



United States Department of the Interior  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
National Headquarters  
Washington, DC 20240  
<https://www.blm.gov>



June 25, 2024

Memorandum

To: BLM Arizona State Director

From: Director

Subject: Interim Management of the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

On August 8, 2023, President Biden issued Proclamation 10606 (“the Proclamation”), establishing the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument (“the monument”) and reserving the lands within the boundary of the monument. Proclamation 10606 identified a wide variety of monument objects in reserving approximately 917,618 acres of land in Mojave and Coconino counties in northern Arizona as part of the national monument. Proclamation 10606 specifically directs the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the BLM and U.S. Forest Service (“USFS”), respectively, to prepare a joint management plan for the entire monument for purposes of protecting and restoring the objects identified in the Proclamation. This interim management guidance will help ensure that, until the new plan is prepared, the BLM will manage the monument in a manner consistent with Proclamation 10606.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, this memorandum: (a) provides interim guidance for managing the monument while the agency develops a monument management plan; and (b) directs you to begin preparing a joint management plan for the monument with the Kaibab National Forest, with a goal of finalizing that plan no later than 3 years from the date that the Director approves the prep plan or the resources to complete the planning process are made available to BLM Arizona, whichever is later.. As implementation of the Proclamation proceeds, additional resource-specific guidance will be provided as necessary.

**I. Interim Management Direction**

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument is of profound historical, cultural, and religious significance to Tribes of the Southwest, who have lived and prayed among its canyons and plateaus since time immemorial. As Proclamation 10606 notes, the monument contains over 3,000 known cultural and historic sites—many of which are sacred or significant to Apache, Havasupai, Hopi, Hualapai, Navajo, Southern Paiute, Yavapai,

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<sup>1</sup> This interim management direction applies only to BLM-managed lands and interests in lands located within the exterior boundaries of the monument. If the BLM were to acquire any new lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of the monument reservation prior to completion of a monument management plan, this interim management guidance would apply to those lands as well.

and Zuni Peoples, whose ancestors lived, hunted, farmed, and gathered there—as well as important and sensitive plant and animal species that have helped build strong, intergenerational relationships among the Tribal Nations that call the area home. The Proclamation also discusses a multitude of other objects of historic and scientific interest, including notable geologic features, and the landscape itself, which is integrally connected to Indigenous Knowledge and gives context to the individual objects found within the monument. In addition to recounting the monument’s objects of historic and scientific interest, the Proclamation also provides specific direction for management of the monument, including the direction for the BLM and USFS to prepare a monument management plan.

This interim management direction is intended to help State and Field Office staff comply with the law by managing the monument in a manner that protects the objects of historic and scientific interest for which the monument was designated, as required the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 USC 7202) and Proclamation 10606. It describes how Proclamation 10606 fits into the existing legal framework for managing discretionary activities within national monuments by restating and summarizing how the Proclamation, applicable statutes and regulations, and existing management plans govern the monument prior to completion of the monument management plan.<sup>2</sup> This interim management direction does not alter the legal landscape or create new legal consequences. While certain legal obligations are discussed in this interim management direction, those obligations stem from applicable statutes, regulations, and Proclamation 10606.

#### A. Mining and Mineral Leasing Activity

Proclamation 10606 provides that, subject to valid existing rights,

All Federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of the monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, or other disposition under the public land laws or laws applicable to the Forest Service, other than by exchange that furthers the protective purposes of the monument; from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing.

Therefore, no new mining claims may be located, and no new mineral or geothermal leases may be issued, on lands within the monument. Before approving a plan of operations<sup>3</sup> within the monument on claims located before the lands were withdrawn, BLM-AZ must, in accordance with 43 CFR 3809.100(a), prepare a mineral examination report to determine whether the mining claim was valid *before* the withdrawal, and to determine whether the mining claim remains valid. The operator will be responsible for the costs of the mineral examination, as required by 43 CFR 3800.5(b). Per 43 CFR 3809.100(b), during the period that BLM-AZ is completing the examination, the activity that BLM may authorize on the claim is limited to taking samples to confirm or corroborate mineral exposures that are physically disclosed and existing on the

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<sup>2</sup> Much of the information in this interim management direction is also set forth in Section 1.6 of BLM Manual 6220, which generally outlines the BLM’s policies for interim management of lands reserved as part of a national monument.

