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Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service

Southwestern
Region



Cibola National Forest and Grasslands 2007 Monitoring and Evaluation Report

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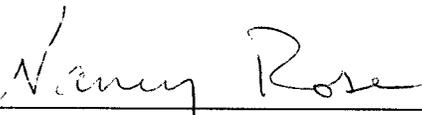
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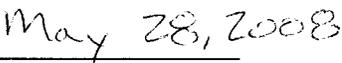
Forest Supervisor Certification

I certify that the Cibola National Forest Plan (Forest Plan) as amended is sufficient to guide future management of the Cibola National Forest and Grasslands until the plan revision process is completed.

This Monitoring and Evaluation Report meets regulatory requirements for completing an annual report for the fiscal year of 2007, based on the 1982 planning rule at 36 CFR 219.



Nancy Rose, Forest Supervisor



Date

Executive Summary

This section summarizes the monitoring table found on pages 6 to 30. It includes lessons learned that are anticipated to be relevant to future management.

Monitoring by the engineering program shows that facility maintenance needs continue to rise and need to be properly recorded in Forest Service databases. As budgets decrease, maintenance becomes harder to perform, including the decommissioning of sites. There is a need for better communication between district and Supervisor's office personnel to effectively manage facilities.

The fire program monitored several prescribed burns and wildland fires in 2007. Due to an above-normal year for winter and spring precipitation, there were fewer wildland fires and those that did occur were smaller in size. However, towards the end of fall, drought conditions started to occur and prescribed burns conducted burned more intensely than anticipated. Most prescribed burning took place in the fall and winter.

Fire prevention monitoring showed the need for more outreach to local communities and technical assistance to carry out an effective program. Residents adjacent to Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas are starting to do treatments on private land based on information that is being shared. There is a need for increased training opportunities for Forest Service employees in working with the public on controversial issues regarding fire.

The forestry program needs greater law enforcement presence to facilitate fuelwood permit and contract compliance. Resource damage is occurring in some areas due to insufficient law enforcement and the lack of qualified Forest Protection Officers to enforce permit and contract requirements.

The spread of insects and disease and their associated effects is continuing to affect the Forest in various places. Monitoring has shown that tree mortality by bark beetle are at epidemic levels throughout the Cibola National Forest and high mortality is expected to continue in the coming year. On the Sandia Ranger District, high mortality from tussock moth infestation has left many hazard trees in recreation sites. Hazard trees in and around the Sandia recreation sites are felled by Forest Service volunteers and can be gathered under fuelwood permits. Monitoring in 2007 revealed it is almost impossible to cut and remove dead, hazardous trees in relation to the rate of mortality. There is also a need to have law enforcement present along the Crest Highway during tree falling and removal to enforce traffic stoppages.

Most monitoring designed to prevent impacts to heritage resources during ground disturbing activities has been observed to be effective in 2007. Site vandalism and pot-hunting are a continuing concern and monitoring has shown they are ongoing. There is a need to block roads that go through archeological sites to prevent damage from

woodcutters driving over them. Monitoring also showed that baseline data is missing in many cases, making damage assessment difficult for many sites.

Weather and climate have shown to be the most frequent reasons for adjusting grazing strategies through adaptive management processes. Adaptive management has enhanced permittee compliance and is helping to meet management goals and objectives. Annual planning and cooperative strategizing has resulted in increased permittee compliance. Monitoring and analysis for rangeland ecological health has shown that conditions are shifting towards desired conditions in some areas. Almost all pastures were in compliance with the Annual Operation Instructions for 2007.

In the lands program, monitoring has shown that issuance of longer term permits is helping to reduce the workload up front. There is still a need for more technical inspections of electronic sites. On-site inspections are difficult due to a lack of personnel.

Vandalism is a growing problem in the recreation program. Several sites on several districts are experiencing vandalism, leading to a feeling on insecurity by the public. Public compliance with the fee use program is increasing, leading to 95% compliance at the Crest High Impact Recreation Area (Sandia RD) for 2007. Hazard tree removal is next to impossible to keep up with based on the rate of mortality. Some sites were shut down in 2007 due to the number of hazard trees and inability to remove these trees. Lack of funding resulted in lack of maintenance on some trails which caused the trails to become incised resulting in channelization of water and sedimentation into nearby intermittent streams. Some trails reported as needing maintenance are unable to be attended to due to a lack of personnel. There is a need for better law enforcement on some trails to control unauthorized use (ATV use on snowmobile trails).

