

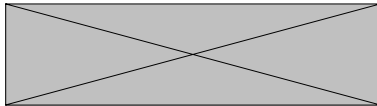
**To:** ben gabriel[ben@organmtfriends.org]  
**From:** McAlear, Christopher  
**Sent:** 2017-02-15T10:12:42-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Follow up to our meeting  
**Received:** 2017-02-15T10:12:57-05:00  
[Economic Snapshot of Organ Mountains National Monument.pdf](#)  
[NLCS Facts 2-13-17.pdf](#)  
[NLCS Unit Table Jan2017.docx](#)  
[Manager's Report OMDP 2016.pdf](#)

Hi Ben  
Here is so information as a follow up to our conversation.

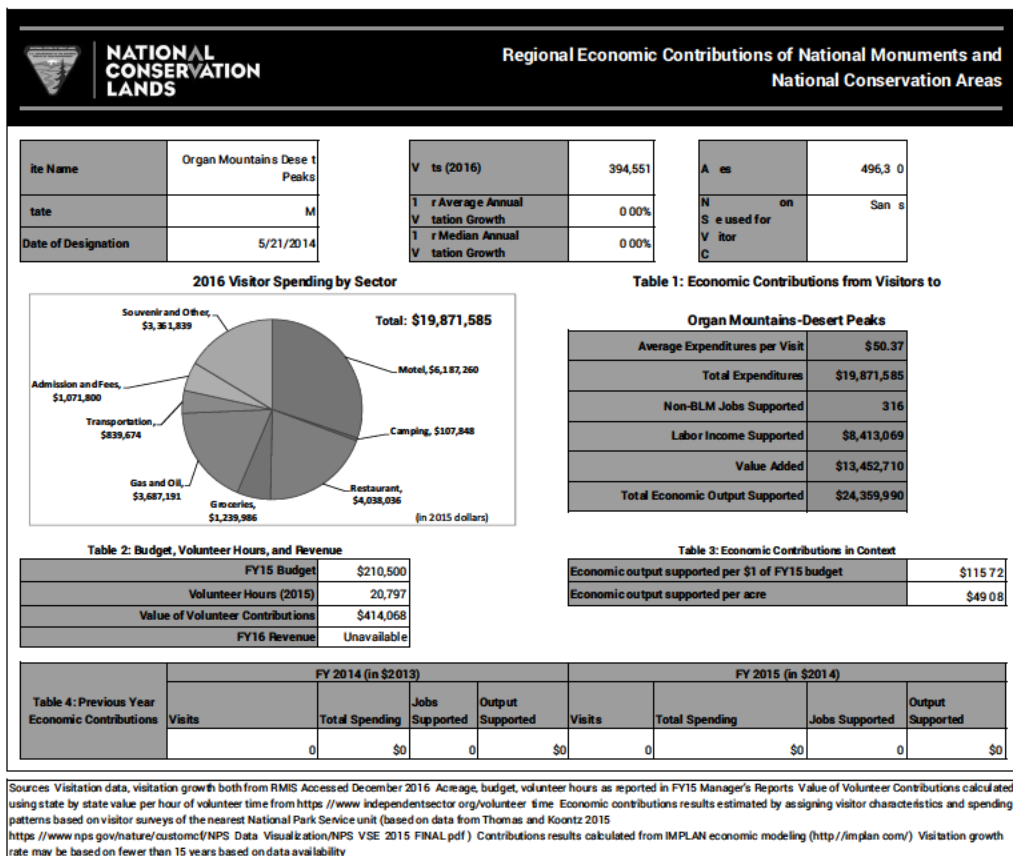
Thank you for all you do as a Friends group for the Monument!

Stay in touch.  
Chris m

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Christopher McAlear  
Assistant Director  
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The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) National Conservation Lands are one of America's most unique systems of conservation lands. Not only do they contain some of the West's most spectacular landscapes, but also, they provide unparalleled recreational and economic opportunities.

These lands include 875 units designated by Congress or Presidents; these units comprise about 36 million acres of National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Scenic and Historic Trails, and Conservation Lands of the California Desert.

The National Conservation Lands are part of the wider portfolio of BLM public lands, totaling 245 million surface acres largely in 12 western states. Managed for multiple uses, America's resource-rich public lands provide our nation with vital commodities and host remarkable landscapes, ecosystems, and natural and cultural objects.

The National Conservation Lands are places where you can explore, hike, hunt, fish, and enjoy the natural and cultural splendor of the American West. They offer unequalled opportunities for education, scientific study, and self discovery. They benefit surrounding communities by creating jobs, supporting businesses that provide visitor services, drawing tourists to the region, and encouraging growth. These lands are a true boon for the American people.