<sup>3</sup> There are no “notice-level” operations in national monuments, meaning that operators must submit a plan of operations for any surface disturbance greater than casual use. See 43 CFR 3809.11(c)(7).

mining claim prior to the withdrawal, or to complete minimum necessary annual assessment work. If, as a result of the mineral examination, BLM-AZ concludes that a mining claim is invalid, BLM-AZ should not approve operations on the claim, but instead promptly initiate contest proceedings.

If mining or mineral leasing activities that BLM-AZ determines are valid existing rights are allowed to proceed, the agency must—to the greatest extent possible, and in accordance with applicable law—manage the activity in a manner that mitigates impacts to monument objects identified in Proclamation 10606.

There are 12 existing mineral materials pits, totaling approximately 330 acres, that are located on BLM-managed lands within the exterior boundaries of the monument. Because, however, those pits are not part of the monument reservation, the prohibition on disposal at 30 USC 601 is inapplicable, and BLM-AZ may continue to issue new contracts authorizing the disposal of mineral materials from those pits.

## B. Discretionary Activities

### 1. In General

Section 302 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) states that public lands should be managed under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield “except that where a tract of such public land has been dedicated to specific uses according to any other provisions of law it shall be managed in accordance with such law.”<sup>4</sup> Proclamation 10606 dedicates the lands within the monument to a specific use—namely, the protection of the objects identified in Proclamation 10606. As a result, and in accordance with section 302 of FLPMA, the lands reserved within the monument boundary must be managed in a manner that protects the objects for which the monument has been designated. In other words, within Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument, typical multiple use management is superseded by the direction in Proclamation 10606 to protect monument objects. Multiple uses are allowed only to the extent they are consistent with the protection of the monument objects identified in the proclamation.

For any discretionary project or activity proposed within the boundaries of the monument or with the potential to affect objects for which the monument has been designated, BLM-AZ must undertake a two-part analysis before issuing an authorization. First, BLM-AZ must verify that the proposal conforms to the applicable resource management plan. Second, BLM-AZ must determine that the proposal is also consistent with the protection of monument objects. Because the 2008 Arizona Strip Field Office Resource Management Plan was developed before the issuance of Proclamation 10606, a finding that a proposed project or activity conforms to the resource management plan does not necessarily ensure that the proposal is consistent with the protection of objects for which the monument has been designated. BLM-AZ should ensure that the decision document and associated record provides adequate documentation of both the conformity to the resource management plan and compliance with Proclamation 10606.

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<sup>4</sup> 43 USC 1732.

In summary, prior to the adoption of a new monument management plan, the BLM may authorize discretionary activities in the monument only if it determines that: (1) the decision conforms to the 2008 Arizona Strip Field Office Resource Management Plan; and (2) the decision is consistent with the protection of monument objects identified in Proclamation 10606. Finally, BLM-AZ should ensure that the NEPA analysis for the decision adequately addresses potential impacts to monument objects and document the basis for its determinations and, if not, undertake additional environmental analysis as necessary. BLM-AZ's determination for each of the considerations detailed above should be explained in the decision document for the proposed action.

Note that this analysis should generally not result in a conflict between the 2008 Arizona Strip Resource Management Plan and the protection of objects, since the resource management plan—while it makes allocations, imposes conditions, and makes certain uses off limits—generally does not mandate that particular uses occur. For example, while the Plan allows the BLM to grant FLPMA Title V rights-of-way in particular areas, it does not mandate that the agency do so. Thus, if the BLM denies, or places conditions on, a particular right-of-way grant to protect monument objects, that decision would still conform to the Plan. That said, in the rare event that there is a conflict between Proclamation 10606 and the resource management plan, the Proclamation controls. If there appears to be conflict between Proclamation 10606 and the Plan, you should consult with the Office of the Solicitor.

Within 6 months from the issuance of this guidance and pending completion of a new monument management plan to implement Proclamation 10606, BLM-AZ should also identify for review existing discretionary uses and activities within the monument to determine whether their impacts are consistent with the protection of the monument objects identified in Proclamation 10606. Subject to valid existing rights and consistent with applicable law and regulations, BLM-AZ should consider taking appropriate action regarding any such activities and uses that it has determined to be incompatible with the protection of objects for which the monument has been designated. For example, the use of motorized vehicles on routes that were included in BLM route inventories that existed as of August 8, 2023, are an example of an activity that should be reviewed for consistency with the terms of the Proclamation. While Proclamation 10606 permits such use to continue, the use of certain routes may nevertheless have an adverse impact on monument objects that should be addressed. To the extent that BLM-AZ has already completed such a review and taken actions to address potential conflicts stemming from the BLM's legal obligations to protect monument objects, BLM-AZ should summarize that, as well, in a report to the Director submitted by the above date.

