



May 14, 2010

Corbin Newman, Regional Forester  
U.S. Forest Service – Southwestern Regional Office  
333 Broadway SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102

RE: Letter of Support, “Southwest Jemez Restoration Project”

Dear Mr. Newman,

The Forest Guild fully supports and is committed to the success of the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program.

New Mexico has been at the forefront of forest restoration and collaboration for over 10 years. This is evident in the successful collaboration between the Santa Fe National Forest and the diverse collaborative group they have assembled, including the Forest Guild, for its *innovative* Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) grant proposal, “Southwest Jemez Restoration Project.”

The Forest Guild has been invested in collaborative forest management, monitoring, and restoration efforts for over 10 years. In the Jemez Mountains, the Forest Guild has managed youth conservation corps crews at Jemez Mountain Ranger Districts for over ten years. These crews have even prepared sites for prescribed fire reintroduction in Monument Canyon, a critical area identified in the proposal.

We have been heavily involved in the development of this proposal and concur with its findings that:

- 1) the Jemez Mountains are at the front lines of climate change in New Mexico;
- 2) represent an ecologically significant forested landscape in need of restoration; and that
- 3) traditional New Mexican communities (both Tribal and Hispanic) have a long history of forest use and rely on the forest for work, water, and recreation.

Specifically, the Forest Guild is committed to the multiparty process identified in the proposal and is available to work in collaboration with others towards the identified objectives of local wood utilization, and social and economic monitoring of the project and surrounding communities. The Forest Guild is also part of the collaborative group that developed the New Mexico Forest Restoration Principles which are supported by this project and is keen to see the Restoration Principles implemented at a large scale.

I fully support this proposal and consider this proposal as an excellent match to the goals of the CFLRP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael DeBonis", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael DeBonis  
Executive Director