Monitoring of projects for wildlife habitat improvement has led to several observations about their effectiveness. Monitoring of Mexican Spotted Owl PACs (Protected Activity Centers) shows that habitat is related to the availability of food and that cattle tend to not graze within some PACs due to vegetative composition and terrain. It was observed that burning under hot prescriptions in the spring can be done without damaging constituent elements of Mexican spotted owl habitat. Monitoring in 2007 also showed that the use of artificial watering sites is directly correlated to the availability of natural water sources. The use of artificial sites decreases with the availability of natural water. Monitoring for Goshawk occupancy revealed that Goshawks will alternate nests within a territory. Post-prescribed burn monitoring showed an increase in use by mule deer and elk in the Thompson Burn area, improvement in wet meadow conditions in the Baney Park area, and improved vegetative conditions in the East Magdalena Burn area. Monitoring of the Habitat Stamp program provides data that is helpful in determining maintenance needs of wildlife structures.

Forest Plan Background and Amendments

The Forest Plan and associated EIS were published in 1985. Preliminary Forest staff recommendations for updating the Forest Plan were developed in 1996-1999 and are contained in the Geographic Area Assessments produced by the Interdisciplinary Team.

The following amendments were made to the 1985 Forest Plan:

Amendment Number	Decision Date	Amendment Description
Amendment #1	01/09/87	Clarified language throughout all five chapters
Amendment #2	05/25/89	Added electronic site near Boise City, OK for the Coast Guard's Long-Range Aid to Navigation (LORAN-C)
Amendment #3	06/30/89	Changed timber projections based on projects in Las Huertas Canyon near Placitas, NM
Amendment #4	05/29/90	Revised the 10-year timber sale schedule, amended fire management S&Gs, added black bear and curlew to the MIS list, changed ROS for MAs 8 and 13, RATM
Amendment #5	06/27/90	Designated Oso Ridge Lookout as an electronic site
Amendment #6	09/06/91	Established S&Gs for capital investment priorities and Sandia winter use; added the grasshopper sparrow to the MIS list; and established S&Gs for Aberts squirrel
Amendment #7	09/09/96	Added Regional direction for management of Mexican spotted owl, northern goshawk, grazing, old growth
Amendment #8	12/20/96	Returned federal lands near Kirkland Air Force Base from DOE back to the National Forest System
Amendment #9	09/18/97	Established Bernalillo Watershed Research Natural Area
Amendment #10	10/17/02	Identified eligible wild and scenic rivers and added direction for protecting their values

Table of Monitoring Activities and Lessons Learned for FY 2007

ABBREVIATIONS

BLM – Bureau of Land Management
 D2 – Mount Taylor Ranger District
 D3 – Magdalena Ranger District
 D4 – Mountainair Ranger District
 D5 – Sandia Ranger District
 D6 – Black Kettle and McClellan Creek
 D7 – Kiowa and Rita Blanca
 GIS – Geographic Information System

INFRA – Infrastructure database
 NEPA –National Environmental Policy Act
 PAC – Protected Activity Center
 RD – Ranger District
 RO – Regional Office
 RX – Prescribed burn
 SO – Supervisor’s Office

	<u>RESOURCE</u>	<u>MONITORING ACCOMPLISHED</u>	<u>RECORD LOCATION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>LESSONS LEARNED</u>
1	Engineering	Monitored for facility maintenance needs and accomplishments	INFRA database	Forestwide	-Maintenance needs and accomplishments are continually arising, and need to be recorded in the database. -District staff needs to communicate with the SO about projects and the needs of all facilities on a regular basis.
2	Engineering/ Recreation	Monitored drinking water for compliance with the health standards as set in the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) or FSM 7420 (for non-public water systems)	SO- Engineering Water System Files; INFRA database	Forestwide	-Tight budgets continue to cause maintenance (including decommissioning) from being performed

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3	Fire	<p>-Monitored tree damage and mortality from wildfire based on fire intensity effects Anderson fire area (D4) Sedgwick fire area and Garley Fire Area (D2)</p> <p>-Monitored tree damage and mortality from wildfire based on fire intensity on I-40 complex fire area (McClellan Creek national Grassland) (D6)</p>	D4 forestry and fire files	D2, D4, D6	<p>- Drought conditions contributed to more intense burning (D4, D6)</p> <p>-Better to wait until 2 years post fire to access fire damage for reforestation needs. (D2, D4)</p> <p>-First order fire effects of mortality is apparent, (D4)</p> <p>-Continue to monitor post fire mortality for next several years; tree planting may be needed within developed recreation area. (D6)</p>
4	Fire	<p>-Monitored pre-treatment fuel loading and stand densities in Manzanos and Sandias</p> <p>- Monitored existing plots within Thompson RX burn area (D3)</p> <p>-Established baseline monitoring plots (Brown's Transect, Fixed Radius Plots and Photo Points) within the Red Canyon RX, Espinosa Phase 1 RX, Ox Canyon RX and Ultima East RX. (D4)</p>	SO-INFRA, D4	D3, D4, D5	The data gathered will be analyzed in the future in FARSITE models.

