

Federal Emergency Management Agency

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and
Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
for the Gallinas Watershed Fuels Modification and Management, City of Las Vegas, San
Miguel County, New Mexico
FEMA-1339-DR-NM

Interested persons are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to assist in funding mechanical and manual fuel reduction in the City of Las Vegas. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and the implementing regulations of FEMA, an EA was prepared to assess the potential impacts of the Proposed Action on the human and natural environment. The EA was released for public comment on August 28, 2003. No public comments were received by the close of public review on September 26, 2003. Therefore, the Environmental Assessment has been finalized and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been made. This also provides public notice for work within the regulated floodplain, in accordance with Executive Order 11988 and 44 CFR Part 9.12.

The reasons for the decision not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are as follows:

1. No significant adverse environmental impacts have been identified to existing land use, water resources (surface water, groundwater, waters of the United States, wetlands, and floodplains), air quality, noise, biological resources (vegetation, fish and wildlife, State-and Federally-listed threatened or endangered species and critical habitats), safety, hazardous materials and waste, or cultural resources; no disproportionately high or adverse effects on minority or low-income populations would occur, and;
2. The project is necessary to meet the needs of the citizens of the existing local community.

No further environmental review of this project is proposed to be conducted prior to the release of FEMA funds.

Copies of the final EA and FONSI can be obtained by contacting:

Robert Tafoya
City of Las Vegas
905 12th Street
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701

The final EA and FONSI are also available on the World Wide Web on the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov/ehp/docs.shtm>.