Finally, effective on-the-ground management of monument objects requires monitoring and surveillance to ensure that monument objects are being adequately protected on an ongoing basis. BLM-AZ should review its existing monitoring plans and, where necessary and appropriate, update them to provide for proactive monitoring within the monument boundary to ensure protection of monument objects. Beyond resource monitoring, the plan should include compliance checks for existing facilities within the monument. The agency should also ensure that any activity or use that it approves in the future includes adequate monitoring to ensure the protection of monument objects.

More specific guidance regarding particular types of uses and activities within Baaj Nwaavjo Itah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument follows. Note,

however, that this guidance is not intended to be comprehensive; additional, detailed direction may be provided as particular issues are identified, including through engagement with the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni–Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon Commission (“Tribal Commission”) and the State of Arizona, as well as in decision making and public involvement processes.

## 2. Recreation Management

The monument area provides exceptional outdoor recreational opportunities, including “hiking, hunting, fishing, biking, horseback riding, backpacking, scenic driving, and wildlife-viewing.” As Proclamation 10606 makes clear, these are not just important uses of the monument, they are also important to the travel-and tourism-based economy of the region. However, outdoor recreational opportunities are not themselves objects of historic and scientific interest designated for protection. Therefore, BLM-AZ must ensure that any proposed recreation use or activity within the monument is evaluated for both resource management plan conformance and consistency with the Proclamation prior to being authorized. Note that this requirement applies to special recreation permits that may come up for renewal, notwithstanding whether an event or activity has been permitted in the past.

## 3. Grazing Management

Proclamation 10606 provides that “nothing in th[e] proclamation shall be deemed to prohibit grazing pursuant to existing leases or permits within the monument, or the renewal of such leases or permits, which the BLM and Forest Service shall continue to manage pursuant to their respective laws, regulations, and policies.” Accordingly, if BLM-AZ is considering a grazing permit or lease for renewal, while it must ensure that the decision will be consistent with the existing land use plan, BLM-AZ is not required to deny the renewal because it would be inconsistent with the protection of monument objects identified in Proclamation 10606. BLM-AZ, however, retains the discretion to deny the renewal based on impacts to resources, including those that may be identified as monument objects. By comparison, if BLM-AZ is considering a new grazing permit or lease, the agency must ensure that the permit or lease will both be consistent with the existing plan and will ensure protection of the monument objects as described above.

## 4. Wildland Fire Management

Wildland fire occasionally occurs within the monument. BLM-AZ should work with the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management to revise existing agreements between the agencies that guide wildland fire response within the monument ensure that all wildland fire prevention, management, and rehabilitation efforts protect monument objects to the maximum extent possible. BLM-AZ should also explore entering into agreements that guide wildland fire response within the monument with interested Tribal Nations with ties to the region that have wildland firefighting capabilities. Agreements involving BLM-AZ and the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management or interested Tribal Nations should also 1) identify the range of actions that could be taken within the monument to protect the public, natural landscapes, wildlife habitat, recreational areas, and other values and resources from wildland fire; and 2) ensure that the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management and Tribal Nations can be

proactive in managing wildland fire within the monument to protect monument objects from fire risk, including through fire suppression, preparedness, predictive services, vegetative fuels management, prescribed fire, community assistance and protection, and fire prevention through education. Such agreements should also include how to design potential operational delineations that could be incorporated into the monument management plan.

Additionally, BLM-AZ should explore opportunities to return the BLM-managed portions of the monument to a more natural fire regime. For years, invasive plant species have altered fuel loads, and reliance on fire suppression has altered an ecosystem where fire is part of the natural ecology. Accordingly, BLM-AZ should consider ways to reestablish fire as a more natural part of the ecosystem, such as by focusing on ecological restoration projects that replace invasives with native, fire-adapted species.

