

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
CHELAN NATIONAL FOREST



ADDRESS REPLY TO
FOREST SUPERVISOR
AND REFER TO

OKANOGAN, WASHINGTON

I
INFORMATION
General

July 9, 1947

Miss Laura Gilpin
614 Alameda Road
Box 1173
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Miss Gilpin:

Your letter of June 23 was forwarded to me as I have recently been transferred from the Rio Grande Forest. I am returning the letter to Monte Vista for further information.

The average elevation of Timberline at the head of the Rio Grande is approximately 11,500 feet. It varies from 11,000 feet on the north exposures to about 12,000 feet on the south exposures of the mountains.

The area of the San Luis Valley in the National Park Service folder which you referred to must be only the area of the valley floor. We usually consider the area of the San Luis Valley as including the watersheds of the mountains surrounding the valley. This area is probably in excess of 4000 square miles in addition to the open area in the bottom of the San Luis Valley.

I believe that the Monte Vista office could give you some information as to the area of the Rio Grande drainage in Colorado.

If you need anymore pictures you could probably get some by checking on the photographic file at Monte Vista. Mr. John Baird, Assistant Supervisor, also has many excellent photographs of the San Luis Valley and mountain areas in his personal collection.

I would personally like to purchase a copy of your book when it is published if you would give me the information at that time.

Very truly yours,

J. Malcolm Loring
J. MALCOLM LORING
Forest Supervisor