

Chino Grazing Environmental Assessment  
Decision Notice  
& Finding of No Significant Impact  
for the  
**Antelope Hills Allotment Management Plan**  
USDA Forest Service  
Chino Valley Ranger District, Prescott National Forest  
Yavapai County, Arizona

## Decision and Reasons for the Decision

### Background

This analysis was initiated in response to regulation [36 CFR 222 Subpart A, 222.2 ©] that states, "Forage producing National Forest System lands (NFS) will be managed for livestock grazing and the allotment management plans will be prepared consistent with land management plans". This direction was followed and is contained in the Land Management Plan for the Prescott National Forest.

The purpose and need for this project is to authorize continued livestock grazing on the Antelope Hills Allotment through the issuance of 10-year term permits containing the parameters under which livestock grazing would be implemented. Authorizing and implementing livestock grazing is based on managing the effects of grazing on associated resources, not solely in managing forage production (Environmental Assessment [EA] page 1-2). Laws regulating grazing currently permitted on the Antelope Hills Allotment require a periodic review of the effects (EA page 1-2). The scope of the decision to be made is limited to grazing management (EA pages 1-5 and 1-6). The Chino Grazing Project Environmental Assessment (EA) of February 2004 documents the analysis.

The 14,397 acre Antelope Hills Allotment is located approximately 20 miles east of Chino Valley (EA pg 1-9, Figure 1). The allotment contains nearly 15 miles of the Verde River, including a quarter mile on private land. Elevations on the allotment range from 3500 ft. on the Verde River just above Clarkdale to 5424 ft. north of Baker's Pass.

The EA and Project Record are available for review at the Chino Valley Ranger Station, Chino Valley, Arizona.

### Decision

Based on the EA for this project, comments received during this analysis, and my review of the alternatives, I have decided to implement *Alternative 5 – Modified Proposed Action* for the grazing strategy and range improvements on the Antelope Hills Allotment as described below.

#### A. Permitted Numbers and Season of Use

The term grazing permit will be issued for grazing livestock with variable numbers and a variable season between 1/1 and 12/31 for less than 52 weeks. The total cow/calf animal months grazed each year will be between 936 and 1200. The period of grazing and the stocking numbers on NFS lands will be determined by monitoring and designated in the Annual Operating Instructions and authorized in the Bill for Collection. The current term permitted cow/calf animal months of 936 will be

the top number annually authorized until there are sufficient water developments in place to apply the management direction identified in Practice (i), Section B, below. Additionally, increases in the annual authorized animal months are dependent on compliance with terms of the grazing permit and continuing satisfactory rangeland management status (EA page 1-2). Monitoring will determine the ability to meet (a) allowable use and (b) control of timing of grazing throughout the allotment. (EA Table 2.5 pg 2-7 and page 2-8; Practice (iv), Section B, below).

B. Best Management Practices (refined from EA Appendix 3, by additional references below)

Best Management Practices [BMPs] (EA Appendix 3) mitigate livestock grazing effects on soil and watershed conditions to comply with the Clean Water Act. The following BMPs, additional to those detailed in Appendix 3, will also become part of the terms of the grazing permit for the Antelope Hills Allotment.

i) Apply deferred rotation to two fenced pastures and three grazing areas in a larger pasture. Strategically locating livestock, controlling access to water, and grazing on the allotment for periods designated in the Annual Operating Instructions, will provide deferment of the grazing areas. By designating the periods of use in the Annual Operating Instructions, the time when there will be no grazing on the allotment is also identified. (EA Table 2.5 and page 2-8) There will be no grazing on the Verde River corridor (EA Table 2.5).

ii) Grazing duration will be evaluated based on keeping within allowable utilization levels. There are two distinct allowable forage utilization levels. Forage utilization will not exceed 40% in key areas (PR #544) on key forage species at the time livestock are moved from the pasture. On soils of sandstone parent material, forage utilization will not exceed 30% in key areas (PR #544) on key forage species at the time livestock are moved from the pasture. (EA Table 2.5)

For both forage utilization levels, this represents 40% of last season's growth if grazed during the dormant season or 40% of current season's growth, to date, if grazed during a growing period. Forty percent of leaders on shrubs may be browsed.

iii) Install five miles of overland pipeline with five drinkers. Install ten collection/storage structures with drinkers. (EA Table 2.5 and Appendix 7 - maps)

iv) The annual authorization will be adjusted based on implementing the management practices described above, will be appropriate to the available waters, and will be adjusted based on how the range has been utilized the previous grazing period (EA pages 2-8 and 2-10).

v) The term permit numbers will be refined and validated with both *implementation and effectiveness monitoring* (EA pages 2-10, 2-11).