*"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired in value. Conservation means development as much as it does protection."* - Theodore Roosevelt, 1910

[www.BLM.gov/NLCS](http://www.BLM.gov/NLCS) Maps: [www.BLM.gov/conservationlands](http://www.BLM.gov/conservationlands)

**Visit**
  
In person at local and other events

**Share**
  
Your stories online through social media

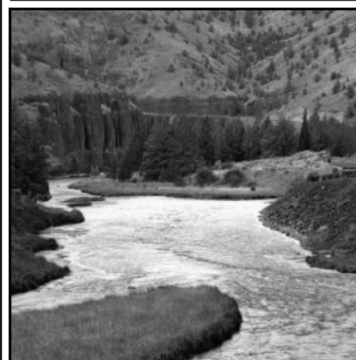
**Support**
  
National Conservation Lands by raising awareness

### Did you know...

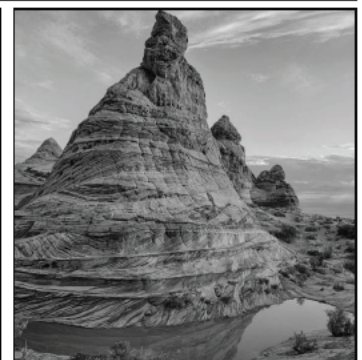
- 15% of the lands managed by the BLM are within the National Conservation Lands, and national monuments, NCAs, and similar designations make up 6% of BLM's total acreage.
- In 2016, there were 8.6 million visits to National Monuments and NCAs. Visitation to National Monuments and NCAs grows over time at 4 times the rate of all BLM recreation sites, generating sustained economic contributions to local communities.
- Visitors to National Monuments, NCAs and similarly designated areas spent over \$460 million on trip-related purchases in 2016, that's \$17 for every \$1 that BLM spent on management of those lands. These lands also supported 6,000 non-Federal jobs as of 2016.
- Hunting and fishing are very popular activities within the National Conservation Lands, 99% of these lands are open to hunting and fishing.

### By the Numbers

CA Desert National Conservation Lands: 4.2 million acres
National Monuments: 27 units (9,451,978 BLM acres)
National Conservation Areas and Similar Designations: 21 units (4,113,092 BLM acres)
Wilderness Areas: 224 (8,760,479 BLM acres)
Wilderness Study Areas: 517 (12,607,811 BLM acres)
Wild and Scenic Rivers: 69 (2,423 BLM miles)
National Scenic and Historic Trails: 18 (5,761 BLM miles)



Crooked WSR, Oregon



Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness, Arizona





**NATIONAL  
CONSERVATION  
LANDS**

New Mexico

# Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks

National Monument

Annual Manager's Report—Fiscal Year 2016



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Cover photo: The moon rising over the Organ Mountains at Dripping Springs Natural Area.

# 1 Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Profile

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## Designating Authority

Designating Authority: Presidential Proclamation – Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument

