



File Code: 1950/2260

Date: August 30, 2013

Dear Interested Public:

The Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact (DN/FONSI) for the Devil's Garden Plateau Wild Horse Territory Plan was signed on August 27, 2013. The legal notice announcing release of the decision appeared in the Modoc County Record on August 29, 2013 initiating a 45-day appeal period. Appeal procedures as described in 36 CFR 215 are detailed in the DN/FONSI.

The Devil's Garden Plateau Wild Horse Territory (DGPWHT) Management Plan, is attached to the DN/FONSI and incorporated by reference, providing specific details on how the DGPWHT will be managed for the next 15-20 years. The plan describes the appropriate management level, the manner in which animal populations will be controlled, and actions to be taken to slow the rate of population growth. The plan also details planned actions to maintain an acceptable level of genetic diversity, describes habitat improvement projects and animal and habitat monitoring to be conducted. Any necessary adjustments to the management of the wild horses and their habitat in the future will be based on the evaluation of monitoring data.

The environmental assessment, Territory Plan, DN/FONSI, legal notice and other supporting information can be found on the Modoc National Forest web page: www.fs.usda.gov/projects/modoc/landmanagement/projects. Once there, select Devil's Garden Plateau Wild Horse Territory Management Plan.

The decision reflects the best approach to managing the herd as a self-sustaining population of healthy animals in a thriving natural ecological balance with other uses and within the productive capacity of their habitat as required by the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, as amended.

During the environmental analysis process we had an extremely large volume of letters and emails providing us input on the Proposed Action and Alternatives described in the environmental assessment. The input we received helped us develop the strategy to accomplish this project.

We appreciate your interest in the management of our Devil's Garden Plateau WHT.

Sincerely,

KIMBERLY H. ANDERSON
Forest Supervisor