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5	Fire	Monitored for initial fire size up parameters included topography, climate, vegetation, fire behavior, etc. on all FY 2007 wildfires.	Fire Reports-District FMO/AFMO files; SO, KCFAST database	Forest-wide	-Due to above-normal winter and spring precipitation, initial attacks were fewer in number and fires were smaller in size (D3,D5)
6	Fire prevention	Monitored fire hazard condition/defensible space of residences in wildland urban interfaces; 425, Lobo Canyon, Bluewater WUI, Jamestown WUI (D2)	RD-K drive; hardcopy prevention files	D2	-Despite fire prevention education efforts, there will continue to be people who do not know about those programs or information or do not choose to follow those guidelines -Fire hazard levels indicate a need to increase efforts to assist communities in developing Firewise program -Developed comprehensive Communication Plan to provide better public communication. -FS employees could use more training in working with the public on controversial issues.
7	Fire Prevention	Monitored and collected information in collaboration with Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District to identify areas at risk	District files	D5	-Residents are starting to do treatments on private land based on information that is being shared -Despite fire prevention education efforts, there will continue to be people who do not know about those programs or information or do not choose to follow those guidelines
8	Fire Prevention	Continuing Education in Ecosystem Management (CEEM) team did an assessment of a portion of the Sandia Mountains that included assessing public awareness and opinions of forest conditions on Sandia Mountains	District files	D5	-Discovered there is an array of opinions on how the public would like to see the Sandia Mountains managed; ranging from no treatment to regular treatment and maintenance.

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9	Fire Prevention	<p>Socorro County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) completed</p> <p>Davenport WUI area CWPP completed (Catron County CWPP is umbrella document)</p>	D3	D3	<p>-Using information from GIS database, local knowledge by district staff, countywide plan was completed. Prioritized hazardous areas and treatments.(D3)</p>
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10	Fire/fuels	<p>Monitored during and after treatment conditions including smoke, weather, fire behavior, fire effects on residual vegetation and other resources (Forestwide)</p> <p>-425 prescribed burn (100 acres) and Salazar RX burn (833 acres) (D2)</p> <p>-Withington RX pile burn (20 acres) Thompson RX broadcast burn (1700 acres NF, 200 acres private w/Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation) (D3)</p> <p>-Red Canyon RX broadcast burn (300 acres), Hyde RX pile burn (90 acres) & Beanfield RX broadcast burn (120 acres) (D4)</p> <p>-Forest Road 462 Fuelbreak and Tablazon Fuelbreaks. Pile burning (D5)</p> <p>-Broadcast burning of 3,480 acres and mechanical treatments 700 acres (D6)</p>	RD files – burn plan file, NFPORS	D2, D3, D4, D5, D6	<p>-Despite heavy snow on the ground, piles burned very hot. Ideal conditions for burning led to complete consumption and good smoke dispersal. Piles were very labor intensive to create -4” diameter and greater material was kept out of piles. This helps improve soil conservation. Piled pieces were cut to 3’ length before piling. Thinning and piling was very labor intensive – due to location and dispersal needs – proximity to ABQ (D5)</p> <p>-Treatment was modified along the road where boles of trees were left in tact and placed along the contour to impede vehicles from going off-road in these areas. Stumps were left higher and less trees were cut – seems to be working – no off-road tracks (D5)</p> <p>-Thompson RX – really good green-up but fuel moisture was low enough to get effective burn/acceptable fire effects – late spring moisture kept conditions from getting too extreme to burn (D3)</p> <p>-Pre-Salazar burn – Browns transects were completed (D2)</p> <p>-Browns transect was effective method for monitoring fuel loading</p> <p>-The person hours and funds required for these types of projects are extensive. Need to make sure we have a good balance between data collection, analysis and actual work accomplished on the ground.</p> <p>-There needs to be a Region 3 fuels monitoring protocol created for standardization across Forests.</p> <p>-A low intensity burn during the fall months in red slash from mechanical treatment caused very little residual tree mortality.</p>
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11	Fire/Fuels	Monitored for compliance and objective achievement on the Forest Guild CFRP Grant – thinning and piñon-Juniper (PJ) push within Bluewater EIS project area	D2	D2	-Slash treatment within PJ push – small round Juniper need to be lopped at least on one side so they don't blow into fences
12	Fire/Fuels	Monitored East Magdalena Interagency Burn area during the completion of the East Magdalena Interagency Burn plan (30,000 acres, 12,000 acres NF) BLM, State, Private lands	D3	D3	-Includes monitoring of area prior to treatment – dead and live fuel moistures, access, fuel loadings, control line locations, ignition requirements/needs, fuel types, topography, weather, requirements for burning in owl PAC -Placement of control lines is crucial to accomplishing objectives of burn. Had to monitor on the ground to determine how to burn using Mid-slope line – proximity to valley will drive ability to burn based on air quality requirements
13	Fire / Fuels	Monitored fuel loading by clipping and weighing of vegetation in plots	D6 Range files	D6	
14	Forestry	Monitored compliance with silvicultural prescriptions including post-treatment basal areas, canopy cover, stand densities, snag retention, and implementation of mitigation measures. Timber sale, personal use firewood programs, and CFRP thinning grants administered in FY07	RD – Forestry Records. Located in individual District Project files	D2, D3, D4	-Timely inspections are key to achieving desired results when implementing Designation by Description on commercial contracts (D4). -Monitoring has allowed the district to make length of season adjustments in personal-use firewood (D3) -Monitoring has also allowed district to make area-wide designations for personal-use firewood (D3) -Desired results are also achieved through interaction and collaboration with grant partners (D2)

