DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

PUBLIC NOTICE OF IMPLEMENTATION
THE VILLAGE OF CLOUDCROFT TOWNSITE ACT APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, will be implementing a prior decision for an updated application filed by the Village of Cloudcroft on August 17, 2012, Otero County, State of New Mexico, for the conveyance of land for townsite purposes, pursuant to the Townsite Act of July 31, 1958 (72 Stat. 438; 7 U.S.C. 1012a; 16 U.S.C. 478a) as amended by the Act of October 21, 1976 (90 Stat. 2760).

The original application was filed January 21, 1994 and updated by a fifth application filed in 1999 for various parcels identified as Areas 1 through 5, consisiting of 81 acres under Forest Service jurisdiction. The acreage was analyzed and an Environtmenal Assessment (EA) was completed in 2001 with a Decision Notice published in 2001. The application dated August 17, 2012 is the sixth application which includes a site-specific portion of lands originally evaluated in the 2001 EA referenced as Area 4 and consisting of 8 acres. Of the 8 acres, approximately 6.50 acres have been identified and surveyed for conveyance to the Village of Cloudcroft for its waste water treatment facilities. The lands are located in Township 15 South, Range 12 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, section 35, a portion of the SE1/4, Lincoln National Forest, Otero County, State of New Mexico (map attached).

Any or all of the lands described in Area 4 may be conveyed to the Village of Cloudcroft for a price at not less than the fair market value thereof and subject to the restrictions imposed by the above act and the Regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture (36 Code of Federal Regulations 254.20). Conveyance will be limited to those lands essential to community needs.

Prerequisites to the conveyance include an approved development plan and zoning ordinances, covenants, or standards needed for protection of the adjacent or contiguous National Forest System lands and to protect or mitigate valid existing rights and uses. Completed developmental plans and zoning ordinances including appropriate maps, charts, and drawings, are available for public review at the District Ranger's or Forest Supervisor's Office.

A Designation Order setting the above described lands aside for townsite purposes was issued by the Director of Lands and Minerals, Southwestern Region on August 14, 1995. To date, the Designation Order remains in place and is filed with the United States Bureau of Land Mangement. In accordance with 36 CFR 254.22(b) and (c), this Designation Order segregated the described lands from mineral entry, but has no effect on valid, prior existing rights. The Designation Order remains in effect until all or a portion of the described lands are conveyed or until it is cancelled by the Regional Forester, Director of Lands and Minerals, or Delegated Authorizing Official.

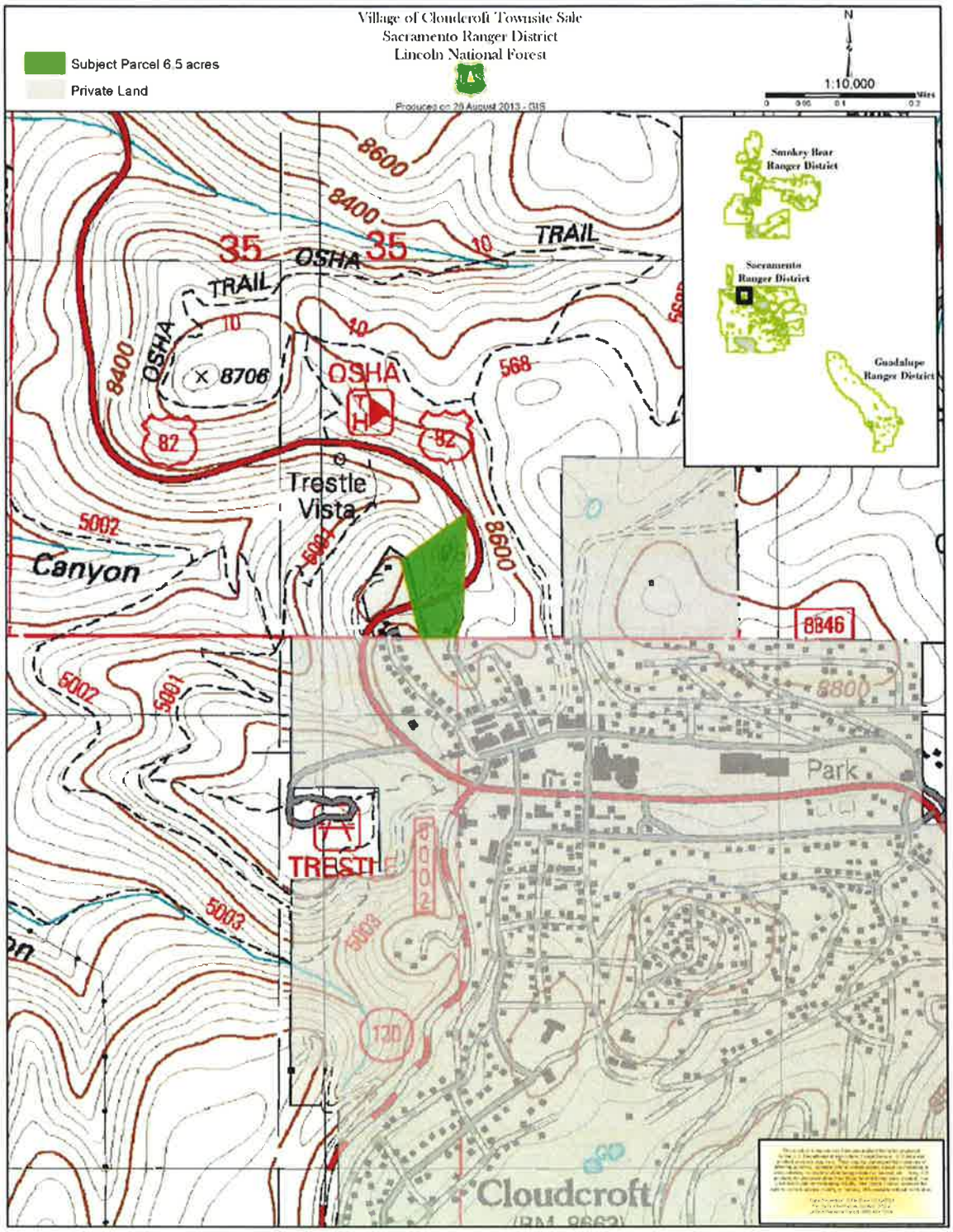
In accordance with 36 CFR 254.22, public comments must be filed within 45 days from first date of the original publication notice filed in 1995. This requirement was met with the previous application. Public comments were received from various sources and were considered from the original application through the development of the Decision Notice dated August 24, 2001. The Environtmental Assessment completed in 2001 is adequate and was updated with a Supplemental Information Report to address current and changing conditions along with additional recommended mitigations for the protection of the natural environment. Documentation and records are available for public review at the Sacramento Ranger District or Forest Supervisor's Office.

Further information on this Public Notice can be received by contacting Marcie Kelton, Natural Resource Manager – Recreation, 4 Lost Lodge Road, PO Box 288, Cloudcroft, NM 88317; (575) 682-5305.

James Duran — May 1/2014

James Duran — Date

Sacramento District Ranger


Village of Cloudcroft Townsite Sale
Sacramento Ranger District
Lincoln National Forest
Subject Parcel 6.5 acres
Private Land
Produced on 28 August 2013 - GIS
N
1:10,000
Miles
Smokey Bear Ranger District
Sacramento Ranger District
Guadalupe Ranger District
8600
8400
35
OSHA
TRAIL
10
8706
OSHA
568
82
Trestle Vista
5002
Canyon
8846
8800
Park
TRESTLE
5003
130
Cloudcroft