## 5. Restoration and Mining Reclamation

Proclamation 10606 provides that that the monument designation did not affect the BLM's ability to authorize access to and remediation or monitoring of contaminated lands within the monument, including for remediation of mine, mill, or tailing sites, or for the restoration of natural resources. Restoration of vegetation, including from wildland fire, and reclamation from previous activities, in particular addressing prior mining operations within the monument boundary, can improve protection of monument objects. BLM-AZ should continue to identify and implement restoration and mining reclamation actions in a manner that is consistent with the Proclamation.

There are three mining sites in the monument where reclamation is currently in process (Western Valley, Pinenut, Kanab North), and there is one site operating under an authorized Mining Plan of Operations where reclamation is the full responsibility of the operator upon closure of the mine (Arizona 1). There are also two Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) sites (Vermillion & Hacks) within the monument, both of which were determined to be low risk to human health based on a 2023 Department of Energy review. If it is determined that further investigation and/or remediation is necessary at either AML, the appropriate process (CERCLA, etc.) would be utilized for the removal and reclamation of the AML sites.

BLM-AZ should also apply lessons learned from past efforts to any future remediation and reclamation from mining operations within the monument. In relation to future remediation and reclamation efforts, BLM-AZ will ensure that information from affected Tribes, the Tribal Commission, the public, and other stakeholders is considered through the NEPA and Section 106 processes.

## 6. Vegetation and Forest Management

Under Proclamation 10606, vegetation management projects must conform to the applicable resource management plan and be consistent with the protection of monument objects. Such projects should focus on addressing ecological restoration; wildlife connectivity; or the risk of wildfire, insect infestation, invasive species, or disease that would endanger the objects identified in the proclamation or imperil public safety. While Proclamation 10606 does not specifically limit the types of vegetation treatment that the BLM can deploy within the monument, certain

treatment methods may not be consistent with the protection of monument objects. BLM-AZ must ensure that any such projects utilize treatment techniques that are consistent with the Proclamation.

Further, BLM-AZ should employ the 2023 definition and inventory framework for mature and old-growth forests on federal lands when analyzing vegetation management projects and to inform forest management activities. The framework is available in the technical report prepared by the BLM and U.S. Forest Service titled, Mature and Old-Growth Forests: Definition, Identification, and Initial Inventory on Lands Managed by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

#### 7. Motorized Vehicle Management

Proclamation 10606 prohibits off-road motorized vehicle use in the monument, except when such use occurs in conjunction with emergency purposes, authorized administrative purposes, wildlife management conducted by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, or the retrieval of legally harvested elk and bison. The proclamation also limits motorized vehicle use to roads and trails documented in BLM and Forest Service route inventories that existed on the date the Proclamation issued, consistent with the protection of monument objects. Accordingly, prior to completion of a Travel Management Plan for the monument, BLM-AZ should ensure that motorized vehicle use is limited to the roads and trails included on the map in Attachment 2, which depicts the roads and trails that existed in BLM inventories as of August 8, 2023. Additionally, BLM-AZ should ensure that continuing motorized vehicle use of roads and trails that existed in BLM inventories as of August 8, 2023, is consistent with the protection of monument objects.

BLM-AZ should monitor motorized vehicle use in the monument. To the extent that monitoring demonstrates that motorized vehicle use is occurring on roads and trails that are not included on the map in Attachment 2, or that continuing motorized vehicle use of roads and trails included the map in Attachment 2 is inconsistent with the protection of monument objects, the BLM should take appropriate action (up to, and including, issuing road closures), in consultation with the Solicitor's Office, to address the issue prior to the completion of a Travel Management Plan. In taking appropriate action, the BLM should consider whether the motorized vehicle use at issue is causing or will cause a considerable adverse effect to monument objects and resources. In such case, 43 CFR 8341.2 requires BLM-AZ to immediately close the road or trail to the type of vehicle causing the adverse effect. The BLM should also consider whether reliance on the categorical exclusion applying to the temporary closure of roads and trails at 516 DM 11.9(G)(3) is appropriate if BLM-AZ determines it is necessary to close any roads or trails to continued motorized vehicle use.

#### 8. Collection of Vegetative Materials

Proclamation 10606 directs the Secretaries, to the maximum extent permitted by law, to provide access to Tribal members to the monument for traditional cultural, spiritual, and customary uses, including but not limited to the collection of medicines, berries, plants and other vegetation for cradle boards and other purposes, and firewood for ceremonial practices and personal noncommercial use, consistent with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (42 U.S.C.

