

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Gila
National Forest

2610 N. Silver Street
Silver City, NM 88061



Reply To: 1950

Date: July 10, 1991

Dear Friend:

Enclosed please find Correction Notice Number 1 to the Gila National Forest Land Management Plan and the accompanying replacement pages for the Plan.

In an effort to keep the Plan current and a viable working document, we have incorporated these changes. The overall goals and objectives of the Plan remain the same and these changes will help us meet them.

Sincerely,



MAYNARD T. ROST
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures



CHANGE NOTICE NO.1
GILA NATIONAL FOREST
LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN JUNE 1991

INTRODUCTION

The Gila National Forest Land Management Plan was approved in December 1986 and implementation began in 1987. The Plan was written to provide the Forest with management direction for the next 10-15 years. Goals and Objectives for management of the natural resources were identified along with scheduled projects to achieve them. These schedules were made with the best current information available and with the knowledge that they would be altered as management situations changed, as new issues and concerns surfaced, and better predictions for future needs and demands were made. The Plan was designed to be a changing and dynamic document that is responsive to the current trends and demands of the public we serve. It provides management direction in a broad general sense but does not serve to make decisions on projects such as lakes or campgrounds. Listing of projects such as the ones in this document merely allows us to schedule them for the site specific study and subsequent decision. At this point, no decisions have been made whether to construct these projects or not.

This change to the Gila National Forest Land Management Plan constitutes an effort to readjust and clarify schedules to reach the goals and objectives of the Plan. It is neither a significant nor a substantial change to the Plan in that it does not make an irretrievable commitment of resources, alter the multiple-use goals and objectives nor does it change the management standard and guidelines. What it does is list additional recreation projects as proposals to be site specifically studied for feasibility, design, and environmental and social impacts. This change notice will allow us to schedule a site specific environmental analysis to be conducted on the effects of each project. These analyses will be conducted in conformance with National Environmental Policy Act and National Forest Management Act standards. Other changes include removal of priority ranking, estimated acreages, capacity and correction of typographical errors that occurred in the original plan.

NEED

This amendment is needed to address the current and anticipated future needs of the public that visit the Gila National Forest. The proposed projects provide for a well balanced recreation program across the Forest. Waterbased recreation, trail development, visitor/educational centers, campgrounds, day use sites, and historical and archeological interpretive sites will contribute to meeting this demand. Projects currently listed in the Plan would not meet the needs in a number of projects, Forest balance, and scope of recreational opportunities. These additions are also designed to provide educational opportunities for visitors and for citizens of the local communities. Scheduling these projects for site specific analysis will give us the chance to explore opportunities for partnerships with the business

and educational communities and to study and analyze the economic and social impacts these proposals will have in their area of influence.

Several issues pertinent to the site specific analysis were communicated from interested individuals. These issues are valid and will be addressed when the site specific analyses are conducted. Some examples of these issues include: access to Little Walnut Area; proximity to and potential for disturbance to private land owners; possible effects on grazing allotment management; T&E species; competition with the private sector; the feeling the Forest has enough developments; the boost some projects could provide the local economy; the commodity diversification; the need for these facilities for individuals to enjoy the forest; the current lack of water associated recreation; and current economic situation will cause people to stay closer to home and these proposals will provide the facilities needed; and many others. As stated above, these are important issues that will be addressed when the site specific analysis is done on each project.

Specific Changes

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Table 3, page 13 change: | Developed MRVDs from 171.4 to 300; Dispersed MRVDs from 447.5 to 350; Wilderness MRVDs from 87.3 to 100; and Trail Construction/ Reconstruction from 8.6 to 115. |
| 2. Table 4, page 13 change: | Group projects into Venus Project and other, add the proposed projects to be analyzed, delete priority, capacity and acreage estimates. |
| 3. Table 5, page 13a change: | Delete priority, capacity and acreage estimate. |
| 4. Table 6,7,8, page 14 change: | Delete Forest priority and PAOT capacity estimate. |
| 5. Table 10, page 15 change: | Delete Forest priority. |
| 6. Page 48, A13 change: | Delete this schedule to not reconstruct these three campgrounds. |

