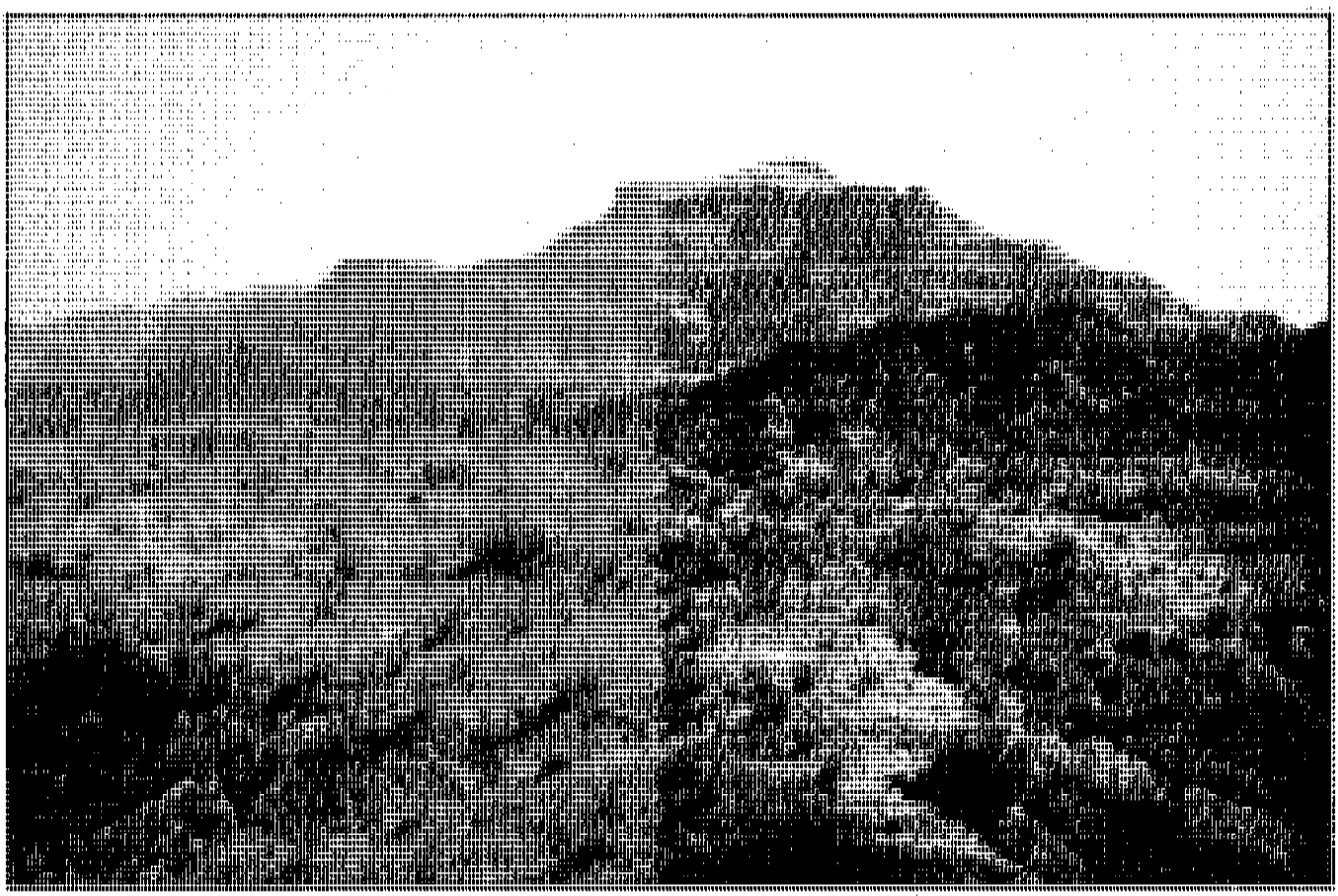
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Arizona State Office

Lake Havasu Field Office — March 2001

Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan and Environmental Assessment



MISSION STATEMENT

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BLM/AZ/PL-01/003

EA-AZ-070-2000-0043

United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Lake Havasu Field Office
2610 Sweetwater Avenue
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406-9071

In reply refer to:
1730 (070)
8500

March 1, 2001

Dear Reader:

The Draft Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan and Environmental Assessment was released for a 45 day public comment period beginning September 28, 2000. Seven comments on the draft plan were received and resulted in minor modifications of the text and environmental assessment to clarify several points. Enclosed is an errata sheet which summarizes the comments received and the changes made based on an analysis of the comments. The final Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan and Environmental Assessment incorporates the changes to the draft plan and to the environmental analysis as documented by the errata sheet.

Also enclosed is a copy of the Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Record. The Decision Record documents the Bureau of Land Management's final decision, which is placed in full force and effect March 8, 2001 and is subject to appeal under the provisions of Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 4. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days from the receipt of this decision. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed is in error.

A special thanks is due to all who participated in the planning process and contributed to the development of the final document. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Wolff-White at (520) 505-1309.

Sincerely,

Donald Ellsworth
Field Manager

Enclosures

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PART I
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Planning Area Location and Land Status

The westernmost portion of the Gibraltar Planning Area (Map 1) is located about 2½ miles east of Parker, Arizona. Covering an estimated 55,622 acres, the planning area contains the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness, the Cienega Mining District, portions of the Ganado Allotment that are north of Shea Road, and an adjacent strip of the Planet Allotment that is south of the Bill Williams River National Wildlife Refuge. A portion of the Parker 400 Race Course is also within the planning area.

The planning area contains some non-Federal lands, including two areas of State Trust Lands, portions of the Buckskin Mountains State Park, and several private land parcels (Table 1, Map 1). No utility corridors, non-Federal inholdings, or portions of the CAP are located within the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness.

The westernmost planning area boundary is adjacent to the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) Reservation for a distance of approximately 2 miles. Heading north, the boundary includes a portion of private land, excludes a portion of State Trust Land, then follows AZ Highway 95 through Buckskin Mountains State Park and past the Central Arizona Project (CAP) inlet on Lake Havasu. The Bill Williams National Wildlife Refuge adjoins the entire north and northeast planning area boundary. The planning area boundary follows the Ganado Allotment south approximately 6 miles to Shea Road, then south and west along Shea Road for approximately 14 miles back to the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation.

Table 1

Land Status of Planning Area

Owner	Acres	% of Planning Area
Bureau of Land Management	50,134	90
State Trust Lands	3,836	7
AZ State Park	758	1
Private	894	2
Total	**55,622**	**100**

Plan Context

This plan conforms with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) - Arizona planning policies which call for the development of an interdisciplinary plan to cover areas with common natural resource management issues. The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) manages wildlife populations within the planning area. As cooperative resource managers, the BLM and AGFD have combined their efforts to develop this plan in conformance with provisions of the Sikes Act of 1974.

Purpose and Legal Guidance

The purpose of this plan is to provide a management framework for promoting sustainable environmental health that yields multiple benefits for present and future generations in the foreseeable future of the Gibraltar Planning Area. This plan will be reviewed annually and revised when needed to accomplish the stated management objectives, in accordance with provisions in Part V of this document.

Management direction will be guided by the following: Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976; Wilderness Act of 1964; Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990; Endangered Species Act (1973), as amended; Sikes Act of 1974; Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978; National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979; BLM Manual 6620, Habitat Management Plans; BLM Manual 8560, Management of Designated Wilderness Areas; H-1730-1 Interdisciplinary Resource Management Handbook, 1995; Master Cooperative Agreement between the Arizona Game and Fish Commission and the Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 1976; Master Memorandum of Understanding between the Arizona Game and Fish Commis-

sion and Department of the Interior BLM, 1987 (AGFC-BLM MOU); and Arizona Game and Fish Department Game Management Program Strategic Plans and Management Guidelines, 1993.

Land Use Plan Conformance

The management actions proposed in the Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan (the plan) conforms with the Yuma District Resource Management Plan (1987),as amended (Yuma RMP), and the Yuma District Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement (1989).

The plan amends all previous management guidance for lands within the Gibraltar Planning Area including guidance contained in the following documents:

- The Buckskin Mountain/Cactus Plain Habitat Management Plan (revised 1986)
- Yuma District Interim Guidance for Fire Suppression in Wilderness Areas (1992)
- Havasu Resource Area Wildlife Operations and Maintenance Plan (1994).

The plan supplements the Yuma/Havasu Fire Management Zone Fire Management Plan (1998).

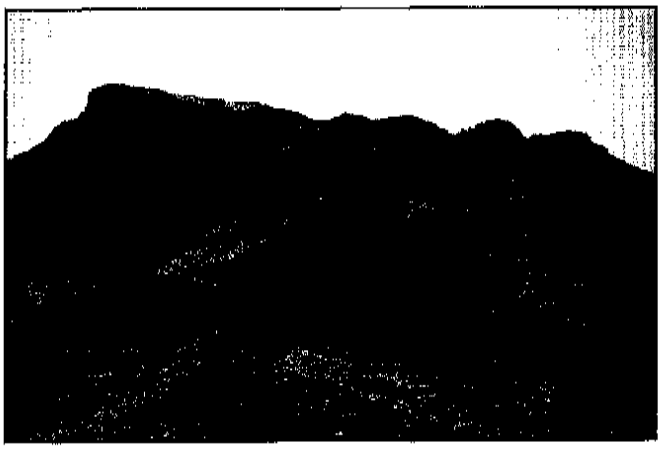
Any future planning effort that includes the area covered by this plan shall address the provisions of this document.

PART II
AREA DESCRIPTION

Geology and Topography

The Basin and Range physiographic province typifies the planning area. Tertiary age volcanic rocks primarily comprise the subsurface with olivine-basalt flows in the northern portions and trachytic lava flows in the south, including pyroclastic air-fall and ash-flow tuffs, and surge deposits. Well developed detachment faults with subsurface exposures of metamorphic rocks in the lower fault plates occur in the area. There are also minor occurrences of older metasedimentary, mylonitic, and granitic rocks (Wodzicki et al., 1982).

The planning area, occupying the western part of the Buckskin Mountains, is characterized by volcanic and metasedimentary formations. There are extensive exposures of bedrock and soil development is lacking. The area's relief is defined by rugged slopes and a structurally controlled drainage system. Elevations range from approximately 400 feet near the vicinity where Giers wash drains into the Colorado River, to almost 2200 feet in the northern part of the planning area.



Rock formation near Giers Mountain.

Climate

Characterized by the Tropical-Subtropical Desertland climatic zone, the planning area is included within the Lower Colorado River Valley subdivision of the Sonoran Desert (Brown, 1994). Temperatures range from near 30° F. in the months of December and January to approximately 115° F., during July through September. Annual precipitation generally averages from 4 to 6 inches per year.

Air Quality

The planning area is classified under the Clean Air Act as Class II. No site-specific air quality data exists for the area. Air quality during competitive off-road events on the Parker 400 Race Course is temporarily affected during race activities.

Soils

Three primary soil types are found within the planning area. The Quilotosa-Laposa-Rock outcrop complex is located on the mountains and hills on the western side of the area. The Quilotosa and Laposa components are both extremely gravelly sandy loam and the rock outcrop portion consists of exposed areas of granite.

The Rock outcrop-Hyder complex is on the steep slopes of mountains and hills in the majority of the area. The Hyder component is an extremely stony fine sandy loam and the Rock outcrop portion consists of exposed areas of andesite.

The Cherioni-Hyder association is on mesas and hills. Cherioni very cobbly loam is on nearly level mesas and Hyder extremely gravelly fine sandy loam is on slightly sloping hillsides.

Along the edges of the planning area, there are pockets of several other soil types. Carrizo very gravelly loamy sand and Carrizo extremely cobbly sand are located in floodplains and alluvial fans throughout the area (BLM, 1981).

Portions of the planning area, especially low terraces along drainage channels, are covered with assorted gravels in a thin desert pavement layer. A dark patina coats the desert pavement and most rock surfaces that have been exposed to the elements. Surface disturbances become very prominent when lighter colored stone facings are exposed.

Water

The BLM and AGFD have cooperatively developed 7 wildlife water sources (Table 2, Map 2) in the planning area, in addition to Goat Spring (W2) and the Tunnel Catchment (W8) which were developed by the BLM. These water sources mitigate impacts to bighorn sheep and other wildlife species that have had access restricted to their historical waters on the Colorado River through

recent human activities. Two of the several seeps and springs located within the planning area have been developed. Lamb Spring (W1) is located on lands managed by Arizona State Parks and has been improved to provide a permanent water source. Goat Spring (W2) is located in Giers Wash on public land and has historically been an important ewe and lamb water source (AGFD 1981). Flooding destroyed the improvements constructed by BLM and the site has no functional developments. Goat Spring, as a riparian area, is functioning at risk due the to amount of salt cedar present.

The Ganado Allotment has two livestock water developments located in the southern end of the planning area. One development which is not currently operational, the Red Hill Well (L2), is located within wilderness. The other development, Nuave Well (L1), is located on state land. Three additional livestock waters are located just south of the planning area.

Two of the water sources developed primarily for bighorn sheep (W7,W8) and one livestock water (L2) are located within the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness. This planning document will address provisions for maintaining these developed water sources in wilderness and evaluate the redevelopment of Goat Spring.

Table 2

Wildlife and Livestock Water Developments

Map No.	Development Name	AGFD No. Designation/ Maintenance Responsibility	Year Constructed
W1	Lamb Spring	573	1960
W2	Goat Spring	BLM	1976
W3	Giers (Buckskin #1)	628	1962
W4	Outlet Portal (Buckskin #2)	629	1962
W5	Jumpoff	918	1985
W6	Mineral Hill	943	1986
W7	Red Cliff (Hwy 95)	996	1990
W8	Gibraltar Tunnel	BLM	1980
W9	Inlet Portal	931	1986
W10	Planet Peak Apron	AGFD (outside planning area)	1986
L1	Nuave Well	permittee (State land)	1974
L2	Red Hill Well	permittee	1974
L3	Black Peak Well	permittee (outside planning area)	1982
L4	Bobs Well	permittee (outside planning area)	1945
L5	Plaino Well	permittee (outside planning area)	1988

Vegetation

The planning area is located within the Lower Colorado River Valley Subdivision of the Sonoran Desertscrub Biome as described in Brown (1994). Primary species include: creosote, white bursage, ironwood, foothill paloverde, desert mallow, Mormon tea, brittlebush, ocotillo, and teddy bear cholla (Appendix A). The only lentic riparian-wetlands habitat in the planning area is Goat Springs where Goodding willow, salt cedar, and mesquite are the dominate tree species.

Vegetation components have been affected primarily by high temperature and low precipitation. Vegetative cover is typically sparse. Exotic plants, such as Mediterranean grass, are not widespread throughout the planning area.

Ecological sites of the area include: Limy Upland, Basalt Hills, Limy Hills, Limestone Hills, and Sand Bottom within the Lower Sonoran Desert Shrub Subresource Area (SVIM 1981). Other landforms include Rockland and Desert Pavement.

Wildlife

The planning area encompasses approximately 5% of AGFD Game Management Unit 44A and includes about 33% of the Buckskin Mountains. Wildlife species (Appendix B) in the area are those commonly associated with the Sonoran Desert Life Zone. Big Game animals include desert bighorn sheep, desert mule deer, mountain lions, and javelinas. Small game and furbearers include ringtailed cats, skunks, bobcats, foxes, and coyotes.

Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep.

Portions of the planning area are classified by the Yuma RMP as priority wildlife habitat (Map 2) for bighorn sheep year-long use and lambing grounds. Priority wildlife habitat is defined as an area where important wildlife related resource values are given management preference. Allowable uses in priority wildlife habitat may include compatible activities or those uses whose impacts could be mitigated to preserve or enhance wildlife values. Incompatible uses may be completely excluded. In the Gibraltar planning area, sand and gravel permits are not permitted within the priority wildlife habitat, and roads crossing lambing grounds are closed during lambing season from January 1 to June 30.

In the fall of 1995, bighorn sheep habitat was evaluated using a scoring method described by Cunningham in *The Desert Bighorn Sheep in Arizona* (1993). Based on the 1995 scoring, the habitat was classified to one of the following categories: excellent, good, fair, and poor. A total of 130,453.8 acres, an area much larger than the planning area, were scored between the Colorado River and Alamo Lake (Table 3). Current habitat scores are similar to the scores in the 1986 Buckskin Mountain/ Cactus Plain Habitat Management Plan (HMP), as amended. However, changes in land status and the construction of AZ Highway 95 have reduced the amount of year-long use habitat. The year-long use area shown on Map 2 reflects changes in land status.

Table 3

Bighorn Sheep Habitat Classification in the Buckskin Mountains (AGFD, 1995)

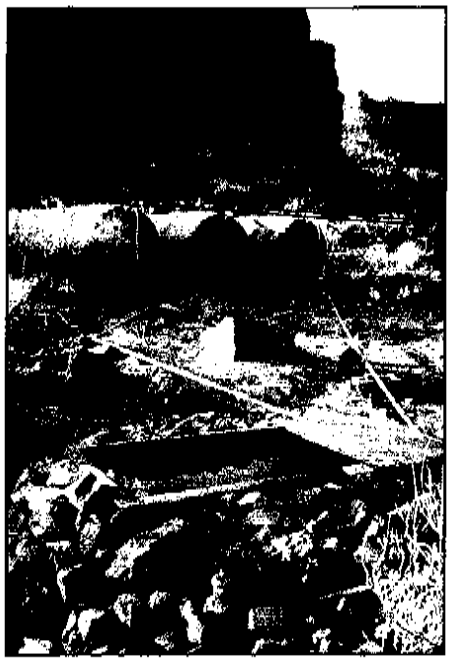
Habitat Quality	Total Acres
Excellent	988.4
Good	33,146.2
Fair	77,183.4
Poor	19,135.8
Total	**130.453.8**

Currently, AGFD conducts Bighorn sheep surveys in the Buckskin Mountains every 2 to 3 years, or as funding permits, between October 1 and November 30. Declines in the sheep population were recorded in the mid 1970's. Construction of AZ Highway 95 between Parker and Lake Havasu City in 1972 isolated the Buckskin sheep population from its primary source of water on the Colorado River. As mitigation, additional water sources were constructed beginning in 1976. In 1986 the existing population was supplemented with two transplants where a total of 22 sheep were released. The latest population estimate for the 60 square mile area of this unit is 32 sheep. This is slightly down from the past population estimate, however, the number of groups and group size of sheep seen in the area remain strong. (AGFD, http://www.azgfd.com, 2000)

Giers Wash is an important bighorn sheep movement corridor between the lambing ground on the mesa and the other two lambing grounds located further south in the planning area. In the early 1980's, increased human activity in Giers Wash and near Goat Spring resulted in decreased bighorn sheep use of the area. Action taken in the 1986 HMP amendment closed the utility road in Giers Wash to unauthorized off-highway vehicle (OHV) use from the Jumpoff to AZ Highway 95. This action was taken to protect bighorn sheep year-long use areas and lambing grounds from the impacts of unauthorized vehicle use.

The Red Cliff (Hwy 95) and Gibraltar Tunnel wildlife water catchments (W7, W8) are located within the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness. The catchments were developed in 1990 and 1980, respectively, to mitigate the loss of historical water sources to bighorn sheep and other wildlife species. Wildlife were being pushed away from the Colorado River to more remote locations which could only support some species of wildlife through the construction of reliable water sources. The need today for reliable waters sources for bighorn sheep is more critical than ever with the continuing rapid population growth in La Paz county and subsequent loss of wildlife habitat.

Problems with the Red Cliff catchment were first documented in 1993. The fiberglass storage tanks had settled on the site and developed leaks. Temporary repairs were made on several occasions over the next few years and redevelopment was proposed by AGFD in 1995. An emergency water supplement utilizing a helicopter for water hauling was authorized and conducted in March 1997. Currently only one of the original three storage tanks reliably stores water.



Red Cliff (Hwy 95) wildlife water catchment.

Problems with the Tunnel Catchment were first documented in 1994. The pipeline connecting the collection dam and the tunnel had been torn loose by flash flood debris and required a temporary repair. Subsequent monitoring revealed a leak at the base of the collection dam and a consistent loss in water level. An emergency water supplement via helicopter was conducted in July 1999.

Special Status/Threatened and Endangered Species

The following sensitive species were identified by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and AGFD as occurring in the planning area: desert tortoise, Sonoran population, (*Gopherus agassizii*), chuckwalla (*Sauromalus obesus*), gila monster (*Heloderma suspectum*) rosy boa (*Lichanura trivirgata*), Arizona toad (*Bufo microscaphus microscaphus*), western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugena*), ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*), California leaf-nose bat (*Macrotus californicus*), pale Townsend' big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*), Yuma myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*), cave myotis (*Myotis velifer*), and spotted bat (*Euderma maculatum*).

Abandoned mines provide important year-round habitat for bats and other wildlife species. Bats use mines for rearing young and hibernating. Several of the abandoned mines in the planning area are significant roost sites for the sensitive California leaf nosed bat. However, many of the abandon mine sites have not been surveyed and evaluated for bat use.

A wide range of habitats from rocky slopes and bajadas to scrub covered desert foothills and mountains between 500 and 4500 feet elevation, is utilized by the Sonoran desert tortoise population. The tortoise population is managed in accordance with the *Desert Tortoise Habitat Management on the Public Lands: A Rangewide Plan* 1988. The majority of the planning area is classified by the BLM Lake Havasu Field Office as Category III desert tortoise habitat. Limiting tortoise habitat and population declines to the minimum extent possible by mitigating impacts, is the goal in Category III habitat.

No threatened or endangered species are known to occur in the planning area.

Gibraltar Tunnel wildlife water catchment.

Wilderness

The Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness (Map 1) is the core of the planning area covering approximately 18,681 acres. From Giers Mountain in the north to Gibraltar

Mountain in the south, the wilderness consists of volcanic rock dissected by deep, sandy washes and rocky canyons. This rugged terrain provides outstanding opportunities for solitude within the numerous side canyons which effectively screen the sights and sounds of human activity.

Wilderness visitation is estimated at 900 visits annually (RMIS 1999). Legal public access is possible from the numerous four-wheel drive roads and washes along the perimeter. The wilderness boundary follows Giers Wash along the northeast side, Osborne Wash along the east side, the Parker 400 Off-Road Race course along the south, and then north up an unnamed wash around the Mammon Mine area, intersecting a four-wheel drive jeep road which continues north to the Buckskin State Park and back to Giers Wash.

The Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness is predominantly natural in appearance. However, there are several areas where human impacts to naturalness have created surface disturbances or debris (Table 4 and Map 3). These impacts include:

- Aircraft wreckage from a military jet crash and associated access route.
- Vehicle ways associated with development of the nearby CAP.
- Vehicle routes, debris, and impacts associated with former mining prospects.
- Vehicle tracks created by illegal off-highway vehicle (OHV) use.

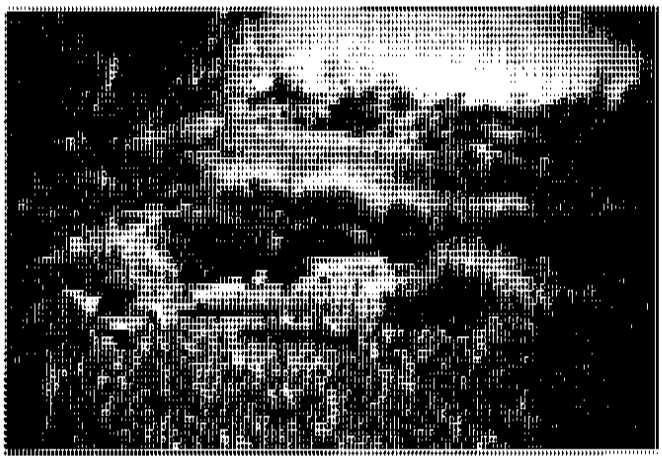
Table 4

Wilderness Impacts

Map No.	Description	Approximate Length(miles)	Location
1	Bladed route, partially rehabilitated.	5.8	T10N, R17W, Sec 19, 30 T10N, R18W, Sec 13, 24, 25
2	Bladed route, partially rehabilitated, and debris.	4.8	T10N, R17W, Sec 30, 31 T10N, R18W, Sec 36 T 9N, R17W, Sec 6, 7 T 9N, R18W, Sec 1
3	Aircraft wreckage and access route.	0.4	T 9N, R17W, Sec 7
4	Bladed route, partially rehabilitated.	1.0	T 9N, R17W, Sec 18 T 9N, R18W, Sec 12, 13
5	Bladed route to two former mining prospects, partially rehabilitated, and debris.	1) 1.5 2) 0.9	T 9N, R18W, Sec 12, 13 T 9N, R18W, Sec 11, 12, 13
6	Route to mining prospect, and debris.	0.3	T10N, R18W, Sec 15
7	Three closed vehicle routes receiving unauthorized OHV use.	1) 0.4 2) 0.3 3) 0.15	T10N, R18W, Sec 34 T 9N, R18W, Sec 3 T 9N, R18W, Sec 3

An Arizona Conservation Crew was used in 1993 to reclaim the impacts of many of these vehicle routes and ways which were created prior to wilderness designation. The crew used hand tools to rough up established berms and return rocks to a more natural looking condition. Enough work was done at various locations so as to conceal the existence of the vehicle routes to OHV riders approaching from outside the wilderness boundary. The Arizona Conservation Crew and a local Boy Scout Troop helped bag and horse pack out much of the aircraft wreckage which had been scattered over several acres. Four large pieces of aircraft wreckage too heavy to horse pack out remain but were camouflaged with paint to reduce visual contrast and reflectance. Due to these rehabilitation efforts and the effects of time and weathering, many of these human impacts have begun to blend into the landscape. However, several impacts will require management intervention to minimize adverse visual impacts.

Partially rehabilitated bladed route (Wilderness Impact #4 - Map 3).



Debris at mining prospect (Wilderness Impact #6 - Map 3)

The wilderness boundary has been posted at all points where vehicles might enter, but unauthorized vehicle use and sign vandalism continues. Wilderness patrols to assure compliance have been very limited in recent years.

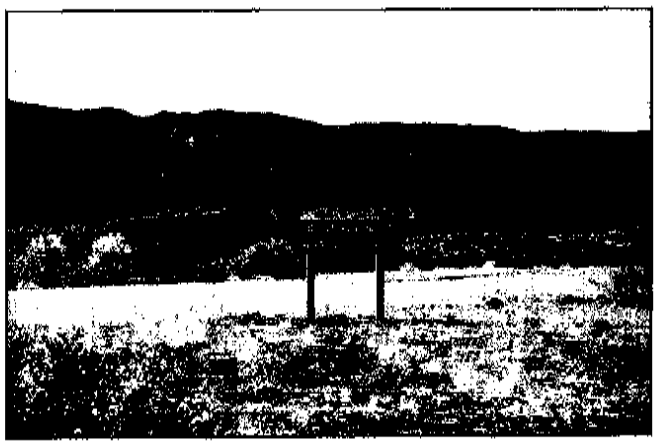
Motorized and/or mechanized equipment uses are permitted within wilderness but are restricted to the minimum required for administrative uses, and with the exception of emergency situations, require advance BLM approval. The AGFD currently utilize aircraft to conduct wildlife surveys and for radio telemetry flights per the schedule outlined in the Wildlife and Operations Maintenance Plan (1994). The AGFD utilized a helicopter to conduct emergency water hauling to the Red Cliffs catchment (W7) in March 1997 and to the Gibraltar Tunnel catchment (W8) in July 1999.

Recreation

The planning area receives year round recreational use. Visitors are attracted by the region's mild winter climate and are involved in the majority of the recreational activities from September through May. Much less activity occurs during the extremely hot summer months. The majority of recreation within the planning area involves off-highway vehicle (OHV) use and camping. Hunting, sightseeing, and rock hounding in the mineral rich Gibraltar Mountains are also popular activities.

The planning area comprises approximately 25% of the Havasu South Extensive Recreation Management Area (HSERMA). Dispersed use visitation in the HSERMA was estimated at 19,747 (RMIS 99). Annual dispersed use of the planning area, excluding wilderness visitiation, is estimated at 4040 visits, with an additional 3300 visits at the Shea Road Pit (RMIS 99).

Using pack stock to remove aircraft wreckage from Wilderness (Wilderness Impact #3 - Map 3).

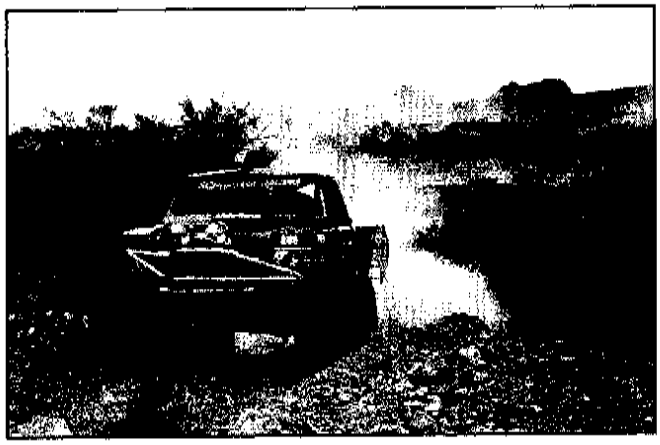


Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness site identification sign.

The Yuma RMP designates the planning area as an OHV "Limited Use" area, where OHV use is restricted to meet specific resource management objectives. Examples of limitations include: number or types of vehicles; time or season of use; permitted or licensed use only; use limited to existing roads and trails; use limited

to designated roads and trails; or other limitations if restrictions are necessary to meet resource management objectives including certain competitive or intensive use areas which have special limitations (BLM Policy Manual 8342.06). The Gibraltar planning area has generally been managed as "limited to existing roads or trails", however, several additional restrictions have been implemented. Roads traversing bighorn sheep lambing grounds are closed during the lambing season from January 1 to June 30 and roads accessing utilities in priority habitat have been designated as limited in, or closed to, public entry. Wilderness designation by an Act of Congress closed the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness to motorized use year round.

