

**Federal Emergency Management Agency
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the Lomitas Negras Arroyo Stabilization Project – Scope Modification, Rio Rancho, Sandoval County, New Mexico, HMGP DR-4079-NM Project #12

Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority (SSCAFCA) submitted an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NMDHSEM) for a grant under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) following Major Disaster FEMA-DR-4079-NM. This program, as authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, provides grants to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration.

FEMA provided funding to SSCAFCA for the construction of an off-channel detention pond and bank stabilization features in the Arroyo de las Lomitas Negras to protect adjacent and downstream properties from flood and erosion damage and to reduce sediment deposition in downstream facilities. An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to assess the potential impacts of this work on the human and natural environment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508), FEMA's Instruction 108-1-1 for implementing NEPA, the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and 44 CFR Part 9, concluding with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on February 9, 2017.

Interested persons are hereby notified that SSCAFCA has submitted a scope of work modification to FEMA to extend the bank stabilization area proposed in the original 2017 EA.

A draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) and draft FONSI have thus been prepared to assess the potential impacts of the proposed additional bank stabilization work on the human and natural environment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508), FEMA's Instruction 108-1-1 for implementing NEPA, the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and 44 CFR Part 9. The draft SEA evaluates alternatives that provide for compliance with applicable environmental laws. The alternatives evaluated include (1) no action; (2) the proposed action to extend the original proposed bank stabilization features. The project area is located in Rio Rancho, Sandoval County, New Mexico near Saratoga Drive and NM 528 in the vicinity of Enchanted Hills Elementary School.

The draft SEA and draft FONSI are available for review and comment at Loma Colorado Main Library, 755 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, from Monday through Saturday 10 am to 8 pm; from October 6, 2019 to October 21, 2019. An electronic version of the draft SEA and draft FONSI can be requested from Kimberly Campo-Allen, FEMA Region 6, at kimberly.campoallen@fema.dhs.gov or viewed on FEMA's website at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/> or SSCAFCA's website at <http://sscafca.org/>.

The comment period will end 15 days from the initial notice publication date. Written comments on the draft SEA can be mailed or emailed to Kimberly Campo-Allen, Environmental Specialist, at kimberly.campoallen@fema.dhs.gov, FEMA Region 6, FEMA Region 6, 800 N Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209. If no substantive comments are received, the draft SEA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued for the project. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.