

## **PROJECT INFORMATION**

Project Title:	DeTemple Ciudad Private Property
Project Type:	FOREST MANAGEMENT, THINNING
Latitude/Longitude (DMS):	35.112593 / -106.284071
County(s):	BERNALILLO
Project Description:	Thinning of Pinyon/Juniper on 14.5 acres of private property to reduce fuel loads and
	create defensible space. Thinning will reduce basal area by 30 square feet per acre.
	Slash will be removed from site. Project will occur in fall 2023.

### **REQUESTOR INFORMATION**

Project Organization:	
Contact Name:	Marissa Goodwin
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Organization:	New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department - State Forestry
	Division
Address:	5105 Santa Fe Hills Blvd, Rio Rancho NM 87144
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## **OVERALL STATUS**

This report contains an initial list of recommendations regarding potential impacts to wildlife or wildlife habitats from the proposed project; see the Project Recommendations section below for further details. Your project proposal is being forwarded to a New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (Department) biologist for review to determine whether there are any additional recommendations regarding the proposed actions. A Department biologist will be in touch within 30 days if there are further recommendations regarding this project proposal.

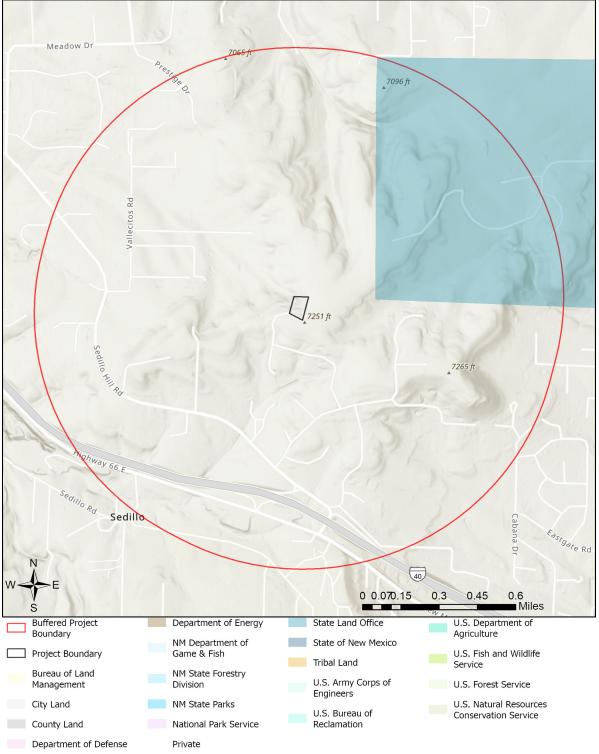


## About this report:

- This environmental review is based on the project description and location that was entered. The report must be updated if the project type, area, or operational components are modified.
- This is a preliminary environmental screening assessment and report. It is not a substitute for the potential wildlife knowledge gained by having a biologist conduct a field survey of the project area. Federal status and plant data are provided as a courtesy to users. The review is also not intended to replace consultation required under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), including impact analyses for federal resources from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) using their Information for Planning and Consultation tool.
- The New Mexico Environmental Review Tool (ERT) utilizes species observation locations and species habitat suitability models, both of which are subject to ongoing change and refinement. Inclusion or omission of a species within a report cannot guarantee species presence or absence within your project area. To determine occurrence of any species listed in this report, or other wildlife that may be present within your project area, onsite surveys conducted by a qualified biologist during appropriate, species-specific survey timelines may be necessary.
- The Department encourages use of the ERT to modify proposed projects for avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of wildlife impacts. However, the ERT is not intended to be used in a repeatedly iterative fashion to adjust project attributes until a previously determined recommendation is generated. The ERT serves to assess impacts once project details are developed. The <u>New Mexico Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool</u> is the appropriate system for advising early-stage project planning and design to avoid areas of anticipated wildlife concerns and associated regulatory requirements.



# **DeTemple Ciudad Private Property**



USGS, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF), Natural Heritage New Mexico (NHNM), and USDA Forest Service,

Compiled by Richard Norwood of NHNM over the period 2020 to 2021. Sources: Esri, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatastyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community



Special Status Animal Species Potentially within 1 Miles of Project Area						
Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMDGF (WCA)	NMDGF SGCN/SERI		
American Bittern	Botaurus lentiginosus			SGCN		
Aplomado Falcon	Falco femoralis		E	SGCN		
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus		т	SGCN		
Mountain Plover	Charadrius montanus			SGCN		
Flammulated Owl	Psiloscops flammeolus			SGCN		
Western Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia hypugaea			SGCN		
Mexican Spotted Owl	Strix occidentalis lucida	LT		SGCN		
Common Nighthawk	Chordeiles minor			SGCN		
Lewis's Woodpecker	Melanerpes lewis			SGCN		
Red-headed Woodpecker	Melanerpes erythrocephalus			SGCN		
Williamson's Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus thyroideus			SGCN		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Contopus cooperi			SGCN		
Bank Swallow	<u>Riparia riparia</u>			SGCN		
Pinyon Jay	Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus			SGCN		
Clark's Nutcracker	Nucifraga columbiana			SGCN		
Juniper Titmouse	Baeolophus ridgwayi			SGCN		
Pygmy Nuthatch	<u>Sitta pygmaea</u>			SGCN		
Western Bluebird	Sialia mexicana			SGCN		
Mountain Bluebird	Sialia currucoides			SGCN		
Loggerhead Shrike	Lanius Iudovicianus			SGCN		
<u>Gray Vireo</u>	<u>Vireo vicinior</u>		т	SGCN		
Virginia's Warbler	Oreothlypis virginiae			SGCN		
Black-Throated Gray Warbler	Setophaga nigrescens			SGCN		
Grace's Warbler	Setophaga graciae			SGCN		
McCown's Longspur	Rhynchophanes mccownii			SGCN		
Chestnut-collared Longspur	Calcarius ornatus			SGCN		
Cassin's Finch	Haemorhous cassinii			SGCN		
Evening Grosbeak	Coccothraustes vespertinus			SGCN		
Spotted Bat	Euderma maculatum		т	SGCN		
Pale Townsend's Big-Eared Bat	Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens			SGCN		
Common Checkered Whiptail	Aspidoscelis tesselata		E	SGCN		
Western Ribbon Snake	Thamnophis proximus		т	SGCN		