The Yuma RMP also states that an inventory will be completed to clearly ascertain "existing roads and trails" and that changes in OHV designations will be addressed in the appropriate activity plans to avoid potential conflicts with other recreation uses, OHV-related impacts on resources, or other management concerns. An Arizona State Parks Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund grant was used in 1995-1999 to complete a route inventory in the planning area. This plan documents that inventory of all existing routes within the planning area, considers the potential conflicts among the various public land users, recommends designations for the inventoried routes, and defines management actions and restrictions necessary to prevent OHV route proliferation and impacts to resources.



Parker 400 racer on portion of course just south of Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness.

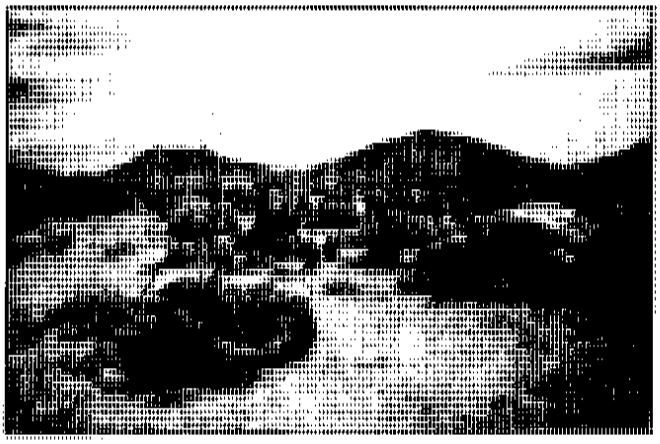
Three OHV events were authorized within the planning area by Special Recreation Permits (SRP) in 2000, including the Whiplash Parker 400 and 200 Desert races and the St. Patrick's Day Poker Run. There has been a desert race on the Parker 400 course every year since 1972 (Map 3). The event occurs in January or February, generally draws 150-350 participants, and has had as many as 20,000 spectators. In the past, a main pit and spectator area was located along Shea Road. The roughest portion of the course, known as the Rock Pile, is adjacent to the southern boundary of the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness. Historically, 200-400 spectators have made the "Rockpile" a vantage point to observe the race. In 1998, 2 competitive events were authorized to be held each year on the Parker 400 course. The promoter has relocated the main spectator area and the start/finish race activities out of the planning area, closer to the town of Parker and off public lands.

Two motorcycles in the Whiplash Parker 200 negotiate the "Rockpile."

A third permitted OHV event is the Saint Patrick's Day Poker Run which is held in March each year and is limited to125 vehicles and involves approximately 400-450 participants. The course follows Osborne Wash south of Shea Road, and around the southeast boundary of the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness.

Staging area for the St. Patrick's Day Poker Run.

There are three areas located in the southwest corner of the planning area that receive heavy OHV use (Map 3). The largest of these is on State Land in a dune area



Poker Run participants use a variety of vehicles.

north of Shea Road and bordering Osborne Wash. La Paz County has expressed an interest in acquiring this area for development of a County Park for OHV use. Another smaller area is located on public land adjacent to a residential community at the end of Lakeview Road in the Rio Vista Mine area. Most OHV use near the Rio Vista location consists of all-terrain vehicles (ATV) and motorcycles which generally stay within 5 miles of the point of origin. Finally, a route inventory of the Shea Road Pit revealed an extensive network of routes which is the result of twenty-five years of pit and camping activity associated with the Parker 400 desert race. The Shea Road Pit is popular for camping and OHV use throughout most of the year. The majority of visitors are local, but an increasing number are winter visitors.

The Cienega Mining District to the west of Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness contains many mining roads where camping and OHV recreational use occurs. Two routes on the northwest side of the planning area, the Red Mountain and Gray Eagle Trails (Map 3), have been proposed for adoption by the local OHV club, the Parker 4-Wheelers. The northern access for the trail begins at AZ Highway 95 and continues south across Buckskin State Park for approximately 0.8 miles before entering public land.

In the Fall of 1998, staff from BLM, Arizona State Parks (ASP), and La Paz County toured the proposed Adopt-a-Trails with the Parker 4-Wheelers and all parties indicated support for the project. An ASP Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund grant application was submitted by La Paz County and received in 1999. The bulk of the grant was to be used to address public safety concerns associated with the open mine shafts along the trails, the rest to fund information/interpretive bulletin boards, route signing, and minimal route stabilization. Before formal adoption can occur public safety concerns associated with the open mine shafts must be mitigated while also ensuring the protection of bat habitat and historic cultural resources. Mine closures need to be implemented throughout the entire planning area and are discussed further in the following Mines and Minerals section.

Burros

The planning area is adjacent to the Havasu Herd Management Area. There are no recent reports of wild horses or burros within the planning area. The Havasu Herd Management Area Plan (1979) provides for removal of pioneer groups of burros invading Buckskin Mesa.

Livestock Grazing

A major portion of the planning area is within the Ganado Allotment (#03034 - Map 2). This is a perennial/ephemeral allotment with a yearlong grazing preference of 1690 AUMs (153 cattle yearlong at 92% Public Land). Range condition, including vegetative trend, cover, and utilization, has been monitored at two Key Areas (Map 2). In the past, grazing use throughout most of the planning area has been slight to none due to rugged topography and sparse desirable vegetation for livestock. Since 1991, the allotment has been in nonuse. An Allotment Evaluation is being completed to document current rangeland health and recommend future grazing management practices.

Inter-agency discussion at Gray Eagle Mine.

Portions of the Planet Allotment are within the northern end of the planning area. The Planet Allotment is ephemeral, was last grazed in 1983, and has no livestock developments in the planning area.

Minerals and Mining

The Gibraltar planning area contains the Cienega Mining District (U.S. Geological Survey, 1990). The

Cienega Mining District was actively mined from its discovery in 1860 until the early 1980's and some exploration activities still continue. Gold, copper, and silver were the principal commodities produced. Numerous pits, shafts, and adits remain un-reclaimed within the planning area.

According to mining records (1999), the planning area contains 24 unpatented claims, nine of which are within the Wilderness. There are no active surface management notices/plans. A Bureau of Reclamation withdrawal bisects the planning area. This withdrawal is located in the north half of T. 10 N., R 17,18,19 W. G&SRM. The withdrawal area and Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness are both closed to mineral entry.

Four mineral material operations that supply construction and road material for the Parker area are under contract or permit. Mineral material sales are only available in areas outside of priority wildlife habitat and will continue to be administered under existing regulations and policy.

The Arizona State Mine Inspector has completed an inventory of the Cienega Mining District for abandoned mine hazards. The inventory has verified over 90

Inter-agency inspection of bat grate at Rio Vista Mine.

abandoned mining features in the planning area which are potential threats to recreationists. These mines are concentrated from the Rio Vista Mine at the southwest end of the Cienega Mining District northeast along Nellie Mine Road, the Gray Eagle/Red Mountain Trails, and east to the Carnation Mine. These historic mine sites provide habitat for bats and other wildlife. Recreational use in or near the mines creates resource conflicts and raises public safety concerns. An environmental analysis, "Cienega Mining District, Mine Feature Closure" (EA-AZ-070-99-27), was approved in September 1999 as a programmatic approach to analyze both restrictive and constructive closure of mining features. Since FY 1999, the Lake Havasu Field Office has closed 21 mining features in the planning area. The sites were closed by backfilling, constructing bat friendly grates, and fencing.

Lands

Two one mile wide utility corridors (Parker-Liberty, UC-5, and Parker-Blaisdell, UC-6), designated in the Yuma RMP, cross the planning area. There are also several power lines and a natural gas distribution lines that lie outside of these designated utility corridors. An application is pending to reroute and bury a portion of the existing gas pipeline.

The Parker-Liberty utility corridor is restricted to a width of 330 feet within priority wildlife habitat. The road accessing this corridor in Giers Wash, from AZ Highway 95 east to the locked gate at Jump-off, is limited to administrative use for the purposes of utility maintenance and resource monitoring.

The CAP canal originates at an inlet on Lake Havasu, proceeds southeast through an 8 mile tunnel beneath the Buckskin Mountains, and surfaces on the southeast side of the planning area. There is no public access to the water in the CAP canal.

Public Access

With the exception of Shea Road, high clearance four-wheel drive vehicles are recommended for the majority of access routes within the planning area. Map 1 shows primary public access routes.

Shea Road is paved, provides access from Highway 95 to the southern part of the planning area along Osborne Wash, leads to a utility corridor road that provides access to The Mesa in the northeast, and continues past the CAP canal where it connects to the Mineral Wash route. The Mineral Wash route provides access to the easternmost portion of the planning area. Access to the area west of the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness can be gained from Highway 95 through the Cienega Springs Road/ Nellie Mine Road. The Red Mountain area can be accessed from Highway 95 near the Buckskin Mountain State Park. Topographical features limit vehicle access southward into the planning area from the Bill Williams River.

Legal public access is lacking for several of these existing vehicle routes that cross private and state lands, including Giers Wash and Cienega Springs Road/ Nellie Mine Road.

Cultural Resources

The extent and diversity of cultural resources in the planning area is known through both systematic and reconnaissance archaeological surveys, and from information by local avocational archaeologists. Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on allocation to Use Categories were made in the Yuma RMP. Several cultural properties in the Gibraltar Planning Area were allocated to Conservation Use in the Yuma RMP. These properties will be re-allocated in this Plan.

Field inventories have revealed cultural resources consistent with predictions based on environmental and ethnographic information. Site characteristics include temporary campsites, trails and associated artifact scatters, resource procurement and utilization sites, shrines, and geoglyphs. Occupation and use, based on relative dating techniques, indicates that the planning area was used as early as the Archaic period. Sites from this period have not been dated but would indicate use prior to A.D. 700. During the Formative period, after A.D. 700, this area was used primarily by the River Patayan, the ancestors of the Mohave. In past consultation with the Colorado River Indian Tribe (CRIT), areas within the planning area have been identified as having an important place in their oral tradition and cultural history. The area may also be important to members of the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe. These significant areas, as defined by National Register Bulletin 38, would be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as Traditional Cultural Properties.

The planning area lies between four major travel and trade corridors: the Colorado River; the Bill Williams River; Osborne Wash; and Mineral Wash. Prehistoric and historic Native American sites along these corridors have both local and traded raw materials and finished products. There are relatively few sites in the higher elevation interior, suggesting that use consisted primarily of temporary activities that did not leave much material evidence. There are a few significant deposits or outcrops of stone material that was preferred for tool manufacturing. These are located on the Quaternary and Tertiary alluvial terraces, or in scattered pockets of meta-volcanic deposits. Sparse lithic scatters are recorded in these areas. The current vegetation community is marginal for intensive food or weaving material gathering, but may have been more productive in the past.

Historic European use is most evident in the areas related to the prospecting and mining in the west side of the Buckskin Mountains in the Cienega Mining District. Copper, gold, and silver deposits were discovered in the District as early as 1860 and the area has historic sites of industrial and domestic activities associated with the development, boom and decline of mining. Recorded production in the Cienega mineral district began in 1870. Mining activity continued into the recent historic period, and mining activity in the 1960's and 1970's altered and obliterated some of the earlier historic artifacts and features. Additional historic use of the area also occurred during World War II military training exercises, and evidence of both exercise locations and other military activities have been recorded.

Historic building foundation near Gray Eagle Mine.

The largest cultural resource survey in the planning area was conducted by the BLM in 1979 north of the Parker 400 race course along Osborne Wash. It was noted that sites between Shea Road and the race course had already been impacted. Site integrity had been seriously impaired and information potential was lost. One exception was an intaglio, which was protected by fencing. The site was vandalized and the alignment existing within the fenced area today is not the original site recorded. Sites of high scientific information potential were identified north of the race course and limiting access from the race course was identified as a needed protection measure. These access points are now within the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness and are protected.

Fire

There are no records of fire incidents within the planning area. Fuels are sparse to none in most areas. Drainages contain most of the vegetation which is not continuous. This is not a fire dependent ecosystem. Although a very slight possibility of fires occurring in

major drainages exists, there is a very low risk of fire damage to the area's resources because of sparse fuel.

Law Enforcement, Emergency Services, Search and Rescue

Law enforcement jurisdictions within the planning area include BLM Rangers, AGFD Game Rangers, and the La Paz County Sheriff. Law enforcement activities in the area include monitoring special events and resource conditions, and investigating and citing unauthorized public land uses, including OHV violations, trash dumping, camp stay limit violations, and plant thefts. A major law enforcement concern is motorized vehicle violations that have repeatedly occurred in the area (in wilderness, lambing grounds, and general off-road vehicle use). There are several sites in the planning area where trash continues to be dumped illegally.

Emergency services have been required in the past due to accidents involving winter visitors, race fans and participants, and OHV enthusiasts. Search and rescue operations have also been required in the planning area. While primary responsibility for search and rescue operations lies with the County Sheriff's Office, a variety of agencies and volunteer organizations assist with these activities. At present, there is no formally established coordination to minimize impacts to resources.

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PART III
ISSUES

In the scoping process, management issues were identified by BLM and AGFD staff specialists. The resulting list of issues was presented to the public through a mailing and the news media. Members of the public were encouraged to submit issues of concern that they wanted to have addressed in this plan. Two public meetings were held in Parker, Arizona to provide the public with additional opportunities to become informed and to express their concerns about the planning area.

Identified issues are separated into three main categories: Activity Plan Issues, Issues Solved Through Policy, and Issues Beyond the Scope of This Plan (A, B, and C, respectively, below). Following is the final list of issues.

Activity Plan Issues

1. **Maintain Biological Diversity.** The planning area contains important habitat for bighorn sheep, desert tortoise, and sensitive bat species. The following concerns must be addressed to maintain/enhance wildlife habitat:

   - What measures are needed to protect/enhance bighorn sheep lambing grounds?

   - Giers Wash crosses priority wildlife habitat. What measures are needed to control vehicle access to Giers Wash?

   - How would future bighorn sheep transplants be managed if the sheep population falls to a point where sustainability of the herd is threatened?

   - How would bighorn sheep captures be managed if the sheep population can be used as a transplant source?

   - Are there any private lands that need to be acquired to protect and enhance priority wildlife habitat, other natural resource values or uses?

   - How can important bat roost sites, which may include abandoned mine features, be protected.

   - How will exotic species be managed and the introduction of new exotic species be prevented?

2. **Wilderness Preservation.** Wilderness legislation requires that wilderness values, including naturalness and opportunities for solitude, be preserved for the long-term. The following concerns must be addressed:

   - How can illegal off-highway vehicle use within the wilderness be controlled?

   - How will impacts caused by human activity be rehabilitated to restore the area's natural values?

   - How will opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation be maintained?

   - How will wildlife water developments be maintained and management activities be conducted to minimize impacts to wilderness values?

   - How will the existing livestock water development be maintained and managed to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation?

3. **Recreation.** The planning area is a popular OHV destination used by both local residents and winter visitors. The following concerns must be addressed to protect resources and enhance recreation opportunities:

   - How can safety concerns with abandoned historic mines be addressed while mitigating potential impacts to recreation access, cultural resources and wildlife habitat values?

   - How will OHV use in the planning area be managed?

   - To what extent are visitor facilities (trail heads, informational displays, trails, and parking areas) needed to enhance the recreation experience while protecting resource values?

   - How will proposed partnerships be implemented?

   - How will permitted events in the planning area be managed to minimize the potential for resource conflicts?

   - How can legal public access needs in the planning area be met for recreational purposes?

   - How will dispersed camping be managed?

   - How will target shooting sites in the planning area that conflict with high density OHV use be managed?

4. **Cultural Resources.** The planning area has important non-renewable cultural and heritage resources. The following concerns must be addressed:

   - How will prehistoric cultural sites be managed?

- Historic properties from early mining activity are an attraction for OHV use (roads and trails), or represent potential public safety hazards (mine shafts, adits and other features). How will historic cultural sites be managed?

- Is there a need for traditional access by Native Americans to the planning area and how will the need for access be identified?

- Unauthorized OHV use is one of the major contributors to loss of integrity at cultural resource sites in this environment. Most significant sites are protected either by Wilderness designation or exclosure fencing, but unauthorized use continues to endanger the integrity of other cultural sites, with geoglyphs (intaglios) and trails being the most vulnerable to direct impacts, and site accessibility contributing to secondary impacts.

- Attempts to rehabilitate recent historic impacts in the Wilderness to improve naturalness may affect the historic integrity of cultural properties. How will rehabilitation of historic impacts in the Wilderness be addressed?

- Undocumented information indicates there is at least one and possibly more Traditional Cultural Properties that may meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places under criteria 36CFR60.4(a) or (b) within the planning area. How will the Traditional Cultural Property be identified and managed so that the interests of Native Americans can be considered?

5. **Livestock Grazing.** A major portion of the planning area is within the Ganado Grazing Allotment. How will grazing be managed?

6. **Burros.** The planning area is not within a Burro Herd Management Area. How will burros that wander into the area be managed?

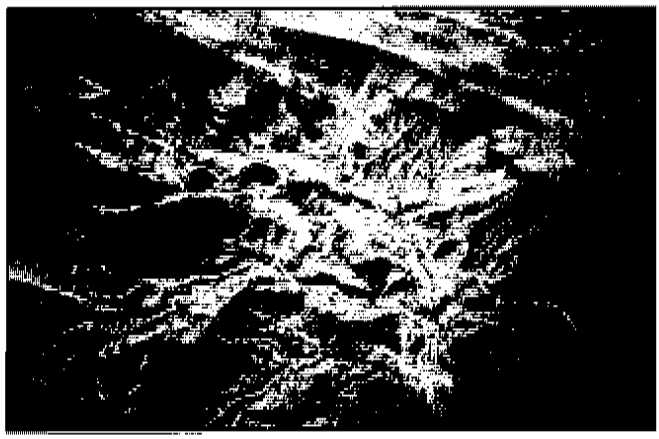
7. **Fire.** Vegetation in the planning area is not fire adapted. How will fire be managed to maintain existing natural values?

8. **Public Information and Education.** There is an opportunity to reduce illegal activities and minimize existing conflicts among current resource uses in the planning area through public information and education efforts.

- How can outreach and education be provided to the public?

- What kinds of additional signs, information displays, and other facilities should be considered?

- How will illegal trash dumping be cleaned up and future illegal activities be reduced in the planning area?



Looking east at the Carnation Mine area and a portion of the Nellie Mine Road and Gray Eagle Trail.

Issues Solved By Policy/ Regulations/Management Decisions

1. **Minerals Management and Wilderness Mining Activities.** According to BLM records, four mining claims extend into the wilderness from the Mammon Mine (Map 1). Another claim is located within the wilderness approximately 1.5 miles south east of the Mammon Mine. Four other claims are located within the wilderness near the Red Hill Well (L2) livestock development. There is no current mining activity in the wilderness. Management of ongoing mining activities outside the wilderness will be guided by mining regulations at 43 CFR 3809. Management of any future mining in the wilderness will be guided by regulations at 43 CFR 3809 and 8560.

2. **Mineral Material Sales.** The planning area contains four mineral material sale sites that are managed in accordance with regulations at 43 CFR 3600. Any new sites will be located outside priority wildlife habitat in conformance with current planning documents and guided by regulations at 43 CFR 3600.

3. **Scientific Use of Cultural Resources.** Proposals for surface disturbing activities or study for scientific research will be evaluated and authorized on a case by case basis guided by existing policy in BLM Manual 8560.32 and subject to compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

4. **Changes in Land Status.** Any acquisition, sales and or exchanges of property that may occur in the planning area between the BLM and other agencies or the public, will adhere to the Yuma District Resource Management Plan as amended. Any Recreation and Public Purposes applications BLM re-

ceives within the planning area will be reviewed and processed on a case by case basis in accordance with guidance at 43 CFR 2740.

5. **Access to Non-federal Lands.** Public access to non-federal lands in the planning area will be addressed through guidance at 43 CFR 2740.

6. **Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue within Wilderness.** Using motorized equipment to meet temporary law enforcement emergencies involving criminal law violations and the pursuit of fugitives is approved in BLM Manual 8560.39C(11) and 43 CFR 8560.3. Mechanized or motorized equipment may also be used for AGFD law enforcement activities where major wildlife violations have occurred, Section 101 (e) of the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990. Search and rescue responsibilities are delegated from the Governor of Arizona to County Boards of Supervisors and respective Sheriffs. Activities and response to human health and safety emergencies conducted by these entities are approved in BLM Manual 8560.39C(4) and 43 CFR 8560.3. Coordination of these law enforcement and search and rescue activities is further discussed in Objective 2, Management Action 7 of this plan.

Issues Beyond The Scope Of This Plan

1. **Air Space Management.** Military flight restrictions are addressed in the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990. The Act states: "Nothing in this title shall preclude low level overflights of military aircraft, the designation of new units of special airspace, or the use or establishment of military flight training routes over wilderness areas designated by this title." The Havasu Field Office will continue to cooperate with the military in seeking mutually beneficial opportunities to protect the integrity of wilderness airspace.

2. **Acquisition of State Lands.** There is public interest in the BLM acquisition of the State Lands in the dune area near Shea Road for recreational purposes. However, existing State laws do not currently accommodate this type of acquisition, and it is likely that La Paz County will instead pursue the purchase/lease of those State Lands for OHV recreation opportunities.

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PART IV
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Goals

1. Biodiversity

- Increase knowledge of and maintain biological diversity, health, function, and habitat continuity of the planning area.

- Manage resources within the planning area to ensure rangeland health as established under Arizona Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Administration (Standards and Guidelines).

2. Wilderness

- To provide for the long-term protection and preservation of the area's wilderness character under a principle of non-degradation. The area's natural condition, opportunities for solitude, opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation, and any ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value present will be managed so that they will remain unimpaired.

- To manage the wilderness area for the use and enjoyment of visitors in a manner that will leave the area unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. The wilderness resource will be dominant in all management decisions where a choice must be made between preservation of wilderness and visitor use.

- To manage the area using the minimum tool, equipment, or structure necessary to successfully, safely, and economically accomplish the objective. The chosen tool, equipment, or structure should be the one that least degrades wilderness values temporarily or permanently. Management will seek to preserve spontaneity of use and as much freedom from regulation as possible.

- To manage nonconforming but accepted uses permitted by the Wilderness Act and subsequent laws in a manner that will prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the area's wilderness character. Nonconforming uses are the exception rather than the rule; therefore, emphasis is placed on maintaining wilderness character.

3. Recreation

- Provide for a broad spectrum of recreational opportunities, from hiking to motorized activities, while ensuring public safety and minimizing the potential for conflicts with other resource uses.

4. Cultural Resources

- Protect, enhance, and use cultural resources consistent with their scientific and public values.

Management Strategy

In this section, objectives are established to address activity plan issues. Management actions to meet plan objectives are outlined. Target dates to accomplish the proposed actions are assigned. Monitoring will be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of management actions and to determine if plan objectives are being met. A rationale is included where additional clarification is needed.

Objective 1 - Maintain Biological Diversity

Maintain and enhance species diversity for the foreseeable future by:

- Maintaining fully functional wildlife water developments.

- Maintaining bighorn sheep habitat continuity.

- Preventing additional habitat loss (due to mine closures, gravel pits, utility corridors, or acquisition).

- Sustaining and enhancing viable populations.

- Maintaining or improving late seral (good) ecological condition at Key Area #1 and #2 (Map 2) through 2010.

- Maintaining or improving the existing plant community (Desired Plant Community) as measured in the approximate area of Key Areas #1 and #2 in 1981 (Ganado Allotment Evaluation, 2000).

- Maintaining or improving ground cover at 10.5% at Key Area #1 and at 25% at Key Area #2.

- Preventing the establishment of a resident burro population.

- Preventing the establishment of exotic plant species.

- Minimizing wildlife impacts from public land users by providing public education/information.

- Managing fire to maintain the area's natural values.

Rationale: Objective 1 will address activity plan issues 1, 5, 6, 7,and parts of issue 2 and 8, management goal 1, and part of goal 2. The implementation of this objective should maintain/enhance biodiversity in the planning area for the foreseeable future.

Management Actions

1. AGFD and BLM will maintain all wildlife water developments in the planning area (Table 2) as perennial, reliable water sources, except Goat Spring pending further study. AGFD and BLM will conduct future repair and maintenance activities to improve water collection efficiency while reducing visual impacts of the structures.

   By the end of fiscal year (FY) 2001, in coordination with the AGFD and the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, the BLM will conduct simultaneously the redevelopment of the Red Cliff (Hwy 95) and the maintenance of the Gibraltar Tunnel wildlife water catchments.

   - The Red Cliff Catchment (W7 on Map 2 and Table 2) will be redeveloped to improve water source reliability and to further reduce visual impacts. The existing drinker, sausage tanks, support blocks and manifold lines will be removed. The water collection point will be modified and enhanced. The manifold collection lines will be combined into one approximately 3" diameter line which will follow the contours of the terrain and will be concealed with natural rock. A ring tank, approximately 16' diameter by 3' tall, and walk-in drinker will be located on approximately the same footprint as the old tanks. The new tank will be depressed below current grade to reduce the overall height of the structure and the resulting visual impacts. Depending on site conditions, excavation will require the use of motorized/ mechanized tools and may require the use of explosives. The new tank and drinker will be completely camouflaged with paint, native stone and soils, and vegetative and cloth screening. After maintenance is completed, approximately 1200 gallons of water will be added to the catchment utilizing helicopter water drops into a temporary storage tank which will be pumped into the walk-in drinker.

   - By fiscal year (FY) 2001, the AGFD in coordination with the BLM, will redevelop the Gibraltar Tunnel Catchment (W8 on Map 2 and Table 2). The sediment from behind the dam will be removed, the collection intake modified to increase efficiency, and the dam resealed to prevent leakage. Approximately 35 feet of the PVC water delivery pipe will be replaced with 2" steel pipe and reconnected and secured to the 1" exiting fill pipe. A second 2" steel pipe, approximately 150 feet in length, will be installed to fill directly into the tunnel. The pipe will be located in such a way so as to hide it behind native plants and material. The tunnel entrance dam and storage area will be repaired and resealed to ensure water storage capability. The collection dam, pipelines, and storage dam will be visually screened using colored concrete, local plants, and materials. After maintenance is completed, approximately 1200 gallons of water will be added to the catchment utilizing helicopter water drops into a temporary storage tank which will be gravity drained into the tunnel.

   Maintenance/redevelopment activities will require the use of motorized/mechanized equipment, including drills, generator, compressor, assorted hand tools, mixer, pump, and helicopter for a period up to 10-days. All excess materials will be removed from the site. The use of helicopters for the transportation of redevelopment personnel and equipment will be minimized. Minor maintenance and monitoring will be accomplished using non-motorized and non-mechanized means. Redevelopment and maintenance activities will be conducted so as to keep any new disturbance to the absolute minimum, to avoid mature vegetation whenever possible, and to use established methods to avoid the spread of noxious weeds.

   Rationale: BLM recognizes that quantitative research related to the effectiveness and need for artificial waters is inconclusive (The Center for the Study of Law, Science and Technology, Arizona State University 1998). It is the observation and professional opinion of the BLM Wildlife Biologist and the AGFD personnel identified in Appendix D that: 1) Increased human activity has cut off bighorn sheep and other wildlife species from their historical waters on the Colorado River; 2) Water developments mitigate the impacts of reduced river access and improve habitat values; 3) Forage is available and adequate to support a viable sheep population; 4) Therefore, the Red Cliff and Gibraltar Tunnel catchments are considered vital for wildlife management of the bighorn sheep herds residing in the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness, should continue to be maintained, and should not be removed. Alternative sites located outside the wilderness boundary were considered but rejected due to an increased distance from lambing grounds and a decreased distance to the popular OHV recreation areas. Several alternative construction techniques were considered at the Red Cliff site. Replacement of the existing water storage tanks was rejected since it did not reduce visual impacts. Complete burial of the storage tank was considered unlikely due to the rocky site conditions. Following years of interagency study, monitoring, and debate involving numerous site visits the alternative

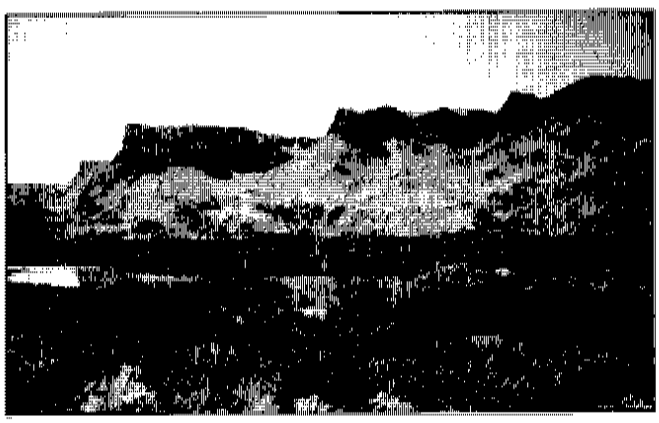
most compatible with wilderness and wildlife needs was the partial burial of a ring tank at the existing site. The installation of a second fill pipe at the Tunnel catchment will ensure maximum capture of the very limited opportunities for water fill and can be visually screened; replacement of a single fill pipe was determined to be inadequate to maintain a reliable water supply. Increasing reliability of the two developments will prevent the need for emergency water fills requiring aircraft.

2. By FY 2002, complete a proper functioning condition evaluation for Lentic Riparian-Wetland Areas at Goat Spring and evaluate the potential for redevelopment (W2 on Map 2). Implement improvements as priorities and funding allow. Explore the option to remove salt cedar from the spring site and revegetate with native riparian species by FY 2005.

Rationale: Goat Spring was once an important water source for bighorn sheep. Removal of exotic salt cedar will improve access and reduce competition with native riparian plant species.

3. Continue to enforce a year-round vehicle route closure in Giers Wash from Highway 95 to The Jumpoff to maintain sheep habitat values. Maintain the gate at Jumpoff and the fencing and gate at Highway 95; improve as necessary to prevent unauthorized vehicle use. Post the area as closed to motor vehicle use at the fence along Highway 95, at the BLM boundary in Giers Wash near Goat Spring, and at the Jumpoff gate.

