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United States Senate

April 3, 2007

Ms. Elaine Zielinski
Arizona State Director
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
One North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Bureau of Land Management
Arizona

APR 10 2007

910	CCSD/ASD	930	2
EEO		950	
910B		Field Office	
911		Central Files	
912	CC	FOIA	4-10-07
917		Action	930

Dear Ms. Zielinski:

I wish to bring to your attention a matter concerning **Ex. 6** who has encountered a problem with the proposed shooting range.

Because the situation is under your jurisdiction, I am respectfully referring this matter to you for consideration. I feel that this issue would be better addressed by you and request that you respond directly to **Ex. 6**

Thank you.

Sincerely,



John McCain
United States Senator

JM/xcs
Enclosure(s)

John McCain
Attn: Carlos Sierra
5353 N 16th Street, Suite 105
Phoenix, AZ 85016

MAR 26 2007

FEB 16 2007

February 9, 2007

Ref: Shooting Range, Mohave Valley, AZ

Dear Sir:

In July of 1964, Mohave County obtained a lease from the Bureau of Reclamation on 320 acres in Bullhead City. In 1982, Mohave County approved a sub lease to the Bullhead City Gun Club to establish a shooting range on a portion of the 320 acres. In October of 1989, the Bureau of Reclamation transferred management responsibility of the 320 acres to the Bureau of Land Management. B.L.M. chose not to renew the Bullhead City Gun Clubs lease and assured the Gun Club that they would identify a site suitable for relocation. The Bullhead City Gun Club vacated the premises December 31, 1998 including removal of all structures and required clean up of the site.

B.L.M. has been since December of 1998, working with the Bullhead City Gun Club and other interested persons to establish a new location for a shooting range in the Mohave Valley area.

As you are aware, the Mohave Valley area has had a very substantial population increase in recent years and at the present time, there are approximately sixty thousand people residing in the Mohave Valley area.

There are substantial outdoor recreational activities taking place on B.L.M. lands in Mohave Valley. Due to the lack of an established shooting range, wildcat shooting is taking place throughout the area, creating safety concerns for all other outdoor recreations.

Additionally, the lack of a convenient shooting range impairs the efforts of our local law enforcement officials in keeping their personnel trained.

We have been told for 9 years now that there is a process that must be followed. It would seem that after nine years, its time to access the process, after all World War II only took 4 years.

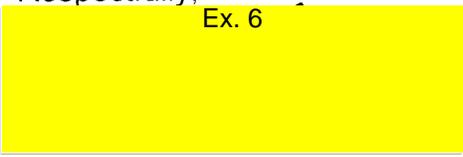
Local B.L.M. employees have worked diligently through the process, but when it seems that every possible contingency has been covered, a new requirement surfaces. Thousands upon thousands of public dollars have been spent following the process. A process that takes nine years is totally out of reason. Massive amounts of data have been collected, a site has been identified and the process should be brought to a close so this worthwhile project can be accomplished.

I urge you to consider introducing legislation to provide for the conveyance of certain public land in Mohave County Arizona (Mohave Valley) to the Arizona Game & Fish Department for use as a shooting range. Legal description is available from B.L.M. Kingman field office. All environmental and archeological work is complete.

You may look at Public Law 107-350, 107 Congress December 17, 2002 H.R.2937 as this was done for Clark County Nevada.

Respectfully,

Ex. 6



Cc: Jon Kyl, Trent Franks

APR 27 2007

BK for K Padlock 4/27/07
By Javato 4/27/07
L Jackson 4/27/07
4/27/07

In Reply Refer To:
1781/1220/1430/
8100 (AZ-931)

Ex. 6

Dear Ex. 6

Senator John McCain has requested that we respond directly to your letter to him dated February 9, 2007.

As you know from your experience with the proposed Mohave Valley Shooting Range project (Range), we have been diligently working toward a resolution of issues that include proximity to private and State lands, legal access, endangered species, sound and visual impacts, and the potential impacts of the project on a National Register of Historic Places and Traditional Cultural Property known as Boundary Cone Butte. Boundary Cone Butte is considered an important sacred property to the Fort Mojave Tribe and to the Hualapai Tribe.

The laws that have been passed by the United States Congress require agencies to take extra steps to ensure that Federal actions do not negatively impact Native Americans' ability to conduct and continue their traditional religious practices. The BLM has taken extra measures to obtain information from the Tribes relating to the impacts that the proposed Range might have on Boundary Cone Butte and other associated sacred areas. We are nearing the end of these consultations and are moving forward to finalize the decision on the proposed Range.

We are unable to address your request for introduction of legislation to convey land in Mohave County for a shooting range, because the BLM does not have the legal authority to either propose or discourage legislation. Comments would be provided by the Department of the Interior if draft legislation is proposed.

The BLM remains committed to working toward solutions to finding acceptable locations to accommodate shooting while protecting natural and cultural resources. Given these considerations, we continue to use the Recreation and Public Purposes Act for authorizing these types of activities on public lands. As stated above, we anticipate a decision on the proposed Range will be forthcoming.

Thank you for your continued support and patience in working through the environmental review and other processes required to approve projects on public lands. If you have any further questions, please contact Wayne King, Field Manager, Kingman Field Office, at 928-718-3700.

Sincerely,
/s/ Michael A. Taylor

Michael A. Taylor
Acting State Director

cc: The Honorable John McCain
United States Senator
5353 North 16th Street, Suite 105
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

bc: WO-615, 401 LS
AZ-300, 310

Ex. 6 :djj:04/24/07