Superseded Plan Pages

13, 13-01
14, blank page
15, 16
47, 48

Replace With Plan Correction

13, 13a
14, 15
15a, 16
47, 48

Table 3. Proposed Plan Outputs - Period 1

Unit of	Measure	
Average Annual Output		
Allowable Sale Quantity	MCF	8326.5
Net Sawtimber (sales)	MBF	30000
Net Products	MBF	548
Timber Stand Improvement	Acres	1585
Reforestation 1/	Acres	3712
Fuelwood	MBF	11687.3
Recreation		
Developed	MRVDs	300
Dispersed	MRVDs	350
Wildlife	MRVDs	317
Wilderness	MRVDs	100
Grazing Capacity	MAUMs	329984
Permitted Livestock Use	MAUMs	347266
Water Yield	Acre-Feet	335749
Trail Construction/ Reconstruction	Miles	115
Wildlife Habitat	MAcre	13646
Improvement	Structures	2698.5
Minerals	Operating-Plans	100
Fuel Treatment	Acre	6282
Improved Watershed		
Condition	MAcre	70

1/ Reforestation includes both artificial and natural means. It is assumed that about 15 percent of the acres will be by artificial means.

Table 4. This table is a random listing of Recreation projects for Planning Period 1. Venus Project proposals, developed with the assistance of Catron County residents, are grouped together.

Venus Projects:	Other Projects:
Quemado Lake	Turkey Creek
Apache Creek C.G.	Military Road
Walnut Grove P.G.	Little Walnut Development
Glenwood C.G.	Gila Eastern Gateway Center
Pinelawn C.G.	Gila Corridor
Visitor Center	Inner Loop Scenic Byway
Aspen Mountain Loop Scenic Byway	Middle Percha Dispersed Site
Mineral Creek Interpretation	Ft. Bayard Interpretive/Health Trail
San Francisco Box Access (upper)*	Mimbres Lake Feasibility
Catron County Lake Feasibility	...Mimbres Lake Complex
...Catron County Area Lake Complex	Trailheads:
Glenwood Lake Feasibility	Redstone
Trailheads:	Trail 700
Wolf Hollow	Sapillo Creek
Pueblo Park	East Fork
Delouche Canyon	Alum
Willow Creek	Cooney
Loco Mountain	Rocky
Aspen Mountain Loop (8)	Black Canyon
	Meason Park
	Diamond Creek
	Mcown

Table 5. Rehabilitation Schedule - Period I

Site
Gila Corridor Plan
Willow Cr. Complex
Little Walnut Group
Little Walnut (Other)
Whitewater Picnic
Lake Roberts Picnic
Upper End
Iron Creek C.G.
Mesa
Pueblo Park
Cherry Creek C.G.
Ben Lilly Memorial
McMillan C.G.
Rocky Canyon C.G.
Catwalk
Powerhouse Trailhead

Table 6. Facilities Construction and Reconstruction Schedule - Period 1

Name
Quemado Office
Reserve Office Rehabilitation
Negrito Work Center Phase II
A. Crew Quarters, Trailer Park
B. Warehouse, etc.
Gila Center Well
Reserve Water/Sewer
Glenwood Warehouse Phase I
Grant County Airport-Aerial Firebase Interior
Road Surfacing
Mimbres Warehouse Expansion
Glenwood Warehouse Phase II
Rehabilitation of Lookout

Table 7. V.I.S. (Visitor Information Services) - Rehabilitation Schedule - Period 1

Ranger Stations
Wilderness V.I.S. Center
Mimbres R.D. Office
Silver City R.D. Office
Black Range R.D. Office
Reserve R.D. Office

Table 8. Trail Construction and Reconstruction Schedule - Period 1

Trail No.	Name	Miles
212	South Fork	6.2
155	Turkey Creek	5.3
153	Mogollon	8.7
158	Sycamore	11.6
207	Whitewater	12.0
201	Mineral Creek	11.5
74	Continental Divide	23.0
177	Cienega	6.4
268	Hells Hole	1.5
231	Sheep Corral	1.0
301	Kemp	2.7
247	Spring Canyon	3.0
189	Pitt Ranch	3.0
43	WS Mountain	10.0
175	Clayton	4.9
117	Animas Divide	1.5
307	Herman	2.5

Table 9. Land Line Location Program - Period 1 (Continued)

