek will be realigned away from the stream channel and the old section closed or decommissioned. Culverts will be installed at all stream crossings of tributaries in this realigned section. Portions of FR 92 in the Project Area will also be upgraded, with 13 miles of road becoming ML 2 (allowing passage of high-clearance vehicles) and 7 miles becoming ML 3 for use by passenger vehicles.
- The construction of a bridge or culvert where FR 86 crosses Bull Creek. The crossing is near the end of FR 86 and is presently a low water crossing of Bull Creek.
- The FR 86 culvert at Cow Creek will be replaced with a larger arch culvert.
- Three concrete bridges over Cow Creek on FR 92 will be replaced. This will serve to straighten the road alignment and increase vehicle safety at the crossings.
- A temporary crossing of FR 92V at Elk Creek will be constructed for harvest activities and will be removed following all the proposed management actions.
- Decommissioning Activities
- Portions of the FR 92V system, which includes 12.5 miles of road and seven stream crossings, will be decommissioned following management actions. Decommissioning of this system will include removing culverts, installing water bars and dips, and barricading the road with berms or boulders.

Enclosed are the Supplement to the Record of Decision and an Appendix to the Supplement, which responds to comments received during the comment period for the EA. There were no changes to the Draft Supplement; therefore, the Draft Supplement becomes the Final Supplement to the Viveash FEIS. The complete Viveash FEIS, Final Supplement, and Record of Decision are available on the Internet at www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/projects/projects/viveash.htm.



Hard copies are available upon request from the Pecos District Office from the letterhead address.

Because the legal notice for the comment period was published prior to June 4, 2003, this decision is subject to appeal pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations at 36 CFR Part 215(see 36 CFR parts 200 to 299, Revised as of July 1, 2002). Appeals must be filed with the Appeal Deciding Officer, Southwestern Regional Office, 333 Broadway Blvd., SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102, within 45 days from the date of publication of this legal notice in the *Albuquerque Journal*.

JOSEPH G. REDDAN
District Ranger

Enclosures:
Supplement of the Record of Decision
Supplement Appendix A – Comments and Responses