

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Notice of Proposed National Natural Landmark Designation for Garden Canyon at Fort Huachuca, AZ**

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of proposed National Natural Landmark designation.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service Director has determined that Garden Canyon, located within Fort Huachuca, Cochise County, Arizona, appears to meet the criteria for national significance and proposes to recommend the site for designation as a National Natural Landmark. The public is invited to comment on this recommendation. This proposal will be considered by the National Park System Advisory Board at a meeting to be held on March 21 and 22, 2006, at Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, in the Ribault Club, 11241 Fort George Rd., Jacksonville, Florida.

DATES: Written comments will be accepted by the National Park Service until March 21, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Dr. Margaret Brooks, National Natural Landmarks Program Manager, National Park Service, 255 N. Commerce Park Loop, Tucson, Arizona 85745, Internet address: Margi_Brooks@nps.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Margaret Brooks at 520-670-6501, extension 232.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Garden Canyon represents the best example of Madrean montane evergreen woodland, Madrean montane conifer forest, and semi-desert grassland in the Mohave-Sonoran desert region. This unique assemblage of biotic communities harbors many subtropical species at the northern edges of their range. The relatively natural fire regime has contributed to the retention of ecosystems in Garden Canyon that are representative of pre-settlement conditions. Information on the National Natural Landmarks Program can be found in 36 CFR Part 62 or on the Internet at <http://www.nature.nps.gov/nnl>.

Dated: January 17, 2006.

Fran P. Mainella,

Director, National Park Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Reclamation**

[DES-05-80]

Upper Rio Grande Basin Water Operations Review

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability and Notice of Public Meetings for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Rio Grande Basin Water Operations Review.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (as amended), the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), with and on behalf of other joint-lead agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [Corps], Department of Defense; and the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission [Commission], State of New Mexico), has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) to assess the consequences of proposed changes to water operations in the Rio Grande basin above Fort Quitman, Texas. The DEIS is programmatic and is not intended to authorize specific projects that may also be applied to the upper Rio Grande system. It is anticipated that a plan for water operations at existing Reclamation and Corps facilities will be developed.

The DEIS presents alternatives with respect to water operations and evaluates the environmental, economic, and social effects of these alternatives. Some of the alternatives considered include changing the channel capacity criteria at Albuquerque, storage or non-storage of Rio Grande water in authorized San Juan-Chama space in Abiquiu Reservoir, and operation of the Low Flow Conveyance Channel.

DATES: A 60-day public review period commences with the publication of this notice. Comments on the DEIS should be submitted no later than Tuesday, March 21, 2006, to Ms. Valda Terauds, Bureau of Reclamation, Albuquerque Area Office, 555 Broadway NE., Suite 100, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102. Comments may also be submitted electronically at: <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/urgwops/>.

The joint-lead agencies will conduct eight public meetings to obtain public input on the DEIS. All of the meetings will take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The public meetings schedule is as follows:

- February 21, 2006, 6-9 p.m., International Boundary and Water Commission, 4171 North Mesa, El Paso, Texas;

- February 22, 2006, 6-9 p.m., Mesilla Valley Inn, 901 Avenida de Mesilla, Las Cruces, New Mexico;
- February 23, 2006, 6-9 p.m., Ranchers Steak House, 606 North California Street, Socorro, New Mexico;
- February 28, 2006, 6-9 p.m., Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, 2401 12th Street NW., Albuquerque, New Mexico;
- March 1, 2006, 6-9 p.m., Radisson Hotel, 750 North St. Francis, Santa Fe, New Mexico;
- March 2, 2006, 6-9 p.m., Espanola Public Library, Richard Lucero Center, 313 North Paseo de Oñate, Espanola, New Mexico;
- March 8, 2006, 6-9 p.m., Corps Abiquiu Res. Office, 2.5 Mile Highway 95, Abiquiu, New Mexico; and
- March 9, 2006, 6-9 p.m., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, 101 South Craft Drive, Alamosa, Colorado.

ADDRESSES: The DEIS is electronically available for viewing and copying at the Corps' Albuquerque District Web site at: <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/urgwops/>. Alternatively, a compact disc or hard copy is available upon written request to Ms. Valda Terauds, Bureau of Reclamation, Albuquerque Area Office, 555 Broadway NE., Suite 100 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102.

Copies of the DEIS are available for public inspection and review at the following locations:

- Bureau of Reclamation, Albuquerque Area Office, 555 Broadway NE., Suite 100, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102;
- Southern Peaks Public Library, 423 4th Street, Alamosa, Colorado 81101;
- Taos Public Library, 402 Camino de la Placita, Taos, New Mexico 87571;
- City of Española Library, 405 Paseo de Oñate, Espanola, New Mexico 87532;
- Albuquerque Main Library, 501 Copper NW., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102;
- Santa Fe Public Library, 145 Washington Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501;
- El Paso Public Library, Clardy Fox Branch, 5515 Robert Alva Avenue, El Paso, Texas 79905;
- Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 East Picacho Avenue, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001; and
- Socorro Public Library, 401 Park Street, Socorro, New Mexico 87801.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Valda Terauds, Bureau of Reclamation, Albuquerque Area Office, 555 Broadway NE., Suite 100, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102; telephone 505-462-3584; facsimile 505-462-3593; e-mail: vterauds@uc.usbr.gov.

Ms. April Sanders, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District, 4101