

Flies posted May 8-13, 2002

St. George Meeting

St. George

*Public Library
City Offices
BLM Interagency Office
Grand Canyon Trust Office
Harmons
Lin's Market
Smiths
Albertsons
Post Offices
Outdoor Outlet*

Ivins

*Art Gallery at Kayenta?
Post Office
City offices*

Shivwits

Tribal Building

Santa Clara

*Post Office
City Offices*

Washington

*Albertsons
Nissons Foodtown
Nissons Market
Post Office
City Offices*

Hurricane

*Lin's Market bulletin board
Chevron
Post Office
Garden Café (by Chums)
Graff Mercantile
Hurst Ace Hardware
Museum*

La Verkin

*Post Office
Chevron
Sunrise Market
Farmers Market*

Virgin

Post Office

Springdale

*Post Office
City Offices
Zion NP and Visitor Center*

Toquerville

Post Office

Leeds

*Post Office
City Offices?*

Fredonia Meeting

Kanab

*Glazier's Groceries
Kanab Texaco
Rocking V Café
Escobars
Honey's IGA store
Willow Creek Books
Kanab Field Office
Grand Staircase-Escalante*

National Monument Office

*City Library
Post Office
Houston's Trails End Restaurant
Vermilion Café*

Fredonia

*City Offices
Post Office
Forest Service Office*

Outlying Areas

*Jacob Lake
Service Station at Pipe Springs
Pipe Spring Visitor Center
Kaibab Paiute Tribal
Headquarters*

Page Meeting

Page

Post Office

City Offices
Food stores
Glen Canyon NRA

Big Water
Post Office
Big Water Visitor's Center
City Offices

Paria Contact Station (BLM)
Marble Canyon

Vermilion Cliffs
Cliff Dwellers

Beaver Dam Meeting

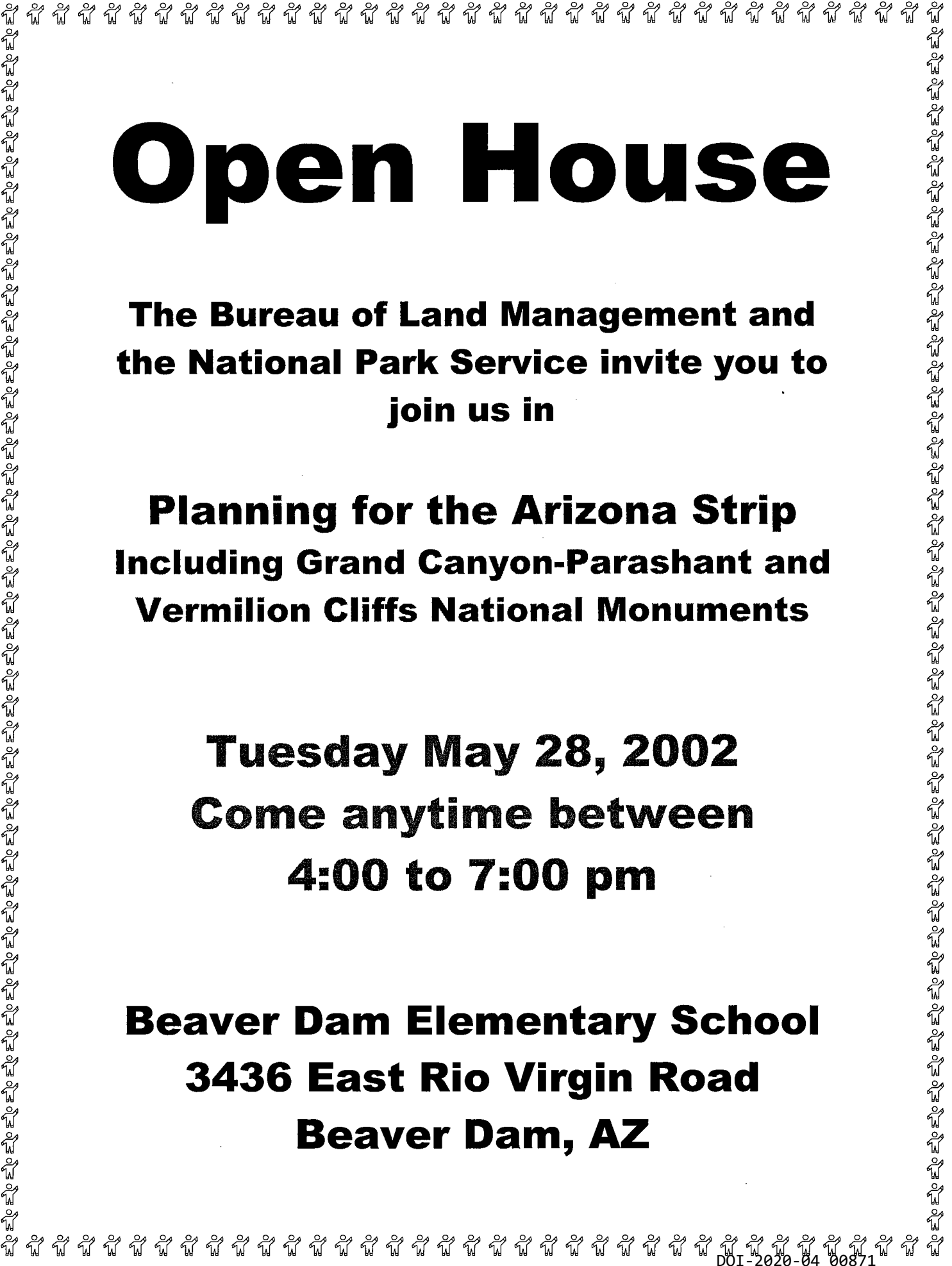
Beaver Dam
Elementary School
Sheriff's Office
The Dam Market
Post Office

Littlefield
Community College

Mesquite
City Offices
Post Office
Smith's

Bunkerville
Post Office
Courthouse
Community Center

Colorado City Meeting
Post Office
Town Hall
Service stations at Apple Valley and
Colorado City
Mohave Community College



Open House

**The Bureau of Land Management and
the National Park Service invite you to
join us in**

**Planning for the Arizona Strip
Including Grand Canyon-Parashant and
Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments**

