



**Rio Trampas Planning CFRP  
Watershed Prioritization – Preliminary Findings  
03/06/2012  
To: CFRP Multiparty Team**

On December 8, 2011 nineteen members of the public attended the prioritization meeting facilitated by the Forest Guild in Peñasco. In addition to federal land management agency representatives, the public represented private landowners, acequia group, second homeowners, and woodlot owners. The meeting was designed to introduce the watershed planning project and solicit input. Input was solicited in a variety of ways including a thematic ranking sheet, a values and risks worksheet, and map based input.

One of the reasons for soliciting this input is to inform the model Forest Guild will use, with agency and partner input and guidance, to identify restoration areas. The thematic ranking sheet provided the most discreet input to inform the model.

The thematic ranking sheet yielded interesting results. Six landscape themes were presented on the sheet with additional spaces for written-in themes. Prior to the distribution of the worksheet, each theme was presented during the PowerPoint presentation. The theme that received the highest marks was *Water Quality and Supply*. The next highest marked theme was *Wildfire Risk* which was closely followed by Forest Health and Risk as well as Fish and Wildlife Habitat. The lowest marked themes were Recreation and Economic Potential from Forests.

The participants also provided watershed goals which were summarized into these statements:

1. To build resiliency into the ongoing lifecycle of all sentient species co-arising in the ecosystem.
2. To bring human use into balance with ecosystem protection. Not "watersheds for people" but "people as one organism sharing their watershed with other species."
3. Forests need to be kept clean.
4. North slopes need to be cleaned so that the snow will last longer to feed streams.
5. Active, recurring, multi-year treatments to reduce wildfire risk and increase biodiversity
6. Protection of water quality and insure an ecologically-healthy, fully-functioning watershed that provides for all native plants and species and human communities - now and into the future to withstand climate change.