C. Mitigation Measures Specific to Threatened and Endangered Species (EA page 2-9, Appendix 4)

Livestock will not use grazing units within 1/4 mile of the Tower or other bald eagle nest site when eggs and/or young chicks (<3 weeks old) are present in the nest.

D. Other Mitigation Actions Required and Monitoring

Additional actions required to mitigate livestock grazing effects on wildlife habitat are identified in the EA, Appendix 4, and will become part of the terms of the grazing permit. Monitoring activities associated with the implementation of Alternative 5 will be completed as described in the EA pages 2-10 and first paragraph of page 2-11.

## Reasons for the Decision

The primary considerations I used in selecting this alternative are (a) 85% of the capable acres are in satisfactory Rangeland Management Status (RMS), (b) the alternative improves the 15% of capable acres that are in unsatisfactory RMS (EA page 1-2 and PR # 549); (c) the alternative addresses the management of the one third of the allotment considered to be potentially capable range (EA Appendix 2 and PR #549); (d) the alternative resolves the economic issue generated by scoping of

the 1999 Proposed Action (EA pages 1-7, 3-1 through 3-5)(PR #539); and (e) the alternative complies with applicable laws, regulations and policies.

Eighty-five percent of the areas that are capable of being grazed by livestock are meeting or moving toward our long-term desired conditions. This indicates that grazing management is effective over the majority of the grazed portion of the allotment.

Fifteen percent of capable range in unsatisfactory RMS is easily accessible to water. Resource concerns in these areas are not a result of stocking levels but rather a result of poor distribution and insufficient grazing deferment (PR #549) because of limited water supplies. To improve these areas I am choosing an alternative that will: (a) shorten the duration of grazing around the reliable waters, (b) provide regular deferment from grazing during periods of growth for the key forage species throughout the allotment, and (c) ensure appropriate intensity of utilization of forage species. The water developments in BMP (iii) (Section B above) will aid in shortening the duration of grazing and in providing deferment. The rotation outlined in BMP (i) (Section B above) will assure deferment and BMPs (ii) and (iv) will assure appropriate intensity of utilization. All together these practices will improve grass cover and litter in areas of unsatisfactory RMS (EA pages 3-14, 3-16, 3-27).

- Approximately one third of the allotment is potentially capable range, which currently receive little livestock grazing. These areas of potentially capable range will be managed for grazing by developing new water sources in areas of forage [BMP (iii), Section B above] (EA Table 2.5, PR #549). All the other practices of Section B above will maintain the grass cover and litter (EA pages 3-14, 3-16; 3-27).

A permittee concern with the alternative I have chosen is that there will not be an economic incentive to invest in improved livestock waters. I believe the alternative I have selected does balance the cost of water developments with livestock numbers. While the economic benefits of my decision are less than the alternative the permittee developed, Alternative 4, they are greater than Alternative 2, Current Management (EA pages 3-2, 3-4, PR #539).

This decision meets all applicable laws, regulations, and policies (see **Findings Required by Other Laws and Regulations** section, below).

## Other Alternatives Considered

In addition to the selected alternative I considered four other alternatives. A complete description of each alternative can be found in the EA Tables 2.1 through 2.4. A summary of the effects of these alternatives can be found in Table 2.6 (beginning on EA pg 2-12). These alternatives were not chosen for the stated reasons:

### Alternative 1- No Action (No Livestock Grazing).

- Grazing permit would be cancelled.
- There would be no livestock grazing or maintenance of range structures except for waters identified as critical (EA Table 2.1 and Appendix 4).

While the vegetation and soils resources would respond favorably in the ten-year analysis period, this alternative was not selected because the EA did not identify effects or consequences that warrant complete exclusion from livestock grazing.

### Alternative 2 - Current Management.

- Permitted season-of-use would be 1/1 – 12/31.
- Total cow/calf animal months grazed is 936.
- Variable cow/calf numbers and seasons of use.
- The grazing system would be three pastures, grazed in rotation.