Rationale: The route in Giers Wash was developed for utility corridor access and a portion was closed to public entry within priority wildlife habitat. Opening Giers Wash to motor vehicle use would reduce the quality of bighorn sheep habitat by fragmenting what is currently a continuous range of habitat from The Mesa to the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness.



A view of The Mesa, looking south across the Bill Williams River.

4. Continue seasonal vehicle route closures for lambing grounds from January 1 to June 30. Post and maintain seasonal closure signs as needed. Install traffic counters to monitor compliance. If compliance is not achieved, then BLM and AGFD will evaluate options for barriers.

5. Post and maintain signs near AGFD catchment 629 (W4) stating, "Locked gate ahead 2 miles".

6. BLM will coordinate with AGFD for assistance in enforcing OHV regulations.

Rationale: Actions 4, 5, and 6, focus on the protection of priority wildlife habitat and are necessary measures to ensure conformance with the Yuma RMP.

7. AGFD and BLM would seek a conservation easement for undeveloped private and state land at T. 11 N., R. 18 W., Section 27, for administrative access. The conservation easement with private landowners would provide for administrative access only into Giers Wash.

8. Pursue options to acquire private lands within priority wildlife habitat.

9. If during monitoring of sheep populations it is determined that the sheep herd is no longer sustainable, AGFD and BLM will coordinate to implement sheep transplants to promote population viability. The use of helicopters and fixed wing aircraft will be allowed for transplants and monitoring.

10. If during monitoring of sheep populations it is determined there is a population surplus for transplants, AGFD and BLM will coordinate capture efforts. The use of helicopters will be allowed for capture operations.

Rationale: If the Buckskin herd is increasing and can support a capture, it may be used as a transplant source for other mountain ranges where there is historical bighorn sheep habitat or the herd size needs to be increased to maintain viability.

11. All mines will be surveyed to identify bat use and to determine the appropriate closure technique. When constructive closures are proposed, BLM will coordinate with the AGFD to develop alternatives to prevent entrapment and minimize impacts to bats.

12. Identify all significant bat roost sites in the planning area by the end FY 2003. Develop a monitoring plan to monitor the significant bat roost sites and evaluate the use of bat grates.

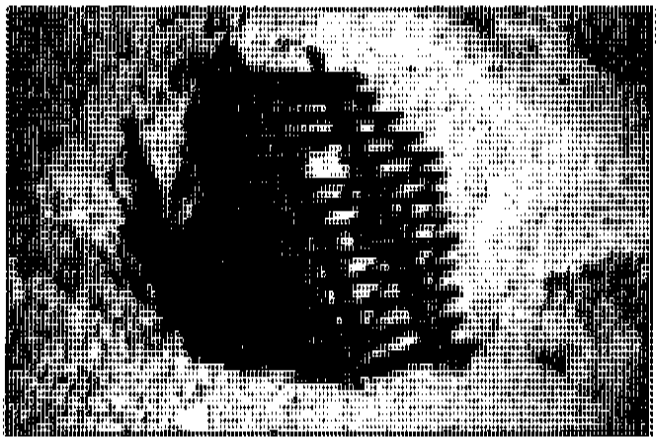
Rationale: Abandoned mines provide important roost sites for several bat species. Significant bat roost sites, such as hibernating sites and maternity roost sites, need to he protected. Many of the bat species have been

identified as sensitive species. BLM policy is to manage sensitive species as if they are a listed species.

13. By the end of FY 2004, develop an information flyer explaining how to protect desert tortoise and its habitat, post on all information kiosks/bulletin boards and include in stipulations of every special recreation permit.

14. By the end of FY 2005, conduct a desert tortoise inventory in Giers Wash and on the Mesa.

Rationale: Most of the planning area is category III desert tortoise habitat. The Goal is to monitor and limit tortoise habitat and population declines to the extent possible by mitigating impacts.



Bat friendly mine closure installed at North Rio Vista Mine.

15. Grazing on the Ganado Allotment will continue the use of the next best pasture grazing system developed in the 1982 Cooperative Grazing Management System as modified through the Ganado Allotment Evaluation. Utilization will be monitored so as not to exceed 50% on big galleta (Hilaria rigida) and 45% on shrubs at Key Areas #1 and #2. As utilization approaches these limits cattle will be moved to a different water development if conditions permit or be removed from the allotment

16. During routine field visits by resource specialists, monitor for the presence of burros, establishment of salt cedar, and any exotic species; remove as needed. The use of herbicides will be permitted in accordance with provisions of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands in Thirteen Western States, 1991. Hand application of herbicides will be permitted within wilderness.

17. Fires that exceed or are expected to exceed a 5 chain per hour rate of spread in the planning area will be suppressed. Within wilderness the following will apply: Minimum impact suppression tactics will be used; reported fires will monitored by air with minimum altitudes of 1000 feet above ground level, or by foot access; nonmotorized hand tools for suppression activities will be used; the rehabilitation of disturbances caused by suppression activities in accordance with BLM Manual 8560.35 will be completed before suppression forces are released.

Rationale: There is no history of fires in the area. Suppressing fires that exceed a 5 chain per hour rate of spread will protect resource values.

Monitoring and Mitigation - Objective 1

1. Compile information about situations that need corrective action when management actions are implemented. Mitigate as needed in an manner that conforms with plan objectives. Appraise the effectiveness of mitigation during yearly plan evaluations and consider whether new actions are needed to meet plan objectives.

   BLM and AGFD will cooperatively conduct yearly surveys and the quantitative research necessary to determine the amount of use, effectiveness, and continued need of existing wildlife water developments in the planning area and to quantify the "benefits" or impacts to desert bighorn sheep and other wildlife. This data will be the basis for evaluating the future needs for maintenance, redevelopment, or removal of existing developments and the construction of any new developments.

2. Make every effort to schedule the use of authorized vehicle/motorized equipment use in wilderness during the middle of the week or other periods that would least affect the public. Post information about projects that may affect wilderness visitors so they may avoid temporary impacts to solitude and other wilderness values.

3. Vegetation will continue to be monitored as described in the Ganado Allotment Evaluation, 2000.

Objective 2 - Preserve Wilderness Values

Maintain or enhance the wilderness values of naturalness and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, and special features in wilderness portions of the planning area for the foreseeable future by:

- Providing public information to minimize human impacts by the end of FY 2001.

- Eliminating unauthorized vehicle use by the end of FY 2001.
- Using the minimum tool for range, wildlife, and fire management activities including the management of wild burros, the inspection and maintenance of water developments, and law enforcement.
- Reducing the frequency and need for administratively authorized motorized travel into wilderness.
- Reducing the visual impacts from surface disturbances or other sites of human activity. (Map 3 and Table 4 - Wilderness Impacts)
- Scheduling cultural resource recording and data recovery activities to prevent conflicts with known planned recreation uses.
- Accommodating traditional or sacred use that may be identified in the future by the three tribes which historically used the planning area.

Rationale: Objective 2 addresses planning issues 1 through 8, and goals 1 through 4. Implementing this objective will assure long-term preservation of wilderness values.

Management Actions

1. At a minimum, the Wilderness Park Ranger will conduct monthly wilderness patrols to install and maintain boundary signs, information displays, and traffic counters, as needed. By the end of 2001, develop a wilderness brochure and educational materials about "Leave No Trace"and "Tread Lightly!" visitor ethics for the information displays and the BLM public room.

Rationale: This action addresses issues concerning vehicle violations and the need for public information.

2. No recreational facilities, including trails, will be constructed within the wilderness. Any signing or information needed to manage the area will be located outside the wilderness. Campfire rings discovered during wilderness patrols will be removed and the area rehabilitated.

Rationale: Recreational facilities, including trails, are not needed at current use levels. Naturalness and primitive recreation opportunities would be diminished with construction of such facilities.

3. Law Enforcement Rangers will conduct, at a minimum, monthly wilderness patrols. In areas along the wilderness boundary where illegal vehicle entry problems may develop, the first course of action will be to increase patrols and signing along the wilderness boundary. If increased patrols and signing are not effective in ending the illegal entry problem, an increased law enforcement effort will be required. If the problem persists, physical barriers will be placed at the wilderness boundary as a resource protection measure. Posts and cable will be the preferred type of barrier.

4. All administrative wilderness flights will be conducted as indicated on Table 5. The anticipated uses of motorized vehicles and mechanized equipment are determined to be the minimum tool for the listed activity within wilderness and are therefore authorized or provided for.

5. Require conformance with BLM standards for range developments at the Red Hill Well (L2 on Map2) by the end of FY 2001. Permittee will be required to choose one of the existing wells, the other will be abandoned in conformance with state environmental regulations. The well selected by the permittee will either be cased and capped, abandoned, or cooperatively relocated. Abandoned well(s) will be sealed at ground level and restored to natural appearance. The use of motorized vehicles and mechanized equipment will be authorized for an initial 10-day period. Vehicles will only be used on historically used access routes.

6. Prior to grazing use in the Red Hill area, the Field Manager will authorize the minimum vehicle access and use of motorized or mechanized equipment needed to initially redevelop and then operate and maintain the site. Redevelopment will require pump and pipeline installation. Water will be piped to facilities located outside the wilderness boundary. Operations and use of the site will require use of a portable generator to pump water from the well to the facilities. Vehicles will only be used on historically used access routes. Routine inspections will be conducted by nonmotorized, nonmechanical means.

Rationale: Actions 5 and 6 will provide for the maintenance and operation of a permitted range development. Red Hill Well would support ephemeral use and improve livestock distribution in this portion of the allotment.

7. Improve coordination, develop protocol, and foster understanding with state, county and municipal agencies, and volunteer organizations for search and rescue response and law enforcement activities. Provide a wilderness advisor to facilitate these activities.

Rationale: Improved coordination, and the presence of a BLM advisor when possible, will reduce the potential for impacts to the wilderness.

8. Allow natural rehabilitation of surface disturbances in wilderness, in general, to continue (Table 4 and

Map 3). Some of the impacts will be further rehabbed as follows:

- Evaluate the current condition of impacts I-1, 2, 4, and 5. Determine if additional rehab is necessary. Utilize hand tools to reduce berms. and use permeon to reduced visual contrast of disturbance. Remove non-historic trash and debris.

- Remove the remaining large pieces of aircraft wreckage at I-3 using a heavy lift helicopter and slingloads. No helicopter landing within the wilderness will be permitted and flight time over wilderness will be minimized. The crash site access route will be evaluated for additional rehab work, if necessary, route will be partially reclaimed to a primitive trail.

- Evaluate the current condition of impacts at I-6, allow natural reclamation to continue, remove non-historic trash and debris.

- Evaluate the current conditions of the closed vehicle routes at I-7, determine best methods for total reclamation. Utilize short segments of post-and-cable vehicle barrier if additional wilderness signing fails to prevent further unauthorized OHV use.

Table 5

Current and Anticipated Motorized/Mechanized Uses in the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness

Program	Description of Activity	Frequency	Season/Duration
Wildlife	Wildlife population surveys using low-level fixed-wing or helicopter flights.	Every 2 years	Bighorn Sheep- (Sept.15 - Dec. 1) Up to three 5-hour flight days
Wildlife	Mid-level telemetry flights to monitor bighorn sheep after transplant.	Monthly	For up to 3 years following a transplant.
Wildlife	Provide for helicopter use to support sheep captures.	Variable	On a case-by-case basis as needs arise.
Wildlife	Major maintenance of water catchments and emergencies including water hauls. Minimum tool may require use of motorized/ mechanized tools and aircraft.	Variable	On a case-by-case basis as needs arise. Minimum tool applies.
Livestock Management	Emergency situations threatening public land resources, livestock, or property.	Variable	On an as needed basis generally not expected to occur more than once every five years.
Livestock Management	Range Project Maintenance - Red Hill Well Well abandonment and/or redevelopment may require up to 10 days of motor vehicle use.	Variable	On an as needed basis generally not expected to occur more than once every five years.
Livestock Management	Range Project Operation - Red Hill Well	Variable	On an as needed basis. May occur two days per year used. Years used are not expected to occur more than once every three years.
Law Enforcement Fire Search and Rescue	Wilderness entry using helicopter (occasional landing), fixed-wing aircraft, or ground vehicle to protect resources, public health and safety, or pursuit of criminal law violators.	Variable	Not expected to occur more than twice a year. In case of fire, may involve several aircraft simultaneously.
Wilderness	Mine site rehabilitation and aircraft wreckage removal, minimum tool may require use of motorized/mechanized tools and aircraft.	For duration of project	Less than one week each.

Monitoring and Mitigation - Objective 2

1. Compile information about situations that need corrective action when management actions are implemented and mitigate as needed in a manner that conforms with plan objectives. Appraise the effectiveness of mitigation and consider whether additional management actions are needed to meet plan objectives during yearly plan evaluations.

2. Make every effort to schedule administrative use of mechanized/motorized vehicles and equipment during periods of least expected visitor use (middle of the week) to minimize impacts to wilderness values. Post notices of impending projects at informational displays near the project site and at the Field Office so visitors may have the option of rescheduling their activities.

Objective 3 - Provide Recreation Opportunities

Provide recreation opportunities while ensuring public safety and minimizing the potential for resource conflicts by:

- Addressing the mine safety hazards to recreationists in the Cienega Mining District.
- Developing the Adopt-a-Trail partnerships.
- Defining a management strategy for OHV use.
- Inventorying all existing OHV roads and trails.
- Implementing vehicle route limitations consistent with the Yuma RMP OHV designations.
- Developing and maintaining information/interpretive sites and/or materials.
- Developing new OHV recreation management partnerships.
- Authorizing special recreation permits on a case by case basis.
- Acquiring legal public access to existing routes.

Rationale: Objective 3 addresses planning issue 3, part of issues 1, 2, 4, and 8, management goal 3, and part of goals 1, 2, and 4. Implementing this objective will provide a broad spectrum of recreational opportunities in the planning area for the foreseeable future.

Management Actions

1. Over a five year period, evaluate safety hazards presented by abandoned mine features, identify the appropriate action, and implement mine closures using the "Cienega Mining District, Mine Feature Closure" (EA-AZ-070-99-27). Mine hazards along the proposed Adopt-a-Trails and Cienega Springs/ Nellie Mine Road will be addressed first, followed by the Carnation and Eagle Nest mines, followed by the remaining identified mine features.

Rationale: The programmatic EA analyzes both restrictive and constructive closure of mining features to minimize impacts to recreation, cultural, and wildlife resources while reducing mine safety hazards.

2. By end of FY 2001, complete a Cooperative Management Agreement (CMA) between Arizona State Parks, La Paz County, and the BLM for management of the Gray Eagle Mine and Red Mountain Adopt-a-Trails. Establish traffic counters to assist in monitoring activities on the Red Mountain and Gray Eagle Trails by the end of FY 2002.

3. By the end of FY 2003, cooperatively work with the CMA partners to:

   - mitigate mine hazards along the Adopt-a-Trails by utilizing the State OHV Grant,
   - cooperatively develop information/interpretive materials and signing for the trails,
   - utilize the Parker 4-Wheelers under a group volunteer agreement as the primary volunteer group responsible for signing, road maintenance, and monitoring use along the Adopt-a-Trails.

A segment of the proposed Red Mountain Adopt-a-Trail.

4. The current OHV area designations (Table 6 and Map 4) will be implemented through increased signing, monitoring, enforcement, and route designations. Changing the OHV area designations of open, limited, or closed would only be considered and implemented if approved in the future through an amendment to the Yuma RMP. No changes have been made to the Yuma RMP OHV area designations.

Table 6

OHV Area Designations

	Acres
Limited to Existing Roads and Trails	36,941
Closed to Vehicle Use (Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness)	18,681
Planning Area	**55,622**

5. The OHV route inventory documented in this plan (Map 4) is a complete inventory of all existing roads and trails in the planning area as required by the Yuma RMP. All routes are identified with a route number which will be used for identification purposes on the updated OHV Access Guide and signing posted on all major routes. Vehicle route limitations consistent with the Yuma RMP OHV designations will be implemented through signing and, if necessary, barriers. Potential resource conflicts were considered and a designation of the OHV routes as open, closed, or limited is recommended (Appendix G). Table 7 shows the miles and percentages of routes in these categories.

Table 7

OHV Route Inventory and Recommended Route Designations

	Miles	Percent Total	Percent Plan
OHV routes and recommended designations			
Open	66.02	36.8%	49.7%
Closed	6.31	3.5%	4.8%
Limited to Administrative Use	14.09	7.9%	10.6%
Limited to Seasonal Use (Open July 1 to December 31)	40.57	22.6%	30.6%
Limited to Vehicles Less Then 40" in Width	5.82	3.2%	4.4%
SubTotal	**132.81**		**100.0%**
Routes not recommended for designation			
Limited to Existing Routes (Shea Pit Area)	7.04	3.9%	
Routes on State and Private Land	38.90	21.7%	
Closed by Wilderness Designation	0.48	0.3%	
SubTotal	**46.32**		
Total miles of routes inventoried in the planning area	**179.23**	**100%**	

Rationale: The Yuma RMP specifies that an inventory must be completed and implements seasonal limitations (January 1 to Jun e 30) to OHV use in bighorn sheep lambing grounds. The route designation forms and maps in Appendix G provide specific route-by-route identification and a recommended designation and rational. Nearly half the routes were recommended to be designated open for all OHV use. Less than 5% of the routes inventoried within the planning area were recommended closed to protect various resource values. Approximately 45% of the inventoried routes are recommended limited in one of three ways:

1) Routes limited to administrative use are closed to public vehicle use. These routes include the routes in the Giers Wash area and along the Southwest Gas Pipeline. The limitation serves to protect resource values while providing administrative access for utility maintenance and wildlife water catchment maintenance.

2) Routes limited to seasonal use are open to public vehicle use from July 1 to December 31. The routes on the Mesa are limited to seasonal use to protect bighorn sheep lambing grounds.

3) Routes limited to vehicles less than 40" in width are physically narrow and were therefore limited in width to protect soils and other resource values.

6. Conduct periodic field inventories of OHV routes to identify new unauthorized routes (see Monitoring and Mitigation). Inventory will begin at the Rio Vista Mine, Shea Road Pit, and the Dune, which are the three identified high use OHV areas. New routes will be signed as closed and rehabilitated to the extent necessary to mitigate the impacts. Barriers will be installed if signing and rehabilitation measures are not successful.

7. Revise the Cactus Plain-Arizona Access Guide as necessary to provide visitors with accurate information about responsible OHV use (Tread Lightly!), route identification, seasonal limitations, points of interest, and safety in the desert.

8. By the end of FY 2001, develop and maintain educational/informational materials and displays at Cienega Springs/Nellie Mine Road and Shea Road Pit. Increase public awareness of potential recreational use conflicts, and specifically, target shooting in high use OHV areas.

Interpretive Kiosk near Shea Road Pit.

9. Maintain all post and cable barriers around the Shea Road Pit and Parker 400 course. Sign all access points to the Shea Road Pit as "limited to existing roads and trails". No additional facilities are planned at this time.

10. By the end of FY 2001, post "14-day camp stay limit," "Pack-it-in Pack-it-out," and "No Dumping" signs in camping areas along Shea Road and Cienega Springs/ Nellie Mine Road.

Rationale: No additional facilities for dispersed camping are planned.

11. Develop a Volunteer Program for resource monitoring and site/sign/facilities/trails maintenance to reduce resource impacts and use conflicts.

12. The BLM will cooperate with La Paz County and the State Land Department to manage OHV activities in the Dune area and evaluate the development of additional OHV opportunities.

Rationale: During public scoping it was indicated that there was a need for additional OHV- based recreational opportunities.

13. Evaluate the portion of Shea Road within the planning area as part of a National Back Country Byway by FY 2006.

14. Special recreation permits will include stipulations which prevent the permitted activities from impacting the wilderness, wildlife, cultural, recreation, and other resources in the planning area.

15. By the end of FY 2003, BLM will acquire legal public access to existing routes that cross private and State lands, including Cienega Springs/Nellie Mine Road and the Adopt-a-Trails.

Monitoring and Mitigation

1. Monitor OHV use monthly, at a minimum and more frequently if necessary, during the high use period of October through April. Compile information about situations that need corrective action when management actions are implemented. Mitigate as needed in a manner that is in conformance with plan objectives. Appraise the effectiveness of mitigation annually and consider whether additional actions are needed to meet plan objectives.

2. Evaluate need for interpretive information at additional sites or for modification of current displays.

3. Evaluate whether traffic monitors are providing needed visitor information or if alternative or additional locations are needed.

Objective 4 - Protect and Ensure Proper Use Of Cultural Resources

Improve protection measures to prevent further loss of information, enhance educational and traditional values, and ensure the proper and best use of cultural resources by:

- Allocating individual properties or classes of similar properties to Use Categories to guide future management (Appendix C).

- Promoting a more active participation of tribes who have traditionally used the planning area starting in FY 2001.

- Increasing cultural resource issues awareness (education and information) of both permitted and casual recreation users by the end of FY 2002.
- Establishing a cultural resource monitoring program to document changes by end of FY 2002, and develop mitigation for both natural and potential man-made impacts by end of FY 2003.

Rationale. Objective 4 addresses planning issues 2, 3, 4 and 8, management goal 4, and part of goals 2, and 3. Implementing this objective will provide protection for and allow appropriate uses of cultural resources by current and future generations.

Management Actions

1. Previous Yuma RMP allocations of specific cultural properties to the Conservation Use category are changed to either Scientific Use, Traditional Use, or dual allocation, based on the priority management objective.

Rationale: The Conservation Use category is reserved for those cultural properties which are scarce, have research potentials that cannot be realized through current analytical techniques, or possess comparable characteristics making them inappropriate for studies which would alter them. The concept of conservation of sites in the planning area is an appropriate management goal, but no currently recorded properties in the planning area meet the criteria of having research potential that cannot be realized through current techniques, or that warrant protection from any physically altering studies. Properties identified in the future that would meet the criteria of Conservation Use would be allocated to this category through maintenance of the plan.

2. All prehistoric cultural resources are allocated to Scientific Use, Traditional Use, or a dual allocation, based on the priority management objective.

Rationale: Allocation to Scientific Use as a primary use would provide management guidance to make these sites available as the subject of scientific or historical study, which may result in physical alteration or destruction. Allocation to Traditional Use as a primary use would provide management guidance to protect the integrity of cultural resources that are important to maintaining the cultural identity, heritage, or well-being of the group that identifies them.

3. All prehistoric cultural properties would be interpreted through off-site information. No prehistoric sites would be allocated to public use through this plan.

Rationale: No prehistoric properties appropriate for use as an interpretive exhibit in place, or for related educational or recreational use by members of the general public, have been identified in the planning area. In the future a site could be allocated to Public Use through maintenance of the plan.

4. All historic cultural resources are allocated to either Scientific Use, Public Use, or dual allocation categories, based on the priority management objective.

Rationale: Historic properties are often a recreation destination, especially in the Cienega Mining District. These sites may also contain information not yet retrieved that could contribute to understanding the economic and resource exploitation at one of the earliest Districts in the region. If Public use would compromise the integrity of any components of a site with Scientific Use as a primary allocation, it would be interpreted through off-site means, access may be limited or directed to the least invasive means, or data recovery may be conducted.

5. During the life of the plan conduct field visits with members of local tribes to archaeological sites in the planning area. Frequency of field visits will be dependent on both their interest in previously recorded sites and in newly discovered locations. Field visits will be at least annual beginning in FY 2001. Share existing and newly discovered site information with their museums or cultural program staff at a minimum of once a year. Consult with tribal members and cultural staff to develop appropriate monitoring, mitigation measures, or develop research designs on a case-by-case basis.

Rationale: Archaeological or traditional sites that represent the activities of Native Americans who were using the planning area are sensitive properties to manage. For reasons beyond their control, the locations of these sites have often been lost to the people whose ancestors made them. Archaeological sites are sacred to the Native Americans. Archaeologists should share their knowledge of these sites with the local Native Americans and consider their recommendations regarding the importance of these sites in their management decisions and scientific research designs.

6. Develop interpretive materials appropriate to the intended audiences on the importance of all cultural resources, (archaeological, traditional and historic) by the end of FY 2002.
7. Include historic road and trail information as part of any access or trail guide developed. Provide signs at historic properties to indicate active management.
8. Include cultural resource protection and appreciation message on any new information bulletin boards.

Rationale: Cultural properties, especially highly visible historic sites, are often a destination for the public. Interpretive information and a positive message about cultural resource protection made available to our largest user group, the OHV community, will educate the public that are using these sites.

9. Conduct condition assessment and develop emergency stabilization or maintenance plans for any standing historic structures or ruins in the planning area by the end of FY 2003. Begin implementing plan in FY 2004.

10. A patrol plan will schedule monitoring to identified sites and gather information to evaluate potential impacts. Field documentation of known properties, and inventory of areas where impacts are anticipated to affect cultural resources, will provide a baseline for a patrol plan. Complete the patrol plan and conduct orientation field trips with personnel that will be responsible for monitoring (LHFO law enforcement, members of the Arizona Site Stewards Program, or other qualified volunteers) by the end of FY 2002.

Rationale: Monitoring selected properties or areas for changes in uses that could threaten the allocated use or eligibility of the cultural resources in the planning area is an effective way to actively manage cultural resources. Arizona Site Stewards are trained volunteers who provide a local workforce to accomplish the time intensive task of field monitoring.

Monitoring and Mitigation

Compile and evaluate information from cultural field visits and patrol reports during the annual plan evaluation to determine whether sites are being identified and evaluated, whether traditional uses are being considered, and whether human and natural impacts are being avoided or successfully mitigated.

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PART V
PLAN EVALUATION

Together with an interdisciplinary team, the Lake Havasu Field Office Manager will conduct annual evaluations of the plan prior to the budget cycle to:

1. Summarize and document the annual monitoring of the current resource condition and utilization information, incorporating it into this document as it becomes available.
2. Document completed management actions.
3. Determine if plan objectives are being met.
4. Determine if the plan needs to be revised and recommend new management actions if needed.

A formal plan evaluation will be conducted after five years. The review will provide an opportunity to evaluate the monitoring data collected over the previous five years and the actions completed to date. Needed revisions will amend the plan and be available for public review prior to implementation..

Aerial view east across bighorn sheep lambing grounds on The Mesa with Bill Williams River in the background.