**Tuesday May 28, 2002
Come anytime between
4:00 to 7:00 pm**

**Beaver Dam Elementary School
3436 East Rio Virgin Road
Beaver Dam, AZ**

Open House

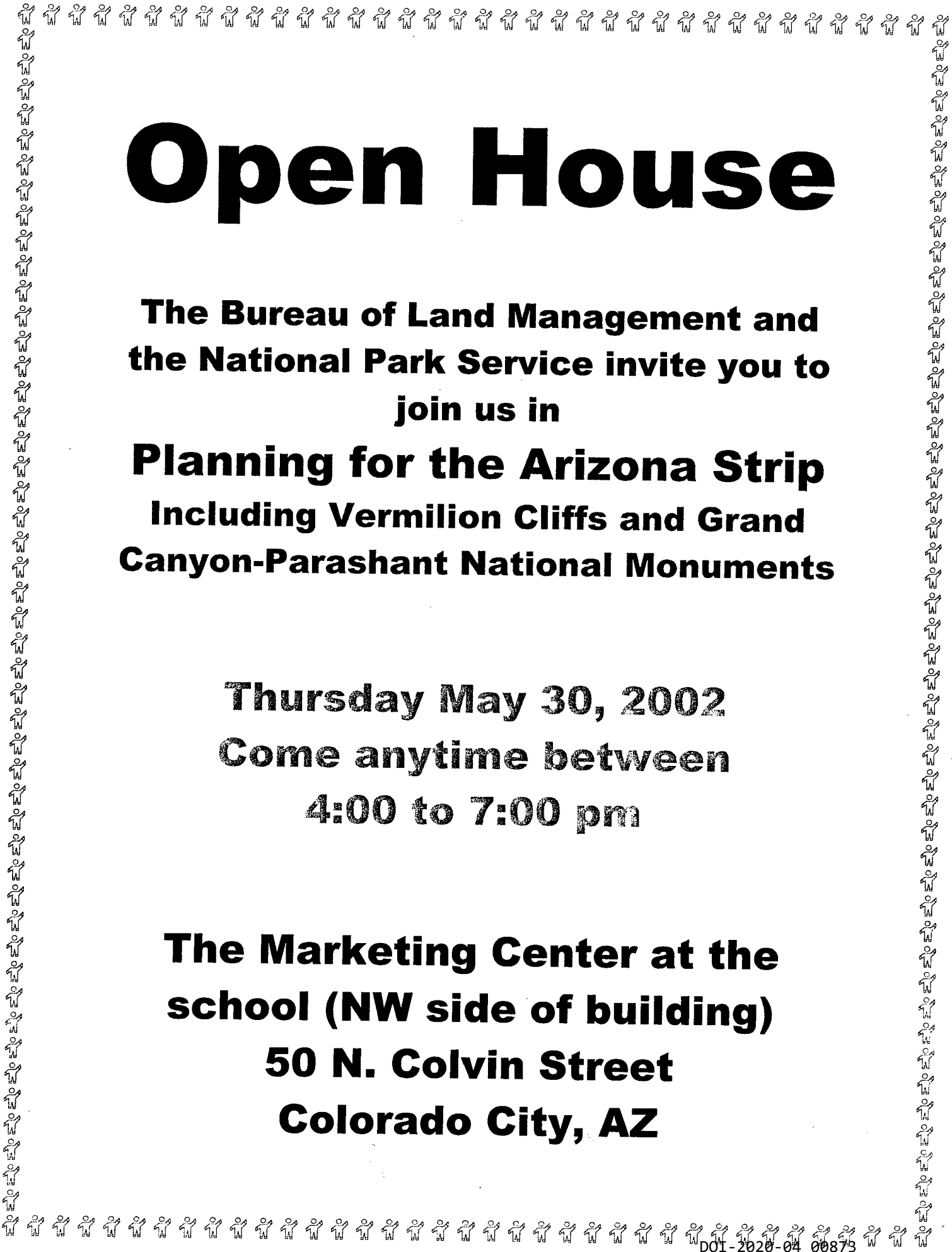
**The Bureau of Land Management and
the National Park Service invite you to
join us in**

**Planning for the Arizona Strip
Including Vermilion Cliffs and Grand
Canyon-Parashant National Monuments**

Wednesday May 29, 2002

**Come anytime between
4:00 to 7:00 pm**

**Dixie Convention Center
1835 Convention Center Drive
St. George, UT**



Open House

**The Bureau of Land Management and
the National Park Service invite you to
join us in**

**Planning for the Arizona Strip
Including Vermilion Cliffs and Grand
Canyon-Parashant National Monuments**

Thursday May 30, 2002

Come anytime between

4:00 to 7:00 pm

**The Marketing Center at the
school (NW side of building)**

**50 N. Colvin Street
Colorado City, AZ**

FLYERS ANNOUNCING PUBLIC MEETINGS IN 2002

ST. GEORGE, UTAH MEETINGS

St. George	Public Library City Offices BLM Interagency Office Grand Canyon Trust Office Harmons Lins Market Smiths Albertsons Post Office Outdoor Outlet
Ivins	Art Gallery at Kayenta Post Office City Office
Shivwits Reservation	Tribal Building
Santa Clara	Post Office City Offices
Washington	Albertsons Nissons Foodtown Nissons Market Post Office City Offices
Hurricane	Lin's Market Chevron Post Office Garden Café Graff Mercantile Hurst Ace Hardware Museum
La Verkin	Post Office Chevron Sunrise Market Farmers Market
Virgin	Post Office
Springdale	Post Office City Office Zion National Park Visitor Center
Toquerville	Post Office
Leeds	Post Office City Offices
FREDONIA, ARIZONA MEETINGS	
Kanab	Glazier's Groceries Kanab Texaco Rocking V Café Escobars Restaurant Honey's IGA Store Willow Creek Books Kanab Field Office Grand Staircase-Escalante – National Monument Office City Library

	Post Office Houston's Trail End Restaurant Vermilion Café
Fredonia	City Offices Post Office Forest Service Office
Outlying Areas	Jacob Lake Café and Gift Shop Service Station at Pipe Spring Pipe Spring Visitor Center Kaibab Paiute Tribal – Headquarters
Colorado City	Post Office Town Hall Service Stations at Apple Valley And Colorado City
Page	Post Office City Office Food Stores Glen Canyon NRA Mohave Community College
Big Water	Post Office Big Water Visitor's Center City Office
Paria Contact Station (BLM) Marble Canyon	
Vermilion Cliffs Cliff Dwellers	
MESQUITE, NEVADA MEETINGS	
Beaver Dam	Elementary School Sheriff's Office The Dam Market Post Office
Littlefield	Community College
Mesquite	City Office Post Office Smiths
Bunkerville	Post Office Courthouse Community Center

FLYERS ANNOUNCING PUBLIC MEETINGS IN 2003

ST. GEORGE, UTAH MEETINGS

St. George	Public Library City Offices BLM Interagency Office Post Offices Lin's Market bulletin board Outdoor Outlet Motorcycle shops (Ken M) Lowes and Home Depot Greenhouses
Ivins	Art Gallery Post Office City Offices
Shivwits	Tribal Building
Santa Clara	Post Office City Offices
Washington	Post Office City Offices St. Helen's Restaurant
Hurricane	Lin's Market bulletin board Chevron Post Office Garden Café Graff Mercantile Hurst Ace Hardware Museum
La Verkin	Post Office Chevron Sunrise Market Farmers Market
Virgin	Post Office
Springdale	Post Office City Offices Zion NP and Visitor Center
Toquerville	Post Office
Leeds	Post Office City Offices
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	Post Office Houston's Trail End Restaurant Vermilion Café
Fredonia	City Offices Post Office Forest Service
Outlying Areas	Jacob Lake Pipe Spring Visitor Center Kaibab Paiute Tribal - Headquarters
Colorado City	Post Office Town Hall Service Stations at Apple Valley and Colorado City
Pipe Spring	Tribal Offices
Moccasin	Court
Page	Post Office Big Water Visitor's Center City Offices
BLM Paria Contact Station	
Marble Canyon	
Vermilion Cliffs	
Cliff Dwellers	
MESQUITE, NEVADA MEETINGS	
Beaver Dam	Elementary School Sheriff's Office The Dam Market Post Office
Littlefield	Community College
Mesquite	City Offices Post office
Bunkerville	Post Office Courthouse Community Center

Flyers Posted May 19-20, 2003

St. George Meeting

50

St. George

Public Library
City Offices
BLM Interagency Office
Post Offices
Lin's Market bulletin board
Outdoor Outlet
Motorcycle shops? (Ken M.)
Lowes, Home Depot
Greenhouses

Ivins

Art Gallery at Kayenta
Post Office
City offices

Shivwits

Tribal Building

Santa Clara

Post Office
City Offices

Washington

Post Office
City Offices
St. Helen's Restaurant

Hurricane

Lin's Market bulletin board
Chevron
Post Office
Garden Café (by Chums)
Graff Mercantile
Hurst Ace Hardware
Museum

La Verkin

Post Office
Chevron
Sunrise Market
Farmers Market

Virgin

Post Office

Springdale

Post Office
City Offices
Zion NP and Visitor Center

Toquerville

Post Office

Leeds

Post Office
City Offices?

