

ER ID 205678



Environmental Protection Division

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Refer to: ENV-ES: 11-192

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EES-16: Computational Earth Science
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SUBJECT: REACHES IN THE WATER AND CAÑON DE VALLE CANYON SYSTEMS FOR THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT FOR ECOLOGICAL SCREENING/RISK ASSESSMENT.

Steve:

As per your request, this letter reports on the presence/absence of threatened or endangered (T&E) species in Environmental Restoration Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) or reaches under consideration for ecological screening and/or risk assessment. This information will help:

- (1) to identify contaminant pathways that maybe within or in the vicinity of the nesting area of a T&E species nesting area
- (2) to notify, risk assessors record/identify relevant contaminant Toxicity Reference Values primarily for birds,
- (3) to notify, risk assessors to record/identify SWMU aggregation issues relative to foraging patterns of T&E species.

Data from Water and Cañon de Valle Canyon systems were reviewed to determine whether or not SWMUs are in or near nesting habitat of federally-listed T&E species. These data were also reviewed to determine if they are in a foraging area and if so, the amount of potential foraging within the vicinity of the specific reaches. SWMU location information, maintained by the Environmental Programs, Environment and Remediation Support Services (EP-ERSS) Division, was intersected with T&E species habitat using Geographic Information Systems databases maintained by Los Alamos National Laboratory's Environmental Stewardship Group (ENV-ES). Reaches in Water and Cañon de Valle Canyon systems are in potential Mexican spotted owl nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat.

Suitable habitats for the species, along with a protective buffer area surrounding the habitats, have been designated as Areas of Environmental Interest (AEIs). Site plans provide information on the location of AEIs and guidelines for their management. In general, an AEI consists of a core area that contains important breeding or wintering habitat for a specific species and a buffer area around the core area. The buffer protects the core area from disturbances that would degrade



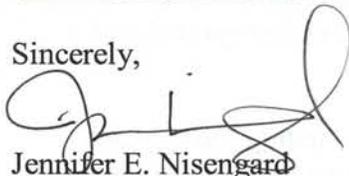
the value of the core area to the species. There are Mexican spotted owl and Southwestern willow flycatcher AEIs currently on LANL property. Table 1 identifies the reaches of the Mexican Spotted Owl.

Table 1 Mexican Spotted Owl Habitat issues in the Cañon de Valle AEI.

Reach	Foraging Habitat Rating	Habitat Types (N)esting, (R)oosting, (F)oraging.	Timing Restrictions	Tree Cutting Restrictions	Other Issues
CDV-1C	Low	100 % R	No	No	Floodplain
CDV-1E	Low	100 % R	No	No	Floodplain
CDV-2C	High	75% N, 25 % R	Yes	Yes	Floodplain
CDV-2W	Low	100 % R	Yes	No	Floodplain
CDV-2E	High	50 % N, 50 %R	Yes	Yes	Floodplain
CDV-3	Very High	100 % N	Yes	Yes	Floodplain
CDV-4	Very High	100 % N	Yes	Yes	Floodplain
CDVN-1	Low	100 % R	No	No	None
CDVS-1	Low	100 % R	No	No	Floodplain
FL-1	Low	100 % R	Yes	No	None
FL-2	Low	100 % R	Yes	No	None
FL-3	Very High	100 % N	Yes	Yes	Floodplain
MS-1	Low	100 % R	No	No	None
SS-1E	Low	100 % R	No	No	None
SS-1W	Low	100 % R	No	No	None
SS-2	Low	100 % R	No	No	Floodplain
SS-3	Moderate	100 % High R	Yes	No	Floodplain
WA-0	High	50 % N, 50 % R	No	No	Floodplain
WA-2	Very High	100 % N	No	No	Floodplain
WA-2W	Very High	100 % N	No	No	Floodplain
WA-3	Very High	100% N	Yes	Yes	Floodplain
WA-4	High	50 % N, 50 % R	No	No	Floodplain
WA-4W	Moderate	100 % High R	Yes	No	Floodplain
WA-5	High	25% Nest, 75 % High R	No	No	Floodplain
WAAB-1	High	75 % Nest, 25 % High R	Yes	Yes	None
WAN-1	Moderate	100 % High R	No	No	None
WAN-2	Very High	100 % N	No	No	Floodplain
WANE-1	Moderate	100 % High R	No	No	None
WANW-1	High	50 % N, 50 % R	No	No	Floodplain

If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me (505) 667-7912 (jnisengard@lanl.gov) or Dave Keller (505) 667-7037 (dckeller@lanl.gov).

Sincerely,



Jennifer E. Nisengard
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