1996), the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (42 U.S.C. 2000bb et seq.), Executive Order 13007 of May 24, 1996 (Indian Sacred Sites), and the November 10, 2021, Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Interagency Coordination and Collaboration for the Protection of Indigenous Sacred Sites. The disposal of vegetative materials under the Materials Act is not permitted in national monuments (30 USC 601), and there is uncertainty concerning whether the collection of material for personal or traditional use constitutes a disposal. Because of this uncertainty, and because some collections of vegetative materials by Tribal members in the monument may not be associated with the practice of religion, it may be necessary to effectuate the direction in Proclamation 10606 to allow Tribal members to collect certain vegetative materials under legal authorities other than the American Indian Religious Freedom Act and Religious Freedom Restoration Act. Accordingly, BLM-AZ should work with the Solicitor's Office to identify legal authorities that may be used to authorize collections that do not occur in connection with a Tribal member's practice of religion.

#### 9. Protecting Tribal Nations' Members Cultural, Religious, and Traditional Activities

In recognition of the monument's profound historical, cultural, and religious significance to Tribal Nations, Proclamation 10606 directs the Secretary of the Interior to "consider appropriate mechanisms to provide for temporary closures to the general public of specific portions of the monument to protect the privacy of cultural, religious, and gathering activities of members of Tribal Nations." To effectuate this direction, BLM-AZ should seek input from the Tribal Commission on the development of a process for future consultation with individual Tribes or the Commission regarding those portions of the monument where temporary closures or specific access at different times would help facilitate Tribal Nations' cultural, religious, and traditional activities. BLM-AZ should endeavor to develop this process within 120 days of the first Tribal Commission meeting.

BLM-AZ may already possess knowledge about which portions of the monument should be temporarily closed or subject to specific access at different times to facilitate Tribal Nations' cultural, religious, and traditional activities. In such event, in addition to developing a process to seek input from the Commission, BLM-AZ should prepare an initial list of potential temporary closures for consideration. In preparing such a list, BLM-AZ should remain cognizant of the fact that potential temporary closures should apply for the shortest duration and to the smallest area necessary to facilitate Tribal Nations' cultural, religious, and traditional activities.

#### C. Consultation, Coordination and Consistency

##### 1. In General

The BLM will coordinate with the USFS in implementing this interim guidance. Proclamation 10606 directs the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to provide for maximum public involvement in the development of the monument management plan, in particular, consultation with federally recognized Tribal Nations and conferral with State and local governments. The BLM, in coordination with the USFS, will maximize opportunities for consultation with Tribal Nations and seek other opportunities for cooperation and consistency while carrying out this interim management direction.



## 2. Tribal Engagement

The Monument is of profound historical, cultural, and religious significance to Tribes of the Southwest, and its designation was preceded by robust engagement with Tribal Nations with ancestral ties to the region.<sup>5</sup> In recognition of the importance of collaboration with Tribal Nations to the proper care and management of the objects identified in Proclamation 10606, and to ensure that management of the monument reflects tribal expertise and Indigenous Knowledge, the Proclamation established the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon Commission to provide guidance and recommendations on the development and implementation of a monument management plan and on the management of the monument. Pursuant to the Proclamation, the BLM and USFS must meaningfully engage the Tribal Commission in the development of the monument management plan and to inform the management of the monument.

If the Tribal Commission ceases to exist, the BLM and USFS must meaningfully engage with a comparable entity on any matters that would otherwise involve engagement with the Commission. Per the terms of the Proclamation, the comparable entity must be composed of one elected Tribal government officer from each of the Tribes that would otherwise be on the Tribal Commission.

To ensure meaningful engagement with the Tribal Commission, BLM-AZ should work with USFS to develop a cooperative agreement, or multiple agreements, with the Commission that will set forth parameters for meaningful engagement on the development and implementation of the monument management plan and future management of the monument. In particular, the co-stewardship agreement should address how the agencies will work with the Commission to integrate the traditional and historical knowledge and expertise of that body into the monument management plan and the future management of the monument. Before beginning the monument management planning process, BLM-AZ should ensure that a memorandum of agreement/cooperative agreement with the Commission is executed to establish how the agencies will coordinate with the Commission on management of the monument.

