

Notice of Availability
Draft Environmental Assessment for the
Installation of a Debris-Containment Log Boom at Cochiti Lake
Sandoval County, New Mexico

Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Albuquerque District, completed a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the installation of a debris-containment log boom at Cochiti Lake, Sandoval County, New Mexico. The log boom was installed in November 2011 across the upper part of Cochiti Lake, upstream of the Tetilla Peak boat ramp and downstream of White Rock Canyon on the Rio Grande.

In August 2011, following the Las Conchas fire, large quantities of woody debris were washed into Cochiti Lake, necessitating a costly emergency clean-up effort and closure of the lake to recreation. The Corps installed the log boom to prevent further large woody debris from entering Cochiti Lake. Debris is a hazard to public safety and can damage the dam's outlet works. Large quantities of woody debris resulting from the 2011 Las Conchas Fire still exist in several canyons that flow into the Rio Grande upstream of Cochiti Lake. The Corps determined that the log boom installation was necessary under its lake operations authority.

Public review of the draft EA/FONSI will begin on May 14, 2012 and will run for 30 days until June 13, 2012. The document will be available on the Corps web site at

<http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/EnvironmentalComplianceDocuments.aspx>.

A hard copy will be sent upon request. Comments on the draft EA/FONSI should be sent to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District
Environmental Resources Section
Attn: CESP-PM-LE (Dana Price)
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Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109-3435

For more information please contact Dana Price, (505) 342-3378 or dana.m.price@usace.army.mil

Paper copies of this document are also available for review at:

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