

DECISION NOTICE
for
CARSON FOREST PLAN AMENDMENT #1
April 1988

Carson National Forest
Taos, Rio Arriba, Colfax, and Mora counties, New Mexico

The Regional Forester's decision for the Carson National Forest Plan was made October 31, 1986. As per regulation requirements, the Carson National Forest began implementation of its Forest Plan on November 30, 1986.

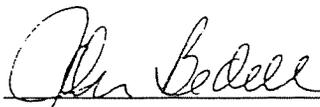
Implementation has begun and several changes are now needed. Many of the changes are minor corrections, such as typographic errors. Other corrections were things such as, fixing the drafting error on the Forest Plan map which had the wrong boundary for a small portion of the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness Study Area around Pioneer Lake. It was corrected to make it match the other maps and the text in the EIS. Some of the changes are related to reorganization of the Penasco and Taos Ranger Districts into the Camino Real Ranger District. Other changes are related to rescheduling of specific projects and improvement of standards and guidelines for management. Most of the rescheduling was in the ten-year sawtimber offering schedule. There was some shuffling of sales from one year to another and minor adjustments between sales in volumes. The sawtimber volume planned to be sold over the next ten years has not been changed. The incremental volumes scheduled for each of the ten years have not changed. We also clarified several points in the Plan. For example, a definition was added for "road closure" and the definition for "road obliteration" was clarified.

It is my decision to amend the Carson National Forest Plan to improve the Forest Plan's editorial quality, to incorporate changes resulting from our District reorganization, to update our project scheduling, to clarify text and tables, and to improve our standards and guidelines. You should replace your old Forest Plan pages with the new pages attached to this decision notice and identified as Carson Forest Plan Amendment No. 1, April 1988. The changes have been highlighted with BOLD-FACED printing for your ease in tracking them. Each page in the amendment may not have changes -- the page may just be the back page to one that does have changes, or the text may have just been moved around to keep page numbering consistent. More specific information as to why each change was made can be obtained by contacting the Forest Supervisor's Office.

I have determined through environmental analysis that this action will cause no significant environmental effects. Formal documentation of the analysis is, therefore, categorically excluded as per 40 CFR 1508.4, National Environmental Policy Act regulations. This is based on the fact that the amendment results in no change to the physical, biological or social environment. In addition, I have determined that this amendment is consistent with the long-term resource management goals and objectives for the Carson National Forest and will actually further clarify our management intent.

This amendment will be implemented immediately.

This decision is subject to administrative review in accordance with the provisions of 36 CFR 211.18. Notice of appeal must be made in writing and submitted to the Forest Supervisor, Carson National Forest within 45 days from the date of this decision. A statement of reasons to support the appeal and any request for oral presentation must be filed within the 45-day period for filing a notice of appeal.



JOHN BEDELL
Forest Supervisor

April 29, 1988.

Date