Date of Designation: May 21, 2014

## Acreage

Total Acres in Unit 496,540

BLM Acres 419,532

Other Federal Acres 0

State Acres\* 67,083

Private Acres\* 9,925

\*State and Private acres are not part of the total unit acres

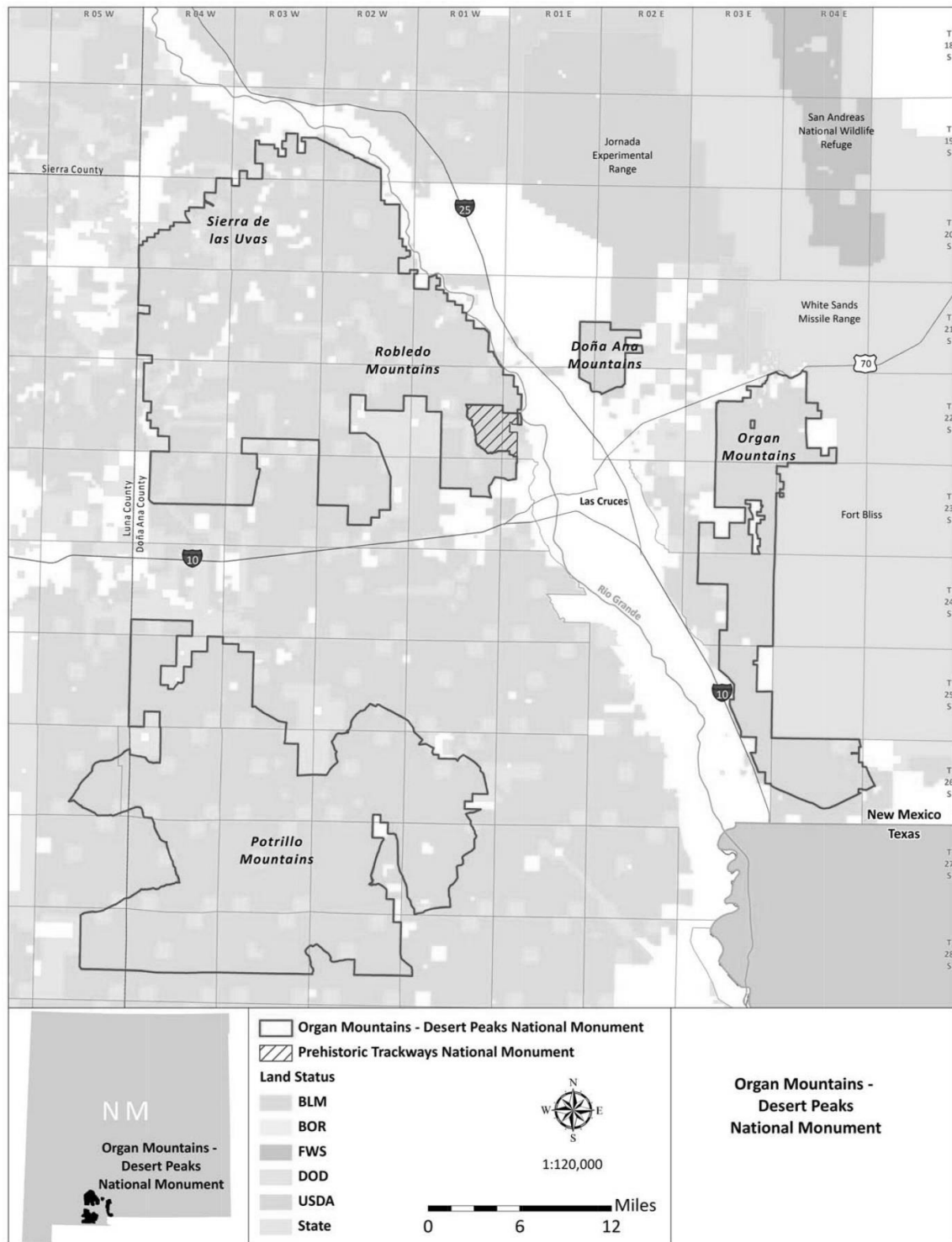
## Contact Information

Unit Manager Diane E. Prather  
Phone (575) 525-4309  
E-mail dprather@blm.gov  
Mailing Address 1800 Marquess St., Las Cruces, NM 88005  
Field Office Name N/A  
District Office Name Las Cruces  
State Office Name New Mexico

## Budget

Total Fiscal Year 2016 Budget \$1,155,998  
Subactivity 1711 \$659,998  
Subactivity 1610 \$496,000  
Other Subactivities' Contributions \$  
Other Funding \$

## Map of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument



## Managing Partners

N/A

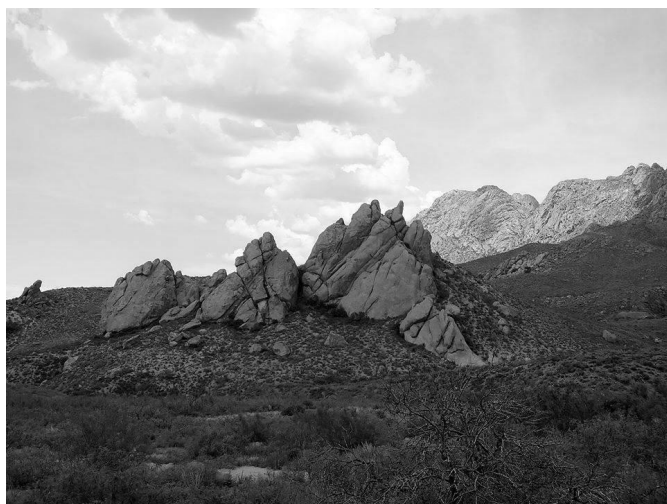
## Staffing

The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument (Monument) staff consists of eight full-time employees with six of those employees being new hires in 2016. A permanent monument manager was appointed, providing extensive outreach and communication to the public. Other new employees include a natural resource specialist (NRS) and two park rangers. Of the the park rangers, one has a temporary promotion to Lead Park Ranger. These are additions to a previous staff of two: an outdoor recreation planner and an archaeologist. The Monument staff also includes a full-time employee from the Las Cruces District Office (LCDO) on a temporary detail as a park ranger for four days out of the week until the end of October 2016.

The Monument staff receives additional support from the staff at LCDO including but not limited to civil engineers, planning and natural resource staff, and the force account crew. Two law enforcement rangers have areas of responsibility within the Monument as well as patrolling the LCDO overall. There is continual support from interns recruited by a myriad of partnerships with non-profit organizations including the American Conservation Experience (ACE), AmeriCorps Vista and GeoCorps, dedicated to exposing young people to careers in land management agencies. The Monument was able to convert two interns to permanent park rangers and a permanent paleontologist through the direct hire authority.

All of the Monument staff employees have overlapping duties with Prehistoric Trackways National Monument.