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15	Forestry	<p>-Monitored for insect or disease damage to forest stands through aerial survey (by RO) and ground sampling</p> <p>-Monitored for insect activity within active timber Sales & thinning projects (D4)</p>	Forestry files	Forestwide	<p>-Slash from mechanical thinning needs to be monitored more closely for insect infestations and outbreaks. (D2)</p> <p>-Mortality continues at epidemic levels of Douglas-fir tussock moth, in white fir and Douglas-fir, and various bark beetles (D5).</p> <p>-Monitoring for insect activity within timber sales and thinning projects has allowed work to continue during the bark beetle season (January-June) (D4).</p> <p>-Increased <i>Ips spp.</i> and western pine beetle mortality in dense, unthinned ponderosa pine stands, adjacent to thinning units (D4).</p>
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16	Forestry	Monitored for hazard trees at all developed recreation sites, some undeveloped recreation sites, post-wildfire burn areas and roads	RD - Recreation files	Forestwide	<p>-Coordinate with wildlife on the timing of hazard tree removal to reduce the impact on cavity nesters. Generally the fall is the best time of the year (D4, D3)</p> <p>-There is continued mortality, mostly white fir, in Sandia Districts developed recreation sites. (D5)</p> <p>-Public demand for fuelwood in the summer and fall exceeds the supply of hazard trees available at developed sites. (D5)</p> <p>-Bucking of fallen trees is not necessary to ensure removal; fuelwood permittees do it and carry bucked sections over 100 feet to parking areas. Little unauthorized off-road travel has occurred. (D5)</p> <p>-Hazard trees on the Sandia Crest Highway and Las Huertas Road: Very few dead trees reached the highway in winter '06-07. More trees are predicted to die by the Zone entomologist in summer '08. 5% of hazard trees were felled. Loading was very slow with a front end loader with forks. An LEO is needed to enforce traffic stoppages. (D5)</p> <p>-Hazard tree removal -it's very difficult to keep up with mortality (D5)</p> <p>--There is continued mortality at McClellan Creek Recreation Area after 3/2006 wildfire. (D6)</p>
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17	Forestry	Monitored commercial and personal-use fuelwood areas for compliance with permits and contract requirements	District forestry files	Forestwide	<p>-Wood theft, timber trespass and compliance with closure orders are not always occurring. Law enforcement is not sufficient and training is not being made available when employees are able to take the training(D2, D4)</p> <p>-Inadequate support of the Forest Protection Officer (FPO) program(D2, D4)</p> <p>-Resource damage is occurring and there is no repercussion -Law enforcement is insufficient and not addressing areas incurring resource damage(D2, D4)</p> <p>-Due to lack of FPOs and law enforcement, there is little to no chance of preventing wood theft (as a result there has been little to no seized firewood)(D2, D4)</p>
18	Heritage Resources	<p>-Monitored Big Bead national historic landmark site (D2)</p> <p>-Monitored for site inspection/ disturbance of 13 National Register eligible sites and 1 National Register listed site, within the western portion of the Gallinas Mountains area.(D3)</p>	SO-Heritage Resource files	D2, D3	<p>-Necessary to prevent pot-hunters from damaging heritage resources.</p> <p>-Forest priority work is conflicting, making it difficult to complete required report writing (D2)</p>

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19	Heritage Resources	Monitored for protection of archaeological sites during or after ground-disturbing projects. 4 projects monitored – Demartino, Jamestown WUI, Village Ortega allotment, Bluewater WUI and personal use firewood gathering by public. (D2)	RD Heritage Resource files	D2, D3	<p>-Occasional inspection of sites in WUIs should be done after all treatment is completed. Thinning the trees in areas around subdivisions or inhabited private land makes more of the area accessible to ATVs and trucks and increases the likelihood of the formation of trails/user roads. Impacts to sites from off road driving could increase as a result.</p> <p>-Access roads through sites must be blocked in ways woodcutters cannot drive around them (D2).</p>
20	Heritage Resources	Monitored for damage or vandalism from unauthorized activities. 3 areas monitored – Stolen heavy equipment damage, unauthorized work at summer homes, and surface vandalism and ancestral puebloan habitation site in Bonita Canyon	D2 Heritage Resource files	D2	<p>-Proactive survey and site recording are needed in areas of high potential for site vandalism</p> <p>-Baseline data is lacking in many cases, making it difficult to assess damage</p>

