

MAR 26 2010

SANTA CLARA

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March 19, 2010



INDIAN PUEBLO

ESPANOLA, NEW MEXICO
87532

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

Corbin Newman
Regional Forester
US Forest Service
Southwest Regional Office
333 Broadway SE
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Regional Forester: _____
Deputy Regional Forester: _____
Deputy Regional Forester: _____
CC Staff: RK
For
Dan Meza
Return to: _____

Dear Mr. Newman:

The Pueblo of Santa Clara formally supports and endorses the proposed *Southwest Jemez Mountains Restoration Project* that the US Forest Service is pursuing through the Title IV Forest Landscape Restoration Act. We are very pleased to be a partner in this valuable forest restoration opportunity that will restore landscapes across cross-jurisdictional boundaries. This type of landscape level treatment is a wonderful opportunity to begin treating large land areas to protect entire watersheds from catastrophic wildfire and other threats to our vulnerable forested ecosystems.

We have greatly enjoyed partnering with the US Forest Service and countless other agencies on developing strategies for treating this 210,000 acre project area and feel that this type of collaboration is extremely valuable for land managers across New Mexico and beyond. The Pueblo of Santa Clara is very eager to further develop a partnership with the US Forest Service on this ten year restoration project that will greatly benefit our Tribal lands and other land areas in the Jemez Mountains.

As you are probably aware the Pueblo of Santa Clara has had a very rough history with our forests over the past twelve years, as two catastrophic wildfires have entered our reservation from adjacent federal lands and have destroyed nearly half of our commercial forests (Oso Complex Fire of 1998 and the infamous Cerro Grande Fire of 2000). A landscape level restoration treatment in the Jemez Mountains would greatly help prevent these types of catastrophic losses from occurring in the future and would help restore these forests into a much more sustainable condition.

If you have any questions or need any additional information or support from us please feel free to contact Bruce Bauer, the Tribe's Forest Manager, anytime at 505-753-7326 ext. 1298 or by email at bbauer@santaclarapueblo.org Thank you.

Sincerely,


Governor Walter E. Dasheno
Santa Clara Pueblo