ESA = Endangered Species Act, WCA = Wildlife Conservation Act, SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need, SERI = Species of Economic and Recreational Importance, C = Candidate, E = Endangered, LE = Listed Endangered, LT = Listed Threatened, T = Threatened, XN = Non-essential Experimental Population, for other ESA codes see this website: <u>https://nhnm.unm.edu/node/1378928</u>.



## **Project Recommendations**

Your proposed project activities may require a custom review for assessment of potential effects to wildlife. See the "OVERALL STATUS" section above to determine the likelihood that your project will be reviewed further based on its location. A Department biologist will confirm whether any additional conservation measures are needed. You should expect to receive any additional project recommendations within 30 days of your project submission. If the "OVERALL STATUS" section indicates that no further consultation with the Department is required based on its location, then you will only receive additional project feedback from the Department if a biologist deems it necessary.

All migratory birds are protected against direct take under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. Sections 703-712), and hawks, falcons, vultures, owls, songbirds, and other insect-eating birds are protected under New Mexico State Statutes (17-2-13 and 17-2-14 NMSA), unless permitted by the applicable regulatory agency. To minimize the likelihood of adverse impacts to migratory birds, nests, eggs, or nestlings, the Department recommends that ground disturbance and vegetation removal activities be conducted outside of the primary migratory bird breeding season of April 15-September 1. Breeding season may begin earlier for raptors or when working in low-elevation habitats such as deserts. If ground disturbing and clearing activities must be conducted during the breeding season, the area should be surveyed for active nest sites (with birds or eggs present in the nesting territory) and avoid disturbing active nests until young have fledged. For active nests, establish adequate buffer zones to minimize disturbance to nesting birds. Buffer distances should be at least 100 feet from songbird and raven nests; 0.25 miles from most raptor nests; and 0.5 miles for ferruginous hawk, golden eagle, peregrine falcon, and prairie falcon nests. Active nest sites in trees or shrubs that must be removed should be mitigated by gualified biologists or wildlife rehabilitators. Department biologists are available to consult on nest site mitigation and can facilitate contact with qualified personnel. The list of New Mexico Species of Greatest Conservation Need (see link, page 14, table 5) and the federal list of Birds of Conservation Concern should be reviewed to fully evaluate potential effects to migratory birds from your proposed project. Federal agencies are also required under Executive Order 13186 to implement standards and practices that lessen the amount of unintentional take attributable to agency actions. These conservation measures are strongly recommended to ensure persistence of migratory bird species whose populations are small and/or declining within

New Mexico.

Your project could affect important components of wildlife habitat, including fawning/calving or wintering areas for species such as deer and elk, or general high wildlife movement and activity areas for large mammals. Mitigation measures should focus on high use sites and movement areas based on collar data and expert knowledge of Department of Game and Fish and land management agency personnel. Management recommendations within these areas may include the following.

- Restrictions on noise-generating activities during wintering and calving/fawning seasons, specific timing of which may vary throughout the state. These activities would include oil and gas well pad development and operations that expose wildlife to loud noises from drilling, compressors, and pumping stations within 400 feet of the source.
- Modifying fences along high use areas to make them wildlife friendly and facilitate large animal movement.





## **Disclaimers regarding recommendations:**

- The Department provides technical guidance to support the persistence of all protected species of native fish and wildlife, including game and nongame wildlife species. Species listed within this report include those that have been documented to occur within the project area, and others that may not have been documented but are projected to occur within the project vicinity.
- Recommendations are provided by the Department under the authority of § 17-1-5.1 New Mexico Statutes Annotated 1978, to provide "communication and consultation with federal and other state agencies, local governments and communities, private organizations and affected interests responsible for habitat, wilderness, recreation, water quality and environmental protection to ensure comprehensive conservation services for hunters, anglers and nonconsumptive wildlife users".
- The Department has no authority for management of plants or Important Plant Areas. The <u>New Mexico</u> <u>Endangered Plant Program</u>, under the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department's Forestry Division, identifies and develops conservation measures necessary to ensure the survival of plant species within New Mexico. Plant status information is provided within this report as a courtesy to users. Recommendations provided within the ERT may not be sufficient to preclude impacts to rare or sensitive plants, unless conservation measures are identified in coordination with the Endangered Plant Program.
- Additional coordination and/or consultation may also be necessary under the federal ESA or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Further site-specific mitigation recommendations may be proposed during ESA consultation and/or NEPA analyses or through coordination with affected federal agencies.