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To Erin Connelly/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES  
cc  
bcc

Subject Most Recent Op Plan

History:  This message has been forwarded.

Hello Erin. Here is a copy of the most updated operating plan. As you know this plan is evolving so we will forward as updates are made.



Operation Maintenance Plan 6\_14.doc

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**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN**

**2009 RAINBOW GATHERING**

**Exhibit B**

**As made part of permit CUB310009**

**June 14, 2009**

This Operations and Maintenance Plan has been developed in cooperation between the Forest Service and Rainbow Family Gathering participants to mitigate potential resource impacts associated with the 2009 Rainbow Family Gathering. This plan is designed to follow the Standards and Guidelines of the Santa Fe National Forest Plan, the Code of Federal Regulations applicable to National Forest System Lands and State and County laws and ordinances.

The Rainbow Family Gathering will maintain a volunteer liaison crew (which can and will change on a daily basis) for administrative agreement matters and resource concerns between the Forest Service and the gathering participants. The Forest Service will attempt to ensure daily meetings occur to address concerns that arise.

## **HEALTH and SAFETY**

1. Individuals are responsible for their own health & safety.
2. Gathering participants will identify the vehicles to be used for emergencies to the Forest Service either daily or as they change to insure identified vehicles receive priority. These vehicles will be allowed to egress quickly without unnecessary delays. CALM will be notified of any non life threatening illness discovered by FS personnel at the gathering. People have the right to refuse medical assistance by any entity.
3. The proper health agencies and the Forest Service will be notified of any contagious outbreaks.
4. Biological Hazards generated at the CALM tent will be disposed of at an appropriate medical waste disposal facility. No biological hazardous waste will be buried or left on the site.
5. Trash will be removed from the site in accordance with State/County sanitation requirements. The County transfer station is open Wednesday and Saturday from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM. Only paper and wood trash will be burned.
6. Drinking water should be filtered or boiled or treated. Daily water testing of water systems for total coliform and fecal e-coli should be performed as County or State requirements dictate. Participants are encouraged to have an independent water testing facility test water should they choose.
7. The gathering will maintain at least one functioning latrine per 100 people. The treatment of human waste is dependant upon numerous factors. Therefore, to assure the health and safety of visitors to the gathering, the following actions should be followed:
  - a) Portable toilets should be utilized when feasible. The toilets will be pumped and cleaned as needed.

- b) As an alternative to portable toilets, Slit trenches or earth pit privies may be used. The trenches or privies must meet State or County requirements.

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- 1) Slit trenches should be constructed on upland sites. They should be located at least 600 feet from surface waters and down slope from any drinking water sources. Trenches should be approximately 12 inches wide and of an adequate length for the anticipated number of people. Topsoil and sod should be stored for rehab. Buckets of lime or wood ash shall be available at all trench or privy sites. Trenches or pits shall be closed when they fill to within 12 inches of the surface. Disinfectant hand wash stations are needed at each location.
  - 2) Slit trenches serving 100 persons or more will be coordinated between Gathering participants and Forest Service resource advisors prior to construction to ensure resource protection.
8. Kitchen washing procedures are recommended to be a three bucket system. The first bucket should be a hot soapy wash, the second a clear hot rinse, and the third a lukewarm chlorine rinse or other disinfectant. Dishes should be allowed to air dry. A hand washing station is needed for each kitchen area.
- 1) Group kitchen areas will be coordinated between Rainbow participants and Forest Service resource advisers prior to construction to ensure resource protection.
9. Emergency helicopter landing zones have been identified to accommodate emergency evacuation of Flight For Life needs at Wetherhill and Manuel's Cabin. Areas designated as landing sites in cooperation with Rainbow participants shall remain clear of campsites or other facilities within 200 feet of center.
10. An emergency evacuation plan will be developed in coordination with Gathering participants for use in the event of fire, flood, or other natural disasters.
11. If Gathering participants identify dead or defective trees that present a hazard to infrastructure or participants, they will be discussed with a Forest Service resource adviser and mitigation will be jointly developed,

## **RESOURCE PROTECION**

1. Parking areas will be agreed upon by the Forest Service. The Shanti Sena will provide crews to organize, direct and provide security for the gathering. Site specific needs will be addressed on location to provide for shuttle, supply, route closures, etc. It is suggested that all vehicles be parked facing out to facilitate and expedite egress from the gathering. Vehicles parked in areas specifically closed for parking, or parked in a manner that interferes with the ingress/egress of emergency vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense. A live-in area (Bus Village) will also be agreed upon by the Forest Service.

Administrative Parking areas will be identified by the Forest Service. These areas will be large enough to accommodate ten vehicles. These areas will be signed and marked. Gathering participants will see that those areas remain accessible to the Forest Service.