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21	Heritage Resources	<p>Monitored for archaeological site condition (pro-actively). 65 sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluewater ecosystem management – Office/Diener, Monihan NE and S Burn treatments • 21 Drill holes and roads on La Jara mesa • Proactive deferred maintenance inspections • American Ranch allotment permit reissuance • Demartino Site Rehab • FR50 Use permits for Sky Mountain Ranch • UREX uranium drilling • Lot 35 McGaffey Damage Assessment • Vandalism in Bonita Canyon 	D2 Heritage Resource files	D2	Solving road maintenance issues where road goes through a protected heritage site can be complex. A proactive survey and design should be considered for roads likely to be reconstructed (or granted as easements).
22	Heritage Resources	Monitored 13 sites from the effects of cattle grazing.	RD/SO Heritage Resource files	D3	Active monitoring is effective in identifying potential impacts to archaeological sites from cattle grazing.
23	Heritage Resources	Monitored Rosedale Mine/Mill site cleanup project (CERCLA)	RD/SO Heritage Resource files	D3	Best Management Practices were developed to gather archaeological data to minimize or mitigate the adverse effects to historic property from the on site removal action.

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24	Heritage Resources	Deferred Maintenance of 10 sites located within the western portion of the Gallinas Mountains. The site inspections were undertaken to assess any changes in site condition.	RD/SO Heritage Resource files	D3	Necessary to prevent artifact collectors from damaging heritage resources.
25	Heritage Resources	Monitored during South Dwelling Stabilization Project	RD/SO Heritage Resource files	D3	Historic preservation, structural stability and provide for public safety.
26	Heritage Resources	Monitored during Water Canyon Cabin Roof Replacement (PIT Project)	RD/SO Heritage Resource files	D3	Preservation of historic 1940's structure.
27	Heritage Resources	Monitored for protection of archaeological sites during or after ground-disturbing projects. 2 projects monitored – Sandia Trailer Removal, Sandia Emergency Waterline Repair	SO Heritage Resource files	D5	Both projects occurred adjacent to Tijeras Pueblo Archaeological Site. Despite the ground disturbing nature of these projects, no damage was done to the archaeological site. No archaeological materials were discovered outside the site boundary.

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28	Heritage Resources	<p>Monitored for protection of archaeological sites prior to project initiation: 4 clearance reports completed, 10 eligible sites are located within the project areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hondo WUI (in progress) • Sulphur WUI (in progress) • Cañon del Agua trail reroute • Brecker Soil Study Permit 	SO Heritage Resource files	D5	Survey near Sandia Crest (Sulphur WUI) did not locate any heritage resources, supporting the limited occupation and use of this area in the past
29	Heritage Resources	<p>Monitored for damage or vandalism from unauthorized activities. Monitored 1 area – Kiwanis Cabin on Sandia Crest, for new vandalism and graffiti.</p>	SO Heritage Resource files	D5	New methods for monitoring need to be developed to discourage continued vandalism of this site.
30	Heritage Resources	<p>-Monitored for archaeological site condition (pro-actively). 2 Sites</p> <p>-Monitored Bear Canyon Pueblo and the Cougar Rock art site as part of deferred maintenance.</p>	SO Heritage Resource files	D5	Pictographs in Cedro Canyon are fading due to exposure to the elements but no new human vandalism has occurred in the past year
31	Minerals	<p>Monitored for compliance with Plans of Operations</p>	SO Mineral Files	D2, D3	Significant increase in uranium exploration interest

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32	Minerals	Monitored well pad construction for compliance with permit and conditions of approval, including environmental effects, during construction phase, inspected well sites to ensure compliance with COAs and permit.	D6 Minerals files	D6	Compliance inspections are severely reduced due to limited personnel
33	Range	<p>-Analyzed 3 Grazing Allotments for Rangeland Ecological Health status.(D2)</p> <p>-Monitored for watershed/soil/range condition, forage production/ utilization, ecological status: 18 allotments for 2007 NEPA analysis (D4)</p> <p>-Monitored for ecological status, forage production, and utilization on 8 allotments for 2008 NEPA analysis (D4)</p>	RD-range IWEB	D2, D4	Three allotments analyzed showed stable conditions and shifts toward desired conditions will be achieved through adaptive management strategies through annual planning and cooperative strategizing with permittees.(D2)
34	Range	<p>-Monitoring Spotted Owl Areas based on Allotment Key Area Strategy.(D2)</p> <p>-Monitored 33 PACS on 11 allotments (D3)</p>	RD-range IWEB	D2, D3	<p>-Livestock tend to utilize area outside of PACs due to the vegetative composition as well as general topography of the land. Use in Key Management Areas located outside of PACs was in compliance; therefore lower use areas such as PACs are within guidelines. (D2)</p> <p>-Livestock utilization was either non-existent or minimal. All areas were in compliance. (D3)</p> <p>-Nearly all PACS are in no capacity range (D3)</p>