Forest Priority	Project Name	Sections	Twms - Rng	Miles
15	West Luna		T6S, R21W	1.5
16	XSX & Lyons		T13S, R13W	5
17	Spur Lake Ranch	Sec. 23, 24, 25	T5S, R20W	6.5
18	Wall Lake		T11S, R12W	6
19	Johnson Basin		T3S, R19W	4.5
20	La Jolla	Sec. 4 & 9	T8S, R15W	2.5
21	Glenwood Townsite		T11S, R20W	4
22	South Luna		T6S, R20W	6
23	External Forest Boundary SCRD			6
24	External Forest Boundary MRD			5
25	External Forest Boundary		T10S, R9W	5.5
26	Hermosa Area		T13S, R9W	23.5
27	External Forest Boundary QRD		T2S, R14W	7.5
28	Black Canyon		T13S, R13W	2
29	Range Projects RRD			4
30	External Forest Boundary LRD			4
31	San Francisco Patented Parcels		T8S, R19W	5.5
32	Exterior Forest Boundary RRD		T9S, R14W	7.25
33	Misc. Surveyor Co-ops			
34	Wilderness Boundary			

Table 10. Right-of-Way Acquisition Schedule - Period 1

Road/Trail #	Name	Miles
FR 522	Tierra Blanca	1.0
FR 19	Bill Knight Gap	.1
FR 19	Spur Lake	.3
FR 157S	Hermosa Road	14.5
FR 3228	Wildhorse	1.5
FR 231	Corduoy Canyon	10.0
FR 524, 902 896, 758	Analysis Area 2D Access	10.0
FR 157N	North Percha	3.0
FR 40E	Kingston	2.0
FR 226	Chloride Creek	2.0
FR 142	Snow Lake	.5
FR 521	Adobe	2.8
FR 886	Royal John	8.5
FR 210	Center Fire Creek	4.7
TR 724	Turkey Creek Trail	.3
FR 28	Y Canyon T.S. (BLM & State)	4.0
TR 179	De Loche Trail	.4
FL 49	Toriette Lakes	.5
TR 708	East Fork Jeep Trail	2.0
FR 519	Frisco Hot Springs	.5
TR 247	Sapillo Creek	.4
FR 506	Bear Creek Road	1.5
TR 77	Bloodgood & Cooney	.4
FR 216 & 23	East Camp	2.0

Table 11. Road Construction and Reconstruction Schedule - Period 1

Road No.	Name	Miles
141	Reserve-Beaverhead	18.9
3070	Long Canyon	1.0
19	Bill Knight Gap	22.9
153	Deep Creek	3.2
205	Hay Vega	10.0
913	Pole Canyon	4.5
220	Bill Lee Mesa	10.9
154	Signal Peak	7.2

The 10-year timber sale program is a plan based on current conditions and information available at the time of Forest Plan development. If these conditions change or new information becomes available, the timber sale program may be modified during the implementation of the Forest Plan. The degree of the modification will determine whether or not the Forest Plan needs amending, in accordance with the required process. Volume figures are for Sawtimber only. In addition, incidental volumes of other products (such as pulpwood) up to .5 MMBF/ year, may be offered.

Table 12. Ten Year Timber Sale Program - Period 1

YEAR	DISTRICT	SALE NAME	LTMA	ACRES LOGGED	VOL. MMBF	ROAD MILES
1987	RESERVE	COLD SPRINGS	6A40	1007	4.0	0
			6A29	1080	4.4	0
			6A32	4050	16.5	0
		SALE TOTAL		6137	24.9	0
	SILVER CITY	FARM FLAT 1	7E01	402	1.3	3
	QUEMADO	JEWELL	9A16	720	2.3	7
			9D15	1450	4.6	11
		SALE TOTAL		2170	6.9	18
	TOTAL			8709	33.1	21
1988	LUNA	JONES	3D23	3011	10.6	18
	RESERVE	WATER	6B15	3230	18.9	36
	SILVER CITY	FARM FLAT #2	7E01	644	1.6	3
	TOTAL			6885	31.1	57
1989	BLACK RANGE	UNIVERSITY	2B02	1962	6.4	13
			6B26	145	.5	1
		SALE TOTAL		2107	6.9	14
	LUNA	BILL	3C18	590	1.5	3
			3B19	600	1.6	3
		SALE TOTAL		1190	3.1	6
		CAP MAMIE	3D22	2371	4.9	16
		II-V	3C10	892	1.8	7
	RESERVE	BEAVER	6B17	1500	3.7	5
	SILVER CITY	JAYBIRD	7E02	408	.7	2
	QUEMADO	DEAR	9C01	2162	4.2	14
		OAK	9C03	2521	6.1	13
	TOTAL			13151	31.4	77

DEVELOPED RECREATION
MANAGEMENT AREA

This management area includes all the developed sites and support facilities on the Gila National Forest. This includes campgrounds, vistas, interpretive services, displays, visitor centers, etc. There are approximately 48 sites. The Forest also administers a National Monument in cooperation with the National Park Service.