Fredonia Meeting

30

Kanab

Glazier's Groceries
Kanab Texaco
Rocking V Café
Escobars
Honey's IGA store
Willow Creek Books
Kanab Field Office
Grand Staircase-Escalante

National Monument Office

City Library
Post Office
Houston's Trails End
Restaurant
Vermilion Café

Fredonia

City Offices
Post Office
Forest Service Office

Outlying Areas

Jacob Lake
Pipe Spring Visitor Center
Kaibab Paiute Tribal
Headquarters

Colorado City

Post Office
Town Hall
Service stations at Apple
Valley and Colorado City

Pipe Spring

Tribal offices

Moccasin

Court

Diana

Becky Hammond

Jo Starr

Becky Hammond

Flagstaff/Fredonia Meeting

15 Fredonia

Page

Post Office
City Offices
Glen Canyon NRA

} Flagstaff meeting 6

Big Water

Post Office
Big Water Visitor's Center
City Offices

Paria Contact Station (BLM)
Marble Canyon

Vermilion Cliffs
Cliff Dwellers

Mesquite Meeting

15

Beaver Dam

Elementary School
Sheriff's Office
The Dam Market
Post Office

LittleField

Community College

Mesquite

City Offices
Post Office

Bunkerville

Post Office
Courthouse
Community Center

Beck
Hammond

Open House

For

Preliminary Alternative Concepts

**We invite you to join us in looking at
various ways to manage
the Arizona Strip**

**Including Grand Canyon-Parashant
And Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments**

Friday, June 6, 2003

**Anytime between 4:00 to 6:00 pm
Mountain Standard Time**

Flagstaff, Arizona

**DuBois Center, Building 64,
Fremont Room**

Pine Knoll Drive

Northern Arizona University Campus

**The Bureau of Land Management and
National Park Service**

Open House

For

Preliminary Alternative Concepts

**We invite you to join us in looking at
various ways to manage
the Arizona Strip**

**Including Grand Canyon-Parashant
And Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments**

Monday, June 2, 2003

**Anytime between 4:00 to 6:00 pm
Pacific Daylight Time**

Mesquite, Nevada

**Mesquite Town Hall
Training Room (upstairs)
10 East Mesquite Boulevard**

**The Bureau of Land Management and
National Park Service**

Open House

For

Preliminary Alternative Concepts

**We invite you to join us in looking at
various ways to manage
the Arizona Strip
Including Grand Canyon-Parashant
And Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments**

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

**Anytime between 4:00 to 6:00 pm
Mountain Daylight Time**

St. George, Utah

**Dixie Convention Center, Entrada Room
1835 Convention Center Drive (Bluff St. Exit)**

**The Bureau of Land Management and
National Park Service**

Open House

For

Preliminary Alternative Concepts

**We invite you to join us in looking at
various ways to manage
the Arizona Strip
Including Grand Canyon-Parashant
And Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments**

**Wednesday, June 4, 2003
Anytime between 4:00 to 6:00 pm
Mountain Standard Time**

**Fredonia, Arizona
Fredonia Town Hall
City Council Chambers
25 North Main**

**The Bureau of Land Management and
National Park Service**

Open House

For

Preliminary Alternative Concepts

**We invite you to join us in looking at
various ways to manage
the Arizona Strip
Including Grand Canyon-Parashant
And Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments**

Thursday, June 5, 2003

**Anytime between 4:00 to 6:00 pm
Mountain Standard Time**

Kingman, Arizona

**Mohave Community College
Student Union, Room 106**

**The Bureau of Land Management and
National Park Service**

Arizona Strip Announces Public Scoping Meetings

The Arizona Strip announces a series of open house meetings that mark the beginning of a planning effort for lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the National Park Service (NPS) for the following three geographic areas:

- Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument (BLM and NPS)
- Vermilion Cliffs National Monument (BLM)
- BLM public lands between the two monuments

The meetings are being held to gather information from the public on the future management of these areas. This is the first step in the planning process that will result in a new management plan for each of the monuments, and a revised management plan for the remaining Arizona Strip lands. The open house meeting format allows interested individuals to attend anytime between the hours of 4 and 7 p.m. (local time) for the following dates and locations:

May 28 (Tuesday), 2002 Beaver Dam Elementary School, 3436 East Rio Virgin Road, **Beaver Dam, Arizona**

May 29 (Wednesday), 2002 Dixie Convention Center, 1835 Convention Center Drive, **St. George, Utah**

May 30 (Thursday), 2002 The Marketing Center at the school (NW side of building), 50 North Colvin Street (100 East), **Colorado City, Arizona**

May 31 (Friday), 2002 Fredonia Elementary School, 222 North 200 East, **Fredonia, Arizona**

June 3 (Monday), 2002 Marriott Courtyard, 600 Club House Drive, **Page, Arizona**

June 4 (Tuesday), 2002 Du Bois Center, Fremont Room, Building 64, Pine Knoll Drive, Northern Arizona University Campus, **Flagstaff, Arizona**

June 5 (Wednesday), 2002 Crowne Plaza North Phoenix, 2532 West Peoria Avenue, **Phoenix, Arizona**

June 6 (Thursday), 2002 Kingman High School, 4182 North Bank Street, **Kingman, Arizona**

June 10 (Monday), 2002 University Park Hotel, 480 Wakara Way, **Salt Lake City, Utah**

June 12 (Wednesday), 2002 Cashman Center, 850 Las Vegas Boulevard North, **Las Vegas, Nevada**

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING FORMAT

April 2002

Team members = Roger Taylor, Bill Dickinson, Dennis Curtis, Becky Hammond, Ferron Leavitt, Darla Sidles, Kezia Nielsen, Jim Holland, Diana Hawks, Tom Folks, Mike Herder, Bob Sandberg, Whit Bunting, Paula Branstner, Ken Moore, Laurie Ford

Proposed rehearsal date - **May?** - 8:30 Monday morning, Parashant Office, St. George, Utah (*all team members*)

Proposed public scoping meeting dates and places;

January 7 (Monday), 2002 Beaver Dam, Arizona (*13 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Ferron?, Darla or Kezia, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Laurie*)