Monument Manager 50%  
Outdoor Recreation Planner 50%  
Archaeologist 70%  
Paleontologist 25%  
Natural Resource Specialist 60%  
Park Rangers 50%



La Queva, Dripping Springs Natural Area



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## 2 Planning and NEPA

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### Status of the Resource Management Plan

OMDPNM is on track to meet all deadlines related to developing the Resource Management Plan (RMP). Plan start is set for 2017. The Executive Summary was submitted in December 2015, and the preparation plan for initiation of planning and budget development was submitted in September. RMP development is utilizing the principles of Planning 2.0, and scoping workshops are anticipated to begin in the next fiscal year. Next steps are the components of plan assessment for September 2017. The comprehensive Travel and Transportation Management will utilize Blanket Purchase Agreement for concurrent travel management and planning

### Status of Activity Plans

No activity plans are in development until the completion of the RMP.

### Status of the RMP Implementation Strategy

The Implementation Strategy is not in development until the completion of the RMP.

### Key National Environmental Policy Act Actions and/or Project Authorizations

The listed NEPA actions represent the diversity of requests and activities occurring in the Monument.

There were two approved CXs related to research. The first, "Lava Flow Mapping at Kilbourne Hole and Aden Crater" allows researchers from the University of Texas El Paso and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center to study different techniques and technologies for the exploration of volcanoes on Earth and other planetary surfaces using non-invasive methods. The other is "Entomological Research at Dripping Springs and Aguirre Spring" from researchers at New Mexico State University. It allows them to monitor insect populations in the Organ Mountains.

In realty, there was one CX, "EPE/Chaparral Underground Powerline/Padmount Transformer." It approved a 25' wide powerline Right-of-Way (ROW) for the purpose of providing 3 phase 14KV underground electric service to a new building addition at Chaparral Elementary School.

For recreation, there was one DNA for the "Horny Toad Hustle Mountain Bike Race." The race takes place annually in the Dona Ana Mountains on existing mountain bike trails, and is a featured off-road race for New Mexico.

# 3 Year's Projects and Accomplishments

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## General Accomplishments

The following is a detailed description of some the programs the BLM and our partners accomplished together.

**Artist in Residence:** The Artist in Residence (AIR) program co-sponsored with the Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks (Friends) continues to be a success this year after its start in September 2015. Two artists, one photographer and one painter, were selected in May and September of 2016. The goal is to host two artists each year to promote appreciation and stewardship of Monument lands among community members through an artists' unique perspective. The artists organize one creative community project, one public event such as a workshop or demonstration, one public showing, and one completed artwork licensed to the Friends and the BLM.

**Portal and Secondary Sign Installations:** OMDPNM has installed eight portal signs and 28 secondary signs indicating Monument boundaries including directional signs. There are more installation plans in place for the coming months. The signs are designed using the latest artwork designed by Visual Information Specialists at the BLM National Operations Center, and it incorporates the National Conservation Lands logo.



Sign Installation

## Road Improvement

Both Baylor Canyon and Dripping Springs Roads were improved with funds received through the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP). The dirt portion of the Dripping Springs

road was paved to create an improved road all the way to the A. B. Cox Visitor Center. Bicyclists really seem to be enjoying the new road. Visitation to Dripping Springs Natural Area has doubled from 30,794 in 2015 to 77,113 visitors in 2016. Improved access has made a difference.

**Youth Corps Opportunities:** The Monument supported several opportunities for people considering a career with land management agencies by partnering with non-profit organizations with conservation missions including the ACE, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (RMYC), and Student Conservation Association (SCA). One youth crew from the RMYC did trail work on Webb Gap in the Sierra Vista trail. A youth crew from ACE installed a few portal signs as part of the larger project of sign installation. There were two year-long SCA interns working on a variety of conservation projects. There are two year-long ACE interns working as park ranger interns, and four ACE range interns conducting an inventory of range improvements in preparation of the plan assessment.

**RMP Preparation:** A major accomplishment this fiscal year is the plan start for the RMP. Several deadlines have already been met including the prep plan and Executive Summary submission. The Monument has entered into multiple agreements for additional support in plan development and data collection. This includes the following:

- The Monument has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with New Mexico State University (NMSU). The MOU lays the framework for research projects to be undertaken by NMSU in support of the RMP development. To start, they will be conducting vegetation studies for plan assessment.
- The Monument is working with New Mexico Association Conservation Districts (NMACD). NMACD will be collecting and synthesizing species and habitat data.
- The University of Alaska will be conducting surveys using focus groups to improve and manage recreation and visitor services.
- The Monument has a contract with Tierra, a private entity, for cultural surveys.

