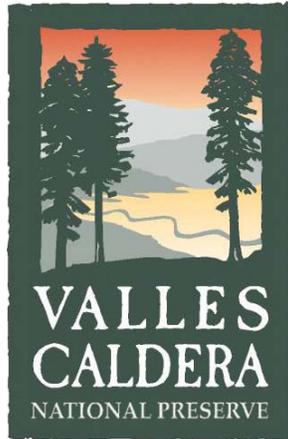

Valles Caldera National Preserve

Sandoval and Rio Arriba Counties

State of New Mexico



Stewardship Register

Implementing Decision:

Based on the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact It is my decision to implement the proposed Stewardship Action (the Expansion of Borrow Pit #2) as described, without the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. I find the available information regarding the purpose and need for the proposal and the anticipated outcomes are suitable, and monitored outcomes are identified.

Stewardship Action:	Expansion of Borrow Pit #2
Responsible Official	Dennis Trujillo, Preserve Manager
Signature :	/s/
Signature Date:	June 21, 2007
File Number	50200 0706
Target Start Date:	Summer 2007
Actual Start Date	Summer 2007
Target Completion Date:	Summer 2007
Actual Completion Date	Fall 2007

Finding of No Significant Impact

Finding of No Significant Impact

Introduction

In 1978, the Council on Environmental Quality promulgated regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). These regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) include a definition of “significantly” as used in NEPA. The eleven elements of this definition are critical to reducing paperwork through use of a finding of no significant impact when an action would not have a significant effect on the human environment, and is therefore exempt from requirements to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS). Significantly as used in NEPA requires considerations of context and the ten elements of intensity.

(a) Context: Significance of an action must be analyzed in several contexts such as society as a whole (human, national), the affected region, affected interests, and the locality. Significance varies with setting. In the case of a site-specific action, significance would usually depend upon the effects in the locale rather than in the world as a whole. Both short- and long-term effects are relevant.

(b) Intensity: Refers to the severity of impact ... and the following should be considered in evaluating intensity:

1. Impacts which may be both beneficial and adverse;
2. The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety;
and
3. The unique characteristics of the geographic area.

The outcomes (both beneficial and adverse) expected as a result of implementing the proposed stewardship action were presented in the EA in a comparative form. All outcomes were attributed in relation to their context and intensity. No significant effects were predicted as a result of implementing the proposed action.

4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be controversial; and
5. The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique and unknown risks.

The effects of this project on the quality of the human environment are not likely to be highly controversial. Public scoping on the Proposed Action did not generate any public comment that could be considered controversial. The Valles Caldera Preservation specifically permits this