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35	Range	Unauthorized livestock Monitoring	RD-Range Files	D2, D7	<p>-Unauthorized livestock continue to be a problem near Cerro Pelon. 2007 NEPA can only be implemented towards desired conditions if unauthorized use is dealt with administratively (D2)</p> <p>-One allotment/permittee (D7)</p>
36	Range	<p>-Inspection/inventory of 12 improvements on 1 allotment (D3)</p> <p>-Inspection/ inventory of 136 range improvements on 19 grazing allotments (D4)</p> <p>- Inspection/ inventory of 48 range improvements (D7)</p>	RD-range SO-range IWEB	D3, D4, D7	

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37	Range	<p>-Monitored for AOI compliance on approximately 19 allotments. (60%) (D2)</p> <p>- Monitored for AOI compliance on 9 pastures on 9 allotments (D3)</p> <p>-Monitored for AOI compliance on 60 pastures on 19 grazing allotments (D4)</p> <p>-Monitored for AOI compliance on 50 allotments (D6)</p> <p>- Monitored for AOI compliance on 33 permits (D7)</p>	RD-range SO-Range IWEB	D2, D3, D4, D6, D7	<p>-Adaptive management has enhanced permittee compliance and has helped meet management goals and objectives.(D2)</p> <p>-Allotment maintenance is critical and a great deal of routing maintenance on existing improvements is needed.(D2)</p> <p>-Archeological support is needed in order to meet overall land management goals and objectives.(D2)</p> <p>-Majority of pastures were in compliance.(D3)</p> <p>-All pastures were in compliance(D-4)</p> <p>- Compliance inspections greatly enhanced due to Range SCEP</p> <p>Permittees complying with AOI (D6)</p>
38	Range	<p>- Monitored for range condition readiness for 58 pastures on 20 allotments (D3) –</p> <p>-Monitored for range condition readiness during drought in 12 pastures on 12 grazing allotments (D4)</p> <p>- Monitored for range condition readiness on 46 allotments (D7)</p>	RD-range SO-range IWEB	D3, D4, D7	<p>-Drought conditions can change rapidly as demonstrated by the summer rains (D3)</p> <p>-Range readiness was determined and livestock were turned out onto pastures in most cases (D3)</p>

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39	Range	<p>-87 frequency transect (new) on 17 allotments and 33 Parker's on 15 allotments (D3)</p> <p>-Established 96 long-term monitoring plots on 12 allotments (D4)</p> <p>-Monitored effects of prescribed burning on 1 allotment (D7)</p>	RD-range SO-range IWEB	D3, D4, D7	Majority of range condition in poor to fair with a stable to upward trend. Frequency data indicating mid to high similarity to TEUI potential. (D3)
40	Range	Monitored for height/density residual and trend data on 12 Allotments	D6 Range Files	D6	Most all met standards and guidelines Nesting objectives met

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41	Recreation – Developed sites	<p>-Monitored developed recreation sites for visitor use, damage and vandalism (D2,D5)</p> <p>-Campsite condition monitoring led to discovery of vandalism occurring at McGaffey Lake, Bluewater parking, and Coalmine campground. There was an increase in bear problems at McGaffey Campground and Coal mine Campground (D2)</p> <p>-Monitored the use of portable toilets at McGaffey Campground</p> <p>-Vandalism is occurring at Crest, Juan Tabo basin, Kiwanis Cabin, Las Huertas, Capulin, and Doc Long(D5)</p>	D2 and D5 Recreation Files	D2, D5	<p>-Coalmine campground use has changed and existing facilities are outdated.(D2)</p> <p>-Improved contract administration for trash removal at campgrounds may help with bear problem in future.(D2)</p> <p>-Need to increase public education about problems of vandalism. (D2)</p> <p>-In the absence of a consistent water supply, users have accepted alternative facilities at McGaffey Campground.</p> <p>-Vandalism leads to a feeling of insecurity and unsafe (D5)</p> <p>-Photos are going to Bernalillo County (able to track specific gangs, gang members) and they are conducting night patrols (D5)</p> <p>-Is difficult to keep up with removal requirements due to amount of vandalism occurring (D5)</p>
42	Recreation – Developed sites	<p>-Fee collection compliance monitoring at Coalmine, Quaking Aspen, and McGaffey campgrounds(D2)</p> <p>-Compliance monitoring is occurring at all fee sites, Crest HIRA, Juan Tabo HIRA, and Las Huertas Picnic Area(D5)</p>	D2, D5 Recreation Files	D2, D5	<p>-There is a need to improve the allocation of money to districts based on amount collected (D2)</p> <p>-There is a need to assess the amount of money brought in through fee collection program during different years to establish compliance trends (D5)</p> <p>– 95% compliance with fee collection at the Crest – due to greater presence of FS employees (D5)</p>