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PART VI

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE AND COST ESTIMATES

Table 8

Recurring Tasks

Task/Activity	Workmonths / Material Cost $	Task Assignments
1. Law Enforcement patrols / seasonal scheduling based on visitor use. Oct. - April - weekly, May - Sept. monthly	3/ 500	LE Rangers
2. Resource Monitoring / patrols - mine closures, recreation use, wilderness, cultural sites	4/ 500	Recreation Tech / ORP Wilderness ParkRanger Wilderness Specialist Archaeologist/ Arch Tech. Volunteers
3. Maintenance of information displays, signs, post and cable, and mine closures.	3/ 2000	Recreation Tech / ORP / Maintenance Crew
4. Monitoring for establishment of exotic species and burros	0.25	Range Conservationist Biologist
5. Inspect and maintain wildlife water developments. Annually evaluate and document maintenance needs.	0.25	AGFD & BLM
6. Maintain bighorn sheep seasonal closure signs, gates at Highway 95 and Jumpoff, fence at Hwy 95/Giers Wash	0.5/ 1000	Wildlife Biologist Maintenance
7. Evaluate range conditions, determine minimum vehicle access and use of motorized/mechanized equipment needed in wilderness at Red Hill Well prior to grazing in area.	0.5	Range Conservationist Wilderness Specialist
8. Native American Field Tours	0.25	Archaeologist
9. Plan evaluation	0.25	Interdisciplinary Team
10. Implement historic structure stabilization/maintenance plans	0.5 / 500	Archaeologist/ Arch Tech Volunteers
11. Inventory the Cienga Mining District for significant bat roost sites. Monitor significant bat roost sites every 3 to 5 years.	1/ 10,000 (contracted)	Wildlife Biologist/ seasonal/temp employee
12. Monitor desert tortoise habitat within Giers Wash and the Mesa.	1/ 10,000 (contracted)	Wildlife Biologist

Table 9

Non-Recurring Tasks

Task/Activity	Target Date	Workmonths / Material Cost $	Task Assignments
1. Sign existing OHV routes per recommendations in Appendix G.	FY 2005	12 / 100,000	Outdoor Rec Planner LE / Park Rangers Wilderness Specialist Maintenance
2. Cultural resource allocation to Use Categories	FY 2001	completed	Archaeologist
3. Mine safety closures - NEPA/NHPA and construction contract.	FY 2005	6/ 100,000 per year	IDP Team
4. Complete CMA for Adopt-a-trails. Establish information displays and visitor registers at three sites along Gray Eagle/Red Mtn Trails. Establish traffic counters to monitor use.	FY 2003	8/ 5000 OHV Grant	ORP Park Ranger Wilderness Specialist
5. Remove aircraft wreckage from wilderness, rehabilitate site	FY 2002	2/ 5000	Wilderness Park Ranger Wilderness Specialist
6. Evaluate potential rehabilitation areas in wilderness, conduct rehabilitation projects.	FY 2004	10/ 50,000 (contracted)	Wilderness Park Ranger Wilderness Specialist Archaeologist/ ArchTech
7. Develop cultural resource interpretive materials.	FY 2002	4 / 2,000	Archaeologist
8. Develop stabilization/maintenance plans for historic structures.	FY 2003	3	Archaeologist/ Arch Tech
9. Coordinate with permittee at Red Hill Well to bring range development into conformance.	FY 2001	2/ 10,000	Range / Wilderness Specialists
10. Redevelop Red Cliff and Buckskin Tunnel Wildlife Catchments	FY 2001	4/ 10,000	AGFD/ BLM Wildlife Biologist Wilderness Specialist
11. Goat Spring - Evaluation - Redevelopment	FY 2002 FY 2004	0.25/ 200 5/ 10,000	AGFD/ BLM- Wildlife Biologist
12. Seek Conservation easement for administrative use in Giers wash	FY 2003	2/ 5000	AGFD
13. Develop wilderness brochure. Develop "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly" educational material.	FY 2001	2	Public Affairs Specialist Wilderness Specialist IDP Team

PART VII
APPENDICES

APPENDIX A
Common Plant Species of the Gibraltar Planning Area

Common Name	Scientific Name
agave	*Agave spp.*
beavertail prickly pear	*Opuntia basilaris*
big galleta	*Hilaria rigida*
blue paloverde	*Cercidium floridum*
brittlebush	*Encelia farinosa*
buckhorn cholla	*Opuntia acanthocarpa*
California fagonbush	*Fagonia laevis*
catclaw acacia	*Acacia Greggii*
cheesebush	*Hymenoclea salsola*
creosote	*Larrea tridentata*
desert lavendar	*Hyptis Emoryi*
desert indianwheat	*Plantago insularis*
desert wirelettuce	*Stephanomeria pauciflora*
desert mallow	*Sphaeralcea ambigua*
deserttrumpet wildbuckwheat	*Eriogonum inflatum*
diamond cholla	*Opuntia ramosissima*
Engelmann's hedgehog	*Echinocereus Engelmannii*
fluffgrass	*Erioneuron pulchellum* or *Tridens*
foothill paloverde	*Cercidium microphyllum*
Goodding's willow	*Salix gooddingii*
gray coldenia	*Tiquilia canescens var. canescens* or *Coldenia canescens*
ironwood	*Olneya Tesota*
Mediterranean grass	*Schismus barbatus*
mormon tea	*Ephedra spp.*
ocotillo	*Fouquieria splendens*
pincushion cactus	*Mammillaria spp.*
quailbush	*Atriplex lentiformis ssp. lentiformis*
ratany	*Krameria species*
red barrel cactus	*Ferocactus acanthodes*
saguaro	*Carnegiea gigantea*
saltcedar	*Tamarix ramosissima*
seep willow	*Baccharis glutinosa*
smoketree	*Dalea spinosa* or *Psorothamnus spinosus*
spiny goldenbush	*Machaeranthera pinnatifida ssp. Gooddingii var. Gooddingii*
teddybear cholla	*Opuntia Bigelovii*
threeawn	*Aristida spp.*
turkshead spineflower	*Chorizanthe rigida*
white bursage	*Ambrosia dumosa*
wolfberry	*Lycium* species

APPENDIX B

Common Wildlife Species of the Gibraltar Planning Area

Common Name	Scientific Name
Mammals	
coyote	(*Canis latrans*)
kit fox	(*Vulpes macrotis*)
desert bighorn sheep	(*Ovis canadensis*)
mule deer	(*Odocoileus hemionus*)
black-tailed jack rabbit	(*Lepus californicus*)
desert cottontail	(*Sylvilagus auduboni*)
Harris' antelope squirrel	(*Ammospermaophilus harrisii*)
white-throated woodrat	(*Neotoma albigula*)
Merriam's kangaroo rat	(*Dipodomys merriami*),
California leaf-nosed bat	(*Macrotus californicus*)
western mastiff bat	(*Eumops perotis*)
spotted bat	(*Euderma maculatum*)
Townsend's big-eared bat	(*Corynorhinus townsendii*)
gray fox	(*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*)
Birds	
turkey vulture	(*Cathartes aura*)
red-tailed hawk	(*Buteo jamaicensis*)
Northern harrier	(*Circus cyaneus*)
lesser nighthawk	(*Chordeiles acutipennis*)
cactus wren	(*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*)
canyon wren	(*Catherpes mexicanus*)
black-tailed gnatcatcher	(*Polioptila nigriceps*)
black-throated sparrow	(*Amphispiza bilineata*)
white-crowned sparrow	(*Zonotrichia leucophrys*)
mourning dove	(*Zenaida macroura*)
white-winged dove	(*Zenaida asiatica*)
Gambel's quail	(*Callipepla gambelii*)
phainopepla	(*Phainopepla nitens*)
Reptiles	
desert tortoise	(*Gopherus agassizii*)
western whiptail lizard	(*Cnemidophorus tigris*)
side-blotched lizard	(*Uta stansburiana*)
desert iguana	(*Dipsosaurus dorsalis*)
desert horned lizard	(*Phrynosoma platyrhinos*)
zebra-tailed lizard	(*Callisaurus draconoides*)
western diamondback rattlesnake	(*Crotalus atrox*)
sidewinder rattlesnake	(*Crotalus cerastes*)
western patchnose snake	(*Salvadora hexalepis*)
coachwhip	(*Masticophis flagellum*)

APPENDIX C

Allocation of Cultural Resource Use

Cultural Resources can be allocated to the various recognized use categories before they are individually identified. Categorizing resources to uses is a mechanism for the Field Office manager and the SHPO to confer and concur in advance. The following is a two part Table of Site Use Allocations:

1) Representative sample of known properties in the Gibraltar planning area, and

2) Sites that had been allocated to Conservation Use in the Yuma RMP and are being changed to revised use categories through this plan. New sites recorded in the future would be allocated to a use category following the same rationale. Discussion of these management actions is in Objective 4 - Cultural Resources of this document.

Cultural Resource Use Categories. The purpose of allocation is to classify cultural resources in terms of potential alternative use(s). Properties are allocated to a primary use, and where appropriate may have a secondary use allocated as long as it does not conflict with the goals of the primary use. The guidance for allocation is from BLM Manual 8110.42.

A. Scientific Use This category applies to any cultural property determined to be suitable for consideration as the subject of scientific or historical study utilizing currently available research techniques.

B. Conservation for Future Use This category is reserved for any unusual cultural resource which, because of scarcity, a research potential that surpasses the current state of the art, singular historic importance, cultural importance, or comparable reason, is not currently appropriate for consideration as the subject of scientific or historical study that would result in its physical alteration.

C. Traditional Use This category is to be applied to any cultural resource that is perceived by a specified social and/or cultural group as having attributes that contribute to maintaining the cultural identity, heritage or well-being of that group. Cultural properties assigned to this category are to be managed in ways that recognize the importance ascribed to them and seek to accommodate their continuing traditional use.

D. Public Use This category may be applied to any cultural property found to be appropriate for consideration as an interpretive exhibit in place, a subject of supervised participation in scientific or historical study, or related educational and recreational uses by members of the general public.

E. Experimental Use This category may be applied to any cultural property considered most useful for controlled experimental study, conducted by BLM or others concerned with techniques of managing cultural properties, which would result in the property's alteration. Experimental study may be aimed toward a better understanding of kinds and rates of natural or human-caused deterioration, effectiveness of protection measures, and similar lines of inquiry. It should not be applied to cultural properties with strong potential for any of the above allocated uses.

F. Discharged Use This category is assigned to cultural properties that have no other remaining identifiable use. A cultural resource that was previously assigned to another use category may no longer have the qualifying characteristics for that use or for assignment to an alternative use; or a property's scientific use potential was so slight it was exhausted when it was recorded, and no alternative use is appropriate. Properties discharged from management remain in the inventory but no longer constrain other land uses. Each property must be recorded before it can be allocated to discharge use.

GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN

Site Use Allocation

1) Representative Sample of Known Properties in the Planning Area

AZ L:16: #	Time Period /Site Type	Primary Use	Secondary Use	Remarks
45(BLM)	P/chipped stone(cs) unk. stone features		Scientific	
54(BLM)	P/cs, stone feature	Scientific		
56(BLM)	P/ cs, stone feature	Scientific		
68(BLM)	P/ chipped stone	Scientific		
90(BLM)	P/ stone features	Scientific		
91(BLM)	P & H/ cs, road and trail	Scientific		trails might be old cattle trails
57(BLM)	P/rock rings, cs	Scientific		
58(BLM)	unk./ use area, stone feature	Scientific		
59(BLM)	P/ rock ring	Scientific		
60(BLM)	P/ sherd scatter	Scientific		
61(BLM)	P/ cs lithic scatter	Scientific		
62(BLM)	P/ isolated cs, rock shelter	Scientific	Traditional	Record indicates subsurface potential.
82(BLM)	P/ rock shelter, sherd & lithic. scatter	Scientific	Traditional	50m. west of 11(BLM)
37(ASM)	H/ Capilano Mine, underground workings only	Discharge		determined not eligible criterion "d" 9-21-99
38(ASM)	H/ unnamed mine and residence	Public		determined not eligible criterion "d" 9-21-99
40(ASM)	H/ Carnation Mine recent features	Public		determined not eligible criterion "d" 9-21-99
42(ASM)	H/ Eagle Nest Mine, dumps, underground and bldg. ruins	Scientific	Public	recommended eligible criterion "d", remote access, bldg. ruin
43(ASM)	H/ Gray Eagle Mine, extensive workings, trails, foundations	Public	Scientific	recommended eligible criterion "d", popular jeep trail, historic landscape

2) The following sites were allocated to Conservation use in the Yuma RMP. Revised allocations indicated.

AZ L:16: #	Time Period /Site Type	Primary Use	Secondary Use	Remarks
11(BLM)	P/geoglyphs, intaglio/rock	Traditional	Scientific	Thunderbird Intaglio, alignments, trail altered in 1990. (referred to as Eagle in SBCM records). Fenced.
1(BLM)	P/ geoglyphs, stone features	Traditional	Scientific	Rattlesnake Intaglio. Fenced to protect. Some features have vanished.
64(BLM)	unk/ rock rings	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group

(continued next page)

GIBRALTAR MOUNTAIN

AZ L:16: #	Time Period /Site Type	Primary Use	Secondary Use	Remarks
66(BLM)	P/ rock shelter, artifact scatter	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
65(BLM)	P/ cs lithic scatter	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
53(BLM)	P/ rock shelter, sherds & lithics, stone feature	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
93(BLM)	P/ rock ring, stone feat.	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
43(BLM)	P/stone feature, cs lithic	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
44(BLM)	P/rock ring, stone feature, cs lithics	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
99(BLM)	P/ rock ring, stone features, cs lithics	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
100(BLM)	P/ sleeping circle	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
101(BLM)	P/ rock rings, stone features	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
27(ASM)	unk/ geoglyphs, anthropomorphic. & zoomorphic rock alignments	Traditional	Scientific	1981 "Doughboy" record states "probably not eligible, would be if aboriginal." Other features recorded 1992 A. LaForge
94(BLM)	P/ rock rings, isolated cs, stone features	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
95(BLM)	unk/rock alignments	Scientific		Osborne Wash Group
41(BLM)	P/ rock rings, cs lithic scatter, trails	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group
73(BLM)	P/ sleeping circles, trail sherd & lithic scatter	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group
76(BLM)	P/trail, isolated cs, rock ring	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group
70(BLM)	P/ sherd & lithic scatter	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group,
72(BLM)	P/ shrine or cairn	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group
74(BLM)	P/ trail, isolated ground stone & cs lithic	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group
77(BLM)	P/ trails, stone features, sherd & cs lithic scatters H/glass, metal, stoneware	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group
78(BLM)	P/ cleared area, isolated cs	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group. Projectile point fragment found east on road (3-12-99 LaForge)
79(BLM)	Black Tank tinaja: P/ rock shelters, sherds, cs lithics. H/misc. metal, ceramics, glass	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group possible arrastra stones found south of tank west of road (3-12-99 LaForge)
80(BLM)	P/ trail, sleeping circles, rock rings, sherd & cs scatter H/ cans, misc. metal	Traditional	Scientific	Black Tank Group, cattle trails impacting Prehistoric trail. Road mentioned is prob. historic

(P - prehistoric, H - historic, unk. - unknown temporal or cultural affiliation, cs - chipped stone)

APPENDIX D
Interdisciplinary Team

Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Planning Team:

Bureau of Land Management

Lake Havasu Field Office

Les Allert	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Cindy Barnes	Range Conservationist/ Wild Horse & Burro Specialist
Clif Bobinski	Team Lead/ Wilderness Specialist
Cory Bodman	Realty Specialist
Aline LaForge	Archaeologist
Elroy Masters	Wildlife Management Biologist
Myron McCoy	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Dave Taylor	Geologist

Yuma Field Office

Lynn Levitt	Fire Management Officer
Ron Morfin	Wilderness Specialist

Arizona Game and Fish Department

Region IV

Kenneth Clay	Wildlife Manager
Deanna Pfleger	Wildlife Manager

Additional Contributors:

Arizona Game and Fish Department

Dave Conrad	Wildlife Manager, Field Supervisor Region IV
Russ Engel	Habitat Program Manager, Region IV
John Hervert	Wildlife Program Manager, Region IV
John Kennedy	Wildlife Specieslist Supervisor, Habitat Branch, Phoenix Office
Ron Christofferson	Habitat Enhancement Program Manager, Development Branch, Phoenix Office

APPENDIX E

Public Involvement

A scoping letter containing a preliminary list of planning issues for the Gibraltar Planning Area identified by Havasu Field Office Resource Specialists was mailed out to the public on March 29,1995. The scoping letter provided an opportunity for the public and other government agencies to identify issues within the proposed planning area that they were concerned about. Several written comments were received and the issues are being addressed in this plan.

On April 5, 1995, a public meeting was held in Parker, Arizona so members of the local community would be able obtain information about the proposed planning area from BLM Resource Specialists and have another opportunity to document their concerns. Only 1 member of the public attended the meeting and no new issues were identified.

A second public meeting was held in Parker, Arizona on August 6, 1997. Approximately 50 persons attended the second meeting and public concerns for the planning area were documented. The major public concern was that the plan provide for recreational opportunities and values. Another concern was that there be an additional opportunity for the public to review proposed management decisions for the planning area before the decisions became final.

An Environmental Analysis (EA) for the redevelopment of the two wildlife waters located in Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness, Red Cliff and Tunnel Catchments was developed in the Winter of 2000. A copy of the EA was circulated for public comments to the Arizona Wilderness mailing list of approximately 500 individuals. The half dozen comments received have been used to refine the proposed action and further document the alternatives evaluated.

The Draft Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan and Environmental Assessment was distributed by mail on September 28, 2000 to approximately 500 interested individuals, groups, and governmental organizations. At the conclusion of the 45 day public comment period, the Bureau of Land Management had received 7 written comments. Letters were received from the Hopi Tribe, the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, Inc., the Arizona Department of Commerce, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, the Arizona State Land Department, the Southwest Forest Alliance, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service-Arizona Ecological Service Office. The letters in full are available for review upon request. Pages 50 through 52 are a summary of the comments received and responses to those comments. Page specific changes to the text of the Draft Plan are italicized and have been incorporated in the final Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan. Due to the text changes, text from the Draft may appear on a different page in the final Plan.

Comments and Responses

The Hopi Tribe

"...generally support the objectives of this plan and assessment, particularly Objective 4 - Protect and Ensure Proper Use of Cultural Resources." However, the Hopi object to the BLM Instructional Memorandum and policy that forbid reburial of human remains and funerary objects subject to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. The suggested revision of policy is beyond the scope of this plan.

The Hopi object to the scientific use of cultural resources and any BLM proposal involving activities with the potential to disturb the remains of Native American ancestors. The plan does not directly propose any action that has the potential to disturb human remains.

The Hopi defer further consultation on this plan and EA to the local Tribes. In the future and in the very unlikely event that a site would meet the above concerns and could not be avoided, the BLM would consult with the local Tribes as suggested.

Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, Inc.

"...supports the plan's objective to maintain biological diversity" and the maintenance of all wildlife water developments in the planning area. They support the management actions which include the use of mechanized/motorized equipment for waterhole maintenance and development activities; continued seasonal vehicle route closures for bighorn lambing grounds; to conduct bighorn sheep transplants to promote population viability if deemed necessary; to use helicopters and fixed wing aircraft for bighorn transplants and monitoring; and, to prevent the establishment of a resident burro population in the planning area.

Arizona Department of Commerce

Offered no comments on the plan. Instead, the Department of Commerce has determined it necessary to discontinue the Arizona State Clearinghouse program and effective November 1, 1999, the Department will cease to administer the Executive Order 12372, intergovernmental coordination of review and comment process.

Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD)

Recommended several changes to the plan. The recommendation to add a provision to re-evaluate and possibly lower the maximum utilization levels on the Ganado grazing allotment is presently incorporated in the Monitoring and Mitigation - Objective 1, item 3. The recommendation to add a provision to the recreation section of the plan to further evaluate the use and impacts of the routes on The Mesa and redundant roads is addressed by Objective 1, Management Action 4 and Objective 3, Management Action 4. Also see changes to OHV Management Actions described below in response to the comments received from the Southwest Forest Alliance.

Page specific comments include:

Page 9 paragraph 4, "the sheep population data should include previous survey results or an average and variance to convey the variability in the population levels." The BLM agrees that including previous survey results AND an average and variance in population levels would clarify the sheep population issue and needs for future actions. The BLM formally requests that the AGFD provide this historic information with the results of any future surveys and will include it in the annual plan evaluation.

Page 9 paragraph 4, the Game and Fish web address has been corrected to (AGFD, **http://www.azgfd.com**, 2000).

Page 9 paragraph 6, sentence beginning "Wildlife were being pushed..." has been changed from '...could only support wildlife...' to '...could only support *some species* of wildlife....'

Page 15 paragraph 1, does correctly refer to the preferred action alternative of the Yuma RMP (page 23, Table 2-7, and Map 2) which states, "ORV use would be limited to existing roads and trails on the remaining 1,154,955 acres in the District. An inventory would be completed following approval of the RMP in order to clearly ascertain 'existing roads and trails' in the district. A trail is defined in the glossary of the RMP as: a track, made by the passage of a vehicle, regularly used for travel. Desert washes are included as trails except where washes have been specifically closed to vehicle operation."

Page 19 paragraph 1, AGFD Wildlife Managers has been replaced with AGFD *Game Rangers* to reflect they are commissioned law enforcement officers, the change in job title was also made in Appendix D.

Page 26 paragraph 2, Buckskin Tunnel has been changed to *Gibraltar* Tunnel.

Page 26 paragraph 5, ono-motorized has been changed to *non-motorized.*

Page 26 paragraph 6, sentence beginning "Alternative sites located outside wilderness..." has been changed to read "...due to *an increased distance from lambing grounds and a decreased distance* to the popular OHV recreation areas." This change is also made to **Page 121**, Alternatives Considered but Eliminated.....second sentence.

Page 30 Table 5, the second entry has been changed from "low-level telemetry flights" to "*mid-level telemetry flights.*"

Page 44 Appendix B, *gray fox (Urocyon cinereoargenteus)* has been added to the mammals list.

Arizona State Land Department (ASLD)

Responded to only one management action in the draft plan by attaching a previous letter sent by their Forest and Rangeland Ecologist. This February 4, 2000 letter was in reference to EA-AZ070-00-21 concerning the redevelopment of Highway 95 and Buckskin (Gibraltar) Tunnel Catchments and raised two issues.

In reference to details concerning the revegetation of disturbed sites, please refer to the Mitigation section of the EA. Irrigation systems and seeding are not planned activities. To further address the concerns about the establishment of noxious weeds the following will be added to the end of the paragraph on

Page 26 paragraph 6 beginning, "Maintenance/ redevelopment activities will...", *Redevelopment and maintenance activities will be conducted so as to keep any new disturbance to the absolute minimum, to avoid mature vegetation whenever possible, and to use established methods to avoid the spread of noxious weeds.*

ASLD cited several papers included in the proceedings of the symposium, "Environmental, Economic, and Legal Issues Related to Rangeland Water Developments" held in Tempe on Nov 13-15, 1997 which question the effectiveness and need for artificial waters.

In response to these questions and concerns the following changes have been made to the plan and environmental analysis:

Page 26, replace first three sentences of the Rationale with the following:
BLM recognizes that quantitative research related to the effectiveness and need for artificial waters is inconclusive (The Center for the Study of Law, Science and Technology, Arizona State University 1998). It is the observation and professional opinion of the BLM Wildlife Biologist and the AGFD personnel identified in Appendix D that: 1) Increased human activity has cut off bighorn sheep and other wildlife species from their historical waters on the Colorado River; 2) Water developments mitigate the impacts of reduced river access and improve habitat values; 3) Forage is available and adequate to support a viable sheep population; 4) Therefore, the Red Cliff and Gibraltar Tunnel catchments are considered vital for wildlife management of the bighorn sheep herds residing in the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness, should continue to be maintained, and should not be removed.

Page 28, Monitoring and Mitigation - Objective 1, add as 2nd paragraph to number 1 the following:
BLM and AGFD will cooperatively conduct yearly surveys and the quantitative research necessary to determine the amount of use, effectiveness, and continued need of existing wildlife water developments in the planning area and to quantify the "benefits" or impacts to desert bighorn sheep and other wildlife. This data will be the basis for evaluating the future needs for maintenance, redevelopment, or removal of existing developments and the construction of any new developments.

Appendix F - Bibliography, add to current text:
The Center for the Study of Law, Science and Technology, Arizona State University.
1998. Proceedings of A Symposium on Environmental, Economic, and Legal Issues Related to Rangeland Water Developments. November 13-15, 1997 Tempe, AZ.

Page 121, Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis, add as 2nd sentence:
An alternative to remove the developments from Wilderness and rehab the sites was considered but rejected since Agency wildlife biologists considered the catchments mitigation for human impacts and vital for wildlife management of the bighorn sheep herd residing in the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness.

Page 121, Impacts of Proposed Action, Biological Resources, replace 1st sentence with the following:
Opposing views exist concerning the impacts of maintaining the wildlife catchments and quantitative research is inconclusive. It is the observation and professional opinion of the BLM Wildlife Biologist and the AGFD personnel identified in Appendix D that the maintenance of catchments is vital to the management of bighorn sheep and will benefit other wildlife species as well. Others cite studies suggesting that the wildlife water developments are not critical for sheep populations and may actually be detrimental to the sheep by increasing predator populations. BLM recognizes that quantitative research related to the effectiveness and need for artificial waters is inconclusive (The Center for the Study of Law, Science and Technology, Arizona State University 1998).

Southwest Forest Alliance

Provided comments requesting specific information about Goat Springs, riparian areas, and Giers Wash; questioning what studies were done and the need for water developments; requesting much tighter management of ORV use and asking for the careful evaluation of road impacts.

Goat Spring likely is still a potential water source. Tamarisk control measures have not been implemented. Management Action 2 on Page 26 addresses the intended actions for this small riparian area.

The AGFD has conducted periodic sheep population surveys and habitat scoring. BLM recognizes that quantitative research related to the effectiveness and need for artificial waters is inconclusive (The Center for the Study of Law, Science and Technology, Arizona State University 1998). Please see the changes above concerning this issue and the BLM commitment to work cooperatively with the AGFD to conduct yearly surveys and quantitative research to better answer these questions.

The plan identifies the current OHV area designations as determined by the Yuma RMP and serves as the complete inventory of existing routes. Specific OHV route designations are further recommended. The need for immediate and careful action is noted. Measures to protect the Wilderness resource are incorporated in the plan. The following changes have been made to the plan and environmental analysis:

Page 31, Management Action #4 has been changed to read (same change on Page 119),
The current OHV area designations (Table 6 and Map 4) will be implemented through increased signing, monitoring, enforcement, and route designations. Changing the OHV area designations of open, limited, or closed would only be considered and implemented if approved in the future through an amendment to the Yuma RMP. No changes have been made to the Yuma RMP OHV area designations.

Page 32, Management Action number 5, sentence 4 has been changed to read (same change on Page 119),
Potential resource conflicts were considered and a designation of the OHV routes as open, closed, or limited is recommended (Appendix G).

Page 42, Task/Activity number 1, change to: Sign existing OHV routes *per recommendations in Appendix G.*

Page 122, Recreation Opportunities, change last sentence to read, *OHV management would improve and resource damage would be reduced with increased signing, monitoring, enforcement, and route designations.*

Page 123, add the following fourth paragraph under "Impacts of Alternative A — No Action,"
Recreation opportunities would not be improved or expanded. The Adopt-a-Trail proposal would not be implemented. Recreational impacts to resources due to OHV use in the planning area would likely increase without additional management emphasis.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service-Arizona Ecological Service Office

Reviewed the draft plan and "has no comments at this time." Further stating, "no proposed of listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat are within the planning area boundaries."

APPENDIX F
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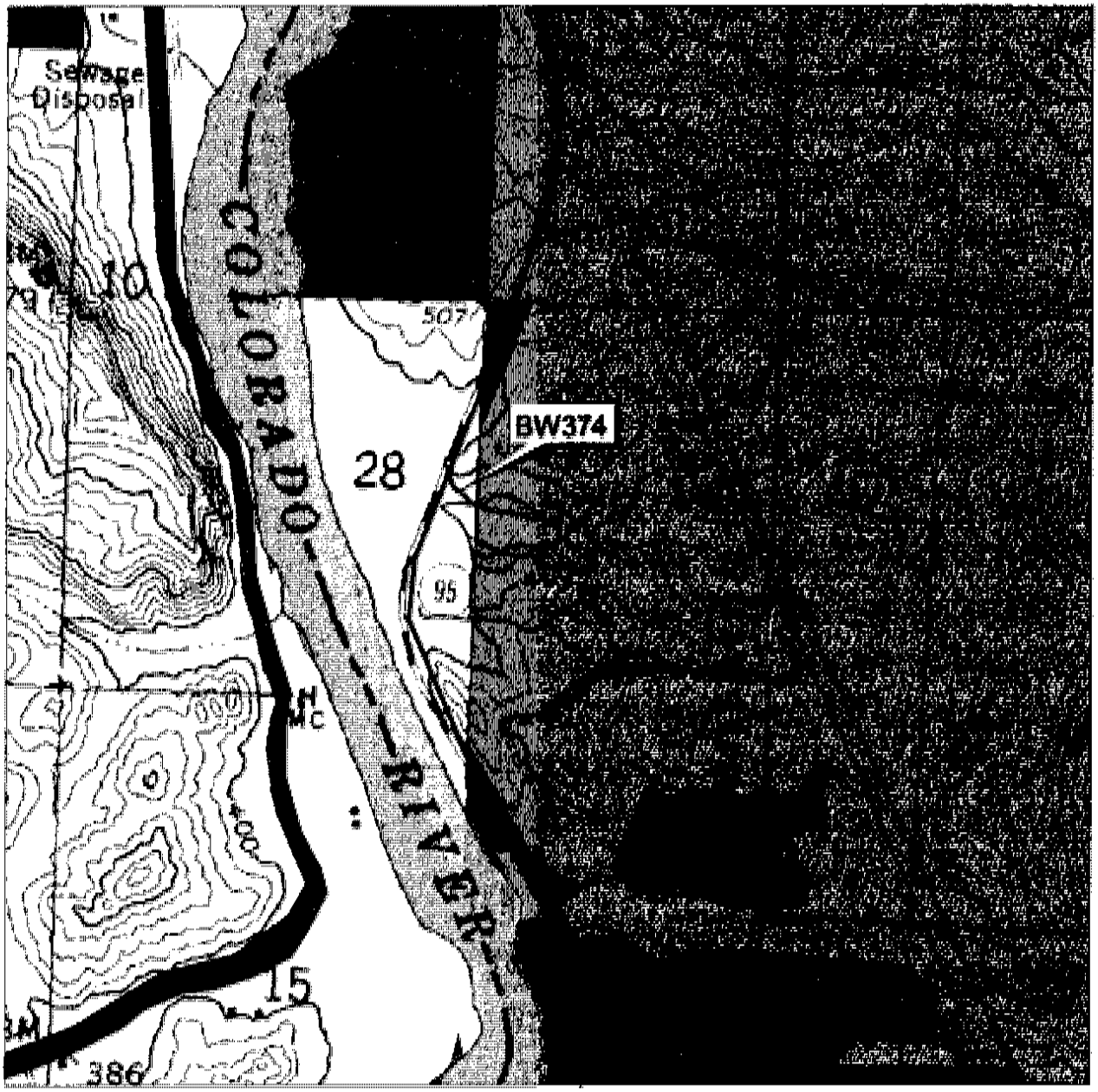
APPENDIX G

OHV Route Inventory and Recommended Designations

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes

Other OHV Routes

Planning Area

Wilderness

BLM

Parks, Refuges & Reservations

State Trust Lands

Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** B W - 3 7 4 Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
RMA Code Number
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Gene Wash

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**
   (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.
   (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.
   (c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.
   (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

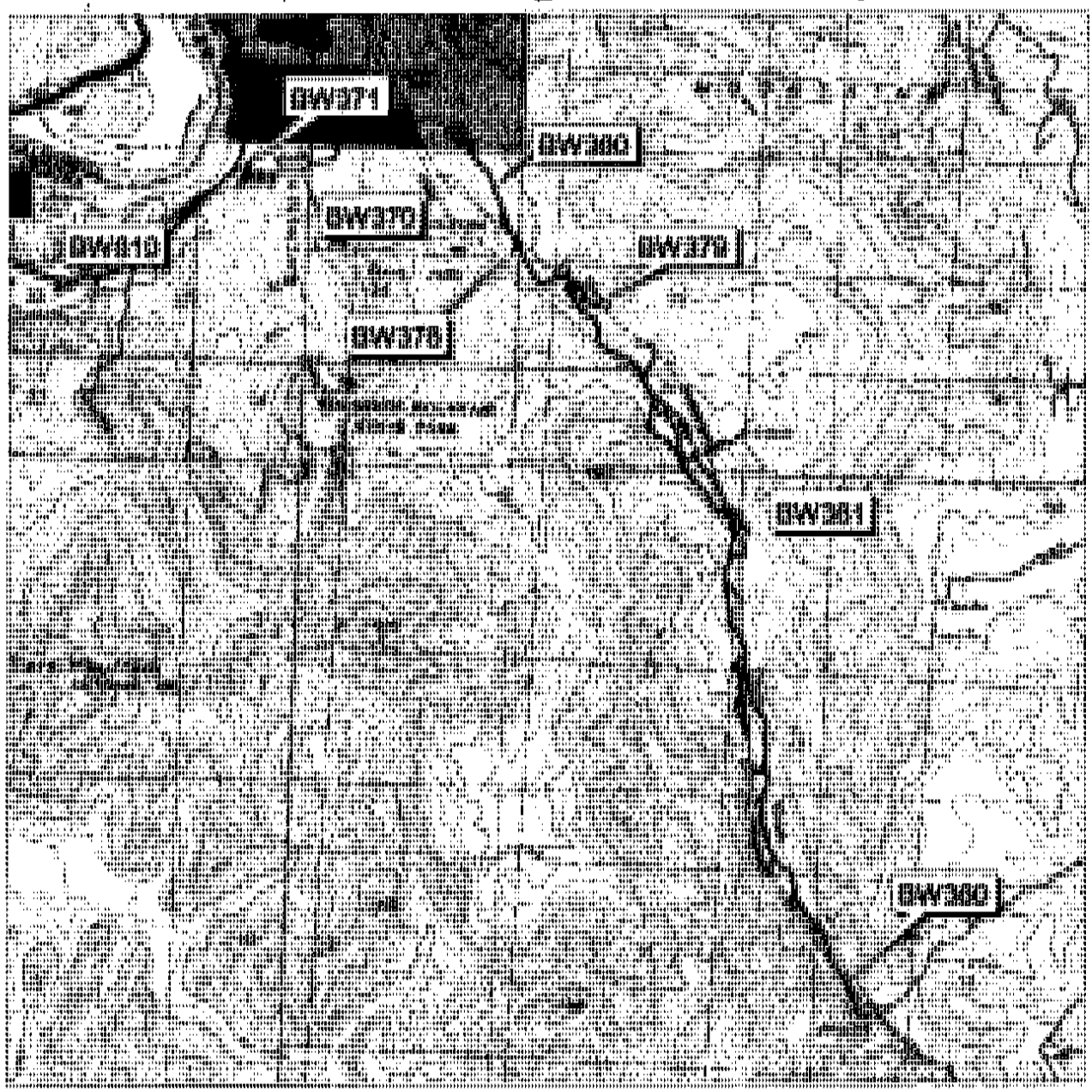
7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** This route is only designated for public use on public lands. The existing trails continue onto State Trust Lands. A permit is required to drive one State Trust Lands.

