

An Equal Opportunity Employer

1. The Rainbow Family would recommend 2 or 3 alternate locations for the Forest Service to consider as soon as possible. Initial scouting of sites should be done in cooperation with local Forest Service personnel. In the future, this date should be much earlier to allow the Forest Service adequate time to analyze the potential sites.
2. The Forest Service would quickly evaluate the sites and give the Rainbow Family an answer on suitability before Spring Council.
3. Beginning at Spring Council, an operating plan would be prepared in advance of the gathering in collaboration with the Rainbow Family. The plan would be subject to mutual modifications as the Gathering sets up. No permit would be issued. The Forest Service would exercise its discretion and refrain from any enforcement of a permit requirement provided that the operating plan is followed. Failure to comply with the operation plan will result in enforcement of the current regulations.

Based upon our conversations, as well as conversations with other Family individuals over the last few weeks, I would like to offer the following clarification of the Forest Service's approach to the 2007 Gathering. The Agency's authority to require group use permits is in place and has been upheld by the Courts. However, the Forest Service does have discretion with respect to the enforcement of this authority. Pursuant to that discretion, and recognizing the unique nature of the Rainbow Family, we propose the following:

Dear Rainbow Family Spring Circle,

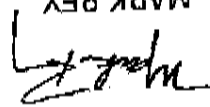
United States Department of Agriculture
 Office of the Secretary
 Washington, D.C. 20250



- 4. All laws will be enforced on the National Forests similar to other recreation gatherings and forest visitor use.
- 5. A declaration of emergency will be for the purpose of addressing resource impacts.

Please feel free to circulate with other individuals of the Rainbow Family.

Sincerely,


MARK REY