- Allowable forage utilization would be 40% during the growing season, 55% during the dormant period. Moderate use (50% of leaders) on browse.
- No Verde River corridor grazing.
- No new range structures.

This alternative does not provide an opportunity to address the resource concerns, in that it continues with limited water developments and results in long durations of grazing in the areas of concern in the large pasture. Alternative 2 also does not provide for systematic deferment of the range that is currently being used. (EA pages 3-11, 3-15, and 3-27).

#### Alternative 3 - 1999 Proposed Action

- Permitted season-of-use would be 10/15 – 3/15,
- Total cow/calf animal months authorized for grazing would be among 260-440.
- Variable cow/calf numbers and cool season use only.
- The grazing system would be five pastures, deferred rotation.
- Allowable forage utilization would be 30%. 30% of leaders on browse could be utilized.
- No Verde River corridor grazing.
- No new range structures.

This alternative addresses the concerns in areas of unsatisfactory RMS by shortening the season and lowering the permitted animal months, but would negatively affect the economic viability of the ranch operation (EA pages 1-7 and 3-3, PR # 539).

#### Alternative 4 - Permittee Developed Action

- Permitted season-of-use would be 1/1 – 12/31,
- Total cow/calf animal months grazed would be 1620.
- Variable cow/calf numbers and seasons of use.
- The grazing system would involve five areas. Two of them are currently fenced pastures, grazed in rotation.
- One of the pastures would be on the Verde River corridor.
- Allowable forage utilization would be 40%. Moderate use (50% of leaders) on browse.
- Alternative includes fifteen water developments and five drinkers along 5 mile of overland pipeline.

This alternative is the most beneficial economically to the permittee. However, the effects of Alternative 4 (EA Chapter 3) indicate that the vegetation and soil resources would move away from desired conditions thus decreasing the acreage in satisfactory RMS.

Grazing the Verde River corridor is part of Alternative 4. The relationship of livestock grazing/native fish/nonnative fish interactions needs additional study before conclusions on the significance of livestock grazing exclusion is available (EA page 1-8, page 3-92, PR #460). For this reason I did not choose grazing the Verde River corridor at this time.

#### Summary

I chose Alternative 5 because I believe it will retain or improve existing satisfactory RMS and address the resource concerns in areas of unsatisfactory RMS on Antelope Hills Allotment. In addition, this alternative will slightly improve the economic situation. The alternative also complies with applicable laws, regulations, and policies (see **Findings Required by Other Laws and Regulations** section, below).

## Public Involvement

### Scoping

Public involvement and Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation on grazing management of Antelope Hills Allotment has occurred periodically since 1998. Status of the project has been listed in the Prescott National Forest's Schedule of Proposed Actions since November 1996.

Scoping of affected livestock grazing permit holders was initiated in July 1998 when existing conditions for each of the six allotments in this analysis were presented to the permit holders and their input was sought.

A letter describing the proposed action and requesting comments was sent to over 500 individuals and organizations, including the affected range permittee, in January 1999.

Comments received generally focused on the financial and social aspects of the proposal, but also included comments on the methodology used to determine grazing capacity, the need to reduce juniper canopy, impacts to wildlife, perceived violations of law and policy, how monitoring should be accomplished, and identification of responsible parties for cost of new facilities.

One issue was identified based on comments concerning the proposed action from the public, other agencies and permittees: "The proposed reduction in cattle production on the Prescott NF allotments of this project could result in financial failure of the affected permit holders and the resultant loss of property and a chosen way of life, as well as a loss of revenue for both Yavapai County government and local business," (EA page 1-7). This issue provided the framework for developing and evaluating alternatives described above.

The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension assembled a technical review team in April 1999 at the request of the Yavapai Cattle Growers. The Team, along with PNF personnel and the permit holders, reviewed the methods used to determine livestock grazing capacity for the Proposed Action. This team made several recommendations that were used in the development of several alternatives.

In April 2000, the R-3 Regional Forester provided the FWS (US Fish and Wildlife Service) with a summary document of determinations-of-effect for fifty-three grazing allotments with 'may affect or not likely to adversely affect' determinations (PR # 554). These included the allotments in this environmental analysis. These determinations were in full compliance with the Guidance Criteria of August 1998, which was concurred with by the FWS on September 8, 1998, under Sec. 7 of the ESA (Endangered Species Act 1973).