(continue on reverse)

8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
Date
_____ Date
_____ Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:**

RMA Code	Number					RMA Code	Number		
B W	- 3 7 0	Thru	B W	- 3 7 1
B W	- 3 7 8	Thru	B W	- 3 7 9
B W	- 3 8 0	PARTIAL		-		
B W	- 3 8 1	Thru		-		
B W	- 8 1 0	Thru		-		
	-	Thru		-		

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Gene Wash
Osborne Well
Monkeys Head

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to administrative use by BLM, AZ Game & Fish Department, and the ROW holder. No public vehicle access is permitted.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (b) (~~c~~) (~~d~~)

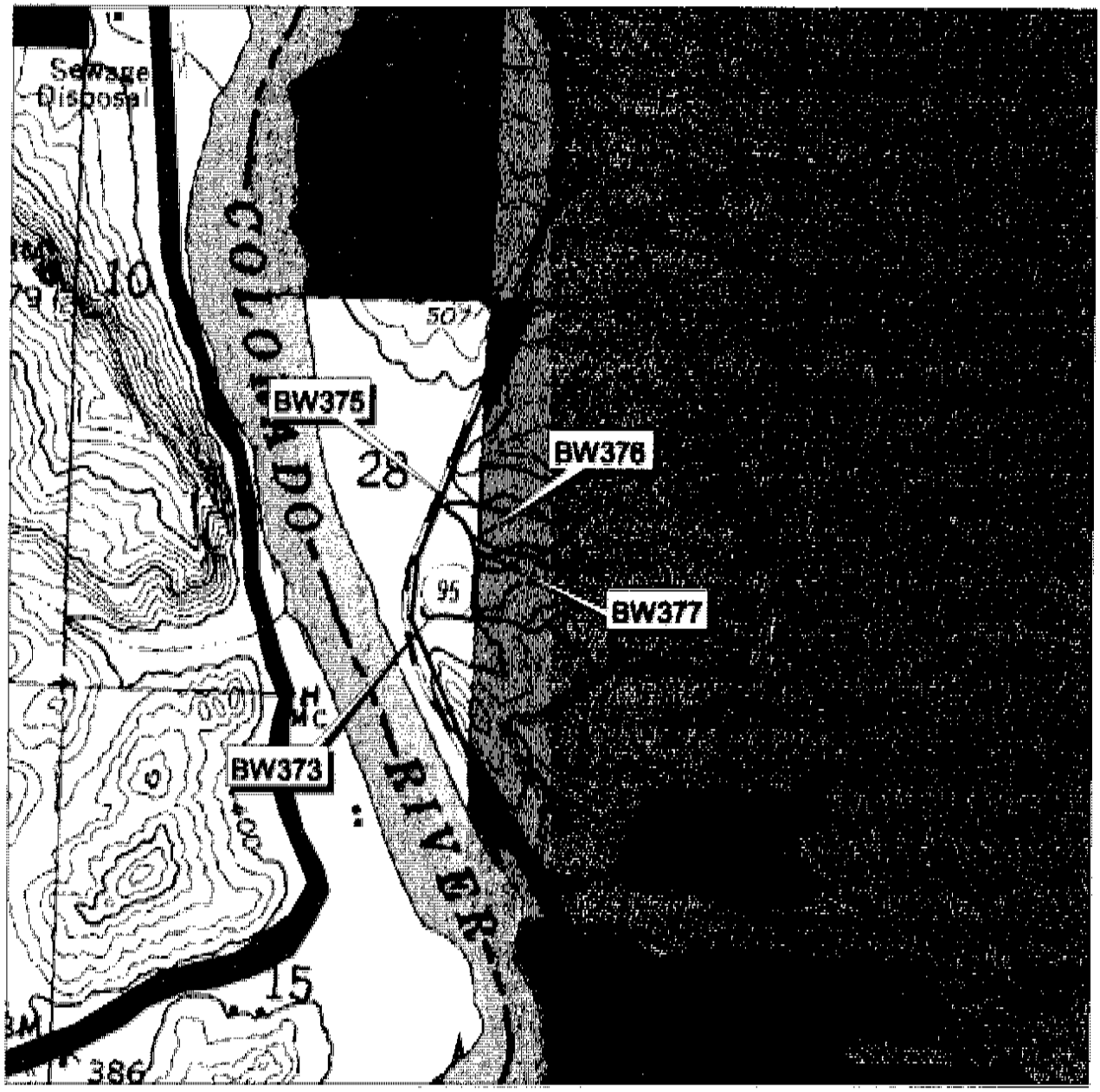
7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are limited to administrative use by BLM, AZ Game & Fish Department, and the ROW holder. No public vehicle access is permitted for the protection of Bighorn Sheep and their habitat. These routes cross a major migration corridor. In addition, route BW-380 limited designation applies to that portion of the route north of the gate at Jumpoff. Route BW-380 includes numerous spurs and alternates.

(continue on reverse)

8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001 Date
_____ 2/2/2001 Date
_____ Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:**

RMA Code	Number					RMA Code	Number		
B W	- 3	7	2	Thru	B W	- 3	7	3
B W	- 3	7	5	Thru	B W	- 3	7	7
___ ___	- ___	___	___	Thru	___ ___	- ___	___	___
___ ___	- ___	___	___	Thru	___ ___	- ___	___	___
___ ___	- ___	___	___	Thru	___ ___	- ___	___	___
___ ___	- ___	___	___	Thru	___ ___	- ___	___	___

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Gene Wash

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: This routes are limited to vehicles less than 40" in width.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are only designated for public use on public lands. The existing trails continue onto State Trust Lands. A permit is required to drive one State Trust Lands.

(continue on reverse)

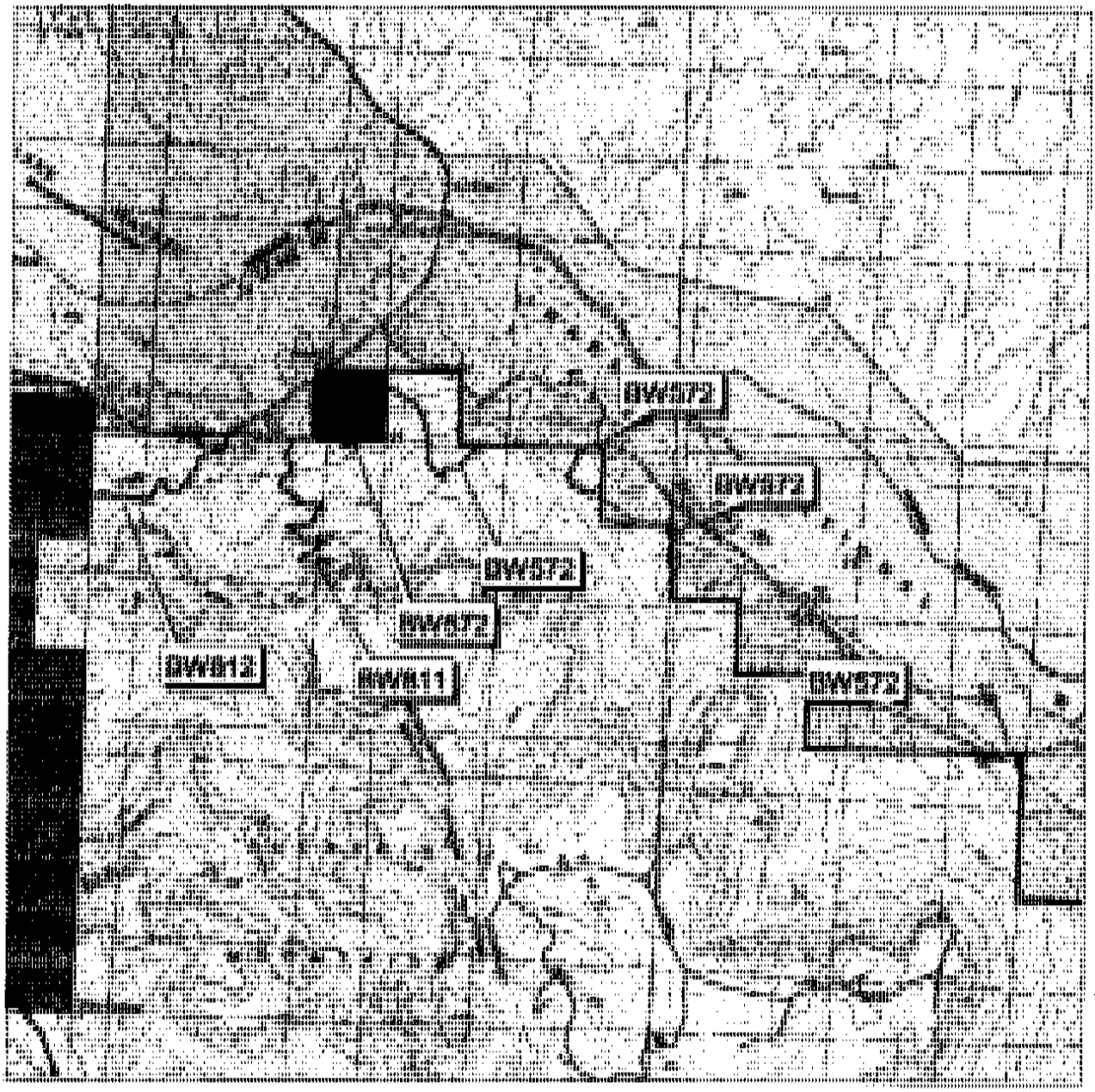
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001 Date

_____ Date

_____ Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ Field Manager 2/2/2001 Date

Route Designation Map



0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 Miles

Designated Routes

Other OHV Routes

Planning Area

Wilderness

BLM

Parks, Refuges & Reservations

State Trust Lands

Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:**

RMA Code			Number				RMA Code			Number		
B	W	-	8	1	1	Thru	B	W	-	8	1	2
B	W	-	5	7	2	Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Monkeys Head

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

   (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

   (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

   (c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

   (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
   If Limited, explain: route BW-811 will be limited to administrative use by BLM, AZ Game & Fish Department and Bureau of Reclamation for access to the CAP tunnel and a Bighorn Sheep catchment. Routes BW-812 and BW-572 will be limited to administrative use by BLM and the ROW holder.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (b) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Route BW-811 is within Bighorn Seep lambing grounds and is secure access to the CAP tunnel and a Bighorn Sheep catchment. Routes BW-812 and BW-572 are adjacent to and within Bighorn Sheep lambing grounds. Access to these routes is controlled by a private land owner and US. Fish & Wildlife Service.

(continue on reverse)

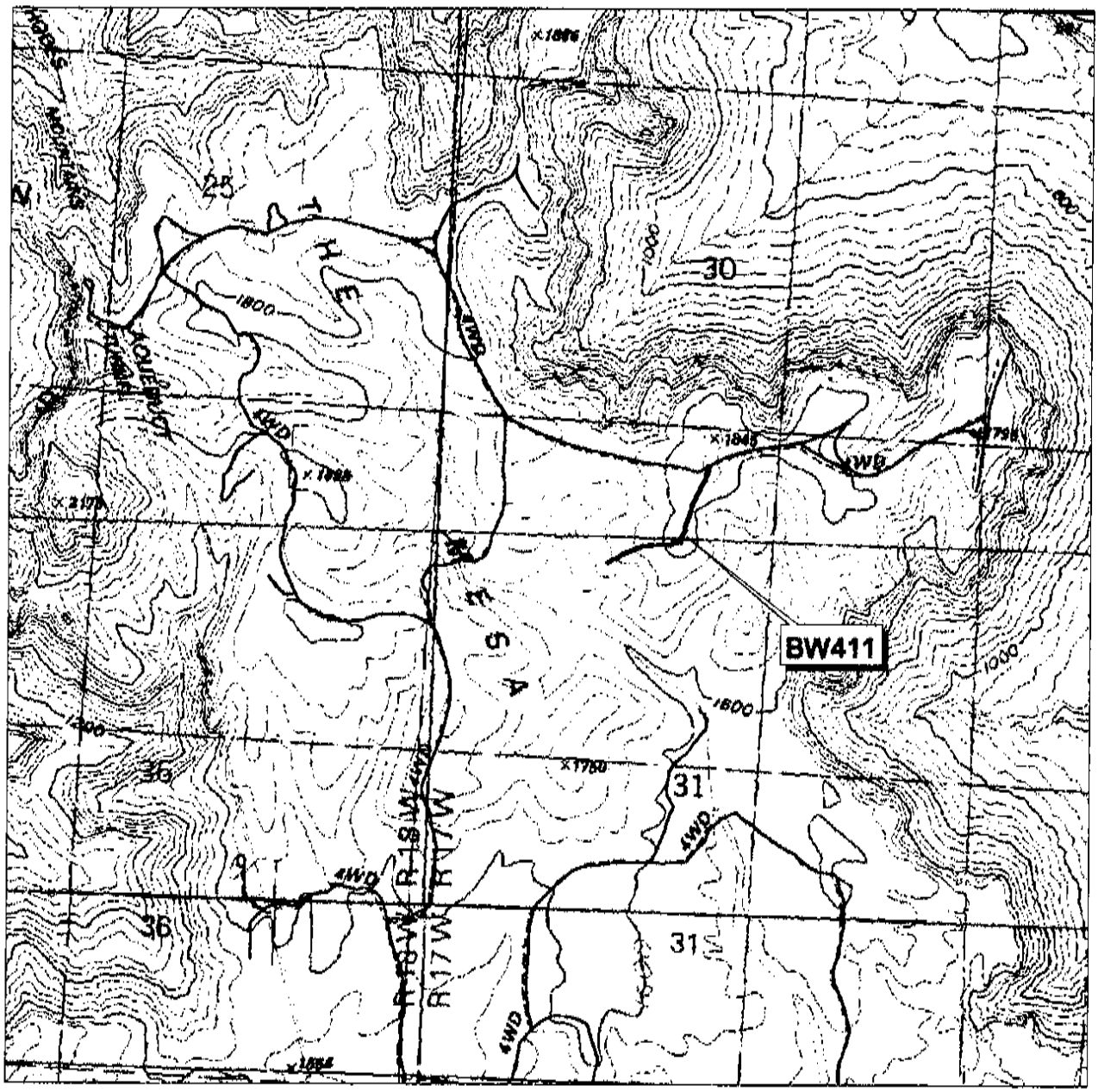
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
   Date

   _____ _____
   Date

   _____ _____
   Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
   Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.25 0 0.25 0.5 0.75 Miles

Designated Routes

Other OHV Routes

Planning Area

Wilderness

BLM

Parks, Refuges & Reservations

State Trust Lands

Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** B W - 4 1 1 PARTIAL
RMA Code Number

__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___
__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___
__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___
__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___
__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Monkeys Head

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: The southern spur of route BW-411 will be limited to seasonal use, closed from January 1 to June 30 each year. In addition, this route is limited to vehicle less than 40" in width.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (b) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** The southern spur of route BW-411 is within Bighorn Sheep lambing grounds.

(continue on reverse)

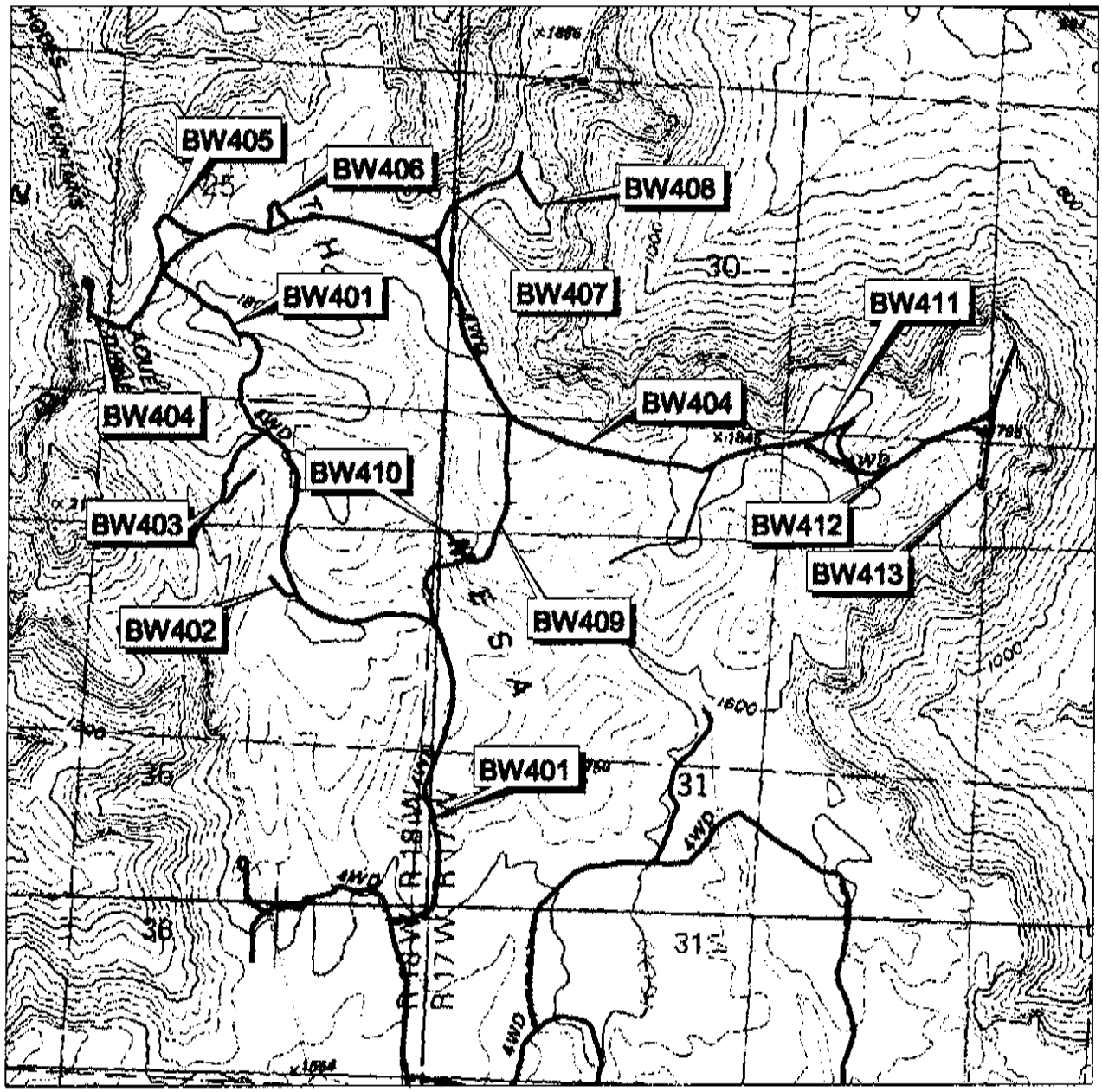
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:**

RMA Code			Number									
B	W	-	4	0	1	Thru	B	W	-	4	1	0
B	W	-	4	1	1	Partial						
B	W	-	4	1	2	Thru	B	W	-	4	1	3
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Monkeys Head
Osborne Well

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to seasonal use, closed from January 1 to June 30 each year. The eastern portion of route BW-411 is covered by this designation.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (b) (c) (d)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are in Bighorn Sheep lambing grounds or priority habitat.

(continue on reverse)

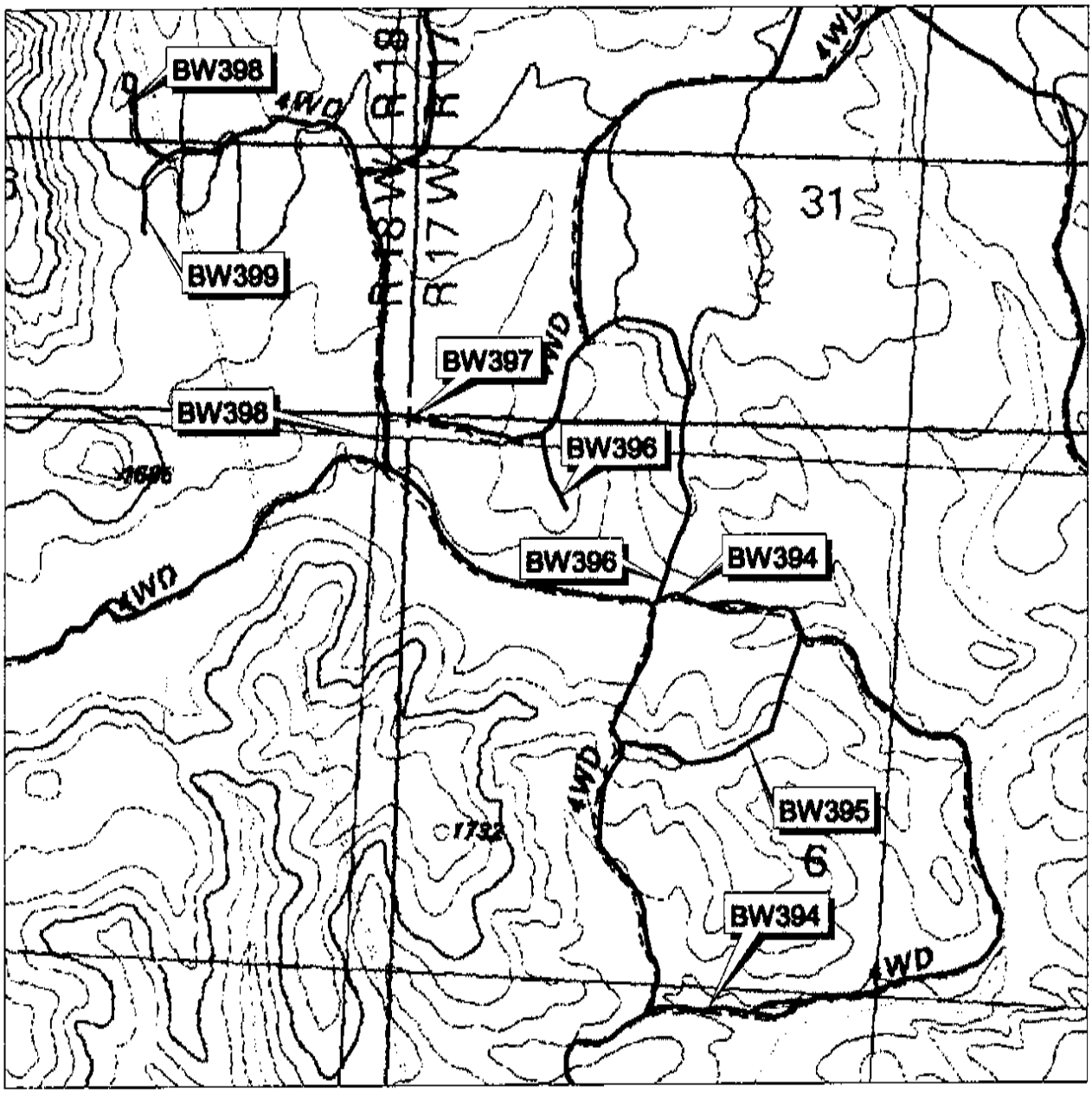
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
Date

Date

Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** B W - 3 9 4 Thru B W - 3 9 9
RMA Code Number

___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Monkeys Head
Osborne Well

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to seasonal use, closed from January 1 to June 30 each year.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (b) (c) (d)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are in Bighorn Sheep lambing grounds or priority habitat.

(continue on reverse)

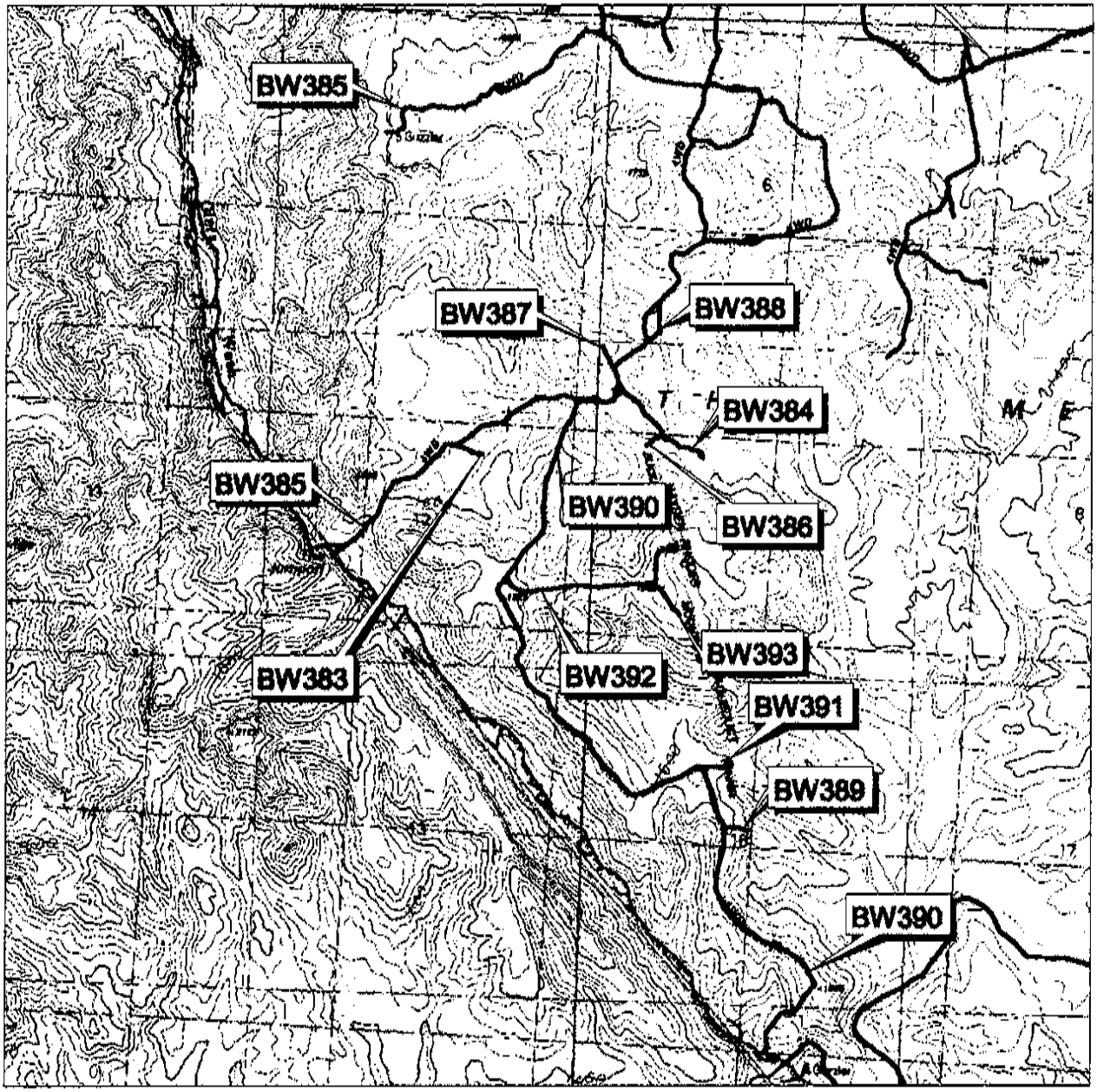
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** Lee D Allen 2/2/2001
Date

___ ___
Date

___ ___
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** Donald C Howard 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** B W - 3 8 3 Thru B W - 3 9 3
RMA Code Number

___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Osborne Well

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to seasonal use, closed from January 1 to June 30 each year.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (b) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are in Bighorn Sheep priority habitat.

