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 File Code:
 1950

 Date:
 May 12, 2023

Dear Interested Party:

As the Responsible Official, Forest and Grassland Supervisor Diana Trujillo has signed a Decision Memo for the City of Colorado Springs Pikeview Free Use Permit project on the Pikes Peak Ranger District of the Pike-San Isabel National Forests & Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands. The project addresses the need to respond to a proposal received from the City of Colorado Springs to receive material that will be used in the reclamation of the Pikeview Quarry, which is located on city, private and National Forest System lands.

This decision approves the removal of fill material from National Forest Service lands for use by the agent of the City of Colorado Springs (Riverbend Industries) in the backfill and final reclamation of Pikeview Quarry. A reclamation plan for the Pikeview Quarry was approved by the State of Colorado and work has already begun on the adjacent private and city lands. The implementation of final reclamation practices at the Pikeview Quarry will improve air quality by minimizing or eliminating dust from the site, minimize erosional impacts to the watershed, improve scenic and aesthetic values, improve hydrologic function, and improve the overall ecosystem as the reforestation and revegetation efforts will allow for more resilient wildlife habitat.

The final approved activities include a number of design criteria and mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts and comply with agency best management practices. You may view the final decision on the project website at: <u>https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63324</u>.

This project is subject to appeal by the proponents (36 CFR 214). If no appeal is received, or once an appeal is resolved, the free use permit may be issued, and implementation may begin immediately. Project activities are expected to take place over approximately eighteen months.

For additional information about this project, please contact Amy Titterington, Geologist, at 719-838-0699 or via email at <u>amy.j.titterington@usda.gov</u>.

Thank you for your interest in the management of National Forest System lands.

Sincerely,

Carl Banes

CARL R. BAUER District Ranger