January 8 (Tuesday), 2002 St. George, Utah (*13 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Ferron, Becky, Darla, Kezia, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob, Whit, Paula, Ken, Jim*)

January 9 (Wednesday), 2002 Colorado City, Arizona (*9 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla or Kezia, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Laurie*)

January 10 (Thursday), 2002 Fredonia, Arizona (*13 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Kezia, Ferron, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob, Whit, Ken, Laurie*)

January 14 (Monday), 2002 Page, Arizona (*12 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Kezia, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Paula, Jim*)

January 15 (Tuesday), 2002 Flagstaff, Arizona (*12 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Kezia, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Paula, Jim*)

January 16 (Wednesday), 2002 Phoenix, Arizona (*12 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Kezia, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Paula, Jim*)

January 17 (Thursday), 2002 Kingman, Arizona (*13 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Kezia, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Paula, Jim*)

January 22 (Tuesday), 2002 Las Vegas, Nevada (*9 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla or Kezia, Diana, Jim, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit*)

January 24 (Thursday), 2002 Salt Lake City, Utah (*9 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Diana, ??*)

Team positions;

2 greeters

6 at 3 stations Or 9 at 3 stations at large meetings (all except Colorado City and Las Vegas)

1 floater Or 2-3 floaters at large meetings (all except Colorado City and Las Vegas)

Format

Informal, open houses from 4-7 pm held in neutral meeting places. Two meeting rooms with the first

meeting room for a greeting table to direct public and for them to sign in. Information in the first meeting room on Arizona Strip (video), planning process (powerpoint presentation). Second meeting room will have;

- large poster papers on wall with - scoping questions on flip charts, map of Arizona Strip and monuments

- information at 3 stations - one each for the Parashant, the Vermilion Cliffs and the Arizona Strip Field Office, (tables with 2-3 team members) - scoping questions in paper format on cards and papers to encourage written comments, 8x11 maps of monuments and Arizona Strip, small 3x5 cards to put questions we cannot answer (so we can get back with them)

Purpose of this format is to encourage one-to-one, face-to-face collection of scoping information from the public, including specific information on locations and concerns. Encourage opportunities as well.

A. Maps and charts needed for scoping meetings (Dave and Marisa)

1. Foam core

- 3 land ownership maps

 - Entire AZ Strip

 - Grand Canyon Parashant

 - Vermilion Cliffs

- 3 areas affected by the plan (the newsletter version)

 - Entire AZ Strip

 - Vermilion Cliffs

 - Grand Canyon Parashant

- Planning Process Flow Chart with broad timeline (Darla will provide info to Dave)

2. Laminated and rolled up - 2 copies of each of the above maps

3. Rolled up and available at the meetings for reference

- 3 Route Inventory maps

 - Vermilion Cliffs

 - AZ Strip

 - Grand Canyon Parashant

- Existing OHV Classes - All AZ Strip

- Grazing Allotments

 - Vermilion Cliffs

 - Parashant

 - AZ Field Office

4. Questions in large format to fit on flip chart size paper (Dave)

B. Items to buy (Diana)

GSA - 25 paper pads for flip charts (5 boxes/5 per box)
Pencils (100)
250 white 3x5 index cards
24 Colored markers (fat tip and thin tip)
15 White Plastic 3-ring binders

Dori - 2 Plastic file cases for handouts
hanging files for file cases
1 battery powered pencil sharpener
black wire "in-box" for comments
1 pencil holder
6 flip chart stands (portable)
2 nice clipboards (regular size)
50' extension cord
Surge protector with more than 1 plug

C. List of handouts

Newsletters (Paula)
8 1/2x11 maps (Dave)
Proclamations (Diana)
Sign in sheets (Paula)

D. Reference notebook (Kezia/Dori)

Proclamations
Preplan
Project Agreement
NEPA/CEQ Regs
Grazing Regs
Interim Guidance
Planning Regulations and handbooks (both NPS and BLM)
Federal Register Notices
Newspaper notices
Implementation Plans (2)
Wilderness Plans
AZ Strip RMP
Lake Mead GMP

E. Transportation - Parashant Minivan for equipment

Two other vehicles to transport team members

Suggestions for meeting locations -

Page = Holiday Inn

Salt Lake City = Hilton, Salt Lake City Center, contact Linda Jean Stevenson at 801 238-4889.

Alternate - University Park Hotel

Beaver Dam = Beaver Dam Elementary School

Fredonia = Fredonia Elementary School, alternate location - Kanab Library

Scheduling rooms - questions to ask

Are there two rooms available? One with at least 200 sq. ft. (greeters table and tv/vcr with chairs in front) where visitors first enter and one with 1000-1200 sq.ft. for three stations (tables) and posters on the walls.

Is there a large TV with VCR and a stand available?

Are there tables for 3 stations in the second room (two tables each) and tables for information (minimum of 8 tables)?

Can we hang things on the walls (posters, maps)?

How much will the rooms cost? And if we have about 12 rooms booked to stay in that evening?

When can we set up? And how soon do we have to be out of the rooms?

Open House

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**Planning for the Arizona Strip
Including Grand Canyon-Parashant and
Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments**

**Tuesday May 28, 2002
Come anytime between
4:00 to 7:00 pm**

**Beaver Dam Elementary School
3436 East Rio Virgin Road
Beaver Dam, AZ**

SCOPING BRIEF FOR GRAZING ADMINISTRATION

There are approximately 235 recognized grazing allotments within the Arizona Strip.

190 of these allotments are covered by 83 Allotment Management Plans.

The AMP's prescribe the various management prescriptions that are applied on the allotments which vary from a lowered limit of utilization to very intensive pasture rotations. These include rest rotation, deferred rotation, specified season of use, high intensity/short duration and other forms of management all coordinated with the phenological needs of the vegetation being managed for.

Other very specific management techniques are also applied through the AMP or Term Permit, such as T&E species, watershed, recreation, and Visual resource considerations.

There are 125 operators on the Arizona Strip, that run approximately 21,000 cattle. There are 12,000 cattle above the Hurricane Rim and 9,000 below the Rim, or the old Vermilion & Shivwits Resource Areas.

This equates to approximately **185,000 AUMs**

The Taylor Grazing Act, Federal Lands Policy & Management Act, Public Rangelands Improvement Act are the guiding laws which govern how the BLM administers livestock grazing. These laws direct BLM to issue permits to qualified livestock operators for a ten year period with a renewal option upon expiration, unless there is an overriding reason not to renew the permit.

A permit specifies the Allotment(area)in which grazing is allowed, season of use(length of time) total number of AUMs(measure of forage necessary to sustain one cow or equivalent, for one month), that are allowed to be used by that permittee in that allotment, incorporates the conditions of an Allotment Management Plan, where one exists, and lists any other special conditions or constraints under which grazing use is subject to.

The Code of Federal Regulations, 43CFR Part 4100 further codifies the regulations set out in the various laws governing grazing administration and is the basis of the handbooks and manuals that outline specifically how the Bureau carries out it's day to day operations in fulfilling the mandates and mission of the agency as it relates to livestock grazing.

The current regulations directed the Bureau to develop Standards for Rangeland Health and guidelines for grazing management upon which to evaluate each allotment and the grazing use being authorized, to determine if that use is creating any unhealthy resource conditions. These standards were developed by a citizen based group appointed by the Secretary of the Interior for each state.