2. It is agreed that the access route will be identified as NM State Highway 126 to Forest Road 103 to Forest Road 69 to Forest Road 70. Depending on number of people who gather, we may agree to develop a one way system for safety and convenience.
3. Sensitive areas (wetlands, sensitive species, archeological sites, etc.) will be flagged by the Forest Service. Individuals at the gathering are responsible for not camping or congregating within these areas and for not removing items from these areas (plants, items over 50 years old like bottles, cans, etc.) 3
4. To prevent disturbance to wildlife that utilize water sources in the area, no camping will occur within 300 feet of any natural or man-made water source including streams, lakes, ponds and stock tanks.
5. Gray water and compost pits from Kitchens should be at least 100 feet from any surface water or stream channel and should not be located in areas that contain riparian vegetation. It is recommended that they be covered at all times with 4 mil-polyethylene, ash or lime and be marked in a manner to prevent people from falling into them.
6. Bathing or swimming areas will be designated in cooperation with FS resource advisors.
7. Water diverted from one live source should not be introduced to another live source (no stream to stream, spring to spring transfer.)
8. Individuals at the gathering will monitor all activities to ensure that soap, disinfectants, medical waste, or any other foreign material will not be introduced into lakes, streams, or other surface waters.
9. Minimal excavating or digging out around drinking water sources. Use temporary collection techniques (such as rocks, logs, or tarps, etc.) to collect drinking water at the source.
10. Log and/or rock crossings that are constructed across streams will be constructed to minimize impacts to stream banks and will be removed at the conclusion of the gathering.
11. Campfires will be attended to at all times. It is recommended that a shovel and at least one five gallon container of water be placed at each campfire location. Community fires are mandatory, with a 20 person per fire minimum – individual fires will not be used. It is suggested that the fire pits be completely encircled by rocks and not exceed a 12 foot diameter and that all top soil and sod be stored and covered for protection.

12. If local drought conditions dictate, an "Open fire Closure" may be issued. If it is, no open fires will be used. All cooking and warming will be accomplished with camp stoves fueled by propane, white gas, or permitted kitchens, etc. Smoking would only happen within vehicles or permitted areas.
13. No fireworks of any kind will be used on National Forest System lands.
14. Only dead and down firewood may be used. No cutting of green vegetation will be allowed without prior approval of the Forest Service.
15. Livestock fences will not be cut or damaged; gates will be kept closed.
16. Sensitive archaeological sites are present in and around Parque Venado. Due to heritage concerns, forest archaeologists will be present to help avoid effects by ground disturbing activities such as digging fire pits and latrines, etc.
17. Vegetation transect markers in the Parque Venado will be identified and marked with, flagging or other identifying method and will be left undisturbed.
18. Entry into San Pedro Parks Wilderness is subject to federal regulations: motorized and mechanized (wheeled) vehicles are not allowed; and party size is limited to 15.

### **ANIMALS**

1. Rio Arriba County ordinances require that dogs be on leash at all times,
2. Gathering participants will not harass wildlife or livestock.
3. Due to endemic rabies in this area, it is recommended that all dogs, cats and any livestock be vaccinated for rabies, per State and Rio Arriba County ordinances. Any encounters with wild animals that exhibit unnatural behavior should be reported to the Forest Service.

### **NUDITY**

1. Areas within view of Forest Roads 69, 70, 103 and State Highway 126 will be identified as "No Nudity" areas.

### **COMMUNICATION**

1. Access will be granted for the purpose of locating communication equipment in coordination with FS resource advisors to prevent conflicts with wildlife and sensitive habitat resources,

### **SITE REHABILITATION**

1. All parking areas, Bus Village, trails and areas of concentrated use will be scarified to a depth of 2-4 inches unless deemed unnecessary by the FS and gatherers and will

be seeded with a native seed mix approved by the Forest Service. Seeding will be accomplished following the gathering at a time likely to be most successful, depending on the predicted weather.

2. Slit trenches and latrines will be filled and covered with the native material originally removed from the pit and mounded with excess material to allow for settling. Any surface waste will be removed from the area
3. All trash will be removed and recycled or disposed of at a recognized sanitary landfill, or contracts may be made with local trash hauling companies.
4. All man made structures not previously existing at the gathering location (bridges, swings, lean-to's, ovens, "art") will be dismantled, removed, or scattered to achieve a natural appearance.
5. Any user created trails will be returned to as a natural state as possible. Existing trails will be returned to a width specified by the Forest Service, with the appropriate water controls to avoid concentrations of water and to prevent gully formation.
6. All water lines constructed by participants at the Gathering will be removed from the gathering site and or adjacent areas.
7. All vehicles abandoned will be removed from National Forest System lands at the cost of the owners.
8. Fire pits will be filled with native material originally removed and mounded with excess material to allow for settling. Rocks will be scattered to give a natural appearance to the landscape.
9. Site specific needs will be identified and documented in a Site Rehabilitation Plan at a walk through with Gathering volunteers and the Forest Service on the morning of July 6.
10. At the end of clean-up, a close-out letter will be written by the Forest Service and presented to Gathering participants to acknowledge that clean-up is complete and summarize the effectiveness of site rehabilitation.

## **GENERAL**

1. Copies of the Operating Plan will be posted at the gathering information center, and at other suitable locations.
2. The Rainbow gathering individuals will establish contact with local agencies, businesses and organizations to arrange services and supplies, as needed.
3. The Rainbow gathering individuals will be responsible for emergency medical coordination and evacuation with area medical facilities.

### **FOREST SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES**

1. I.C./District Ranger—Derek Padilla
2. Planning Chief—Steve Miranda
3. Operations—Gene Smithson
4. Special Uses/Resources—Jim Eaton
5. Information—Ignacio Peralta
6. Health and Safety—Dan Rael