**Education, Outreach, and Interpretation:** The Monument co-sponsored tours with the American Rock Art Research Association and co-sponsored events with the Green Chamber of Commerce and the Friends during the month of Monuments to Main Street dedicated to national monuments in the local area. The Monument also supported the statewide archaeology fair at Dripping Springs Natural Area (DSNA). The Monument staff organized a week-long camp for 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls as part of the Every Kid in a Park initiative. The camp was held at Aguirre Springs Campground (ASCG), and the girls were able to learn from a variety of local experts involved in the outdoors and nature. The Monument has also partnered with Chamizal National Memorial managed by the National Park Service to provide guided hikes for 4<sup>th</sup> graders from the El Paso area as part of the EKIP program. The majority of the guided hikes will happen in the next fiscal year.

All of our accomplishments meet goals established in the NLCS Implementing the National 15-Year Strategy in New Mexico. There is a large collaborative effort to collect scientifically sound data to inform the development of the RMP. This meets the first goal of Monitoring and Science. The second goal is to ensure that the Monument is available and beneficial to all visitors. The Monument has accomplished this through a number of ways, through the continued success of the AiR program, sign installation projects, conservation projects by

interns, the RMP process, and the extensive education, outreach, and interpretation programs the Monument staff holds. Another goal of the NLCS Strategy is to ascertain the Monument has the appropriate planning documents to guide its management. The Monument is going through the vigorous process to develop the RMP which meets this goal. Lastly, strong partnerships have been foundational this past fiscal year in the Monument's accomplishments, and this meets the goal of working with other entities.

#### Current Areas of Focus

Besides outreach and education, the Monument is focusing mainly on developing the RMP. With assistance from the staff at BLM LCDO and other partnerships, there are major efforts for data collection and inventory. Important deadlines have been met for the prep plan and Executive Summary. Other deadlines are slated to be met.

#### Education, Outreach, and Interpretation

The Monument staff partnered with Chamizal National Memorial run by the National Park Service (NPS) has begun leading a series of guided hikes at DSNA under the EKiP initiative. There have been other guided hikes open to the public about the Hermit, and the history and environment of Baylor Pass. There have been talks for local Boy Scouts of America groups and for high schools such as the Rio Grande Preparatory Institute. There is also a new effort to reach a greater diversity of Las Cruces residents by holding talks at community meetings in colonias. Colonias are communities that have historically had little infrastructure and resources, and populations are majority Hispanic. There have been public outreach efforts at community events such as at NMSU's Peek of Las Cruces Street Fair and the Monuments 2 Main Street. The Monument helped coordinate a hike with Youth Plus One, an program by the City of Las Cruces Parks and Recreation Department to motivate more young people to step outside.

The Monument also organized trail work and vegetation removal for volunteers during National Public Lands Day at DSNA. There were booths for visitors to gather information about Leave No Trace from the Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers, EKiP and a number of local organizations such as Southern New Mexico Sportsmen and many others.

For many of these programs, there was additional support from the ACE park ranger interns, SCA interns and the Department of the Interior VISTA volunteer.

BLM LCDO hosted the annual Public Lands Foundation (PLF) meeting in September 2016. PLF members met the Monument staff and they toured the areas around the Monument. As part of the PLF the BLM LCDO hosted the National Student Congress and also toured areas around the Monument. The National Student Congress is composed of 20 students and recent graduates from universities and colleges across the nation.

The Monument was awarded a Hands on the Land mini-grant through which four teachers were funded to explore the Monument's public lands and develop curricula for students.

## Partnerships

Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument is a non-profit 505 (c)(3) non-profit organization. The framework for their collaboration outlined in the MOU was signed in September 2015. They are proving an invaluable partner in accomplishing goals to bring community support and stewardship for the Monument. They manage the AiR program, recruit volunteers, disseminate information about Monument events, and help organize other events.

Southern New Mexico Trail Alliance unites all trail users and provides a way for the BLM to connect to the myriad of users on the Monument. They coordinate monthly events for users to help maintain trails in the Monument and in the surrounding areas.



Dona Ana Mountains

Chamizal National Memorial managed by the National Park Service (NPS), has reached out to elementary schools in the El Paso, TX area, and are organizing classes of 4<sup>th</sup> graders on field trips and other activities. The field trips occur in the Guadalupe Mountains National Park managed by the NPS and at DSNM where the Monument staff leads the students on guided hikes to La Cueva.

Take It Outside, NM has been a partner since 2011. It is a collaboration between the BLM, US Forest Service, National Park Service, New Mexico State Parks and the Asombro Institute for Science Education operating within the southwest New Mexico area. The goal



is to promote and support each agency and organization with their own education, interpretive, and outreach programs. Meetings are held once a month. The Education, Outreach, and Volunteer Coordinator for the LCDO and the DOI/VISTA volunteer are both in charge of moving this partnership forward. Through this alliance, a day camp of two days was held on BLM and USFS land. Additionally, a map of the combined partner's sites is being produced.

