

**File Code:** 2350
Route To:**Date:** AUG 21 2019**Subject:** Rio Chama Wild and Scenic River Boundary Package Transmittal**To:** Susan Spear, WO, Director of Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers

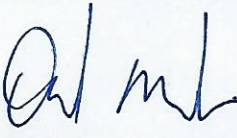
Enclosed please find the completed legal description and associated map (collectively, "boundary package") for the Rio Chama Wild and Scenic River, designated on November 7, 1988 under P.L. 100-633.

Public processes related to the development of the final boundary for the Rio Chama Wild and Scenic River at a minimum include public participation in the development of the Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP), completed in 1990, and collaboration starting in 2012 by a stakeholder group comprised of land grant heirs, congressional representatives, nonprofit organization staff, and federal agency staff to identify the location of the Chama River Canyon Wilderness and Rio Chama Wild and Scenic River boundaries with respect to a historic Spanish land grant cemetery dating to the 1700s.

This boundary package was not completed immediately after the designation of the Rio Chama as a wild and scenic river primarily due to ongoing, extensive, and complex efforts to identify the proper alignment of the boundary for Chama River Canyon Wilderness, which was designated in 1978. Intensive efforts related to the establishment of the boundary for Chama River Canyon Wilderness coupled with a diminishing workforce of surveyors and shifting agency priorities over time collectively resulted in a delay in the completion of the Rio Chama Wild and Scenic River boundary package until 2019.

Lastly, given that the Rio Chama Wild and Scenic River is jointly administered by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), we prepared a joint Forest Service and BLM boundary package. Guidance provided by now-retired BLM National Wild and Scenic River Program Manager Cathi Bailey prompted Regional Office staff to provide four copies of the boundary package signed by the Forest Service Regional Forester and Regional Surveyor, and the BLM State Director and Chief Cadastral Surveyor, to the BLM New Mexico State Office to meet BLM requirements for the submittal and filing of the final boundary package.

If you have questions about this boundary package, please contact Bjorn Fredrickson, Regional Wilderness, Wild and Scenic River, and Cave Program Manager at bjorn.fredrickson@usda.gov or 505-842-3233.

FOR 
TRACY PARKER
Director, Lands and Minerals

Enclosures (2)

cc: Bjorn Fredrickson, Eric Sandeno, Dusty Vaughn

