



San Gabriel River Confluence with Cattle Canyon Improvements Project

State Clearinghouse #2016101039

To: Stakeholders of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report (DEIS/EIR)
From: Jeffrey Vail, Forest Supervisor of the Angeles National Forest, USDA Forest Service
Mark Stanley, Executive Officer, Watershed Conservation Authority
Subject: Notice of Availability, Draft EIS/EIR for the Proposed San Gabriel River Confluence with Cattle Canyon Improvements Project
Date: November 7, 2017

The Angeles National Forest (ANF), as the Lead Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA), as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, are seeking public comment on a joint Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/EIR) for consideration of the San Gabriel River Confluence with Cattle Canyon Improvements Project.

Proposed Action/Project. The proposed action/project would develop new management strategies and enhancements to protect and restore the existing multi-use areas for public enjoyment along the East Fork San Gabriel River (EFSGR) and within the 198-acre project site. Proposed enhancements include the development of new, pedestrian trails, river access points, and upgrades to existing facilities, improvements to paved and unpaved roadways, and restoration of riparian and upland vegetation communities. The proposed action/project would aim to shift and concentrate recreational use to certain areas to minimize adverse effects overall, promote stewardship of public lands, improve riparian habitat conditions and enhance stream habitat conditions. The Draft EIS/EIR describes the purpose and need, proposed actions and evaluates the environmental impacts associated with construction and operation. The Draft EIS/EIR has determined that the proposed action would not result in any unavoidable significant impacts. Alternatives evaluated include the following:

- *Alternative 1: Proposed Action.*
- *Alternative 2: No Action/No Project Alternative.* This alternative would not implement roadway and recreational improvements. Existing use of recreational facilities and both authorized and unauthorized trail access would be expected to continue.

Availability of Draft EIS/EIR. The Draft EIS/EIR will be available for review at the following locations:

**Angeles National Forest
San Gabriel Mountains National Monument**

110 N. Wabash Ave.
Glendora, California 91741
(626) 335-1251
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(Monday through Friday)

**Angeles National Forest
Supervisor's Office**

701 N Santa Anita Ave.
Arcadia, CA 91006
(626) 574-1613
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(Monday through Friday)

Watershed Conservation Authority

100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
Azusa, CA 91702
(661) 947-4111
Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(Monday through Friday)

An electronic copy of the Draft EIS/EIR, and the latest project updates are available for review on the WCA's project website at: http://www.wca.ca.gov/cattle_canyon, or at the ANF website at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/angeles/landmanagement/projects>.

Written Comments. Written comments will be accepted for 45 days following the date that this Notice of Availability is published in the Federal Register, beginning on November 9, 2017 and ending December 26, 2017.

Written comments on the Draft EIS/EIR should be sent to: **Email:** EFSGR@wca.ca.gov, **Fax:** (626) 574-5233, **Mail to:** 110 N. Wabash Ave. Glendora, California 91741.

The Forest Service decision for the project is subject to administrative review (36 CFR 218). Only those who submit timely and specific written comments during a public comment period are eligible to request this administrative review. Please see the legal notice posted to the websites above, or contact the Forest Service for specific questions on commenting and administrative reviews.

Public Meetings. The ANF and WCA will hold Draft EIS/EIR public meetings on November 18, 2017 and December 5, 2017. The public meeting is an opportunity for interested parties to receive information, ask questions, share concerns, or provide written comments. Staff from each lead agency will be present. The meeting will be open-house format.

Saturday, November 18, 2017

1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Azusa River Wilderness Park
100 Old San Gabriel Canyon Rd.
Azusa, California 91702

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Angeles National Forest Supervisor's Office
701 N Santa Anita Ave,
Arcadia, California 91006