### Volunteers

The BLM LCDO has one of the biggest volunteer programs in New Mexico. Campground hosts, site hosts, and day volunteers contributed 16,495 hours in 2016. Other volunteers contributed 104 hours during public service events such as National Public Lands Day and through events organized by the Southern New Mexico Trail Alliance and the Las Cruces Cruceño Cleanup. The LCDO uses data from the Toss No Mas app to locate and target trash for cleanup. This year LCDO, volunteers and partners removed 19 tons of trash from the monument.

### Land (or Interests in Land) Acquisitions

N/A



Las Uvas Mountains

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# 4 Science

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## Science

The Science Plan for the Monument has not been initiated, but there is progress towards data collection by agreements made with university and private entities.

“Lava Flow Mapping at Kilbourne Hole and Aden Crater” is studying different field techniques and technologies for the exploration of volcanoes on Earth and other planetary surfaces. The research group will use a variety of non-destructive methods to map lava flow surfaces and detect subsurface cavities (such as lava tubes) in and around Kilbourne Hole and Aden Crater. The principal investigator is Jose Hurtado from University of Texas El Paso in collaboration with NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. Reconnaissance work will begin in the Fall of 2016 and will not involve any sample collection. Full field deployment will begin in the Spring of 2017 and will involve the use of a LiDAR scanner, a ground-penetrating radar (GPR), GPS equipment, aerial photography using a kite, and possibly a magnetometer and/or gravimeter. All of these geophysical methods are non-destructive and do not involve sample collection. Another instrument that will be used in the field is a handheld XRF (X-Ray Fluorescence) spectrometer. It is a non-destructive device for acquiring major-element compositional data on rocks.

“Entomological Research at Dripping Springs and Aguirre Spring” will monitor insect populations in the Organ Mountains. Research will be conducted along the La Cueva trail at Dripping Springs and along the Pine Tree Loop trail at Aguirre Springs. Insects of interest all belong to the Heteroptera group and include: stink bugs (Pentatomidae, *Dendrocoris contaminatus*, *Euschistus* spp., *Moromorpha tetra*), burrower bugs (Cydnidae, *Dallasiellus* spp., etc.), plant bugs (Miridae, *Phytocoris* spp., *Parthenicus* spp., etc.), and assassin bugs (Reduviidae, *Sinea* spp.). None of these species are threatened or endangered but little is known about them in New Mexico, so any data gathered will be a valuable contribution to knowledge of insects for the region. The principal investigator is Dr. Scott Bundy, Professor of Entomology at NMSU.

# 5

## Resources, Objects, Values, and Stressors

### Archaeological

Archaeological resources are the remnants of ancient dwellings. The artifacts common to the area result from over 10,000 years of occupation. The Monument does not have 100 percent inventory, acres possessing objects therefor cannot be given.

#### Archaeological Status and Trend Table

Status of Resource, Object, or Value	Trend
Rock Art sites: Fair. Habitation sites: at risk.	Stable

#### Archaeological Inventory, Assessment, Monitoring Table

Acres in Unit	Acres Inventoried	Acres Possessing Object	Resources Monitored in FY
496,540	120	unknown	5

### Stressors Affecting Archaeology

Increased Monument visitation has led to an increase in vandalism. Soil disturbance from user created trails are also a threat to archaeological sites due to rutting and increased erosion.

### Historical

Historical resources are the remains of historical activities as evidence through numerous objects and buildings, spanning the 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Monument doesn't have 100 percent inventory, acres possessing objects therefor cannot be given.

#### Historical Status and Trend Table

Status of Resource, Object, or Value	Trend
Fair	Some Vandalism

**Historical Inventory, Assessment, Monitoring Table**

Acres in Unit	Acres Inventoried	Acres Possessing Object	Resources Monitored in FY
496,540	See Archaeological Inventory	unknown	2

**Stressors Affecting Historical**

Increased Monument visitation has led to an increase in vandalism. This has led to incredible damage of accessible historical ruins.



Dripping Springs Natural Area

**Biological and Ecological**

The Monument is located within the Chihuahuan Desert ecoregion. Some of the plants found here are rare or endemic, and include the Organ Mountain evening primrose, Organ Mountains giant hyssop, Organ Mountains paintbrush, Organ Mountains pincushion cactus,

Organ Mountain figwort, Organ Mountains scaleseed, night-blooming cereus, Plank's Catchfly, and nodding cliff daisy, and likely the endangered Sneed's pincushion cactus. Plant species and plant communities important for contributing to the ecological diversity within the Monument include Chihuahuan grasslands, ponderosa pine stands, small riparian ecosystems, and desert shrub communities. These are important resources for ecological research. The ecosystems of the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks support a wide variety of wildlife, from common animals to more rare and sensitive species. Notable species in the Monument include mountain lions, mule deer, raptors, migratory song birds, reptiles and bats. Specifically, the Monument includes the Organ Mountains chipmunk, Gambel's quail, ladder-backed woodpecker, Scott's oriole, and cactus wren. In addition the Monument contains one of several endemic species of rare terrestrial snails called the Organ Mountain talus snail.