In April 2000, a completed EA was released for public comment. A copy of the EA was sent to 217 individuals, organizations, State and Federal agencies including the Technical Review Team and the affected permit holders. Over the comment period, 39 individuals, groups, State agencies, and affected permit holders supplied comments. These comments were used to revise the subsequent environmental analysis.

The Forest submitted the preferred alternatives for these grazing allotments to the FWS for Sec. 7 consultation (ESA) for spikedace and loach minnow critical habitat on April 30, 2001 (PR # 555). The BO (biological opinion) was issued by the FWS in December 2002 (PR # 492).

In August 2003, a new project document consisting of the 1999 Proposed Action (Alternative 3), alternatives to that proposed action, and a brief summary of anticipated environmental effects was released for public comment. The document was sent to 66 individuals, groups, agencies and Tribes. Of these, 12 responded with comments that have been used to clarify parts of this EA and to focus the analysis shown in Chapter 3.

## Finding of No Significant Impact

After considering the environmental effects described in the EA, I have determined that these actions will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment considering the context and intensity of impacts (40 CFR 1508.27). Thus, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. I base my finding on the following:

Context: The setting of this proposed action is local in regards to the long and short-term effects on both human and natural resources. The effects of this project are limited to a small portion of rural Yavapai and Coconino Counties

Intensity:

1. Both beneficial and adverse effects have been taken into consideration when making this determination of significance. The project has beneficial effects on the natural resources of Antelope Hills Allotment from managing livestock grazing. Adverse effects are minimal, localized, and insignificant. This action does not rely on beneficial effects to balance potentially significant adverse environmental effects.
2. There will be no significant effects on public health and safety. Public health and safety are not identified in the Purpose and Need for the Action (EA pages 1-2 through 1-4), nor as a significant issue (EA page 1-7).
3. There are no unique characteristics in the project area, characteristics not found elsewhere on the District or the PNF. No significant historic resources would be impacted (EA page 3-97). There are no prime farmlands in the project area. Wetlands and floodplains occurring along the parts of the Verde River bordering or within the allotment will not be impacted as the decision continues the current management of no grazing in the Verde River corridor (EA Table 2.5, EA pg 3-31, 3-48). There will be no significant adverse impacts to minority groups, civil rights, women, consumers or environmental justice (EA page 3-100).
4. The effects on the quality of the human environment (primarily permittee financial security) may be controversial, but the controversy is neither of great intensity nor on a widespread scale (EA pages 3-1 through 3-5, PR #539). The permittee and public were involved during the analysis (PR #s 137, 503, 509). While some people have disagreed with portions of the project, no one has provided evidence that the effects of the project have been wrongly predicted.
5. The effects of this decision on the natural resources are known because the practices are standard best management grazing activities (EA Appendix 3, Section B above). One unknown effect predicted in the EA (page 3-3) is whether the permittee will go out of business with a range of permitted livestock numbers. The overall effects of the decision are not considered to be highly uncertain nor do they involve unique or unknown risks because we have considerable experience with the type of actions to be implemented (EA Chapter 3).
6. The grazing activities to be implemented will not establish a precedent for future actions nor do they represent a decision in principle. The activities implemented under this decision are not a major departure from types of activities now common to the PNF (EA Chapter 3). Additionally, this decision does not commit me to actions on lands outside the project area. Finally, the grazing activities are within guidelines established by the Forest Plan (EA Table 2.6, PR # 550).
7. Cumulative effects of past, present, and foreseeable future activities in the vicinity of the allotment have been considered and evaluated (PR #s 536, 537, 545, 547, 549). These effects do not substantially add to those described for the selected alternative. With the exception of routine maintenance activities, all known connected actions associated with the selected activities likely to occur in the future have been identified in the assessment, with the direct, indirect and cumulative effects disclosed in the EA (EA Chapter 3). The cumulative impacts are not significant (EA Chapter 3).

