



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Los Padres National Forest

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File Code: 1950/2820-2

Date: February 22, 2005

Dear Interested Party:

I expect to publish a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and announce my decision regarding the availability of lands within Los Padres National Forest for oil and gas leasing within the next 60-90 days. As you know, our oil and gas leasing study has been underway since 1995, and in December 2001 we published a Draft EIS for public comment. We received a lot of excellent feedback from you and many others during the public comment period. Your effort has helped us to improve the analysis and will assist me in making an informed decision.

The FEIS, and associated documents and map will be available in printed and CD formats. They will also be available for downloading from our website at [www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres). Additionally, the materials will be available on a loan basis from all Los Padres National Forest offices and many local libraries near the forest.

The FEIS is expected to be approximately 1,000 pages long and the FEIS Executive Summary about 50 pages long. The Record of Decision will include a description of my decision, the reasons for my decision and a statement of appeal rights; it will be approximately 20 pages long. I hope that you will consider selecting the electronic format (web or CD) of the FEIS rather than a printed copy. If you would like a CD or printed copy, please complete the enclosed order form and return it to us by March 15, 2005. If we don't hear from you by then, we will assume that you will use the website or copies available at the Forest Service offices and libraries.

If you have any questions regarding this request, then please contact Project Manager Al Hess at (805) 646-4348, extension 311 or Public Affairs Officer Kathy Good at (805) 961-5759.

Sincerely,

GLORIA D. BROWN  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

