

# **Santa Barbara LAND GRANT**

Update briefing to Interim Land Grant Committee

September 16-17, 2019

Community Center, Talpa, NM

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# Introduction

- Acknowledgments
  - Interim Committee
  - New Mexico Land Grant Council
  - New Mexico Land Grant/Merced Consejo
  - Taos County Assessor's Office
  - Cristobal de la Serna Land Grant
  - County Commissioner, Candyce O'Donnell

# Purpose

- Is to up-date Interim Land Grant Committee on:
  - SBLG is identifying and regaining common land within the original boundaries for which a U.S. Patent was issued in 1905
  - SBLG is an active player in forming a watershed coalition
  - SBLG will continue to participate on U.S. Forest issues
  - SGLG would like to discuss Committee's letter and Senate Memorial 20
  - Conclusion

# Common Land

- Deed for Road between Llano and Llano Largo
- Need to work on other roads
  - Land Grant rightful owners
  - Prevent Land Lock
  - Access to common lands

# Coalition

- Land Grant and Picuris Pueblo requested and secured financial assistance
- Individual hired to develop plan
- Overall objectives:
  - Reduce threat of catastrophic wildfires
  - Improve watershed health
  - Provide traditional access to forest resources

# U.S. Forest Issues

- Law Enforcement
  - Special use permit requirement for:
    - Piñon picking
    - Other laws
  - Carson National Forest Revision Plan
    - 90 day comment period
    - Wilderness (5 alternatives enclosed)
    - Wild and Scenic Rivers (50 stream segments considered)
    - Special Use Permits
      - Sipapu Expansion
      - Hay Cutting
      - Commenting tool (CARA) (Effective comments enclosed)
        - <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/Commentinput?project=47966>

# **Letter and Memorial**

- What happened?
- What did I do wrong?
- What is the answer?
- How can we prevent what happened in the future?

# Conclusion

- Continued support from Taos County Assessor Office
- Need help from:
  - Office of the Attorney General with Land Grant title (Santa Barbara Land Grant VS USFS)
  - Taos County Planning and Zoning Office, State Engineer's Office, and the State Environmental Protection Office on Sipapu Expansion
- Discuss and develop a strategy between the Santa Barbara Land Grant, the Committee, Land Grant Council and Consejo on the Carson National Forest Revision Plan
- Subject to questions
- Thank you for your time



- **Restoration**--The plan facilitates restoration work and provides a framework for future landscape-scale restoration.
- **Recreation**-- Principles of sustainable recreation are embedded in the plan.
- **Relationships**-- The plan shows a commitment to traditional uses, tribes, and communities of northern New Mexico, values the special places of local communities, and recognizes the value of partnerships.

**What were the alternatives examined in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)?**

Five alternatives were developed based on initial public input:

1. **The 1986 Forest Plan** – This is the no action alternative.
2. **The Proposed Revised Plan** – Focuses on restoration and providing diverse ecosystem services. This alternative recognizes and enhances the Carson NF's role in contributing to local economies, including timber and forest products, livestock grazing, the service-based sectors of recreation and tourism, and other multiple-use activities and products
- \*3. **Human Uses Emphasis** – Increases access and commodity utilization. This alternative does not recommend any new wilderness areas, includes a heavier reliance on mechanical thinning to reach vegetation desired conditions, and increased amenities and infrastructure for human uses.
4. **Natural Processes Emphasis** – Responds to public comments that forest management should emphasize natural processes with reduced human disturbance to benefit ecological resources. This alternative includes less reliance on mechanical thinning to reach vegetation desired conditions and improve wildlife habitat. Amenities or infrastructure for human uses are reduced, although uses themselves are not limited.
5. **Maximum Wilderness** – Responds to public comments to include all areas identified as having wilderness characteristics as recommended wilderness. Plan components are otherwise identical to alternative 2.

**How were alternatives evaluated and how was the LMP developed?**

All the alternatives were analyzed in the DEIS to determine how they would affect or impact cultural and natural resources within the Carson NF and social and economic interests across a diverse landscape. Multiple open houses were held to familiarize partners and the public with the draft LMP, during which comments were accepted. The proposed revised LMP and accompanying DEIS are being published for the formal 90-day public review comment period in the summer of 2019.

More than 60 public meetings were held in 22 local communities. The public was able to provide feedback on two versions of the Preliminary Draft Proposed Plan and suggestions were analyzed, and incorporated into the proposed revised LMP where appropriate.

Appendix G – Wild and Scenic River Eligibility

Ranger District	ID	River Segment	River Segment Location	Classification (ORVs)	Narrative Description of Outstandingly Remarkable Values
Camino Real	19	Cañada de los Alamos	Headwaters to Rio de las Trampas	Not Eligible	No outstandingly remarkable values identified. The lower portion of this segment passes through private land, and free flow is influenced by acequia diversion.
Camino Real	20	Cañada de los Pinos Reales	Headwaters to Forest boundary	Not Eligible	No outstandingly remarkable values identified.
Camino Real	21	Cañada de Ojo del Agua	Headwaters to private land	Not Eligible	No outstandingly remarkable values identified. This area is heavily roaded with old logging roads (closed), and free flow is being impacted by effects of a pit tank, illegal use and stream crossings.
Camino Real	22	Cañada de Ojo Sarco	Headwaters to private land	Not Eligible	There is a pit tank in this segment that effects free-flow. No outstandingly remarkable values identified.
Camino Real	23	Cañada del Agua	Headwaters to Forest boundary	Not Eligible	No outstandingly remarkable values identified. This area is heavily roaded with old roads (closed), and free-flow is being impacted by effects of illegal use and stream crossings.
Camino Real	24	Cañada del Montecito	Headwaters to Forest boundary	Not Eligible	No outstandingly remarkable values identified.
Camino Real	25	Cañada del Oso	Headwaters to Forest boundary	Not Eligible	No outstandingly remarkable values identified.
Camino Real	26*	Cañon Tio Maes	From headwaters to Rio Pueblo	Not Eligible	The motorized trail recreational opportunity is not outstandingly remarkable regionally.
Camino Real	27	Chamisal Creek	Headwaters to private land	Not Eligible	No outstandingly remarkable values identified.
Camino Real	28	Coyote Creek	Headwaters to private land	Not Eligible	No outstandingly remarkable values identified.
Camino Real	29	Duran Creek	Headwaters to Rito de la Presa	Not Eligible	Recreational opportunities are not outstandingly remarkable, the original outstandingly remarkable value of potential for supporting Rio Grande cutthroat trout is not outstandingly remarkable.
Camino Real	30	East Fork Luna Creek	From headwaters to Forest Boundary	Not Eligible	No outstandingly remarkable values identified. Bull Canyon does not contain a named river.
<u>Camino Real</u>	31	Rio Santa Barbara (all three forks)	From headwaters to Jicarita Creek confluence	Wild (scenic, recreational, historic)	All three forks of the Rio Santa Barbara offer outstanding scenic and recreational opportunities, because of the solitude and high alpine, primitive experience and views of the entire basin and its expansive aspen stands. The history of the Santa Barbara Pole and Tie Company is remarkable for its influence on the local communities. There is less remaining evidence in this river segment than there is in segment #53, however none of the remaining structures are remarkable themselves. It is the history of use and the way that it changed the local economy that are remarkable and those are as tied to these upper