#### Biological and Ecological Status and Trend Table

Status of Resource, Object, or Value	Trend
Good	Stable

#### Biological and Ecological Inventory, Assessment, Monitoring Table

Acres in Unit	Acres Inventoried	Acres Possessing Object	Acres Monitored in FY
496,330	150	unknown	99,266

The Monument doesn't have 100 percent inventory, acres possessing objects therefor cannot be given.

#### Stressors Affecting Biological and Ecological

A complete study of the stressors affecting the resource has not been identified yet. There is a growing concern with Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*), an invasive species spreading on the Pine Tree Trail Loop in Aguirre Springs Campground.

#### Geological

The Organ Mountains are a steep, angular mountain range with rocky spires of Precambrian granite and metamorphic basement rock that jut above the Chihuahuan Desert floor to an elevation of 9,000 feet. The Desert Peaks include the Robledo Mountains, Sierra de Las Uvas, and Doña Ana Mountains characterized by steeply rising desert mountains from flat plains. The Robledo Mountains include sedimentary deposits of scientific interest. The Doña Ana Mountains include peaks of monzonite. The Potrillo Mountains are a volcanic landscape of cinder cones, lava flows, and craters. Numerous volcanic cinder cones jut out prominently from otherwise broad desert plains. Volcanic features of Potrillo Mountains include the Aden Lava Flow, Kilbourne Hole with its Olivine glass and Hunt's Hole.



**Geological Status and Trend Table**

Status of Resource, Object, or Value	Trend
Good	Stable

**Geological Inventory, Assessment, Monitoring Table**

Acres in Unit	Acres Inventoried	Acres Possessing Object	Acres Monitored in FY
496,330	0	496,330	0

**Stressors Affecting Geology**

Stressors to the resource have not been identified.

**Paleontological**

The paleontological resources in the Monument are predominantly Permian Age fossil material, but include other discoveries as well. The primary paleontological resources include the fossilized tracks to ancient animals (associated with the adjacent Prehistoric Trackways National Monument), Shelter Cave in the Organ Mountains, which include fossil remnants of ancient ground sloths, birds, and voles, and Aden Crater lava tube in the Potrillo Mountains area, which contain the fossil remains of a giant ground sloth.

**Paleontological Status and Trend Table**

Status of Resource, Object, or Value	Trend
Good	Stable

**Paleontological Inventory, Assessment, Monitoring Table**

Acres in Unit	Acres Inventoried	Acres Possessing Object	Acres Monitored in FY
496,330	0	Higher Potential Fossil Acreage 142,139	0

**Stressors Affecting Paleontology**

Stressors to the resource have not yet been identified.

## Scenic

Distinct geologic exposures of the Robledo Mountains in the context of the Permian fossils

### Scenic Status and Trend Table

Status of Resource, Object, or Value	Trend
Good	Stable

### Scenic Inventory, Assessment, Monitoring Table

Acres in Unit	Acres Inventoried	Acres Possessing Object	Acres Monitored in FY
496,330	496,330	496,330	0

## Stressors Affecting Scenic

There are no stressors affecting the scenic values of the Monument. Any potential activities such as user created trails, and urban development will be evaluated according to the Visual Resource Management system objectives.



Dripping Springs Natural Area

## 6

## Summary of Performance Measure

Resources, Objects, and Values Status Summary Table		
Resource, Object, or Value	Status	Trend
Archaeological	Rock Art sites: Fair. Habitation sites: at risk.	Stable
Historic	Fair	Some Vandalism
Biological and Ecological	Good	Stable
Geological	Good	Stable
Paleontological	Good	Stable
Scenic	Good	Stable

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# 7 Manager's Letter

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Dear Supporters of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument,

In 2016, the BLM staff continued to strengthen community partnerships to support the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument management and stewardship. One milestone was the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with New Mexico State University for resource management planning assistance.

The BLM completed a preparation plan identifying the funding needs for resource management planning and a proposed schedule for completion of the plan. The BLM utilized agreements with New Mexico State University and the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts under the Restore New Mexico initiative for the inventory of Monument Objects. The BLM recently hired a paleontologist, two park rangers and a natural resource specialist to help with the Monument planning efforts.

In 2016, several events were hosted in the community bringing attention to the Monument, including the American Rock Art Association conference in Las Cruces. The BLM also hosted a two day archaeology fair with multiple agencies at the Dripping Springs Natural Area. "Every Kid in a Park" grant money was used to provide transportation to over three hundred fourth graders to attend the fair. The BLM, Friends of the Organ Mountains and the Las Cruces Green Chamber held events in September celebrating public lands day. A health fair was held at the Dripping Springs Natural Area along with a number of BLM and partner sponsored hikes in the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks and Prehistoric Trackways National Monuments. The popularity of the Monument is evident in the doubling of visitation to the Dripping Springs Natural Area.

