

PUBLIC NOTICE

Environmental Assessment for Fuels Modification and Management in the City of Las Vegas, San Miguel County, New Mexico. FEMA-1329-DR-NM

Interested persons are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to assist in the funding of fuels management activities in the City of Las Vegas in San Miguel County, New Mexico. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Historic Preservation Act and the implementing regulations of FEMA, an Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared to assess the potential impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environment.

The EA evaluates alternatives that provide for compliance with applicable environmental laws. The alternatives to be evaluated include (1) No Action Alternative; (2) Manual and mechanical fuels management (Alternative 2- Proposed Action); and (3) Manual and mechanical fuels management followed by a broadcast burn (Alternative 3). Fuels management activities would occur on approximately 478 acres of the 991 acres of City-owned land located roughly 5 miles from downtown Las Vegas. This land serves as a forested buffer for the City's drinking water supply.

The draft EA is available for review between August 28, 2003 and September 26, 2003, at the City of Las Vegas building, 905 12th Street, Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701, or by contacting Robert Tafoya at 505-454-3832 between the hours of 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. The EA is also available for review online at the FEMA website:

<http://www.fema.gov/ehp/docs.shtm>.

Written comments regarding this action should be directed to Janet Frey, Project Manager, URS Group, 200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101, Gaithersburg, MD 20878. Comments should be directed no later than 5 P.M. on September 26, 2003.