8. The action will not adversely affect districts, sites, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National register of Historic Places. Any cultural resources that could be affected by structural improvement work will be adequately protected by mitigation measures approved in advance of work by the State Historic Preservation Officer (EA page 3-97, 3-98, PR # 528).
9. The action will not adversely affect any listed (Endangered Species Act 1973) endangered or threatened species or any critical or proposed critical habitat. This is documented in the fisheries and wildlife specialists' reports (PR # 536, 537 respectively). Livestock grazing and associated activities would not adversely impact the following species or would not occur within or adversely impact their habitats: southwestern willow flycatcher; Mexican spotted owl; proposed critical habitat for the MSO; yellow-billed cuckoo; razorback sucker; critical habitat for the razorback sucker; Colorado pikeminnow; spokedace; loach minnow; and spokedace/loach minnow critical habitat. Timing restrictions and 1/4-mile activity buffers in the mitigation measures would prevent disturbance to nesting bald eagles.
10. No significant impacts were identified for Region 3 Regional Forester's Sensitive species, Forest Plan MIS species, migratory bird species, and Arizona State Species of Concern, for this action (PR # 530 & PR # 537, EA pg 3-52 thru 3-58, pg 3-91 thru 3-96).
11. The action will not violate Federal, State, and local laws or requirements for the protection of the environment. Applicable laws and regulations were considered in the EA. See **Findings Required by Other Laws and Regulations** section, below.

## Findings Required by Other Laws and Regulations

This decision to implement Alternative 5 for management of livestock grazing on the Antelope Hills Allotment is consistent with the following laws.

Clean Air Act of 1970 (as amended) - This Act is to prevent deterioration of air quality. All activities will be implemented in accordance with provisions of the Clean Air Act as administered by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (EA page 3-99).

Clean Water Act of 1977 (as amended) - This Act is to restore and maintain the integrity of waters. The Forest Service complies with this Act through the use of BMPs (EA Appendix 3). This decision incorporates BMPs to improve or protect the soil and water resources specifically in Sections A, B, and D, above.

Endangered Species Act (1973) - This decision would not jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered, threatened, or proposed species or adversely modify existing or proposed critical habitat for any species. These findings are documented in the Region-3 Forest Service Biological Assessment of April 21, 2000 (PR # 554); the Antelope Hills SWWF Biological Assessment of February 18, 2003 (PR #496), the December 2002 Biological Opinion for spokedace and loach minnow Sec. 7 critical habitat consultation (PR #492), and the Comparison of Effects of Critical Habitat between 1999 Consultation and 2003 Preferred Alternative (PR #535).

Environmental Justice (Executive Order 12898) - This Order requires consideration of whether projects would disproportionately impact minority or low-income populations. This decision complies with this Order. Public involvement occurred for this project, the results of which I have considered in this decision-making. Public involvement did not identify any adversely impacted local minority or low-income populations (EA page 3-100). Therefore, this decision is not expected to disproportionately impact minority or low-income populations.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 - Under this act permits, leases, and easements are granted for occupancy, use, or crossing of NFS lands when the need for such is consistent with planned uses and Forest Service policy and regulations. This decision is consistent with this Act (EA pg 1-2).

Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (an amendment to FLPMA) – This Act requires permittee involvement in the planning process. This decision is consistent with this Act (PR #s 39, 40, 42, 45, 46, 49, 90, 100, 130, 144, 146, 149, 152, 153, 155, 156, 161, 162, 171, 180, 181, 182, 191, 192, 209, 212, 308, 329, 331, 352, 362, 366, 398, 410, 429, 438-440, 443, 444, 448, 455, 503, 509, 521, and 522).

Forest Plan Consistency (National Forest Management Act) - This Act requires the development and implementation of long-range land and resource management plans (Forest Plans). The Prescott Forest Plan was approved on August 4, 1987, as required by this Act. This decision is consistent with the intent of the Forest Plan's long-term goals and objectives as described in the EA, Table 2.6.

Floodplains Management (Executive Order 11988) – This Executive Order is to avoid adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains. Floodplains are defined by this order as "... the lowland and relatively flat areas adjoining inland and coastal waters ... including at a minimum, that area subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any one year." The identified floodplains in the project area are in the Verde River Valley (Forest Plan FEIS, p. 102); however, this decision will not impact the functional value of these floodplains (EA page 3-31, 3-48).

Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960 - This act directs management to utilize all the various renewable surface resources of National Forest in a harmonious and coordinated combination that will not impair the productivity of the land. I have determined that the activities and mitigation measures of Alternative 5 are in compliance with the provision of this Act.