(continue on reverse)

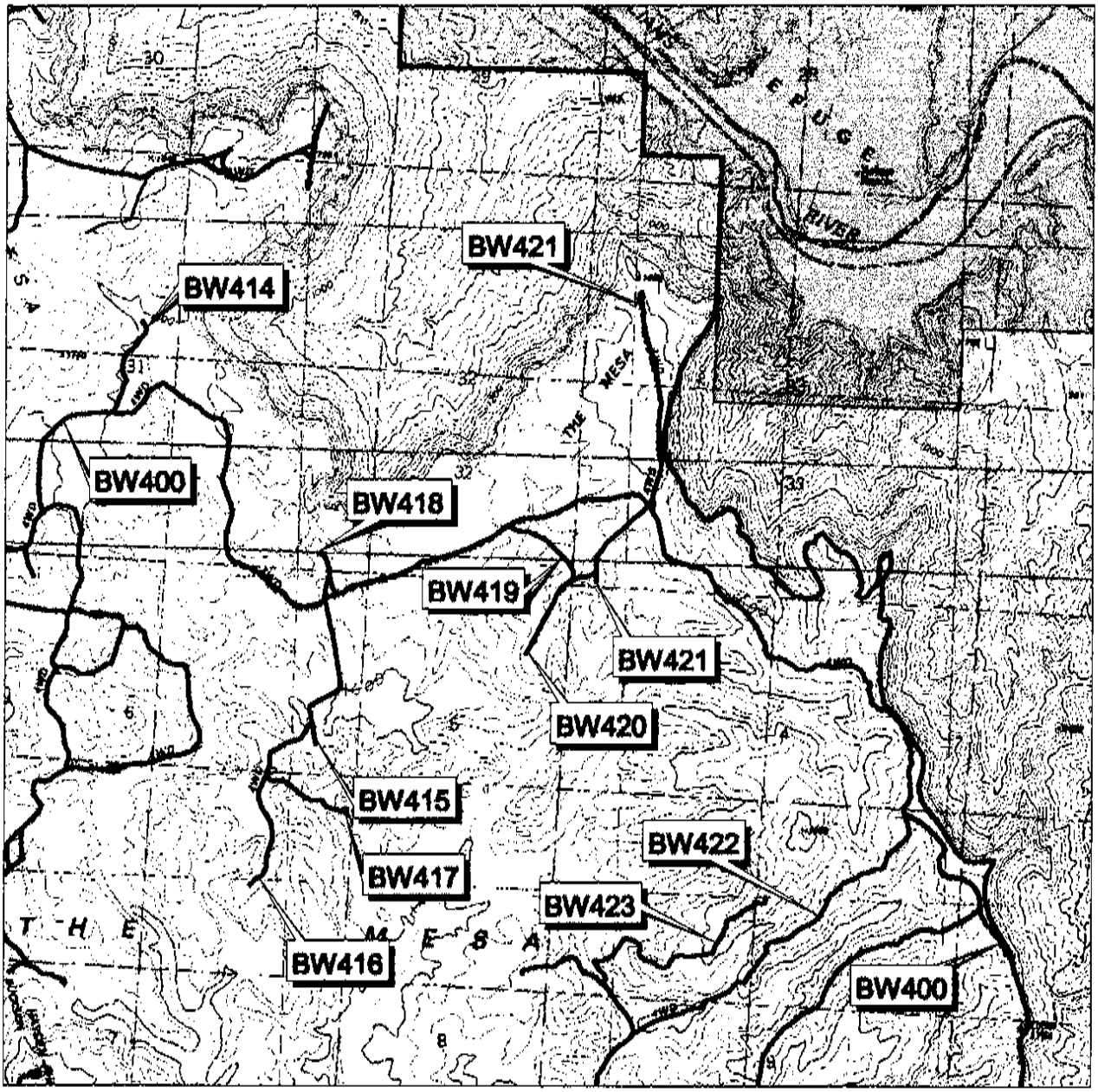
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** B W - 4 0 0
RMA Code Number

B	W	-	4	1	4	Thru	B	W	-	4	2	3		
		-				Thru			-					
		-				Thru			-					
		-				Thru			-					
		-				Thru			-					

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Osborne Well
Monkeys Head

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA** - 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to seasonal use, closed from January 1 to June 30 each year.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (b) (c) (d)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are in Bighorn Sheep priority habitat.

(continue on reverse)

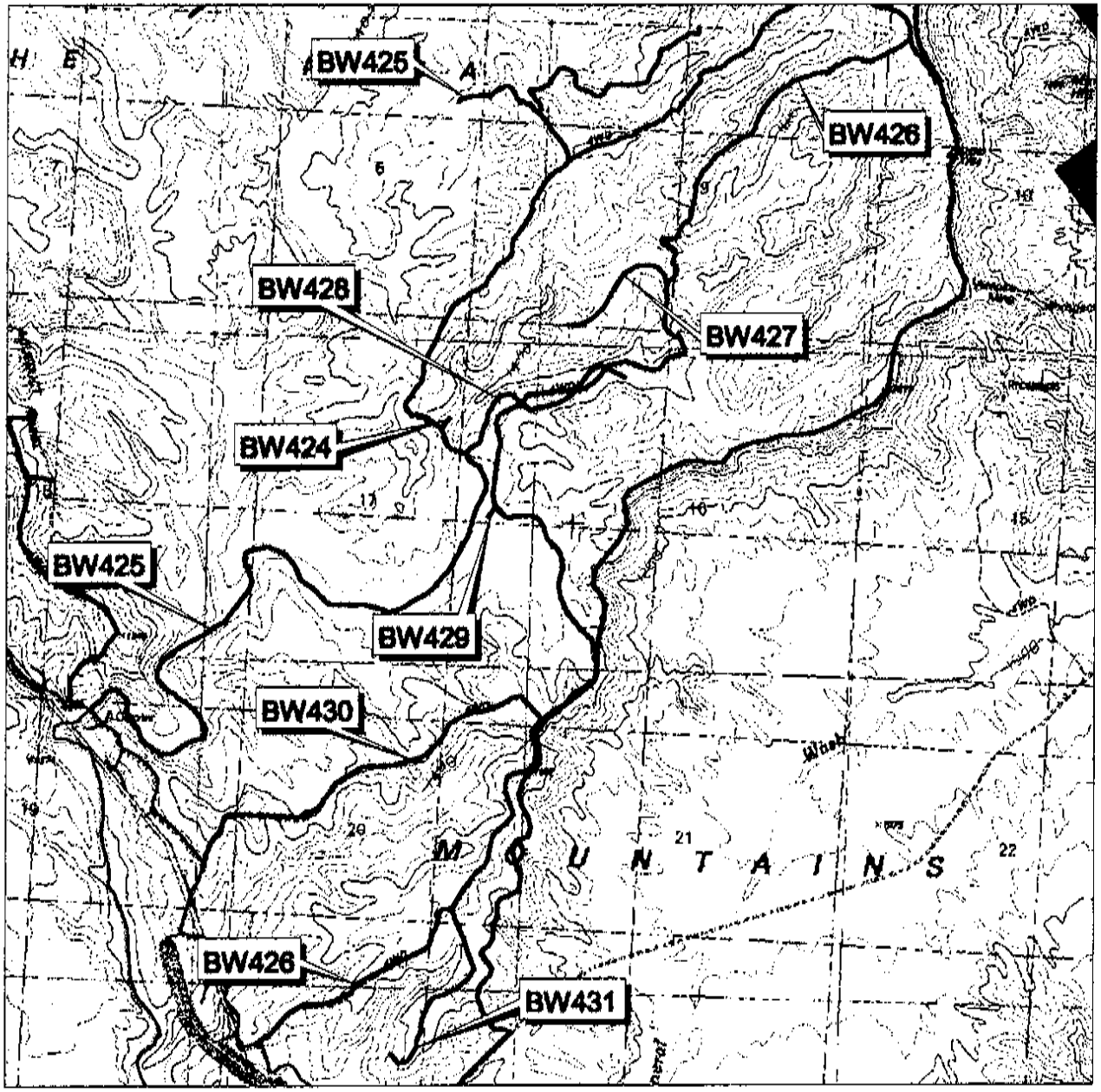
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 12/2/2001
Date

_____ Date

_____ Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness

BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** B W - 4 2 4
RMA Code Number

B	W	-	4	2	5	Partial								
B	W	-	4	2	6	Thru	B	W	-	4	3	1		
		-				Thru			-					
		-				Thru			-					
		-				Thru			-					

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Osborne Well

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to seasonal use, closed from January 1 to June 30 each year. Route BW-425 is limited only east of Route BW-380.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (b) (c) (d)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are in Bighorn Sheep priority habitat.

(continue on reverse)

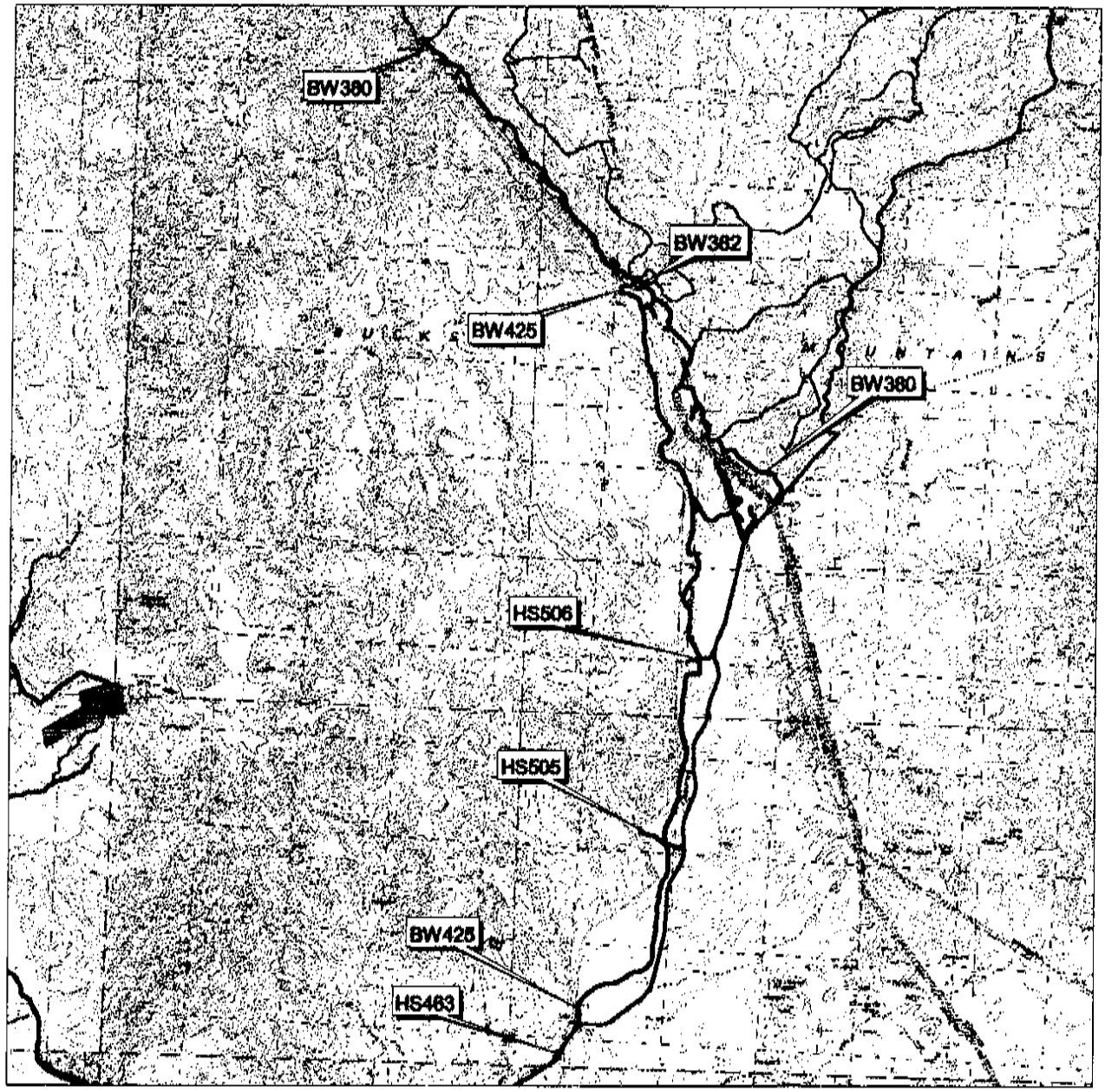
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 5/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 5/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



1 0 1 2 3 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:**

RMA Code			Number									
B	W	-	3	8	2							
B	W	-	3	8	8							
B	W	-	4	2	5	Partial						
H	S	-	5	0	5	Thru	H	S	-	5	0	6
H	S	-	4	6	3							
		-				Thru			-			

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Osborne Well

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**
   (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.
   (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.
   (c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.
   (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
   If Limited, explain:

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Route BW-380 includes numerous spurs and is only open south of The Jumpoff gate. Route BW-425 is only open year round west of route BW-380. Many of these routes run adjacent to or dead end at the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness boundary, an area closed to all vehicle use.

(continue on reverse)

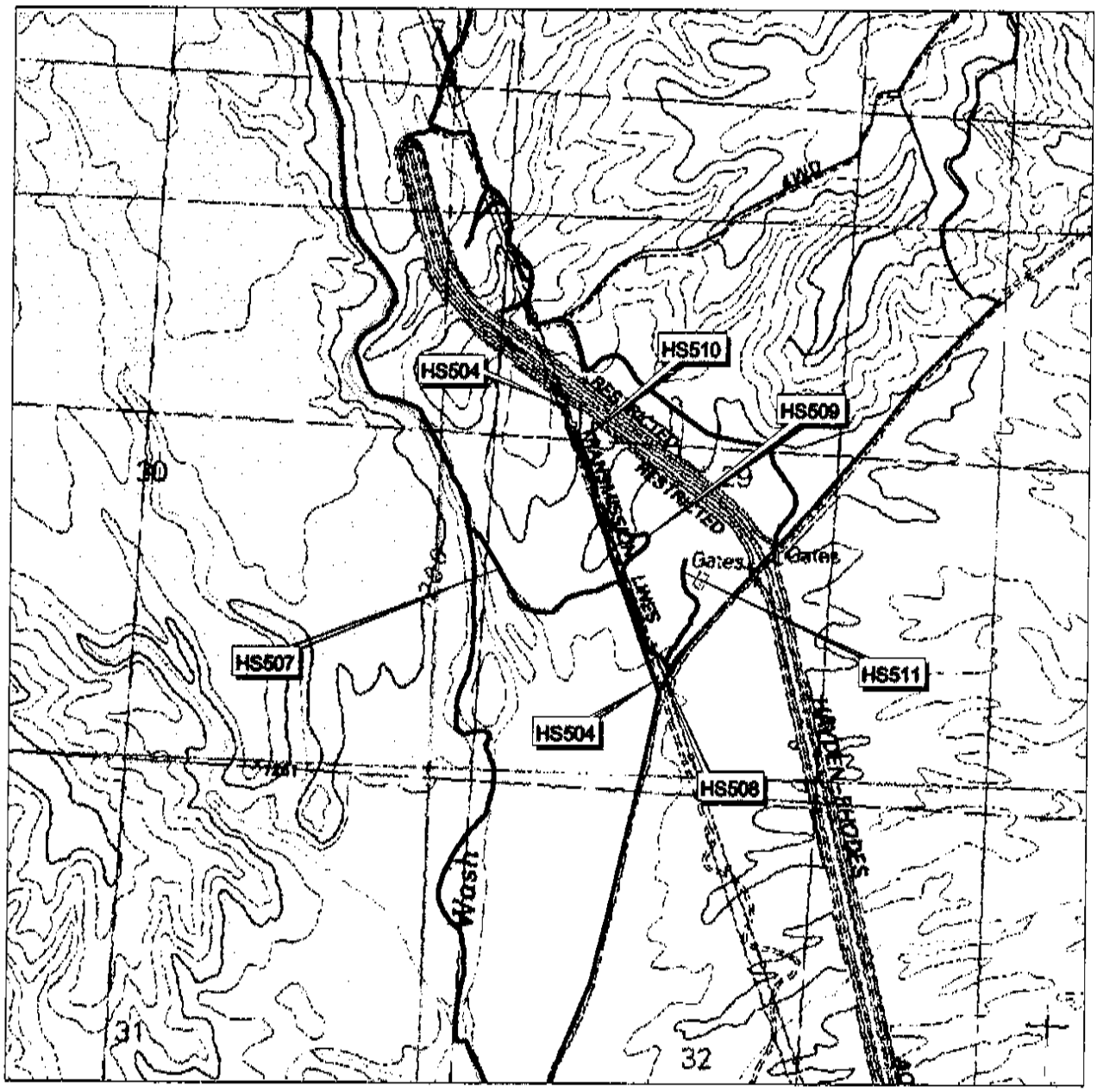
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
   Date

   Date

   Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
   Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



Designated Routes

Other OHV Routes

Planning Area

Wilderness

BLM

Parks, Refuges & Reservations

State Trust Lands

Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 5 0 4
RMA Code Number

H	S	-	5	0	7	Thru	H	S	-	5	1	1
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Osborne Well

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA** - 43 CFR 8342.1
   (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.
   (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.
   (c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.
   (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain:

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:**

(continue on reverse)

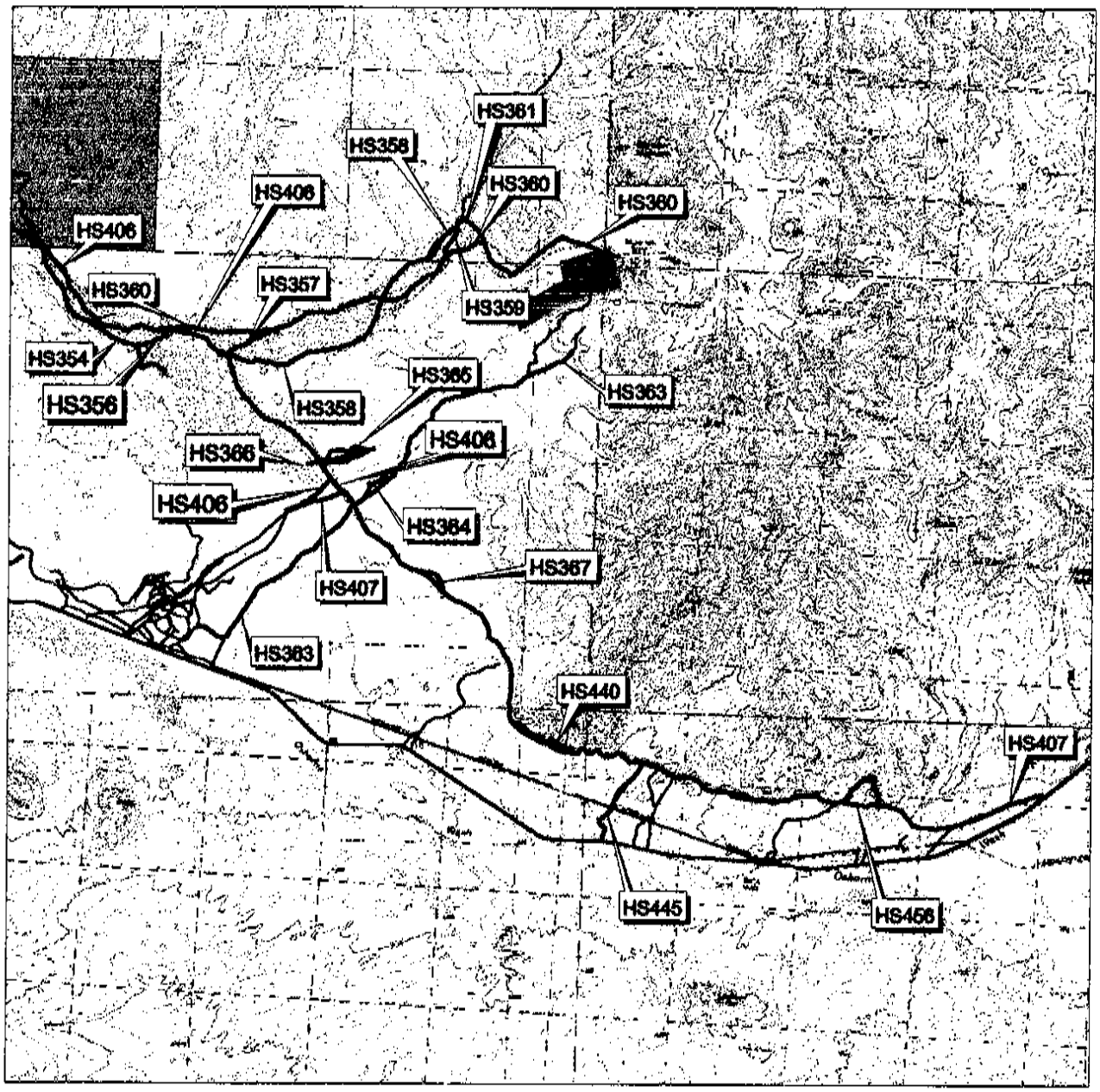
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
Date

Date

Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



1 0 1 2 Miles

Designated Routes

Other OHV Routes

Planning Area

Wilderness

BLM

Parks, Refuges & Reservations

State Trust Lands

Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 3 5 4
RMA Code Number

H	S	-	3	5	6	Thru	H	S	-	3	5	7
H	S	-	3	5	8	Partial						
H	S	-	3	5	9	Thru	H	S	-	3	6	1
H	S	-	3	6	3	Thru	H	S	-	3	6	7
H	S	-	4	0	6	Thru	H	S	-	4	0	7
H	S	-	4	4	0							
H	S	-	4	4	5							
H	S	-	4	5	6							

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Osborne Well
Bobs Well
Black Peak
Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (b) (c) (d)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Vehicle use of route HS-363 ends at the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness boundary. Route HS-360 ends public access at private land, land owner permission is required to continue. The west ends of routes HR-354 and HS-406 are a State Trust Lands. A permit is required to drive on State Trust Lands. Route HS-358 becomes a limited Width route at HS-361.

(continue on reverse)

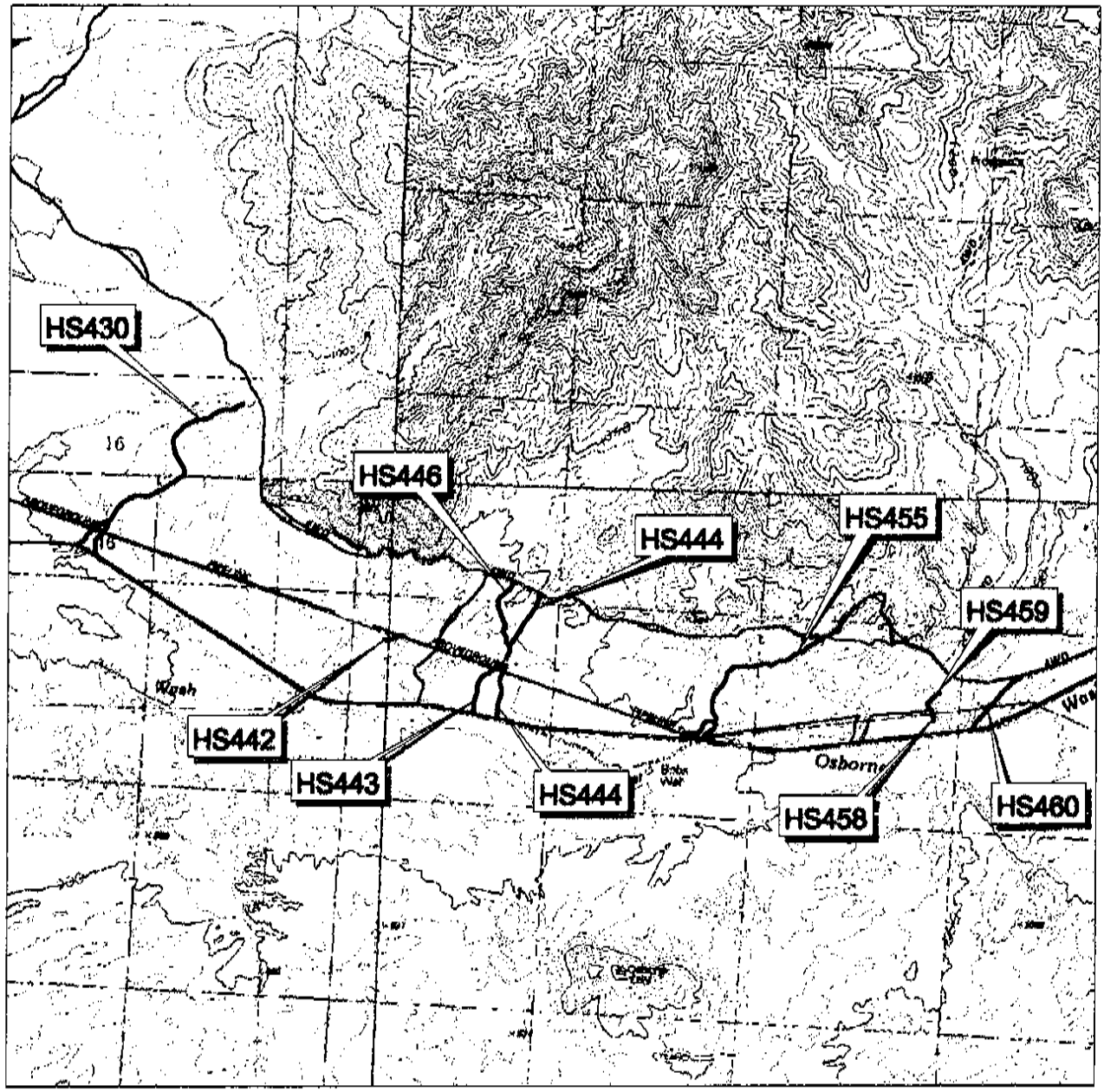
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 4 3 0
RMA Code Number

H	S	-	4	4	2	Thru	H	S	-	4	4	4
H	S	-	4	4	6							
H	S	-	4	5	5							
H	S	-	4	5	8	Partial						
H	S	-	4	5	9	Thru	H	S	-	4	6	0

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Black Peak
Bobs Well
Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (Closed) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain:

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (~~c~~) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are located on or near sensitive resources. Access to the Southwest Gas pipeline is restricted and these routes are not necessary for pipeline maintenance. The western part of HS-458 is limited to administrative use.

(continue on reverse)

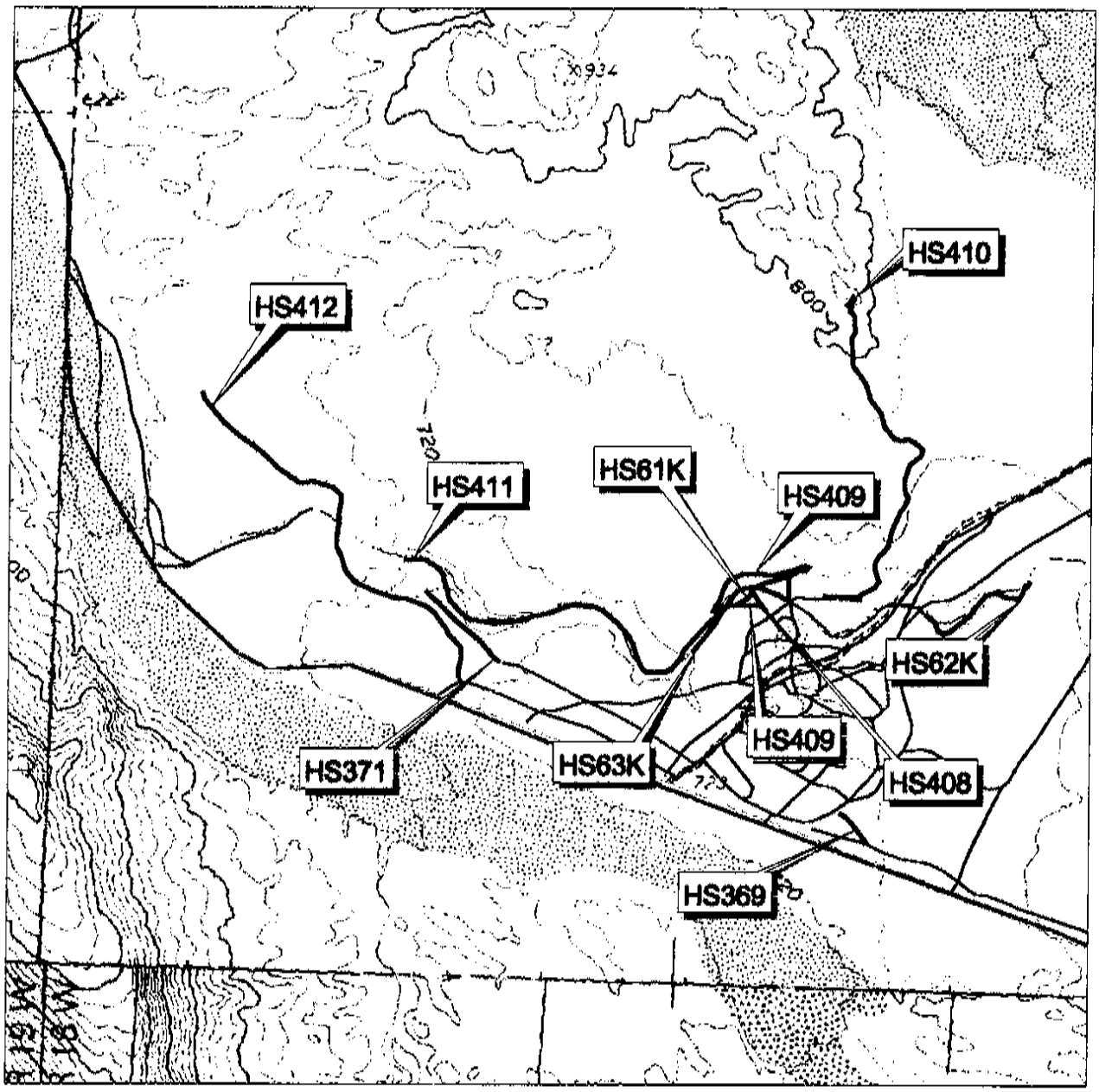
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 3 6 9
RMA Code Number

H	S	-	3	7	1							
H	S	-	4	0	8	Thru	H	S	-	4	1	2
H	S	-	6	1	K	Thru	H	S	-	6	3	K
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA** - 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (Closed) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (~~c~~) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are located on or near sensitive resources. Access to the Southwest Gas pipeline is restricted and these routes are not necessary for pipeline maintenance.

