

Legal Notice of Decision
Black Range Allotment Environmental Assessment
Black Range Ranger District
Sierra County, NM

On September 30, 2008, Larry Cosper, Black Range Ranger District, District Ranger signed a Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Black Range Allotment. Black Range Allotment is located on the Black Range Ranger District in Sierra County, NM in Management Area 2D. The selected alternative will separate the allotment into three separate allotments: Pine Creek Allotment with a stocking level up to 80 cow/calf pairs for 12 months; Santana Place Allotment with a stocking level up to 110 cow/calf pairs for 12 months; and Mineral Creek Allotment with a stocking level up to 110 cow/calf pairs. Equivalent use or class of livestock may be used in place of cow/calf pairs. Grazing intensity allow for conservative use of herbaceous forage (31-40%) in the uplands and light use in riparian bottoms that are not excluded from livestock by exclosures. No livestock use would be permitted within exclosures. Livestock would be moved based on monitoring results, initially using a deferred pasture rotation. Livestock distribution will be managed through locations of supplements and maintenance, construction and reconstruction of infrastructure. The Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact are available at Black Range Ranger District, 1804 N. Date St., Truth or Consequences, NM 87901. For an electronic copy please email requests to: kcsam@fs.fed.us.

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to regulations at 36 CFR 215. Individuals or organizations who provided comment or otherwise expressed interest in the proposed action during the comment period may appeal. Interest expressed or comments provided on this project prior to or after the close of the comment period do not have standing for appeal purposes. The permittee or eligible applicant may appeal this decision under 36 CFR 251. A Notice of Appeal must be consistent with 36 CFR 251.90 and **filed simultaneously** with the Appeal Reviewing Officer (Larry Cosper, Black Range District Ranger) and Deciding Officer within 45 days from the date of this decision. The appeal must be filed (regular mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) with the appropriate Appeal Deciding Officer. Submit appeals to: Appeal Deciding Officer, Richard E. Markley, Forest Supervisor, 3005 E. Camino del Bosque, Silver City, NM 88061 or FAX to (575) 388-8222. If hand delivered, the appeal must be received at the above address during business hours (Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm), excluding holidays. Electronic appeals may be submitted to: appeals-southwestern-gila@fs.fed.us (.doc, .rtf, or .txt formats only). The appeal must have an identifiable name attached or verification of identity will be required. Names and addresses of appellants will become part of the public record. A scanned signature may serve as verification on electronic appeals.

Appeals, including attachments, must be in writing, fully consistent with 36 CFR 215.14, and filed (postmarked) within 45 days following the date this notice is published in the Truth or Consequences Herald. This publication date is the exclusive means for

calculating the time to file an appeal. Those wishing to appeal this decision should not rely upon dates or timeframes provided by any other source.

If no appeals are filed within the 45-day time period, implementation of the decision may occur on, but not before, 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period. When appeals are filed, implementation may occur on, but not before, the 15th business day following the date of the last appeal disposition.

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