National Environmental Policy Act (as amended) – This Act requires public involvement and consideration of potential environmental effects. The entirety of documentation for this decision supports compliance with this Act.

#### Laws Governing Heritage Resources:

National Historic Preservation Act - Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effect of a project on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in, or eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act also requires federal agencies to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment.

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act covers the discovery and protection of historic properties (prehistoric and historic) that are excavated or discovered in federal lands. It affords lawful protection of archaeological resources and sites that are on public and Indian lands.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act covers the discovery and protection of Native American human remains and objects that are excavated or discovered in federal lands. It encourages avoidance of archaeological sites that contain burials or portions of sites that contain graves through "in situ" preservation, but may encompass other actions to preserve these remains and items.

This decision complies with the cited Acts. Surveys have been conducted for Native American religious or cultural sites, archaeological sites, and historic properties on areas that may be affected by this project. It is the determination of the Forest Archaeologist that there will be no effect to heritage resource (EA page 3-97, 3-98, PR #528).

Sensitive Species (Forest Service Manual 2670) - This Manual direction requires analysis of potential impacts to sensitive species, those species for which population viability is a concern. Potential effects of this decision on sensitive species have been analyzed and documented. This decision will have no adverse impact on sensitive species (EA Table 2-6 pg 2-16, Page 3-18, Table 3.8 pg 3-52, Table 3.9 Table 3.10 pg 3-53, Table 3.24 pgs 3-92 - 3-94).

Wetlands (Executive Order 11990) – This Executive Order is to avoid adverse impacts associated with destruction or modification of wetlands. Wetlands are defined by this order as, "... areas inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support and under normal circumstances does or would support a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction." This decision will not

adversely affect wetlands as grazing will not occur within the Verde River corridor, which contains the only wetlands within the project area (EA Table 2-5, EA pg 3-31, 3-48).

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (as amended) - This project will have no adverse effects to any Wild and Scenic River, as there are no segments of Wild and Scenic Rivers on the allotment.

## Implementation Dates

If no appeal is filed implementation may begin 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period established in the notice of decision legal advertisement posted in the Prescott Arizona *Daily Courier*. If an appeal is filed, the project can be implemented beginning 15 business days following disposition of all appeals.

## Administrative Review or Appeal Opportunities

This decision is subject to appeal for administrative review by written notice pursuant to 36 CFR 215. Holders of livestock grazing permits may appeal this decision under 36 CFR 215 or 251 but not both. A written notice of appeal must be filed within 45 days, with the appeal period beginning the day after the day of publication of the Legal Notice in the Prescott Daily Courier. The appeal must be filed (regular mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, or express delivery) with the Appeal Deciding Officer. Written appeals must be submitted to:

**Appeal Deciding Officer**  
344 S. Cortez Street  
Prescott, Arizona 86303

Appeals may be faxed to the Appeal Deciding Officer at 928.443.8208. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered appeals are 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic appeals must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to [appeals-southwestern-prescott@fs.fed.us](mailto:appeals-southwestern-prescott@fs.fed.us). The appeal must have an identifiable name attached or verification of identity will be required. A scanned signature may serve as verification on electronic appeals. Please put the project name in the "subject" line.

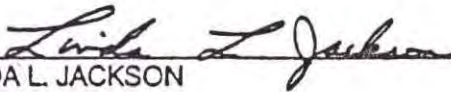
In accordance with 36 CFR 215.14, the appeal must include:

1. Appellant's name and address, with a telephone number, if available;
2. Signature or other verification of authorship upon request;
3. When multiple names are listed on an appeal, identification of the lead appellant and verification of the identity of the lead appellant upon request;
4. The name of the project for which the decision was made, the name and title of the Responsible Official, and the date of the decision;
5. The regulation under which the appeal is being filed;
6. Any specific change(s) in the decision that the appellant seeks and rationale for those changes;
7. Any portion(s) of the decision with which the appellant disagrees, and explanation for the disagreement;
8. Why the appellant believes the Responsible Official's decision failed to consider the substantive comments; and
9. How the appellant believes the decision specifically violates law, regulation, or policy.

## Contact

For further information concerning the decision or the Forest Service appeal process, contact,

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LINDA L. JACKSON

2/2/2004  
DATE

District Ranger  
Chino Valley Ranger District  
Prescott National Forest

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