(continue on reverse)

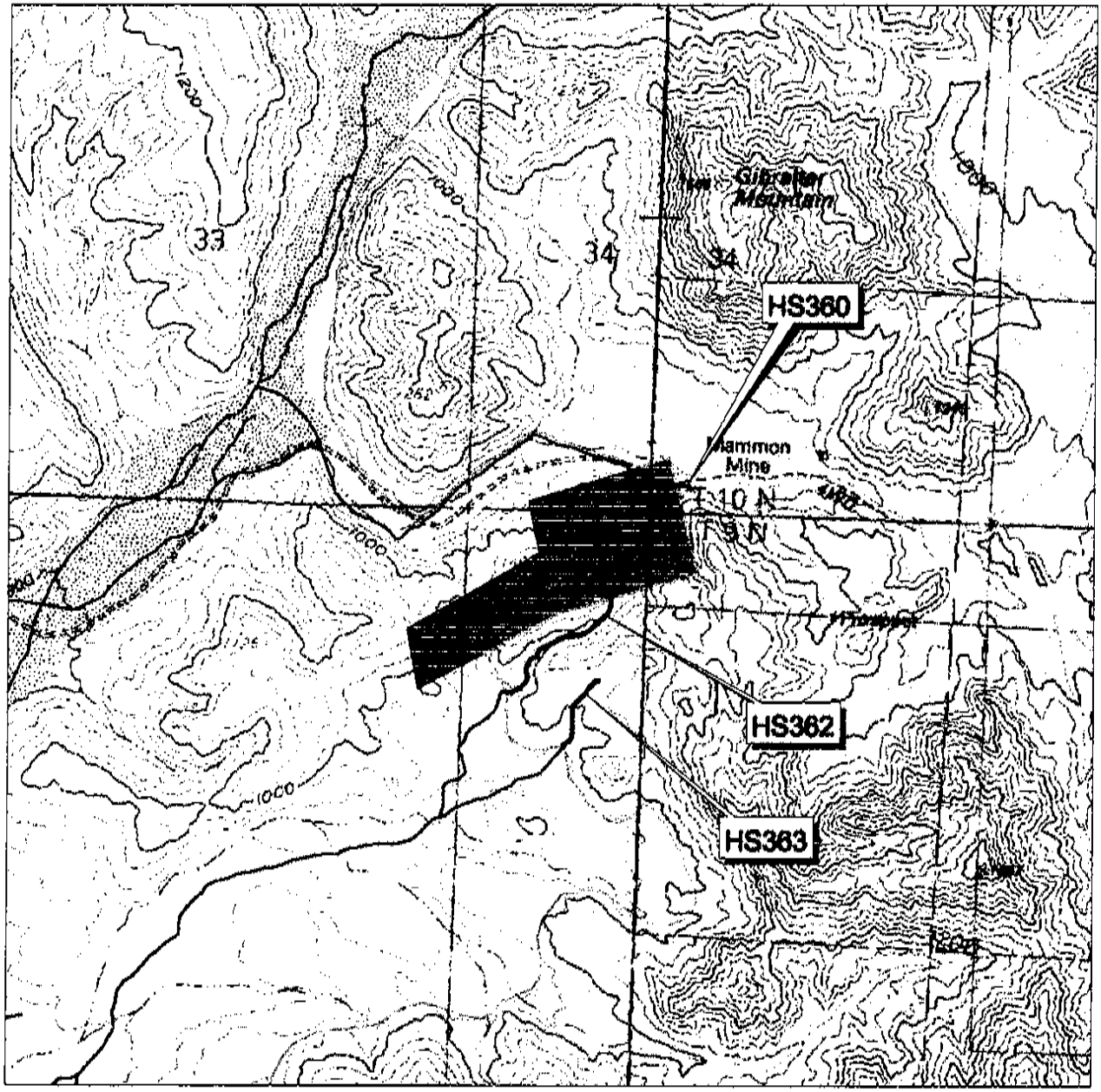
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ Date

_____ Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.25 0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

Designated Routes

Other OHV Routes

Planning Area

Wilderness

BLM

Parks, Refuges & Reservations

State Trust Lands

Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (Closed) (~~Limited~~) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 3 6 0 Partial
   RMA Code Number
   H S - 3 6 2 Partial
   H S - 3 6 3 Partial
   __ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
   __ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
   __ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads
   Osborne Well

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1
   (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.
   (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.
   (c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.
   (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (Closed) (~~Limited~~)
   If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (~~b~~) (c) (d)

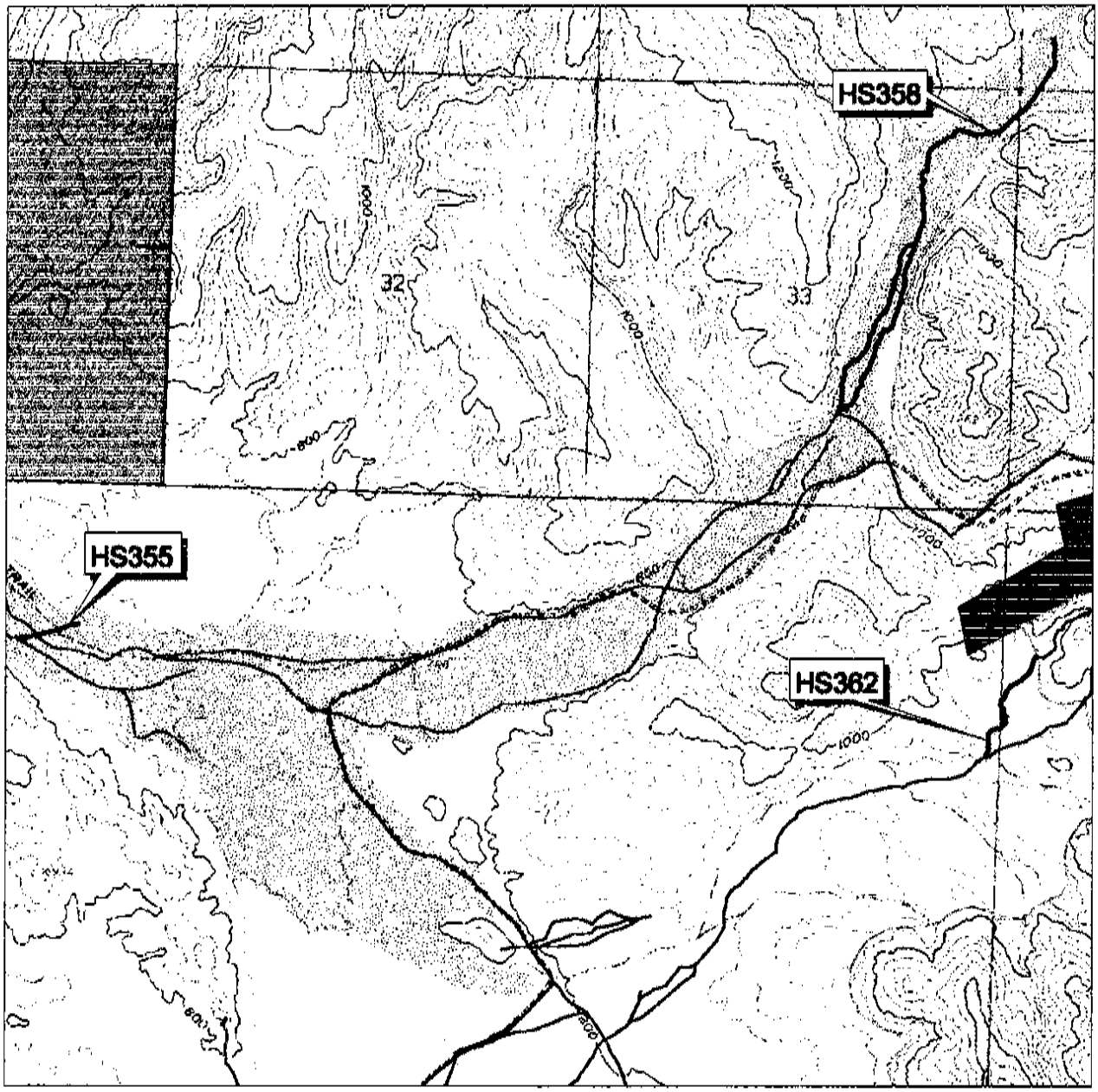
7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These portions of these routes are located within the designated Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness.

(continue on reverse)

8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001 Date
   [signature] 2/2/2001 Date
   _____ Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
   Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 3 5 5
RMA Code Number

H	S	-	3	5	8	Partial							
H	S	-	3	6	2	Partial							
		-				Thru			-				
		-				Thru			-				
		-				Thru			-				

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA** - 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to vehicles less than 40" in width.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes or portions of routes were too narrow for large vehicles, so to protect the resources, the limitation of width is necessary. Route HS-358 is only limited north of the intersection with HR-361. Route HS-362 is limited outside of wilderness and closed to vehicle use within Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness.

(continue on reverse)

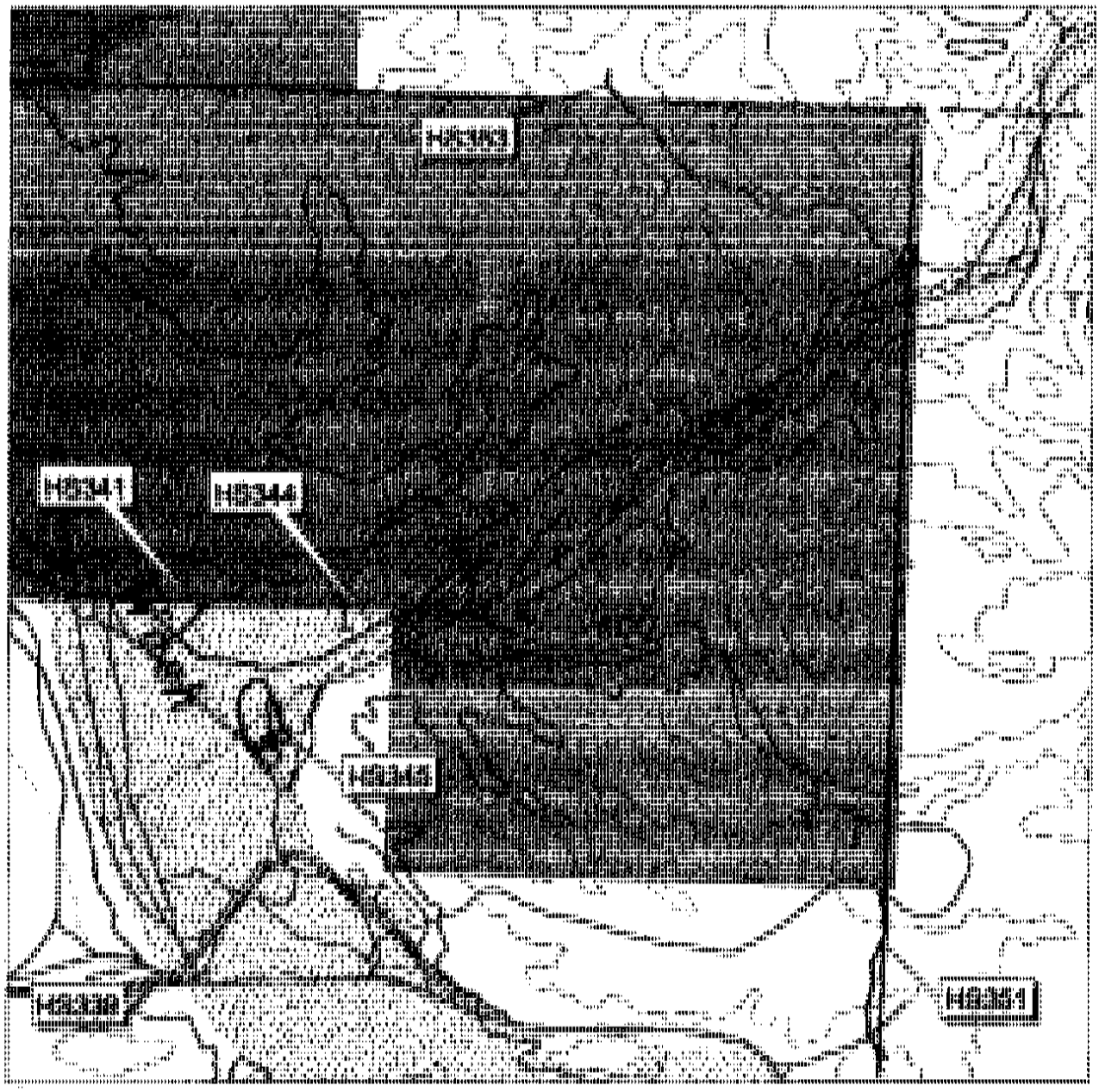
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ Date

_____ Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness

BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 3 3 9 Partial
RMA Code Number

H	S	-	3	4	1							
H	S	-	3	4	4	Thru	H	S	-	4	4	5
H	S	-	3	5	1							
H	S	-	3	5	3							
		-				Thru			-			

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to vehicles less than 40" in width.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes or portions of routes were too narrow for large vehicles, so to protect the resources, the limitation of width is necessary. The hill climb portion of route HS-339 is limited. Route HS-345 is a small cluster of ATV play trails. Routes HS-341, HS-344, and HS-353 come into contact with State Trust Lands where a permit to drive is required.

(continue on reverse)

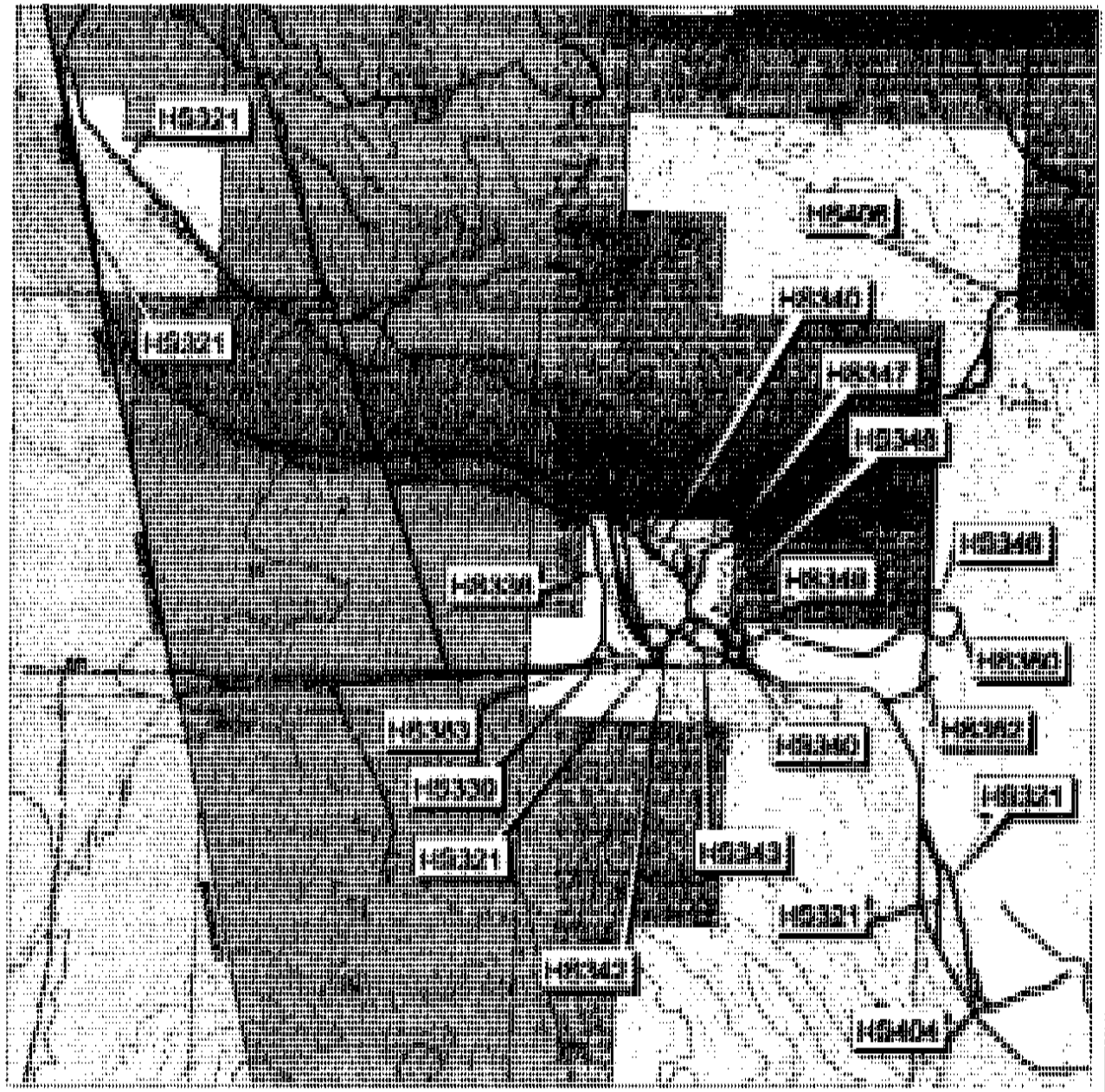
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.10.20.30.40.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness

BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:**

RMA Code	Number		
HS	321	Partial	
HS	338		
HS	339	Partial	
HS	340		
HS	342	Thru	HS-343
HS	346	Thru	HS-350
HS	352		
HS	383		
HS	404		
HS	406	Partial	

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

   (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

   (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

   (c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

   (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
   If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Some of these routes cross onto State Trust Lands where a permit is required for vehicle use. Route HS-321 defines the edges of the numerous routes in Osborne Wash. Route HS-339 is open on the flat, but limited on the hill climb from Osborne Wash. Route HS-406 is an additional segment covered in another route designation.

(continue on reverse)

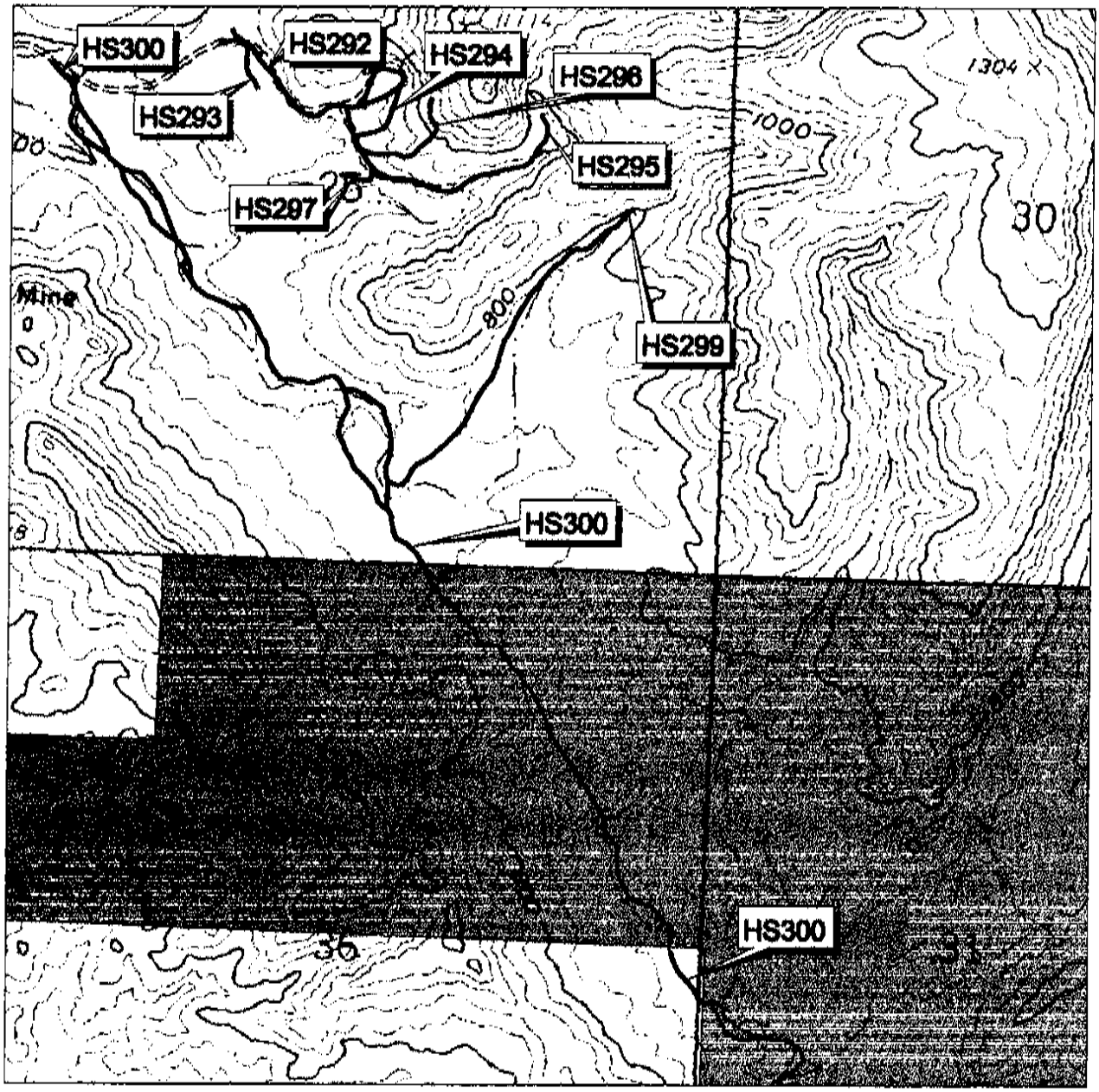
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
   Date

   _____ _____
   Date

   _____ _____
   Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
   Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 2 9 2 Thru H S - 2 9 7
RMA Code Number

H S - 2 9 9 Thru H S - 3 0 0
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA** - 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Route HS-300 crosses on and off State Trust Lands where a permit for vehicle use is required.

(continue on reverse)

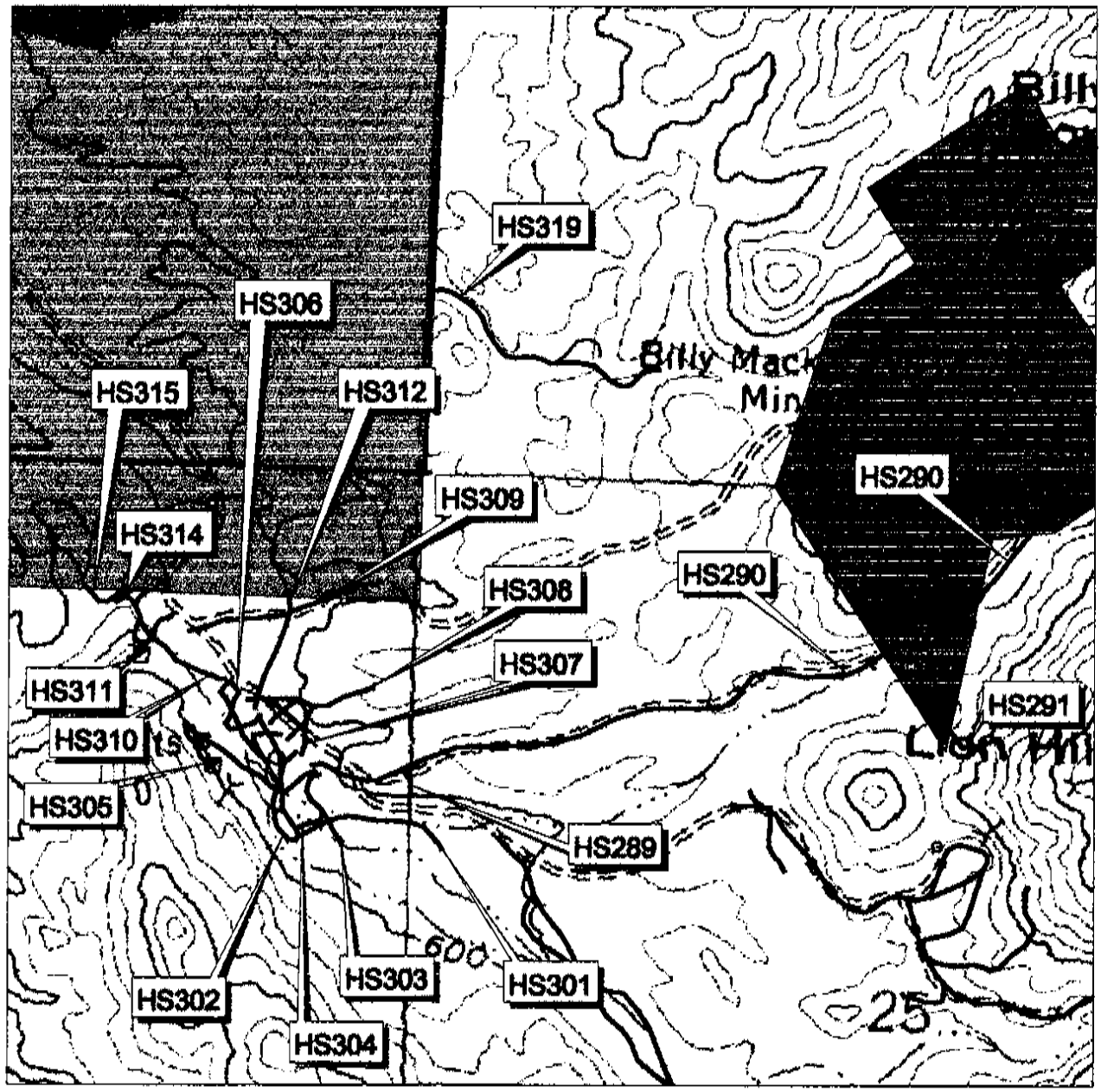
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes

Other OHV Routes

Planning Area

Wilderness

BLM

Parks, Refuges & Reservations

State Trust Lands

Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:**

RMA Code	Number					RMA Code	Number			
H	S	-	2	8	9	Thru H	S	-	2	9	1
H	S	-	3	0	1	Thru H	S	-	3	0	5
H	S	-	3	0	6	Partial					
H	S	-	3	0	7	Thru H	S	-	3	1	2
H	S	-	3	1	4	Thru H	S	-	3	1	5
H	S	-	3	1	9						
___	___	-	___	___	___	Thru ___	___	-	___	___	___

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1
   (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.
   (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.
   (c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.
   (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
   If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (b) (c) (d)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Route HS-290 and HS-291 cross on and off private land where land owner permission to drive is required. Routes HS-302, HS-306 and HS-307 are each a complex small trail net. Several other routes cross State Trust Lands where a permit is required for vehicle use. Some of the routes in the HS-306 complex are limited to vehicles less than 40" in width.

(continue on reverse)

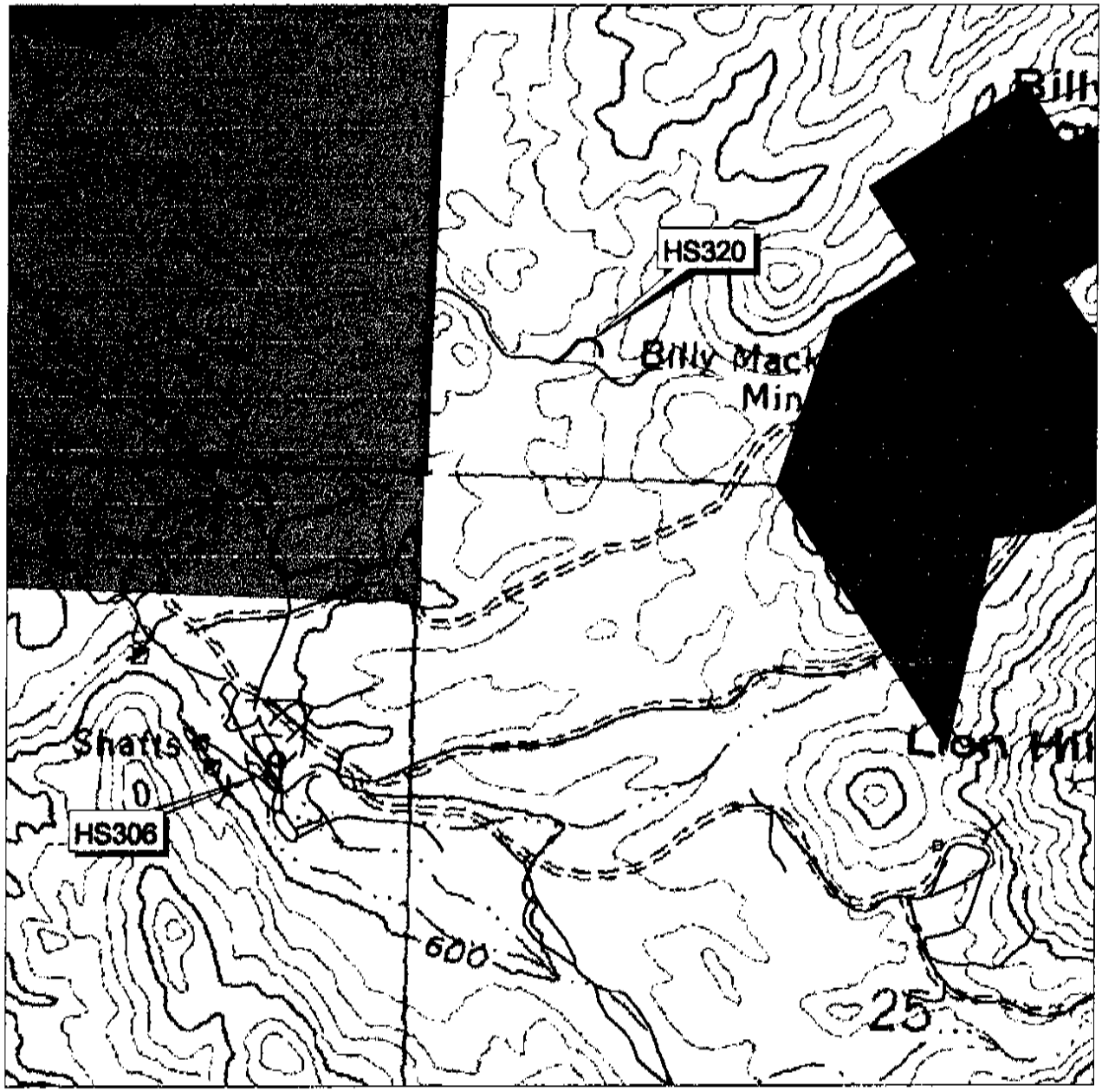
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
   Date

   _____ _____
   Date

   _____ _____
   Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
   Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 3 0 6 Partial
RMA Code Number
H S - 3 2 0
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ Thru ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to vehicles less than 40" in width.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes or portions of routes were too narrow for large vehicles, so to protect the resources, the limitation of width is necessary. The limited portion of route HS-306 is a small cluster of ATV trails within the larger group of routes of the same route number.

