

Chapter 6. Consultation and Coordination

The Service was notified regarding the proposed action and protected species potentially present in the project area were identified. The NMED was consulted regarding CWA Section 401 compliance. The ACOE was consulted regarding CWA Section 404 permitting and compliance. The NMDG&F *New Mexico Species of Concern* website (NMDG&F, 2004) was consulted to determine if any state protected animal species could potentially occur in the project area. The New Mexico Rare Plants website (NMRPTC, 1999) was consulted to determine if any state protected plant species might occur in the project area. The SHPO was consulted by Reclamation to determine project compliance with state and federal laws (Section 106 of the NHPA) pertaining to cultural and archaeological resources in the project area. Native American tribes were consulted with by Reclamation regarding sacred sites and traditional cultural properties. A copy of one of the letters is included in Appendix A. The tribes consulted were: Sandia Pueblo, Isleta Pueblo, Hopi Tribe of Arizona, and the Mescalero Apache. Reclamation consulted with MRGCD during two public scoping meetings, two other meetings, and through correspondence. Reclamation is committed to coordinating with the MRGCD throughout construction to ensure that the proposed action does not affect MRGCD activities.

This EA was distributed for public review and comment for 15 days. Written comments on the Draft EA by MRGCD and Reclamation's response are contained in Appendix A. Oral comments were received from the adjacent landowner. Discussions were held with the landowner and the following commitments were made by Reclamation:

1. Boulders would be placed between the landowner's property and the Lemitar Riverside Drain to prevent trespassing on the landowner's property after construction has been completed.
2. Placement of the boulders would be carried out under the supervision of the landowner to ensure the landowner's satisfaction.

The landowner agreed to monitor the use of the arroyo as an access point by the public after construction has been completed. If the landowner determines that there has been an increase in traffic through this area, then the landowner would identify ways to mitigate this activity and make recommendations to Reclamation. Reclamation would take those recommendations under consideration and implement measures to reduce traffic in the arroyo.