



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Rio Puerco Field Office

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
1610 (100)

June 2007

Dear Reader:

I am pleased to announce the completion of the Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks Resource Management Plan (RMP). This document will provide guidance for management of the public lands in Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument and Planning Area in north-central New Mexico for the next 15 to 20 years.

The attached Record of Decision (ROD) approves both land use planning decisions and implementation decisions for management of the Monument. The ROD serves as the final decision for the land use planning decisions described in the attached Approved RMP, and these decisions became effective on the date the ROD was signed. However, some of the decisions are implementation-level decisions and require no further authorization requiring public involvement prior to their taking effect. Therefore, they may be appealed under the Department of the Interior's appeal regulations (43 CFR Part 4). Any party adversely affected by the decisions listed in Chapter 1 of the RMP ("Decisions Appealable At Record of Decision Signing") may appeal within 30 days of receipt of this decision in accordance with the provisions of 43 CFR Part 4.4. Publication of the Notice of Availability for the ROD/RMP in the Federal Register will be considered the date of receipt of this decision.

The decisions contained in the document may soon apply to additional lands. The 521-acre State of New Mexico inholding within the Monument boundaries is included in an exchange with the State targeted for completion during 2007. In addition, we are pursuing purchase of private inholdings from willing sellers and are optimistic that some of these inholdings can be acquired in the near future. Also, since completion of the Proposed Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument Proposed RMP and Final Environmental Impact Statement in October of 2006, the 9,268-acre parcel referred to in this document as the "North Edgeland" changed from private to State ownership. In accordance with decisions made in this RMP, we will seek to acquire this parcel in a future land exchange with the State.

The RMP is the result of extensive collaboration among State, tribal, and local governments, other Federal agencies, organizations, and members of the public. Public involvement in management of the Monument does not end with completion of the RMP. As projects that are subject to further planning are considered, the public will be given the opportunity to be involved in project-level planning and review. In addition, the Rio Puerco Field Office has an active volunteer program. There will be numerous opportunities for volunteers as the Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks Resource Management Plan is implemented. Contact the Field Office at (505) 761-8700 for information about the volunteer program.

We appreciate your participation in this planning effort and look forward to your continued participation as the plan is implemented. To obtain additional printed copies or CD-ROM versions of the ROD/RMP, contact the Rio Puerco Field Office at the address above. The document will also be available on the internet at www.nm.blm.gov.

Sincerely,

Rio Puerco Field Manager