

PUBLIC NOTICE OF HUNTER EDUCATION GRANT PROJECT AND ADOPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE SECOND KNOLL TARGET RANGE ON THE LAKESIDE RANGER DISTRICT, APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FOREST, NAVAJO COUNTY, ARIZONA

We give notice that the U.S. Forest Service's Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Second Knoll Shooting Range, Lakeside Ranger District, Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest (ASNF), Navajo County, Arizona, is adopted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service according to rules contained in 40 CFR 1506.3. We sign a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for associated proposed boating access projects. The letter, EA and FONSI are available for viewing via the sources described at the end of this notice.

The EA was finalized in April of 2013 by the U.S. Forest Service, in Lakeside, Arizona. The EA evaluates and recognizes objectives and goals in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests Plan.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department, proposes to construct an 80-acre local community shooting range on lands managed by the Lakeside Ranger District of the ASNF. The project includes the following components: (1) Secure the approximately 80-acre area by removing the existing perimeter fence and installing a new perimeter/boundary fence. (2) Operate the shooting range (AGFD, in partnership with the White Mountain Shooters Association) for a minimum of 20 years with a renewal option. (3) Use 0.5 mile of the existing access road (Forest Road 206) and maintain it according to the prescribed Maintenance Level III.

The shooting range is proposed to be partially funded via Federal Hunter Education grants from the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. If approved, the grants will be awarded to the AGFD by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The shooting range is located at Section 18, Township 10 North, Range 23 East, Gila and Salt River Meridian.

The EA, FONSI, and letter, may each be inspected at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Southwest Regional Office, 500 Gold Ave. SW, Suite 8514, Albuquerque, NM 87103. To view these documents online, please use the following web addresses.

USFWS: http://www.fws.gov/southwest/federal_assistance/index.html