

Notice of Decision for 5-Year Recomputation

File Code: 2430

Date: January 12, 2026

To Gila National Forest Timber Purchasers and Interested Parties:

In my letter of November 26, 2025, you were notified of the proposed small business share for the Gila Market Area of the Gila National Forest as the result of the regularly scheduled five-year recomputation. The share was recomputed after consultation with the Small Business Administration and in accordance with procedures governing the SBA program as outlined in Forest Service Handbook 2409.18, Chapter 90. Comments were solicited from qualifying timber sale purchasers and interested parties. A thirty-day review and comment period was provided to give you an opportunity to address the proposed share and the information used in the recomputation analysis.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Small Business Timber Sale Set-Aside Program, I have considered the comments received and have made my decision for the final share percentage.

DECISION:

It is my decision to establish the small business share of 74 percent for the Gila Market Area of the Gila National Forest as a result of the regularly scheduled five-year recomputation. In addition, 2,061ccf volume will be carried forward. This decision is effective for the period beginning October 1, 2025.

ISSUES IDENTIFIED and RESPONSE:

Contacts were made by letter with individuals, firms and associations that might have been affected by the recomputation of small business shares. No written comments were received from small businesses and from large businesses. No comments were received for the five-year recomputation.

APPEAL OPPORTUNITY:

Small business share decisions may be appealed under 36 CFR 223.118 which governs the appeal process for small business timber sale program share recomputations. As defined in 36 CFR 223.118(c), only those timber sale purchasers, or their representatives, who are affected by the recomputation of the small business share of timber sales **and** who submitted pre-decisional written comments may appeal the final decision made by the Forest Supervisor. If comments were submitted only through an association but not by the individual member, the individual may be ineligible to appeal the decision or file comments on an appeal.

This decision may be appealed pursuant to 36 CFR 223.118 by filing a written notice of appeal in duplicate to:

Regional Forester, Michiko Martin, Region 3
ATTN: David Lawrence
333 Broadway Blvd. SE
Albuquerque, NM, 87102

Any written Notice of Appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 223.118(f), Content of Notice of Appeal, must include reasons for appeal and must be postmarked by February 3, 2026, which is 20 days from the date of this notice of decision.

The Forest Service administers the Small Business Timber Sale Program under provisions outlined in Forest Service Manual FSM 2439 and Forest Service Handbook FSH 2409.18, Chapter 90. You may obtain information on the share recomputation and appeal procedures from the Forest Supervisor's Office or the Small Business Administration Representative:

Forest Supervisor, Gila National Forest
Attn: Gabriel Partido
3005 E. Camino Del Bosque, Silver City, NM 88061
(575) 388-8377 gabriel.partido@usda.gov

SBA Timber Programs
Attn: Samia Bullock
timber@sba.gov

Forest Supervisor (Acting for Camille Howes)
Gila National Forest