Standards are goals for the desired condition of the biological and physical components and characteristics of rangelands.

Guidelines are management approaches, methods, and practices that are intended to achieve a standard.

To date the Arizona Strip has evaluated 60 Allotments, and completed the assessment report on 11 of those 60. The evaluation effort is ongoing and all allotments have been scheduled for evaluation based on permit expiration date through 2008.

SCOPING BRIEF FOR GRAZING ADMINISTRATION

There are approximately 235 recognized grazing allotments within the Arizona Strip.

45 no allotment management plans, not intensive
190 of these allotments are covered by 83 Allotment Management Plans.

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*Parashant = 1 cow every 332 acres
Az Strip = 1 cow for every 145*

DOI-2020-04 00890

We need your help

Over the next few years, plans will be prepared to guide future management of the two new monuments on the Arizona Strip, Grand Canyon Parashant and Vermilion Cliffs, over the next 15-20 years.

If you are interested in the future of these national monuments and other public lands on the Arizona Strip, please sign below to add your name to the mailing list and receive information on Arizona Strip planning;

Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address

Status
of
Wilderness, Recreation, Visual Resources

Wilderness

Designated (Statutory) Wilderness

Statistics

- BLM
 - **Vermilion Cliffs N.M.** = 1 area
 - Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs: 112,500 acres; joint management with Utah BLM; 89,500 acres in AZ; 23,000 acres in UT; contiguous to Grand Staircase-Escalante N.M.
 - **Grand Canyon-Parashant N.M.** = 3 ½ areas
 - Grand Wash Cliffs: 37,030 acres
 - Mt. Trumbull: 7,880 acres
 - Mt. Logan: 14,650 acres; contiguous to Grand Canyon N.P. and Lake Mead NRA recommended wilderness acres.
 - Paiute Wilderness - Southern Unit: 35,379 total acres
 - **Arizona Strip Public Domain** = 3 ½ areas
 - Cottonwood Point: 6,860 acres; contiguous to Canaan Mtn. WSA in UT
 - Kanab Creek: 75,300 acres; joint management with FS; 6,700 acres BLM; 68,600 acres FS
 - Beaver Dam Mountains: 18,765 acres; joint management with Utah BLM; 15,072 acres in AZ; 3,693 acres in UT
 - Paiute Wilderness - Northern Unit: 52,521 acres
- NPS
 - No statutory areas

Management

- BLM
 - 4 required management goals:
 - The dominant goal is providing for long term protection and preservation of the area's

wilderness character under a principle of non-degradation...the areas will be managed so they remain unimpaired. (*"Wilderness character" is combination of: natural condition, opportunities for solitude, opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation and ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value.*)

- Manage wilderness areas for the use and enjoyment of visitors in a way that leaves them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. Wilderness resources will be dominant in all decisions where a choice must be made between preservation of the wilderness character and visitor use.
- Manage the wilderness area using the minimum tools, equipment or structure necessary to successfully, safely and economically accomplish the objectives. The chosen tool, equipment, or structure should be one that least degrades wilderness values temporarily or permanently.
- Manage nonconforming but acceptable uses permitted by the Wilderness Act (*grazing, valid mineral rights, etc.*) and other laws in a way that prevents unnecessary or undue degradation of wilderness character. Nonconforming uses are the exception rather than the rule; therefore, emphasis is placed on maintaining wilderness character.
- Existing Management Plans
 - All wilderness areas have wilderness management plans (WMP), except Kanab Creek. Management issues that arise that are not specifically addressed in a WMP are considered in light of the Bureau's wilderness policy at BLM Manual 6300
 - Plans provide wilderness-specific guidance for other BLM programs having management presence within these areas
 - I.E. range maintenance procedures, recreation, wildlife, noxious weeds, general administration, etc.

Wilderness Interim Management

BLM

- No WSAs, 603 or otherwise, currently exist on the Arizona Strip as areas falling under IMP.
- However, the wilderness character identified under the 603 review for these areas may still exist.

NPS

- 188,715 acres of NPS lands within Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument are Proposed Wilderness. An additional 22,400 acres of NPS lands on the Monument are encumbered by Santa Fe mineral rights, and are classified as Potential Wilderness.

- Per NPS Director's Orders #41 (Wilderness Management), the term "wilderness" includes the categories of suitable, studied, proposed, recommended, and designated wilderness, with potential wilderness being a subset of any of the five categories. Wilderness policies apply regardless of category.
- The NPS is directed to take no action that would diminish the wilderness suitability of an area until the legislative process of wilderness designation has been completed. Until that time, management decisions will be made in expectation of eventual wilderness designation. This policy also applies to potential wilderness, requiring it to be managed as wilderness to the extent that existing non-conforming uses allow.
- All management decisions affecting wilderness will further apply the concepts of "minimum requirements" for the administration of the area regardless of wilderness category.

Wilderness Review

New Planning

- Potential Outcomes on Existing Management Plans
 - May simply '**amend**' certain out-of-date or accomplished portions of existing plans that otherwise remain mostly valid.
 - May decide to write **new plans** during Implementation phase for areas that have outdated or accomplished plans.
- Designation of Wilderness Study Areas (WSA)
 - The 1984 Arizona Wilderness Act 'released' from '**Interim Management Policy (IMP)**' requirements, including the '**nonimpairment**' standard, WSAs that were not designated as wilderness. These WSAs had been designated as part of the FLPMA, Section 603 wilderness review process. Only Congress could designate as wilderness or release 603 WSAs, hence many states, like Utah, continue to manage them under IMP. The AZ Strip has no '603' WSAs, as they were 'released' by the Act.
 - RMPs will decide to designate or not designate acres as WSAs. This decision is the result of **FLPMA, Section 202 inventory and planning**. Many people will say that considering 'new' wilderness on the Strip goes against the '**agreements**' of the original 1984 coalition that pushed through the Arizona Wilderness Act, 1984. The '**release**' language of that Act is referred to as '**soft**' release, meaning that WSAs not designated were then released or unencumbered by any 'interim management' requirements. The language was not '**hard**' release, which, if included, would have likely precluded lands on the Strip from ever being considered for wilderness again. '**Soft**' release meant that with any new RMP start or revision, we would likely have to look at wilderness again, because Section 202 mandates a ongoing inventory of all resources, including wilderness.
 - Our planning decisions (therefore, our EIS analysis) will only designate (or not) WSAs;

they will not make formal recommendations of 'suitability' for statutory wilderness through the Bureau, Department, and President like the 603 process did and the NPS process does. Our end-game is WSA only and the associated interim management.

