



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Southwestern
Region

517 Gold Avenue, SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102-0084
FAX (505) 842-3800
V/TTY (505) 842-3292

File Code: 1570-1

Date: June 7, 2000

Forest Guardians
c/o John Horning
1411 Second St.
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Certified Mail-Return Receipt Requested
Z 506 822 120

Re: Appeal #00-03-00-0072-A215, Jarosa Allotment Decision, Coyote Ranger District, Santa Fe National Forest

Dear Mr. Horning:

This is my review decision concerning the appeal you filed regarding the Decision Notice and Finding Of No Significant Impact which authorize grazing and implement the grazing management strategy on the above named allotment

BACKGROUND

Acting District Ranger Trujillo issued a decision on March 6, 2000, for the above named allotment. The decision resulted in the selection of the following alternative and authorizations:

Jarosa Allotment, Alternative E, which authorizes 162 head of cattle (cow/calf) to graze May 16 through October 31 annually, and 220 cattle to graze June 1 through October 31 annually. The decision also authorizes approximately 5 miles of new fence construction and related cattle guards, construction of sixteen new water facilities, and construction of four corrals.

The District Ranger is identified as the Responsible Official, whose decision is subject to administrative review under 36 CFR 215 appeal regulations. Pursuant to 36 CFR 215.16, an attempt was made to seek informal resolution of your appeal. The record indicates that informal resolution was not reached.

My review of this appeal has been conducted in accordance with 36 CFR 215.17. I have reviewed the appeal record and the recommendations of the Appeal Reviewing Officer. My review decision incorporates the appeal record.

APPEAL REVIEWING OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

In his initial review, the Appeal Reviewing Officer concluded: 1) the disclosure of the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects was inadequate, and 2) documentation supporting estimated soil loss and estimated forage production was lacking. Therefore, the Appeal Reviewing Officer



recommended that the decision be reversed for further analysis and that further technical review of this appeal be discontinued pending further analysis and issuance of a new decision.

APPEAL DECISION

Based on the Appeal Reviewing Officer's recommendations I am reversing the Responsible Official's decision, on the above named allotment, for further analysis and a new decision. The new decision must fully comply with public comment and appeal provisions of 36 CFR 215. By copy of this decision the Responsible Official is instructed to include utilization standards in the annual operating plan to ensure protection of riparian areas. The Responsible Official is also instructed to monitor the allotment sufficiently to document use levels and to ensure cattle are removed from riparian areas when utilization levels are reached.

My decision constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture [36 CFR 215.18(c)].

Sincerely,

/s/ Alan J. Koschmann
JAMES T. GLADEN
Appeal Deciding Officer
Deputy Regional Forester, Resources

Enclosure

cc:

Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe NF
District Ranger, Coyote RD
Director of Rangeland Management, R3
Appeals and Litigation Staff, R3