This next year, BLM will continue to visit and dialogue with the public, local community groups, organizations and agencies to build awareness and highlight the resources of the Monument. Public involvement and envisioning for the upcoming resource planning effort will occur along with the preparation of resource assessments. BLM will continue to conduct community outreach with programs like "Every Kid in a Park", National Public Lands Day, and other interpretive and environmental education programs.

We continue to be excited about BLM's management progress of the Monument and we look forward to the continued local community and visiting public's enthusiasm and support for the enhancement of the Monument's exceptional resources.

Thank you,

Diane E. Prather



**NATIONAL  
CONSERVATION  
LANDS**

## **Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks**

### **National Monument**

Las Cruces District Office  
Bureau of Land Management  
1800 Marquess St.  
Las Cruces, NM 88005  
Phone: 575-525-4300

11/5/2016

The mention of company names, trade names, or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use by the federal government.



**Bureau of Land Management****NLCS Unit Acreages****Units of the National Landscape Conservation System**

The following tables display the individual units, by designation type, included in BLM's National Landscape Conservation System. The NLCS includes National Monuments, National Conservation Areas and Similar Designations, Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Historic Trails, National Scenic Trails, and Other Congressional Designations.

**27 National Monuments: 9,451,978 acres**

State	Unit	BLM Acres
Arizona	Agua Fria	70,980
	Grand Canyon Parashant	812,581
	Ironwood Forest	128,756
	Sonoran Desert	486,400
	Vermilion Cliffs	279,566
California	Berryessa Snow Mountain	110,000
	California Coastal	8,858
	Carrizo Plain	211,045
	Fort Ord	7,212
	Mojave Trails	1,600,000
	Sand to Snow	83,000
	Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains	98,981
Colorado	Browns Canyon	9,793
	Canyons of the Ancients	176,000
Idaho	Craters of the Moon	275,076
Montana	Pompeys Pillar	51
	Upper Missouri River Breaks	377,346
New Mexico	Kasha Katuwe Tent Rocks	4,647
	Organ Mountains Desert Peaks	419,532
	Prehistoric Trackways	5,280
	Rio Grande del Norte	242,710
Nevada	Basin and Range	703,585
	Gold Butte	296,937
Oregon	Cascade Siskiyou	113,341
Utah	Bears Ears	1,063,000
	Grand Staircase Escalante	1,866,331
Washington	San Juan Islands	970

**224 Wilderness Areas****8,760,479 acres****517 Wilderness Study Areas****12,607,811 acres****69 National Wild and Scenic Rivers****2,423 miles**

1,001,358 acres (20% of the national system)

**13 National Historic Trails****5,078 miles**

California	1,493 miles
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro	60 miles
Captain John Smith Chesapeake	2 miles
Iditarod	149 miles
Lewis and Clark	369 miles
Mormon Pioneer	498 miles
Nez Perce	70 miles
Oregon	848 miles
Pony Express	596 miles
San Juan Bautista De Anza	103 miles
Old Spanish	887 miles
Star Spangle Banner	2 miles
Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route	1 mile

**21 NCAs and Similar Designations: 4,113,092 acres**

State	Unit	BLM Acres
Alaska	Steese NCA	1,208,624
Arizona	Gila Box Riparian NCA	21,767
	Las Cienegas NCA	41,972
	San Pedro Riparian NCA	56,431
California	Headwaters Forest Reserve	7,472
	King Range NCA	62,562
	Piedras Blancas Historic Light Station ONA	20
Colorado	Dominguez Escalante NCA	210,149
	Gunnison Gorge NCA	63,201
	McInnis Canyons NCA	123,460
ES (Florida)	Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse ONA	86
Idaho	Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey NCA	483,700
Nevada	Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon	
	Emigrant Trails NCA	799,485
	Red Rock Canyon NCA	196,877
	Sloan Canyon NCA	48,438
New Mexico	El Malpais NCA	227,100
	Fort Stanton Snowy River Cave NCA	24,876
Oregon	Steens Mountain CMPA	428,440
	Yaquina Head ONA	95
Utah	Beaver Dam Wash NCA	63,478
	Red Cliffs NCA	44,859

**5 National Scenic Trails****683 miles**

Arizona	46 miles
Continental Divide	389 miles
Pacific Crest	233 miles
Pacific Northwest	12 miles
Potomac Heritage	3 miles

**Other Congressional Designations**

Conservation Lands of the California Desert\* 4,200,000 acres

\*The BLM is evaluating how to manage the Conservation Lands of the California Desert. This area has not yet been formally divided into various units.