



*** Media Advisory ***

New Mexico Environment Department & EPA To Announce Watershed Restoration Efforts Underway In Tres Lagunas Fire Area of Pecos River Canyon

Media Will Have Opportunity To View Flood Damage In Area Currently Closed To Public

Terrero, NM – The impacts from the Tres Lagunas Fire continue to affect the Pecos River Canyon as a result of recent heavy monsoon rains. On Monday, local media will have an opportunity to go behind the closed-off burn zone lines and view some of the watershed damage that has occurred on private property and hear how State and Federal Programs are working together to address these watershed and water quality impacts.

Local ranch owner Larry Lujan will open his Brush Ranch to media for an event that will allow media the opportunity to see watershed damage up close. In addition, New Mexico Environment Department Secretary-Designate Ryan Flynn and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Acting Assistant Administrator for Water Nancy Stoner will be joined by the watershed association members and forestry officials. The briefing will highlight collaborative efforts underway to restore the watershed and improve water quality. These efforts will help ensure the Pecos River continues to support a healthy fish population that draws anglers and supports the local economy.

What: New Mexico Environment Department Secretary-Designate Ryan Flynn will be joined by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Acting Assistant Administrator for Water Nancy Stoner to discuss watershed restoration efforts underway in Tres Lagunas Fire Area of Pecos River Canyon. Following a brief news conference, media will be able to photograph/video some of the damaged areas on Brush Ranch.

Who: Secretary-Designate Ryan Flynn, New Mexico Environment Department Nancy Stoner, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Acting Assistant Administrator for Water Larry Lujan, Host/Owner of Brush Ranch Erika Schwender, Resource Protection Division Director, New Mexico Environment Department James Hogan, Bureau Chief, Surface Water Quality Bureau, New Mexico Environment Department Tony Delfin, New Mexico State Forester Doug Jeffords, Upper Pecos Watershed Association Kenneth Alcon, District Conservationist, National Resources Conservation Service Toner Mitchell, Trout Unlimited New Mexico Public Lands Coordinator

Where: Brush Ranch

Near Terrero, NM (Directions On Attachment – Driving Time From Santa Fe is 1 Hour)

When: Monday, August 5, 2013 at 2:45 p.m.

(Media Should Plan To Leave Santa Fe no later than 1:30 PM)

Directions from Santa Fe to Brush Ranch

If you are using Google Maps or Mapquest, the nearest community recognized by those applications is Terrero, NM, about 2.5 miles north of Brush Ranch on Highway 63. Do not drive to "Brush Ranch School"! Brush Ranch is across the Pecos River from a tributary called Indian Canyon, which appears on some mapping applications.

- Find your way to I-25 and drive north (signed towards Las Vegas).
- After 15-17 miles (depending on how you got to I-25), take exit 299 (Glorietta / Pecos exit).
- Turn left at the top of the off ramp, cross I-25, then turn right towards Pecos on HW 50. Pecos is about six miles from this intersection.
- Turn left (north) at the four way stop in Pecos, onto HW 63. Resetting a trip odometer may be wise here.
- Near mile marker 15, you will reach "road closed" signs. The road is open for participants in this event. Drive around the signs and proceed up the canyon. A member of the event staff should be at the sign to allow entrance for media.
- 10.9 miles from the four-way stop in Pecos, Brush Ranch has a large sign on the right side of the highway, and several log buildings on the other side of the Pecos River.
- Park in the gravel lot along the highway just upstream of the driveway, walk back to the driveway, and cross the bridge. The event is across the bridge.