

**To:** Boone, Whitney[whitney\_boone@nps.gov]; Jeff Rupert[Jeff\_Rupert@fws.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Randal  
**Sent:** 2017-07-06T17:51:29-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Additional Monument Review request  
**Received:** 2017-07-06T17:51:29-04:00  
Ironwood NM Executive Summary 6 2 2017.docx

BLM has provided Executive Summaries for each of their monuments under review, which Downey found very helpful. Would you please provide the same for your monuments - a sample is attached.

I have deleted from all of the BLM reports, including the sample, information which is addressed in the economic reports, to avoid duplication, so please don't include economic data in your summary.

Jeff, one for Hanford Reach, one covering the Pacific marine monuments and one for NE Canyons and Seamounts might be the easiest approach for you, but if you want to do more for the Pacific, feel free.

Could both agencies have them done within 2 weeks?

## **Executive Summary of Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)**

### **Key Information about Ironwood Forest National Monument**

Ironwood Forest National Monument (IFNM) was established by Presidential Proclamation 7320 on June 9, 2000. Prior to designation, the area was managed by the BLM and continues to be following designation. The Proclamation designated “approximately 128,917 acres” and states that acreage is “the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.” The BLM manages for multiple use within the Monument (hunting, recreation, grazing, and valid existing rights such as mining claims, etc.), while protecting the vast array of historic and scientific resources identified in the Proclamation and providing opportunities for scientific study of those resources. The resources identified in the Proclamation include biological, geological and archaeological objects. Overall, multiple use activities are allowed in Ironwood Forest National Monument that are compatible with the protection of resources and objects identified in the Presidential Proclamation. Multiple use activities are subject to decisions made in current and future BLM resource management planning efforts which include public participation. National Monuments and other conservation areas managed by the BLM continue to allow for multiple uses according to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (depending on proclamation language).

### **Summary of Public Engagement Prior to Designation**

The BLM conducted no public outreach activities prior to designation. Monument designation was a citizen’s proposal. The Board of Supervisors of Pima County, Arizona, proposed the establishment of an “Ironwood Preserve” and signed Resolution 2000-63 “Request(ing) that the United States of America through the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, consistent with the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan, work cooperatively with Pima County to establish the Ragged Top and Silverbell Ironwood Preserve in the Silverbell Mountains.” in March of 2000.

### **Summary of Public Scoping in Development of Resource Management Plan**

The BLM engaged in a collaborative planning process in developing the RMP. The BLM conducted public informational meetings August 2000 - March 2002. Working groups for Lands and Minerals, Vegetation, Wildlife, Recreation, and Cultural Resources were established to identify, define, and articulate issues that would need to be addressed in the RMP. Public scoping was initiated on April 24, 2002, followed by informal scoping at community meetings, special interest group meetings, and coordination with elected representatives. The BLM conducted nine public scoping meetings in an open house format during July 2002, in the Arizona communities of Mesa, Casa Grande, Eloy, Arizona City, Tucson, Sells, Picture Rock, Marana, and Green Valley. A Spanish-speaking BLM employee attended each of these meetings to provide translation. Media releases were sent to over 400 addresses, and releases and Public Service Announcements went to more than 23 newspapers, television and radio stations.

### **Summary of National Monument Activities since Designation**

Included below is a summary of monument activities since designation:

- Recreation use has increased from 15,900 visits in 2001 to 23,600 visits in 2016. No production of coal, oil, gas or renewable energy has occurred since designation.
- The amount of energy transmission infrastructure (76.1 miles of right of way) has not changed since designation.
- Since monument designation, no mineral production has occurred.
- No timber production occurred since designation. No timber resource is present.
- The number of AUMs permitted (7,849) has not changed since designation. The number of AUMs sold each year is at the lessee's discretion based on weather and forage production, with numbers being lower during drought years.
- Native American Indians collect some natural materials; no permit is required.
- Sport fish do not exist on the IFNM. Regulation of hunting remains with the State.
- Approximately 12.5 percent of BLM-administered lands within the monument has been inventoried for cultural resources. The number of known and/or documented cultural resources sites has doubled since monument designation. 310 sites have been documented, with an average density of approximately 11 cultural resources sites per square mile. Projected total estimate is 3,000 to 6,000 sites likely to exist across the entirety of the monument.

### **Summary of Activities in Area for Five years Preceding Pre-Designation**

Included below is a summary of monument activities five years preceding designation:

- No estimates of recreation use were made prior to designation. A recreation study completed shortly after monument designation indicated approximately 10,000 annual visits.
- No coal, oil, gas, or renewable energy production occurred on the site during the five years prior to designation.
- All existing energy transmission infrastructure was developed prior to designation, including a total of 76.1 miles of right of way.
- A small mineral material sale (decorative rock) quarry was operating prior to designation. No other mining operations or mineral production occurred on federal lands during the five years prior to designation.
- No timber production occurred on IFNM in the five years prior to designation.
- Designation did not change the number of AUMs permitted; 7,849 AUMs were permitted each of the five years prior to designation. The number of AUMs sold each year was at the lessee's discretion based on weather and forage production, with numbers being lower during drought years.
- In the five-year period prior to monument designation, approximately 8,000 acres had been inventoried for cultural resources, and approximately 150 sites had been documented. The surveys were primarily conducted in support of BLM-permitted activities associated with grazing, mining, and/or utility line construction projects.

### **Summary of Available Economic Information since Designation**

According to the Bureau of Land Management's economic analysis for FY2016, total visitor spending at IFNM was \$1,401,970 and average expenditures per visit was \$59.41. The total non-BLM jobs supported by the Monument is 21 with a total labor income supported of \$726,234. This resulted in a total economic output supported by the Monument of \$1,995,362. An economic snapshot summarizing economic information is located within this drive ([Ironwood Forest NM-Economic snapshot.pdf](#))

### **Summary of Any Boundary Adjustments since Designation**

The IFNM boundary encompasses 188,628 acres of land; this number of acres, and the configuration of the boundary, have not changed since designation. Acquisitions from willing sellers of private land within the monument boundary added 358 acres in 2014 and 602 acres in 2016, bringing the BLM-administered acres from 128,398 at monument designation to 129,358.