Proclamation 10606 also directs the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the BLM and USFS, to explore additional opportunities for Tribal Nations to participate in co-stewardship of the Monument, including, but not limited to, entering into, pursuant to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), contracts or compacts with Tribes or Tribal organizations to perform administrative and management functions within the monument. Accordingly, BLM-AZ should explore whether opportunities exist to contract with Federally recognized Tribes or Tribal Organizations under Title I of the ISDEAA to perform programs, services, functions, or activities, or portions thereof, that BLM-AZ would otherwise provide in the monument and that satisfy the requirements of 25 USC 5321. BLM-AZ should also develop a list of programs or portions of programs within the monument that are of special geographic, historic, or cultural significance to Tribal Nations that qualifying

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<sup>5</sup> The Grand Canyon Tribal Coalition was a primary proponent of the monument's designation. The coalition consists of Tribes that have ancestral ties to the region, including the Havasupai Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Hualapai Tribe, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, Moapa Band of Paiutes, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Navajo Nation, San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, Yavapai-Apache Nation, Pueblo of Zuni, and Colorado River Indian Tribes.

Tribes could perform pursuant to new funding agreements issued under Title IV of the ISDEAA. For example, under Title IV, qualifying Tribes may be able to perform certain activities related to cultural heritage, including research and inventory activities; natural resource management, including vegetative treatment projects and cultural resource management; riparian management; and recreation management, such as facilities construction and maintenance and interpretative design and interpretative construction. BLM-AZ should submit that list to the Director within 6 months of the first Tribal Commission meeting.

#### D. Other Priorities

Proclamation 10606 directs the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the BLM and USFS, respectively, to establish an advisory committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act to provide information and advice regarding the development of a monument management plan and, as appropriate, management of the monument. To begin the process of establishing the required Monument Advisory Committee, BLM-AZ should work with the USFS to prepare a draft charter for the committee for the Director's review by December 31, 2024.

## **II. Completion of a Resource Management Plan**

Proclamation 10606 directs the BLM and USFS to jointly prepare a management plan for all lands within the 917,618-acre boundaries of the monument for the purposes of protecting and restoring the monument objects identified in the Proclamation. Until the BLM approves a new management plan for the monument, the existing 2008 Arizona Strip Resource Management Plan remains in effect, to the extent it is consistent with the protection of monument objects identified in Proclamation 10606. However, as noted above, in the rare event that there is a conflict between Proclamation 10606 and the 2008 Arizona Strip Resource Management Plan, the Proclamation controls.

BLM-AZ may also include specific travel management decisions in the monument management plan and should identify priorities and a schedule for completing a travel management plan into the monument management plan.

BLM-AZ should review the GIS data for the monument and correct any errors prior to initiating the planning process. During the planning process, the BLM should finalize and make available to the public an updated map and spatial data for the monument.

In preparing the monument management plan, BLM-AZ will meaningfully engage the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon Commission, or, should the commission not exist, a comparable entity. BLM-AZ should carefully and fully consider integrating the Indigenous Knowledge and special expertise of the members of the Commission or comparable entity when developing the monument management plan. The planning process should also include opportunities for consultation with other Federal land management agencies in the local area, including the National Park Service, and provide for maximum public involvement, including conferral with State and local governments, community members, and other interested stakeholders.

In preparing the monument management plan, BLM-AZ should consider, to the maximum extent practicable, maintaining the undeveloped character of the lands within the monument; minimizing impacts from surface-disturbing activities; providing appropriate access for livestock grazing, recreation, hunting, fishing, dispersed camping, wildlife management, and scientific research; and emphasizing the retention of natural quiet, dark night skies and scenic attributes of the landscape. Notably, as required by Proclamation 10606, the monument management plan set forth parameters for continued meaningful engagement with the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon Commission or comparable entity in the implementation of the management plan.

Within 120 days, BLM-AZ will submit a streamlined preparation plan and generalized statement(s) of work for contracting needs, that ensures issuance of a Record of Decision approving the monument management plan as expeditiously as possible. The streamlined preparation plan should, in approximately three pages, explain 1) the need for the plan; 2) the anticipated planning criteria; 3) anticipated data gaps based on the planning criteria; and 4) the funding needed to complete the plan. The preparation plan should also provide a schedule for completing the plan and include a discussion of how BLM-AZ will engage with the U.S. Forest Service to coordinate the joint planning process.

Attachments:

Proclamation 10606  
Map