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43	Recreation – Developed sites	<p>-Hazard tree monitoring at all developed recreation sites (Coalmine, Lobo Canyon, Ojo Redondo, Quaking Aspen, & McGaffey) resulted in hazard tree removal at Quaking Aspen & McGaffey campgrounds. (D2)</p> <p>-Hazard tree monitoring and removal at Water Canyon (D3)</p> <p>-Hazard tree monitoring and removal at Crest HIRA sites and Las Huertas (D5)</p> <p>-Hazard tree monitoring at developed recreation sites resulted in hazard tree removal at McClellan Creek and Lake Marvin picnic areas and campgrounds (D6).</p>	D2, D3, D5, D6 Recreation Files Volunteer reports	D2, D3, D5, D6	<p>-Hazard tree removal is next to impossible to keep up with based on mortality. Not enough qualified fallers to do the work and not enough allocated money to pay them (from Recreation money). Sites are monitored weekly. Some sites in Capulin had to be shut down due to hazard trees (D5, D6)</p> <p>-The hazard tree problem is greater than anticipated. It is difficult to keep up with tree mortality, so there is a need to catch up with removal and keep up in the future, including other campgrounds (D3)</p>
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44	Recreation - Trails	<p>-Trail effectiveness monitoring on the Gooseberry Canyon, Continental Divide Trail, and Strawberry Canyon Trail. Trail monitoring on 3 miles of ski/snowmobile trail resulted in trail maintenance (D2)</p> <p>-Trail monitoring on Sandia. Done by volunteers (La Luz Trail report weekly during winter months).Cibola Trail rangers regularly reports on trail conditions. Some trail conditions surveys were conducted (INFRA) but was a minute amount (D5)</p> <p>-Trail conditions surveys were conducted (INFRA) at Lake Marvin, Skipout, and Black Kettle trails (D6)</p>	D2, D5, D6 GIS, INFRA	D2, D5, D6	<p>-Lack of maintenance is causing trails to be incised.</p> <p>-Sections of the Quad Trail, Heartbreak Hill and Edge of the World, snowmobile trails are being used by ATVs during non-snow months, resulting in resource damage. A lack of law enforcement presence is contributing to this issue. (D2)</p> <p>-Comprehensive trail planning is needed prior to conducting trail maintenance (D2)</p> <p>-Snow mobiles can go into non motorized areas - ATVs follow.</p> <p>-Most trail monitoring is done by volunteers (D5). Because of lack of personnel to do trail maintenance, more reports were coming in than could be attended to (D5)</p> <p>-Some trail maintenance is being accomplished, but not enough manpower to accomplish what is needed (D6).</p>
45	Special Use Permits - Lands	Monitored for compliance with permit terms and conditions, including environmental effects, during special use permit administration (includes land special use permits)	SO	Forestwide	<p>-Permits issued for longer term to reduce burden of permit issuance</p> <p>-Electronic sites need more technical inspection</p> <p>-Cost recovery initiated</p> <p>-On-site inspections reduced due to lack of personnel at District level</p>

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46	Special Use Permits - Lands	Monitored pipeline, powerline, seismic and telephone special use permits for compliance with permit terms and conditions, including environmental effects, during special use permit administration.	D6 Special uses files	D6	-Permits are being issued for longer terms so the burden of re-issuance is reduced. -Compliance inspections are severely reduced due to limited personnel
47	Special Use Permits - Recreation	Monitored for outfitter/guides permit compliance on 30 outfitter/guide permits.	D3 Outfitter - guide files	D3	-Monitoring shows that potential violations of permits are occurring and increased inspections and law enforcement support are needed.
48	Summer Home permits	- Monitored for compliance with permit terms and conditions (including environmental effects) during compliance checks and issued letters to permittees on 4 summer home permits (D2).	SO RD	D2, D5	-Internal Archeological concerns may tend to require more than what is needed to meet legal requirements for project completion (D2). -There are a couple of cabins that lack authorization and those are in the process of being surveyed and evaluated for historic eligibility (D5)
49	Transportation	Monitored road conditions on 285 miles of Forest Roads at maintenance levels 3, 4 & 5.	SO	Forestwide	
50	Vegetation, Forestry	Stocking survey, Crest Aspen V Timber Sale, aspen regeneration and residual stocking of live and dead trees.	Forestry files	D5	Overall-adequate aspen regeneration is doing well with light browsing from wildlife. There is no grazing. The non-merchantable overstory is not reducing aspen regeneration below acceptable levels. These trees are being used for miscellaneous products, including Native American ceremonial uses. Some areas have conifer and other hardwood advance regeneration.

