



Grindstone Riparian Habitat Improvement Project



Background Information

- The Smokey Bear Ranger District and NMDGF propose to improve riparian areas and stream channels on Grindstone Creek by installing beaver dam analogues and one-rock dams. This project will restore riparian system health by restoring the floodplain, minimizing erosion, and cooling water temperatures. This will diversify riparian vegetation and improve habitat as it relates to elk and other wildlife.
- In addition, this project will address the declining quaking aspen habitat by cutting conifer species around aspen stands to stimulate suckering of young aspen.
- Aspen habitat is declining throughout the southwest. Conifer will be removed around aspen stands to simulate suckering. The cut conifer will be placed around these aspen stands (with use of machinery) to minimize herbivory of young aspen.



Smokey Bear District - Lincoln NF

Project Contacts:

USFS - Larry Cordova

larry.cordova@usda.gov

NMDGF - Daniel Lusk and George Farmer daniel.lusk@state.nm.us george.farmer@state.nm.us

Proposed Management Action

- The NMDGF, in collaboration with the Lincoln NF, will contract the installation of Beaver Dam Analogues, One Rock Dams and the cutting of conifer trees within the Grindstone Habitat project area.
- Overall, 53 acres will be impacted by this project.
- The Lincoln National Forest will also establish photo points for monitoring of project success.
- Google Earth Link:



Estimated Budget : \$30,000