ACTIVITY	STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES
A05	Implement the Recreation Site Construction Schedule and the Rehabilitation Schedule in keeping with assigned priorities.
A08	Provide Standard Service Level interpretive services at the Gila Visitor Center.
A09	Provide less than Standard Service Level Interpretive Services at all other locations.
A13	Hazard inspections will be made on developed sites prior to season of use. Serious hazards which threaten public safety will be corrected immediately. Other hazards will be corrected prior to opening the site to the public.
A13	Eliminate maintenance related health and safety hazards on all facilities in all condition classes.
A13	Maintain all facilities to a minimum of Condition Class 3 or above.
A13	Clean developed sites according to standards in "Cleaning Recreation Sites," USDA, 1980, and in accordance with Region 3 standards.
A13	Take water quality samples at all developed site water systems in accordance with New Mexico State regulations.
A13	Allow gathering of dead and down fuelwood for recreation use while camping or picnicking.
A13	Explore the possibilities of concessionaire operating and maintaining developed recreation sites.
A13	The following Wilderness entrance trail heads will be designated as Developed Sites included in RIM and have site plans prepared, in the first decade.

GILA WILDERNESS

Upper Willow Creek	Middle Willow Creek
Gilite	Black Mountain
Middle Fork Gila	T.J. Corral
Woodys Corral	Lower Black Canyon
Main Gila River	Alum Camp
Military Trail	East Fork
Little Creek	74 Mountain
Turkey Creek	Gold Dust
Redstone	Sandy Point
Sacaton	Sapillo
Cow Creek	Sheep Corral
Sheridan	

ALDO LEOPOLD WILDERNESS

Cooney	Continental Divide
South Diamond	Seven Brothers
Emory Pass	Railroad
McKnight	Upper Black Canyon
Perche Area	North Percha

Wilderness entrance trailheads continued:

BLUE RANGE WILDERNESS

State Line
Indian Creek Well

Pueblo Park

- D01 Grazing of developed recreation sites will be permitted only during periods of low use and where improvements will not be damaged.
- E00 Timber practices can be permitted within developed sites when prescriptions provide for nondeterioration of recreational opportunities or provide for public safety.
- J04 The following developed recreation sites will retain the existing mineral withdrawals or adjust to retain that portion needed to protect unique surface values or high value improvements.

Site Name	Acreage	Public Land Order No.
1. Catwalk	751.51	4643
2. Whitewater Picnic Area	155.05	1119
3. Scorpion CG Complex	120.00	4643
4. Trail to the Past		
5. Lake Roberts Complex	639.24	4643
	159.00	5511
6. Iron Creek Campground	130.00	1119
	1,954.80	

The following developed recreation sites will be recommended for revocation of mineral withdrawals:

Site Name	Acreage	Public Land Order No.
1. Pueblo Park Campground	80.00	1230
2. Bursum Campground	40.00	4643
3. Emory Pass Vista	20.00	1890
4. Rocky Canyon C.G.	160.00	1038
5. Lower Black Canyon C.G.	206.00	1119
6. Upper Black Canyon C.G.		
7. Wrights Cabin	120.00	1119
8. Willow Cr. Campground	80.00	4643
9. Gilita Campground	150.00	1119
10. Ben Lilly Campground	100.00	1119
11. Ben Lilly Obser. Site	40.00	1910
12. Cherry Creek Campground	133.00	1038
13. McMillan Campground	20.00	1038
14. Little Walnut Picnic Area	160.00	1119
15. Indian Cr. Rec. Area	160.00	1119
	1,469.00	

- J13 Continue to explore exchange of National Forest lands at Comp Thunderbird Organizational site.

- P14 Review maintenance needs of fire lines at developed sites.