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51	Watershed	Watershed Analysis on 3 range allotments.	RD-range files	D2	Analysis concluded that problems such as erosion, loss of soil structure are due to activities including: roads, off road use, dispersed recreation, water sites etc.
52	Watershed	Monitored groundwater levels and temperature, along with surface and groundwater quality constituents along Bluewater Creek	SO watershed files	D2	Understand surface-groundwater interactions and floodplain water levels in relation to management activities
53	Watershed	Stream system functioning assessments conducted on 6 stream segments.	SO watershed files	D3 and D2	Information collected helped in assessing the current condition of these reaches
54	Wildlife	-Monitored number of quality snags per acre as required by Forest Plan. -Monitored during and after timber sale contracts.	D2/D4 Timber Files	All	Second-growth snags stand for only 3-5 years after death. Some are dropped during harvest for safety concerns for loggers.
55	Wildlife	-Monitored Mexican spotted owl occupancy in 17 PACs -Mexican spotted owl habitat monitoring in the Ranch Supply RX Burn area	D3-Wildlife files	D3	-Results show that PACs in pine/oak habitats are more productive than mixed conifer habitats. Initial observations are that this may be related to food availability -Monitoring shows that plots need to be located away from control lines to avoid false conclusions due to effects of fire intensity

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56	Wildlife Species & Habitat	Wildlife use and water development effectiveness monitoring at 15 sites.	D3-Wildlife files	D3	Monitoring shows that use of artificial sites is directly correlated to availability of water at natural sites. Use of artificial sites decreases significantly with availability of natural water.
57	Wildlife, vegetation	Exclosure effectiveness monitoring of Hudson Canyon and West Red riparian enclosures (8 sites)	D3-Wildlife files	D3	Monitoring shows that enclosures are of limited effectiveness.
58	Wildlife, vegetation	Monitoring twice annually of Aplomado Falcon prey species on 3 grazing allotments to comply with consultation requirements	D3-Wildlife files	D3	Monitoring continues to establish baseline data and non-presence of falcons.
59	Wildlife, vegetation, fire	Monitoring of pre-thinning treatment for E. Magdalena Burn.	D3-Wildlife files	D3	Monitoring shows improvement in vegetative condition and water production from thinning before fire.
60	Wildlife, vegetation	Monitoring post-treatment of thinning project in Baney Park.	D3-Wildlife files	D3	Monitoring shows improvement in condition of wet meadow after treatment.
61	Wildlife, vegetation, fire	Post-treatment monitoring of Thompson RX Burn.	D3-Wildlife files	D3	Monitoring shows increase in use by mule deer and elk after burning.

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62	Wildlife	Monitored for goshawk occupancy and reproductive success in 21 territories.	SO wildlife files	D2, D3, D4, D5	More entries than required by protocol may be needed to determine occupancy Goshawks don't always use the same nest every year. Within a territory they seem to alternate nests (D4)
63	Wildlife	Monitored for peregrine falcon occupancy and reproductive success at 5 eyrie locations.	SO wildlife files	D2, D3, D4, D5	A take was allowed at on eyrie location through a NM Game and Fish falconry permit.
64	Wildlife	Monitored for reproductive success and occupancy of threatened and endangered animals (MSO and Southwestern willow flycatcher-SWWF)	SO Wildlife files	SWWF D2, D4	-SWWF-Even though much of the Bluewater SWWF territory is fenced there is still a cattle lane allowing livestock to enter near this unoccupied territory. To prevent cowbird parasitism to SWWF (if they ever return to the area) the cattle lane should be closed from May 15 to July 15—or an alternate water source could be provided.
65	Wildlife	Monitored occurrence and population trend of migratory and resident birds on about 40 miles of transects including 7 USGS BBS routes, 2 two mile routes on D2, 1 two mile route on D4, 1 one mile transect on D5	SO Wildlife files		USGS Breeding Bird Survey has accumulated enough data during the last forty years to delineate state level population trends. Population trends on 1 and 2 mile Cibola routes can be used to compare trends at the state and National level.

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66	Wildlife	Monitored population and habitat trend of game Management Indicator Species. Data collected by New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) on some Game Management Units. Data collected by Oklahoma Dept. of Wildlife and Texas Parks and Wildlife on some Game Management Units (D6)	SO Forest MIS report	Forestwide, D6	Population trend data is not consistent from year to year because Units 8, 14, and 38 are low priority monitoring units for NMDGF.
67	Wildlife	Monitored habitat stamp project effectiveness and wildlife use	District wildlife files	Forestwide	-Provides data that is helpful in determining maintenance needs
68	Wildlife	Monitored population and habitat trend of game Management Indicator Species. Data collected by Oklahoma Dept. of Wildlife and Texas Parks and Wildlife on some Game Management Units.	Located in Forestwide MIS Report	D6	