- The finding of wilderness character or no wilderness character in the 603 inventory constitutes the BLM's **'inventory of record'** for the planning effort. All new data will be considered in light of those findings. It's important to distinguish between the **'inventory'** of 603, concluded with BLM **'decisions'** that created WSAs and the **Congressional 'decision'** to **'not designate'** some areas that had documented **'wilderness character.'** Likewise, in the 202 process we will go through, we may have many acres that possess 'wilderness character', as documented in inventory, but which may not be designated as WSA during **'planning.'** Inventory merely documents the character, planning decided what to do with it.
- Wilderness inventory, or verification of existing data, on the Strip (all 3 units) will likely result from:
 - The Bureau mandate to inventory any **lands acquired by BLM** (*for us, that means anything we acquired since the 603 inventory.*)
 - The possible existence of wilderness character, first documented under the 1980 BLM Wilderness Review, in areas **previously designated as 603 WSAs.** As part of our official 'inventory of record,' we will need to determine if indeed, after 22 years, wilderness character still exists or has been lost or diminished as a result of management practices occurring since 1980.
 - The need to inventory or verify wilderness character on **certain contiguous lands** administered by other Federal agencies that have been recommended for wilderness designation or are BLM WSAs.
 - The submission of **'Citizen' or 'Externally Generated' proposals** from one or more individuals or groups. These would be analyzed and a determination made as to whether or not there is a 'reasonable probability' that the proponent's conclusions are 'significant' enough to change the BLM's conclusion (603 inventory results) about the same area.

Interim Management during Wilderness Review (Planning)

- Any WSAs designated will be managed under the BLM's Interim Management Policy (IMP) until:
 - a) Congress decides to designate or release those lands or,
 - b) BLM decides to release or change 202 WSA designations through plan revisions or amendments.
- During the period of 'wilderness review', when an action is proposed in an area that BLM determines may have wilderness characteristics, BLM should:

- Determine conformance with existing LUP
- Prepare NEPA, considering available new information on wilderness characteristics.
 - If NEPA determines impacts could 'degrade' wilderness values to the point of disqualifying the area from consideration as WSA, then BLM must consider:
 - An alternative that mitigates or relocates proposed action
 - An alternative that postpones proposed action pending LUP or LUP amendment
 - If NEPA determines proposed action would not disqualify, BLM may approve
 - If NEPA determines proposed action would disqualify, BLM should postpone

Recreation

Off Highway Vehicles

Statistics

- Current OHV Designations
- BLM
 - **Open** – 800 acres identified for further study (east of Fredonia), but never implemented
 - **Closed** – all designated wilderness areas, several ACECs (tortoise, soils, cactus, canyons)
 - **Limited to Designated Roads & Trails (LDRT)** – several ACECs (cultural), canyons/cliffs, cactus, RCAs, tortoise
 - LUP says that until this designation is implemented, lands will be managed as LERT (see next). No LDRTs were ever completely implemented
 - Specific requests and approval by BLM is required prior to most off-road vehicle use in LDRT areas. Hunters may not use motor vehicles off designated roads to retrieve an animal. Vehicle parking must be within 50 feet of designated roads.
 - **Limited to Existing Roads & Trails (LERT)** – remainder of AZ Strip
 - All authorized public land users holding a permit/licence (i.e., grazing, woodcutting, hunting, mining claim, right-of-way, etc.) may drive off-road if required to fulfill requirements of their permit/licence. For camping, motor vehicles must park within 100 yards of an existing road/trail.
 - Our LUP defines 'trails' as "an unmaintained road, such as a 4WD trail, consisting of two parallel tracks."
- State of Arizona
 - "Public roads and highways crossing BLM lands require motor vehicle registration."

Generally, this has been interpreted as State/Federal highways and County roads, not BLM transportation system roads.

- “Many backcountry roads and some washes are open to unregistered motor vehicles.”
- Operator requirements, such as helmet use class M or D driver license, apply for use on ‘streets or highways.’
- NPS
 - Vehicles must stay on existing NPS Transportation System Roads.
 - ATVs and Motorcycles must be ‘street legal’ and riders ‘licensed’

Special Recreation Permits

Status

- Required for commercial, competitive, and OHV events on public lands
- Can be required for organized groups, etc. at manager’s discretion
- Typical SRPs on the Strip: horse endurance racing, vehicle tours (jeep, ATV), horse/wagon trips, guiding hunts, outdoor leadership/education, youth therapy, guided hiking
- NPS has two types, depending on the use proposed: Incidental Business Permits and ????

Recreation Sites

Status

- Virgin River Gorge Recreation Area – camping, picnicking, some river floating, nature trail, working on incorporating old ADOT rest stop and provide small visitor contact facility.
- Stateline Trailhead – small, developed campground/trailhead on UT/AZ stateline; northern terminus for 750-mile Arizona Trail.
- Dominguez-Escalante Interpretive Site – plaques, parking, table; will be completely reconstructed as part of the Vermilion Cliffs Highways initiative.
- Many semi-developed trailhead sites

Recreation Trails

Status

- Arizona Trail – 750-mile (12.5 miles on AZ Strip), non-motorized trail, Mexico to Utah; hiking, mountain biking, equestrian, skiing
- Great Western Trail – multi-purpose trail/trail corridor; Canada to Mexico
- Honeymoon Trail – historic; many portions accessible with vehicles
- Temple Trail – historic; many portions accessible with vehicles
- Old Spanish Trail – primarily a route only through NW corner of the Strip

- Wilderness trails – a variety of constructed trails and route-only trails in 8 wilderness areas

BLM National Monuments

Interim Management Policy

- The State's responsibilities and authorities regarding wildlife management, including fishing and hunting, within the national conservation area or the monument are unaffected by legislation or the Proclamation
- Provide the public with prompt and accessible information on questions regarding the use of federal lands within the national conservation area or monument.
- Assure the applications, proposals, and future use requests pending when the legislation or Proclamation was issued are subject to the terms of the legislation or Proclamation, including its recognition of valid existing rights, and other management directives and decisions relate to the national conservation area or monument.
- All existing planning documents related to the monument lands should be reviewed for consistency with the legislation or Proclamation. Consistent with NEPA and FLPMA, the plans should be modified or a new plan created for the monument that addresses all resource issues in the legislation or Proclamation.
- In general, actions that are not precluded by the Proclamation or legislation and which do not conflict with the established purposes of the monument or national conservation area may continue. Allowed activities can be restricted only where (1) the BLM, through processes required by existing law, identifies places where such uses ought to be restricted or prohibited as necessary to protect the federal lands and resources, including the objects protected by the monument or national conservation designation; or (2) where the BLM finds a clear threat from such a use to the federal lands and resources, including the objects protected by the national conservation area or monument designation and the circumstances call for swift protective action.
- **Camping:** Dispersed recreational camping may continue consistent with current policies and practices and the Proclamation. Developed BLM camping facilities should be maintained and rehabilitated as appropriate, consistent with monument purposes.
- **Hunting and Fishing:** Coordinate with the State to ensure public safety, specifically if there are areas of increased visitor use.
- **Off-Road Vehicles:** No areas in the national conservation area or monument should be authorized for cross-country, off-road vehicular use, except for authorized administrative and emergency purposes. For routes, including washes, where motorized and mechanical vehicular use has been authorized by past planning decisions, management discretion should be exercised where necessary, through emergency closures or other actions, to protect the national conservation area or monument resources. Wheeled game carriers are exempt.

