

DECISION MEMO
USDA Forest Service

North Rainbow Falls Deposit

Pike National Forest, South Platte Ranger District
Douglas County, Colorado

Decision, Rational & Location:

After the Hayman Fire of 2002 large loads of sediment are accumulating in drainages and impoundments. North Rainbow Falls Subdivision has requested the use of an old quarry to deposit spoil from their nearby ponds. Russ Troy president of the Homeowners Association has promised to contour and shape the deposits after drying. And they will monitor the site to control any noxious weeds and help with reseeding. With these provisions I have decided to allow;

North Rainbow Falls Subdivision to deposit spoil from the nearby ponds into the old quarry site on National Forest. Later they will contour and shape the spoil into the surrounding terrain.

Existing Condition:

An old quarry was never reclaimed leaving steep walls and exposed soils.

Desired Condition:

The spoil should provide enough material to fill in much of the old quarry. Seeded with native grasses the site will be reclaimed.

Categorical Exclusion Compliance:

1. *Scoping:* Access to this site is very difficult except to residents of North Rainbow Falls. This project was proposed by their governing committee. Internally wildlife biologists and hydrologist were consulted.
2. The action does not involve extraordinary circumstances or adverse effect to any of the following: steep slopes or highly erosive soils; threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat; floodplains, wetlands or municipal watersheds; congressionally designated areas or special areas designated in the forest plan.
3. Based on consultation with the district wildlife biologist, there would be no effect to threatened, endangered or proposed listed species from implementing this project.
4. These proposed actions can be categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement as outlined in FSH 1909.15, 31.2, *category # 3*.

Findings Required by Other Laws:

The proposed action complies with other federal, state or local laws. These include the Pike-San Isabel Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), the Endangered Species Act, and the National Forest Management Act (FSM 2401.1/.2, 2435, and 2470.5; FSH 7709.56; and FSH 1909.15, Section 31.2).

Implementation and Appeal Opportunities:

This decision is effective immediately and implementation will take place during the field seasons of 2007. This decision is not subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CRF 215.8. A copy of this decision will be mailed to those who submitted comments or issues pertaining to the proposed actions.

Contact: For further information, please contact *Steve Priest*, South Platte District Office, 19316 Goddard Ranch, CO 80465 (303) 275-5624 or via email spriest@fs.fed.us.

_____/s/ J R Hickenbottom _____
J R Hickenbottom
District Ranger

____6/8/07_____
Date