

For Information Contact: Cynthis Piirto/505-342-3277; Joan Mier/505-342-3171; Jacob Pecos/505-465-0617

Proposal to Close Al Black Recreation Area at Cochiti Lake

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - - - The Pueblo de Cochiti and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District, have agreed to modify some project easements that will result in closing the Al Black Recreation Area and the outlet works to public use. The Corps and the Pueblo have come to this agreement in order to protect Pueblo interests on Pueblo land.

“This proposed action will modify the easement to project operation and maintenance only,” said Lt. Col. Raymond Midkiff, Albuquerque District Engineer. He stressed that existing recreation facilities on the reservoir itself will remain open to the public.

“The Pueblo and the Corps have been working collaboratively on many issues of both mutual and independent interest,” said Governor Quintana of the Cochiti Pueblo. “This easement modification is one component of our efforts to restore and rehabilitate our community and environment by providing necessary infrastructure and restoring bosque lands to natural and sustainable conditions.”

The Corps has initiated the environmental assessment process required under the National Environmental Policy Act prior to taking any action. For further information

-more-

2-2-2

contact Cynthia Piirto, outdoor recreation planner at the Corps of Engineers at 505-342-3277, Jacob Pecos of the Pueblo de Cochiti at 505-465-0617 or Joan Mier, public affairs officer at the Corps at 505-342-3171.

-30-