- **Paleontological Resources and Rock Collection:** The collection of any objects, including vegetation, paleontological resources, or rock specimens, should not be permitted, except where intended for legitimate scientific uses for which documentation is provided to the satisfaction of the responsible management official. Where limited wood gathering for uses including fire wood and fence maintenance occurred prior to designation, this activity could be permitted. In such cases the manager must assure that national conservation area or monument resources are not affected.
- **Roads:** Road improvements should be minimal and designed solely to correct those conditions that are unsafe or hazardous. Activities that maintain, as opposed to enhance, existing roads may be permissible.
- **Signs and Interpretation:** Appropriate signs at the national conservation area=s or monument=s boundaries should be provided. Other relevant information should be posted as needed. Actions should be initiated to interpret the resources and values and provide environmental education to visitors on important topics (i.e., visitor safety and resource protection).

Wild & Scenic Rivers

Designated (Statutory) Rivers

Statistics

- There are no designated rivers on the Arizona Strip BLM lands and 0 on NPS portion of GCPNM

Eligible/Suitable Rivers

Statistics

- The 1992 AZ Strip RMP considered 3 'rivers' for eligibility as W&SR; only 2 were determined to be '**eligible**'.
- **Vermilion Cliffs N.M.** = 1 river
 - Paria River: 38 miles; joint management with Utah BLM; 28 BLM miles in AZ were carried through the LEIS (Legislative EIS) as '**suitable**' for designation as '**wild**'.
- **Arizona Strip Public Domain** = 2 rivers
 - Virgin River: 34.5 miles (27.5 on public lands); contiguous with Nevada and Utah portions; RMP found 4 segments 'eligible' and assigned preliminary 'classifications' of 'wild', 'scenic', and 'recreational'; the LEIS evaluated the river and recommended it as 'suitable' and recommended designation as a 'Study River.'

- Kanab Creek: @22 miles; found to be ineligible

Interim Management

- Interim management (management practices cannot impair the 'outstandingly remarkable values' that the RMP identified for those rivers) is ongoing until Congress acts to designate or release the rivers from interim management status.

New Planning

- We are required to refer in our LUP/RMP effort to the Arizona Statewide Wild and Scenic River FLEIS and recommendation to Congress. We will reference those documents in the Affected Environment, Env. Impacts, and Preferred Alternative sections.
-
- We are not expecting any citizen proposals for Wild & Scenic River, however, if they arise, we will accept and evaluate them in light of the above.

Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument

Nampaweap (550 acres) - extensive prehistoric rock art site, villages, rock shelters

Witch Pool (260 acres) - prehistoric camp site, historic site

Resource Conservation Areas

Vermilion Cliffs National Monument

Canyons/Plateaus of the Paria (227,000 acres) - prehistoric rock art, villages, camp sites, rock shelters, granaries, trails

Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument

Mt. Trumbull (108,000 acres) - prehistoric rock art, villages, camp sites, historic sawmills and homesteads and trails

Parashant (51,000 acres) - prehistoric villages and camp sites, historic homesteads

Traditional Cultural Places (places of importance to living groups of people today) - TCP's

Bundyville

Buckskin Mountain

Paria Plateau

Grand Canyon

Mt. Trumbull

Vermilion Cliffs

All archaeological sites

Paleontological Localities

None designated yet but strong potential exists for encountering Pleistocene megafauna (mammoth, etc.) or Mesozoic vertebrates, casts, and tracks (dinosaurs, fish, etc.).

Numerous formations with invertebrate and plant fossils.

**STATUS OF CULTURAL RESOURCES;
ARIZONA STRIP PLANNING EFFORT**

May 2002

Cultural Resources include archaeological, historical, ethnographical (living people), Native American, and paleontological resources.

Sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places;

Antelope Cave, Arizona Strip Field Office
Waring Ranch, Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument

Many other sites qualify for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, particularly the historic trails (Dominguez-Escalante, Honeymoon/Old Arizona Road, and Temple Trail), larger villages, rock art sites, archaeological districts such as those on the Paria Plateau, or at Mt. Trumbull, Lost Spring Mesa, and Moonshine Ridge.

Public Use Sites (Arizona Strip RMP 1992)

Little Black Mountain
West Bench Pueblo
Honeymoon Trail
Temple Trail
Corngrower Site (Colorado City)
Nampaweap Rock Art Site
Uinkaret Pueblo
Paiute Cave
Witch Pool
Dominguez & Escalante Trail

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (for Cultural Resource values) - ACEC's

Arizona Strip Field Office

Little Black Mountain (200 acres) - extensive rock art site, rock shelters, developed trails, rest room, fenced, picnic table, parking lot

Lost Spring Mesa (9,800 acres) - prehistoric rock shelters, rock art, villages, also designated for endangered species Pediocactus sileri.

Moonshine Ridge (5,500 acres) - prehistoric villages, rock shelters, also designated for endangered species Pediocactus sileri.

Johnson Spring (2,400 acres) - prehistoric villages, also designated for endangered species Pediocactus sileri.

Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument

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Witch Pool (260 acres) - prehistoric camp site, historic site

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Witch Pool (260 acres) - prehistoric camp site, historic site

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Witch Pool (260 acres) - prehistoric camp site, historic site

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Ecosystem Restoration

The Arizona Strip is a vast biologically diverse, impressive landscape. It is the junction of the Mojave Desert, the Great Basin, and the Colorado Plateau. Individually these regions contain ecosystems extreme to each other, ranging from stark deserts to high elevation plateaus, tributaries, and rims of the Grand Canyon. Ranging from 1,500 feet elevation in the Mojave Desert of the Pakoos Basin through grasslands, sagebrush, interior chaparral, pinyon/juniper woodlands to the ponderosa pine forests at 8,000 feet on the Mt. Trumbull and Mt. Logan. The Strip contains an incredible variety of vegetation communities. Riparian corridors link the plateau to the Colorado River corridor below, allowing wildlife movement and plant dispersal.

Healthy, properly functioning ecosystems are more resistant to adverse impacts, recover faster, provide more opportunities for plant and wildlife species have fewer adverse impacts on adjacent or related ecosystems, provide more opportunities for human activities, and are generally more desirable than systems that do not function well.

Goals differ between communities (e.g. exclude fire from the Mojave, reintroduce fire into ponderosa). The overall goals between communities are very similar, while the specific goals and prescriptions to achieve those goals may vary widely. All goals and the prescriptions designed to achieve those goals must be based on the best available science. Where the best available science is unclear, incomplete, or otherwise unable to provide clear direction, BLM would work, in association with our partners from the public, in academia and from other agencies to resolve those scientific matters.

Conditions change over time and across space. Ecosystem processes are dynamic, and would be unrealistic to attempt to achieve a static community where the goals have been achieved and we desire simply to keep it as is. For example, within an interior chaparral community it is healthy for wildfire to reoccur every few decades. Fire is necessary to reopen areas and to recycle nutrients locked in dead wood. Interior chaparral evolved with wildfire. However, if one looked at an interior chaparral site immediately following a burn they would find conditions very different from what one would expect a chaparral site to look like. This does not mean the site is unhealthy, or that management action would be required, since natural processes would quickly allow for the reestablishment of the chaparral vegetation and wildlife.

Historically, multiple use activities were conducted with varying levels of regard for ecosystem functions. As a result, there have been impacts to natural resources and disruptions of natural processes. This was either the result of our ignorance of proper ecosystem function or a disregard for the impacts of our activities.

