



File Code: 1950; 1570; 5150

Date: March 21, 2017

Dear Interested Party:

I have decided to withdraw the Santa Barbara Mountain Communities Defense Zone Project Decision Memo dated September 8, 2016, and issue a new decision without including the Gaviota/Refugio Canyon fuel break.

No activities implementing the Gaviota/Refugio Canyon fuel break authorized in the September 8th Decision Memo have been undertaken to date, and none will be undertaken unless and until the Forest Service prepares further NEPA documentation addressing a Gaviota/Refugio Canyon fuel break and issues a new decision.

I have signed a new Decision Memo to authorize the other five fuel breaks analyzed in the original Santa Barbara Mountain Communities Defense Zone Project Decision Memo to continue. The fuel breaks in areas around the communities of Painted Cave, San Marcos Trout Club, Haney Tract, and Rosario Park may continue implementation immediately under the authority of that new decision, signed on March 21, 2017.

A copy of the new Decision Memo is available on-line at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44697>. A copy may also be obtained from the Santa Barbara Ranger District Office, 3505 Paradise Road, Santa Barbara, California 93105.

Thank you for your interest and participation in the management of the Los Padres National Forest.

Sincerely,

JOHN SMITH
District Ranger