Restoring an ecosystem includes reduction in species abnormally overabundant, reconstructing structure or processes, and moving communities through seral stages.

SCOPING MEETING QUESTIONS

This is the order we want to get information to folks;

1. Current Arizona Strip information (introduce or focus on current conditions)
2. Concerns (Get at these next)
3. Vision (Finally, ask for vision)

1. What do you value about the Arizona Strip? Why? Please be specific, if you can.
2. What areas are important? Why?
3. How would you like to see the Vermilion Cliffs and Parashant NM natural, cultural, scientific, recreational and other resources managed?

Most of the above is taken from the Grand Staircase-Escalante NM's Vision Kit, which they used in scoping in 1997. Here is the exact text from that document.

WORKSHEET

Please consider the questions that follow, then give us your thoughts about the future management of the National Monument. Please attach additional pages, if necessary. Specific comments are most helpful. Once you have completed the Worksheet, please fold, tape and return to us by October 31, 1997.

1. **Values** People value the Monument for a variety of reasons. What do you value about the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, and why?
2. **Purposes and Management** Now that you have described what you value about the Monument, consider other purposes the Monument might serve. How should the range of resources found within the Monument be managed? The Map and Landscape Descriptions might help you in responding to this question. What are the purposes of the Monument? How would you like to see the Monument's scientific, traditional, recreational, and other resources be managed?
3. **Community** The rural and American Indian communities near the Monument have historical and contemporary ties to lands within the Monument. Some of these communities provide important visitor services. The character of the communities and their connection to the Monument are important considerations in the planning process. How have these communities contributed to your experiences in the Monument? What services would you like to see provided by the nearby communities?
4. **Other Concerns** What concerns or problems would have to be resolved before your vision of the Monument could be fulfilled?

Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

ARIZONA STRIP PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

Meetings will be held 4-7 PM at each location (except where noted) at each of the following towns;

Salt Lake City and St. George, Utah

Las Vegas, Nevada

Beaver Dam, Colorado City, Fredonia, Page, Flagstaff, Kingman, and Phoenix, Arizona

May 28 (Tuesday), 2002 Beaver Dam, Arizona (13 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Ferron, Darla, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Laurie)

May 29 (Wednesday), 2002 St. George, Utah (13 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Ferron, Becky, Darla, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob, Whit, Paula, Ken, Jim)

May 30 (Thursday), 2002 Colorado City, Arizona (9 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Laurie)

May 31 (Friday), 2002 Fredonia, Arizona (13 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Ferron, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob, Whit, Ken, Laurie)

June 3 (Monday), 2002 Page, Arizona (12 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Paula, Jim)

June 4 (Tuesday), 2002 Flagstaff, Arizona (12 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Paula, Jim)

June 5 (Wednesday), 2002 Phoenix, Arizona (12 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Paula, Jim)

June 6 (Thursday), 2002 Kingman, Arizona (13 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Becky, Diana, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit, Ken, Paula, Jim)

June 10 (Monday) Salt Lake City, UT (9 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Diana, ??)

June 12 (Wednesday), 2002 Las Vegas, Nevada (9 - Roger, Bill, Dennis, Darla, Diana, Jim, Tom, Mike, Bob or Whit)

A How-To Guide: **Commenting on the BLM's Arizona Strip** **Resource Management Plan**

Prepared for *You* by Arizona's Conservation Community
www.azmonuments.org

Set Up: The BLM will have staff waiting to discuss the plan with you and take your comments. They will be divided into 3 "stations" to cover each geographic area of the plan: (1) Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument; (2) Vermilion Cliffs National Monument; and (3) Arizona Strip (non-Monument). The BLM will have comment forms and a table available where you can write your comments.

- As you talk to BLM staff, begin your conversation by describing your interest and history with the place. **State the kinds of activities you and your family enjoy, or expect to enjoy, in the Monuments or in the Arizona Strip.** For example, do you seek quiet and lower-impact recreation such as hiking, camping, backpacking, bird-watching, etc? Include why these activities are important to you as an Arizonan, and why you care about this wild landscape as a place to enjoy these kinds of activities with your friends or family.

What to Write: Explain that you are concerned because the **Preferred Alternative does not adequately provide for low-impact activities, nor does it offer sufficient protection for wildlife, fragile cultural resources, and wilderness.** In fact, it promotes activities such as ATV use and motorized travel in the backcountry that will damage the uses and values that you care about. ATVs and dirt bikes can do extensive damage to a landscape, harm wildlife, and invite motorized activity into sensitive areas where it may be inappropriate. This is not what you want for these special public lands.

Here are the critical changes that we recommend for each part of the plan.

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument

Please reconsider the science and make the following changes:

- (1) Protect the wilderness characteristics on the full **775,000 acres** of wilderness-quality lands in the Monument.
- (2) Designate motorized travel on only the **630 miles of existing routes** recommended by the Arizona Wilderness Coalition. These routes are passable and can be reasonably maintained, and are not "roads to nowhere." The BLM's preferred alternative has way too many motorized routes that will disrupt my enjoyment of the Monument. I am also concerned that the BLM has not adequately considered the impacts that these travel routes could have collectively over time – they will disrupt wildlife habitat, invite damage to cultural sites, and help spread invasive weeds. In particular, the desert tortoise habitat in the Mojave desert area of the Monument should be nearly roadless. Research

shows that ATV use and their road networks are two of the main causes of desert tortoise death and population decline.

Vermilion Cliffs National Monument

This is the home of the magnificent California condor! Please reconsider the science and make the following changes:

- (1) Protect the wilderness characteristics on the full **170,000 acres** of wilderness-quality lands in the Monument.
- (2) Designate motorized travel on the **191 miles of existing routes** recommended by the Arizona Wilderness Coalition. The BLM's preferred alternative has way too many motorized routes that will degrade my enjoyment of the Monument. I am also concerned that the BLM has not adequately considered the impacts that these travel routes could have collectively over time— they will disrupt wildlife habitat, invite damage to cultural sites, and help spread invasive weeds.

Arizona Strip (non-Monument lands in the middle)

Please reconsider the science and make the following changes:

- (1) Protect the wilderness characteristics on the full **60,000 acres** adjacent to existing designated Wilderness areas.
- (2) **Reduce road density, and eliminate all cross-country motorized travel.** Cross country travel (such as in the proposed 6,000 acre "open play ORV area") is unnecessarily destructive. There are endangered plants and archaeological sites throughout this region. There are already hundreds of thousands of miles of roads and areas open to dirt bikes, all-terrain vehicles, and other ORVs. The BLM should balance this use across the region with other multiple uses such as hiking, birdwatching, and camping to give visitors and wildlife a place to escape from this noise and destruction.
- (3) Protect wildlife migration corridors by **designating Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)** to protect grasslands, native biodiversity, and critical linkages for migrating animals:
 - 100,000 acres in House Rock Valley, south of Vermilion Cliffs National Monument;
 - 60,000 acres in Yellowstone Mesa, in the center of the Arizona Strip;
 - 120,000 acres of the Kaibab-Paunsagunt wildlife corridor (west of Vermilion Cliffs National Monument), which provides a critical linkage for animals such as mule deer and pronghorn that migrate from Utah into the National Forest.

For additional information, please contact:

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