(continue on reverse)

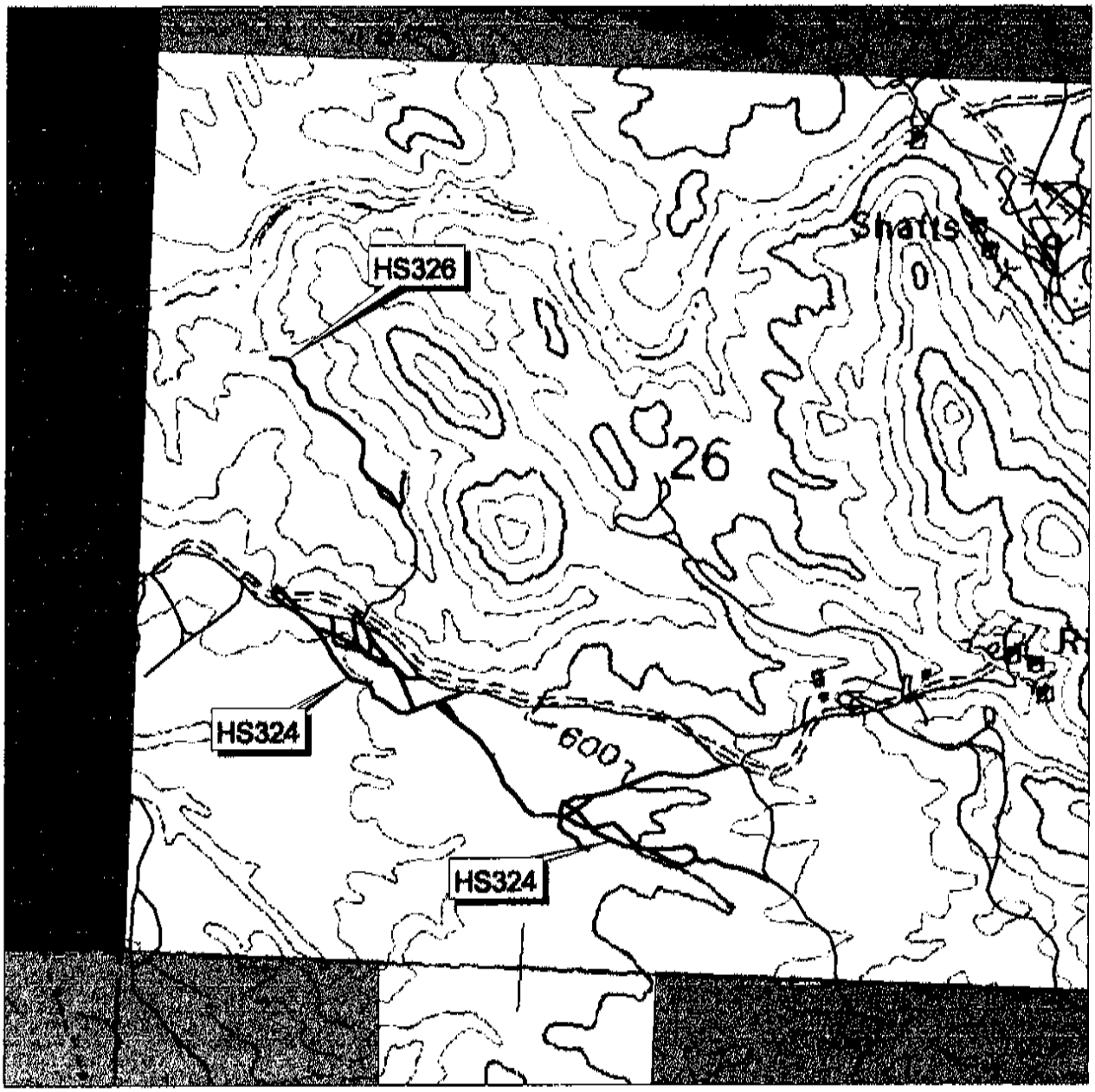
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 3 2 4
RMA Code Number

H	S	-	3	2	6	Partial						
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			
		-				Thru			-			

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**
   (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.
   (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.
   (c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.
   (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
   If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to vehicles less than 40" in width.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (~~c~~) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes or portions of routes were too narrow for large vehicles, so to protect the resources, the limitation of width is necessary. Route HS-324 is a cluster of ATV trails. Route HS-326 includes both limited to less than 40" width and open.

(continue on reverse)

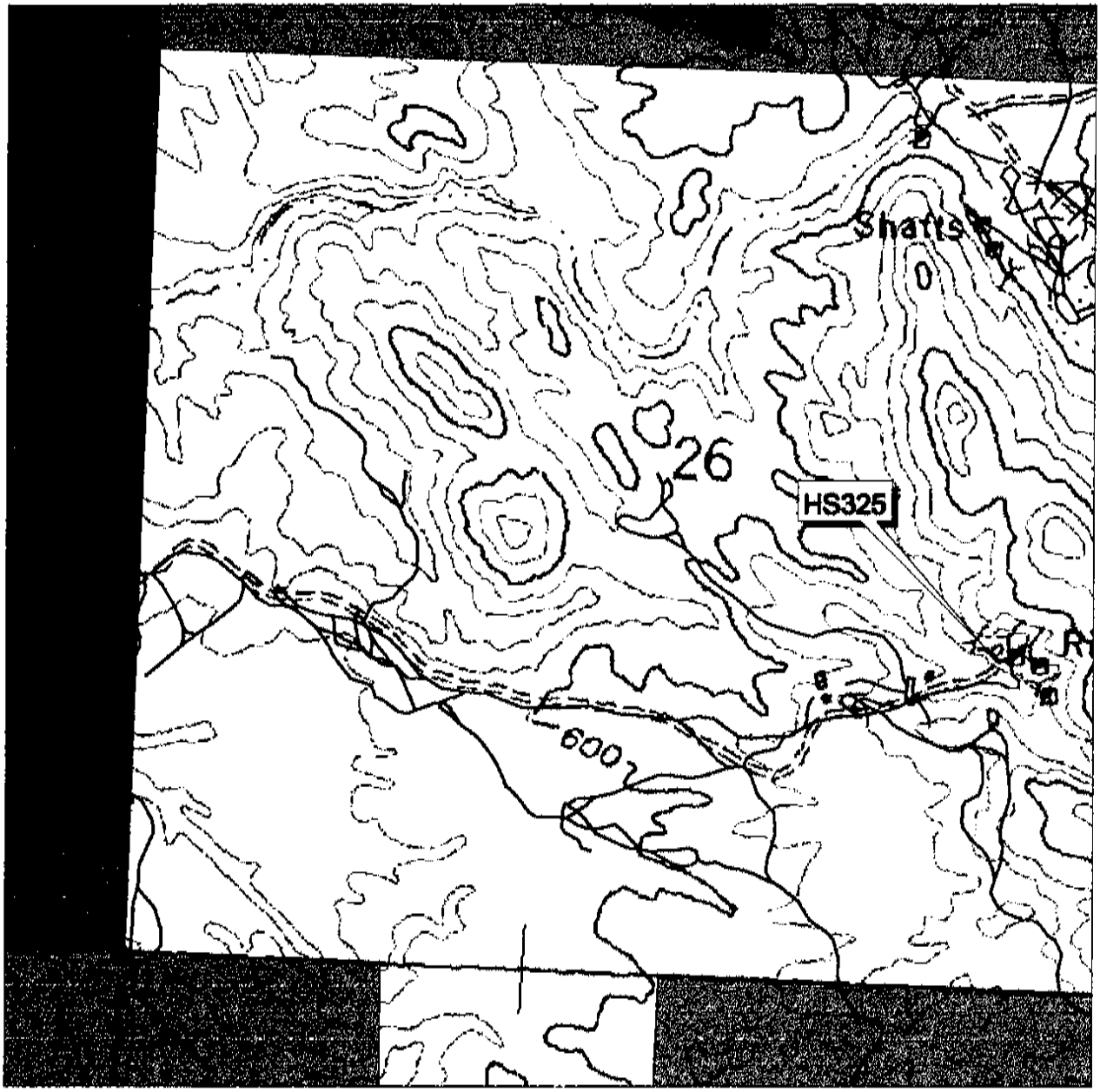
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ Date

_____ Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

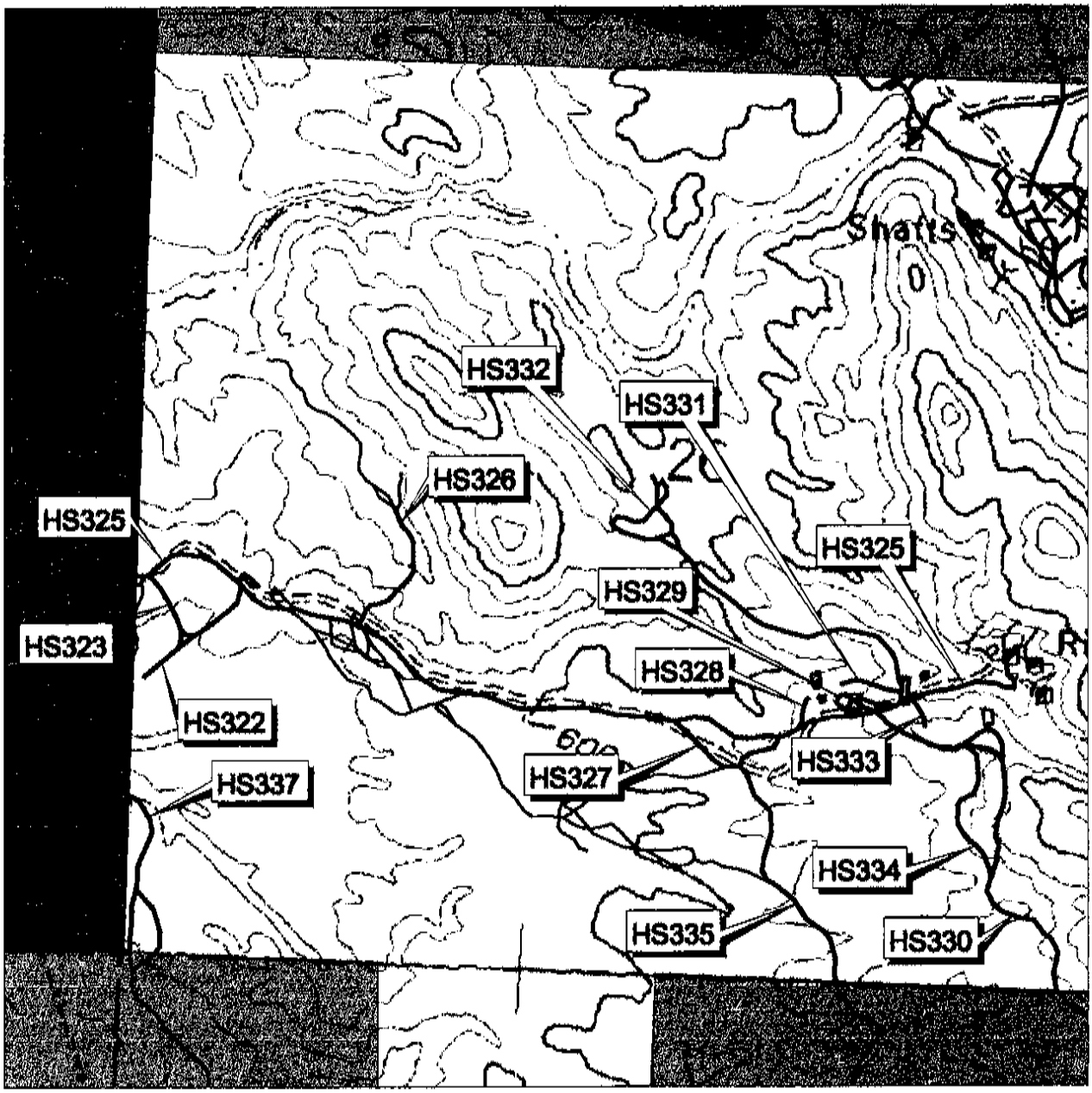
Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 3 2 5 Partial
RMA Code Number

__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___
__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___
__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___
__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___
__ __ - ___ ___ ___ Thru __ __ - ___ ___ ___

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA** - 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (Closed) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

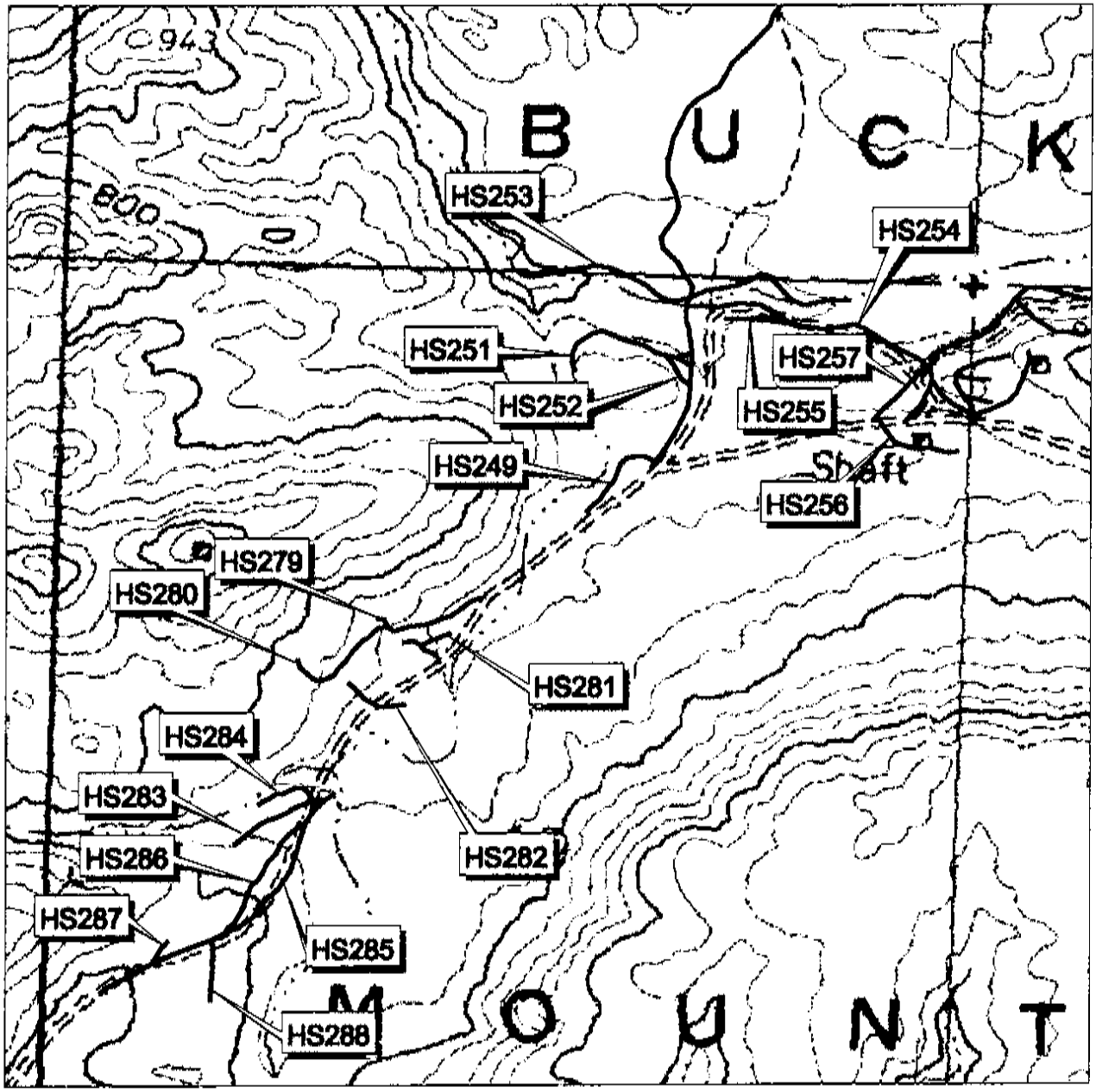
7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** This route is located on or near sensitive resources. The terminal end of this route is closed.

(continue on reverse)

8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001 Date
_____ 2/13/2001 Date
_____ Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness
BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:**

H	S	-	3	2	2	Thru	H	S	-	3	2	3		
RMA Code			Number											
H	S	-	3	2	5	Partial								
H	S	-	3	2	6	Thru	H	S	-	3	3	5		
H	S	-	3	3	7									
		-				Thru			-					
		-				Thru			-					
		-				Thru			-					

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA** - 43 CFR 8342.1

   (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

   (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

   (c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

   (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
   If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Route HS-325 is mostly open, however the terminal end is closed. The west end of HS-325 crosses on to private land where land owner permission to drive is required. Routes HS-330, HS-335 and HS-337 cross onto State Trust Lands where a permit is required for vehicle use. Route HS-337 also crosses onto private land.

(continue on reverse)

8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 5/2/2001
   Date

   _____ _____
   Date

   _____ _____
   Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 5/2/2001
   Field Manager Date

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 2 4 9
RMA Code Number

H S - 2 5 1	Thru	H S - 2 5 2
H S - 2 5 3	Partial	
H S - 2 5 4	Thru	H S - 2 5 7
H S - 2 7 9	Thru	H S - 2 8 8
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___	Thru	___ ___ - ___ ___ ___
___ ___ - ___ ___ ___	Thru	___ ___ - ___ ___ ___

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Route HS-253 is mostly open, however the terminal end is limited to vehicles less than 40" in width.

(continue on reverse)

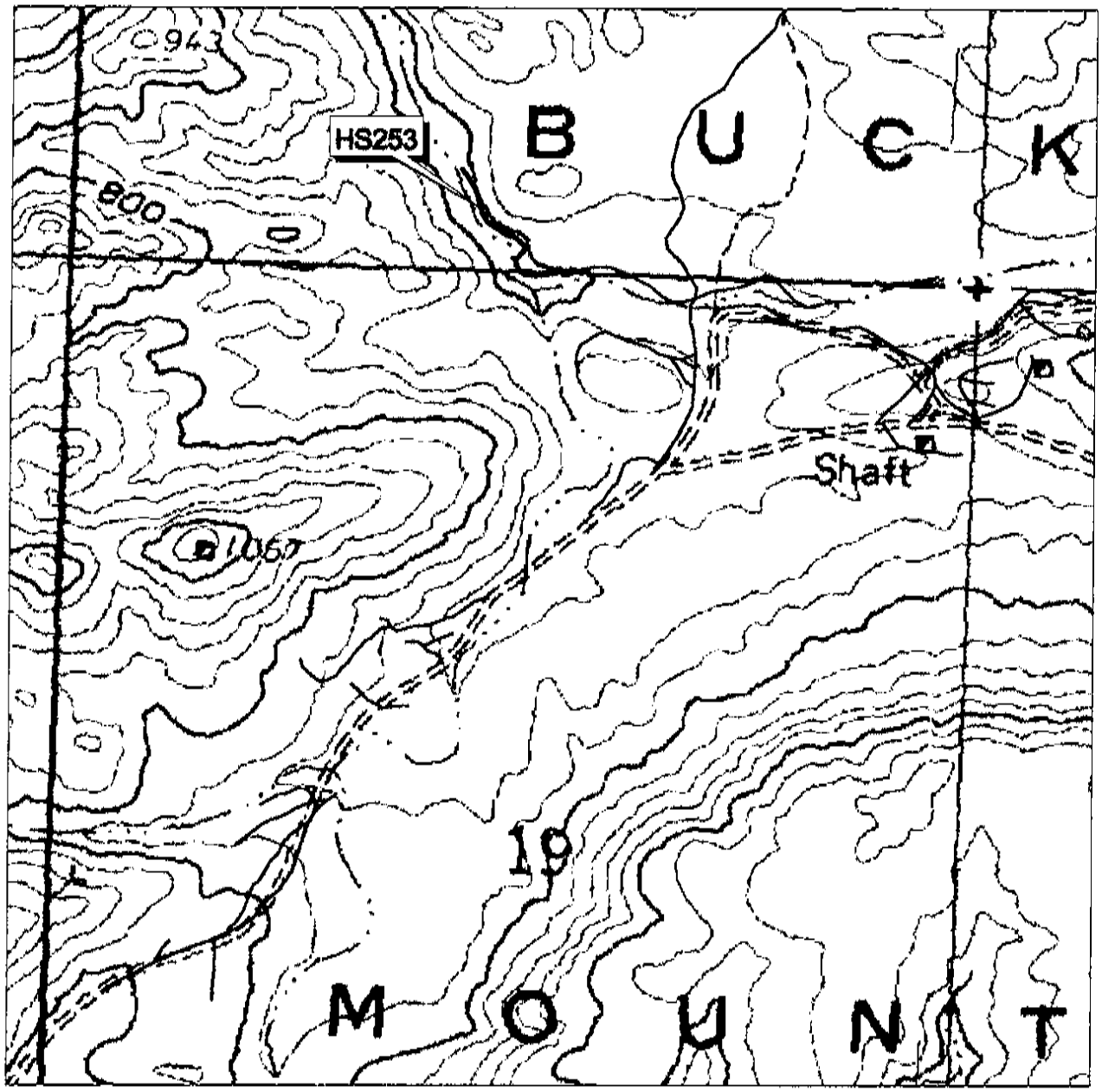
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness

BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 2 5 3 Partial
RMA Code Number

__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: This route is limited to vehicles less than 40" in width.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** A portion of this route is too narrow for large vehicles, so to protect the resources, the limitation of width is necessary. is The terminal end of route HS-253 is limited to vehicles less than 40" in width and the remainder is open to all vehicles.

(continue on reverse)

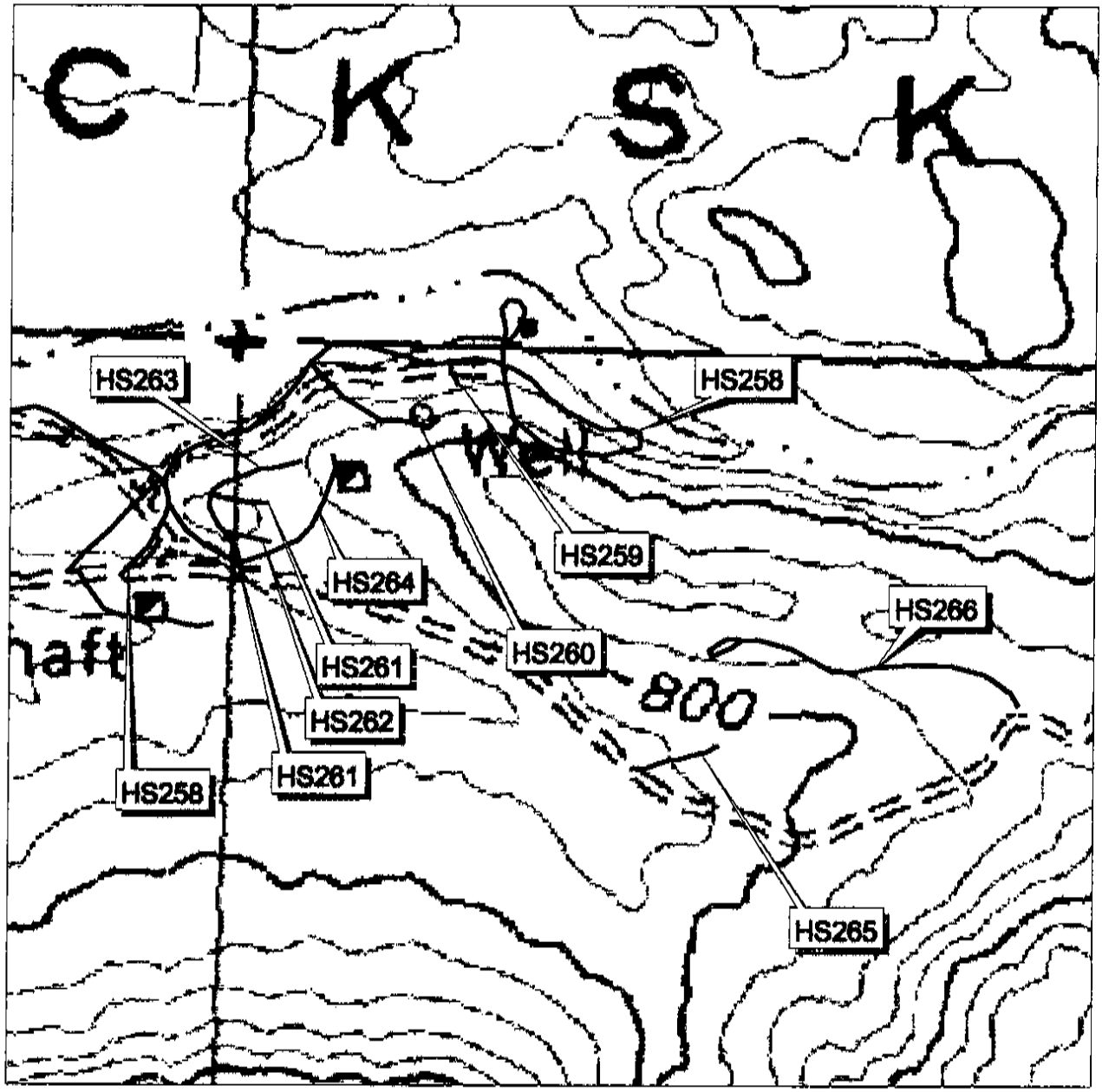
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** [signature] 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 2 5 8 Thru H S - 2 6 6
RMA Code Number

__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA -** 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** _____

(continue on reverse)

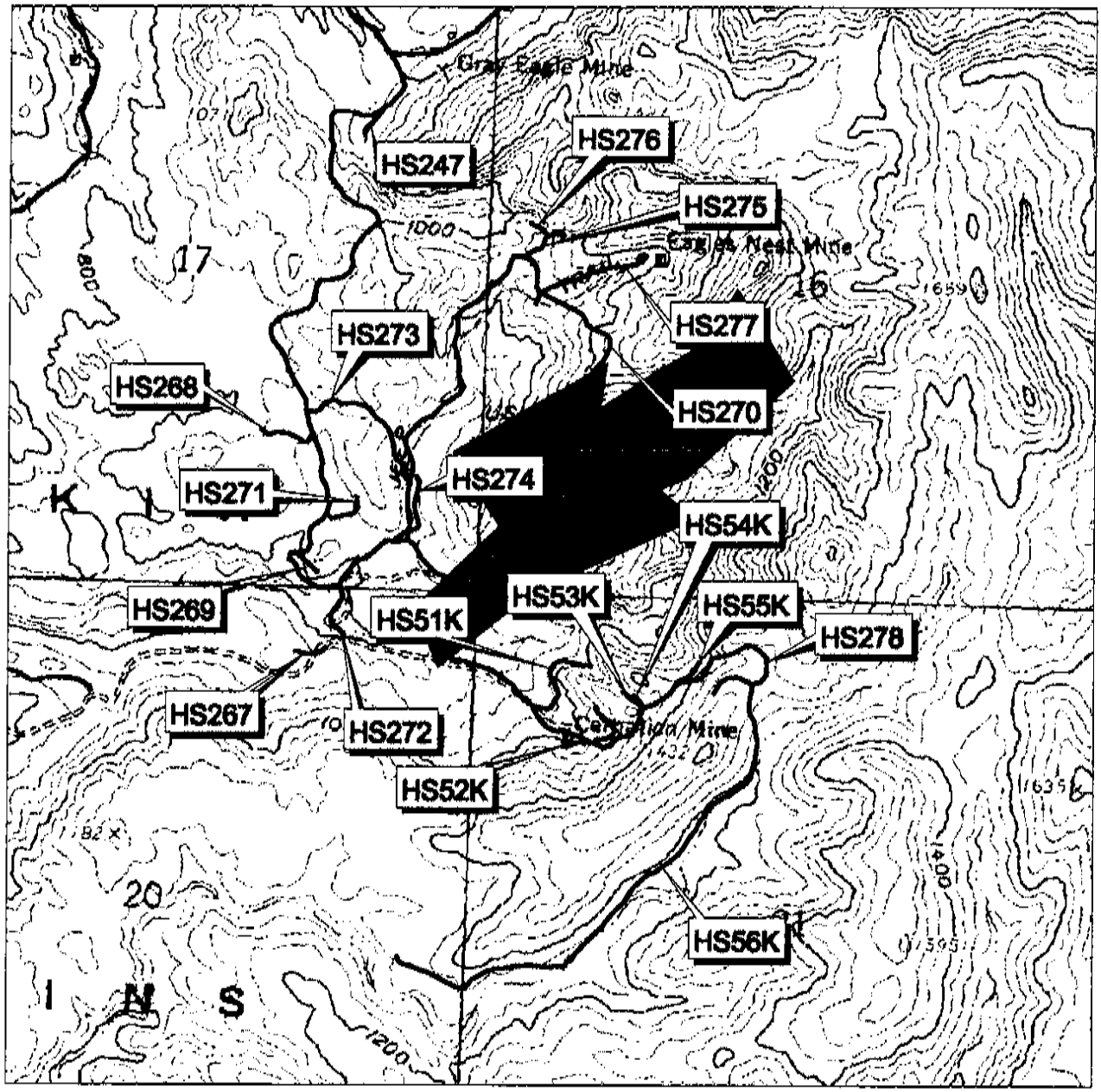
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 2 4 7
RMA Code Number

H S - 2 6 7	Thru	H S - 2 6 9
H S - 2 7 0	Partial	
H S - 2 7 1		
H S - 2 7 2	Partial	
H S - 2 7 3	Thru	H S - 2 7 7
H S - 2 7 8	Partial	
H S - 5 1 K	Thru	H S - 5 6 K

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA** - 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain:

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Routes Hs-270, HS-272 and HS-278 cross on to private land where owners permission is required. A portion of the Gray Eagle Mine Trail is formed by a portion of routes HS-272.

(continue on reverse)

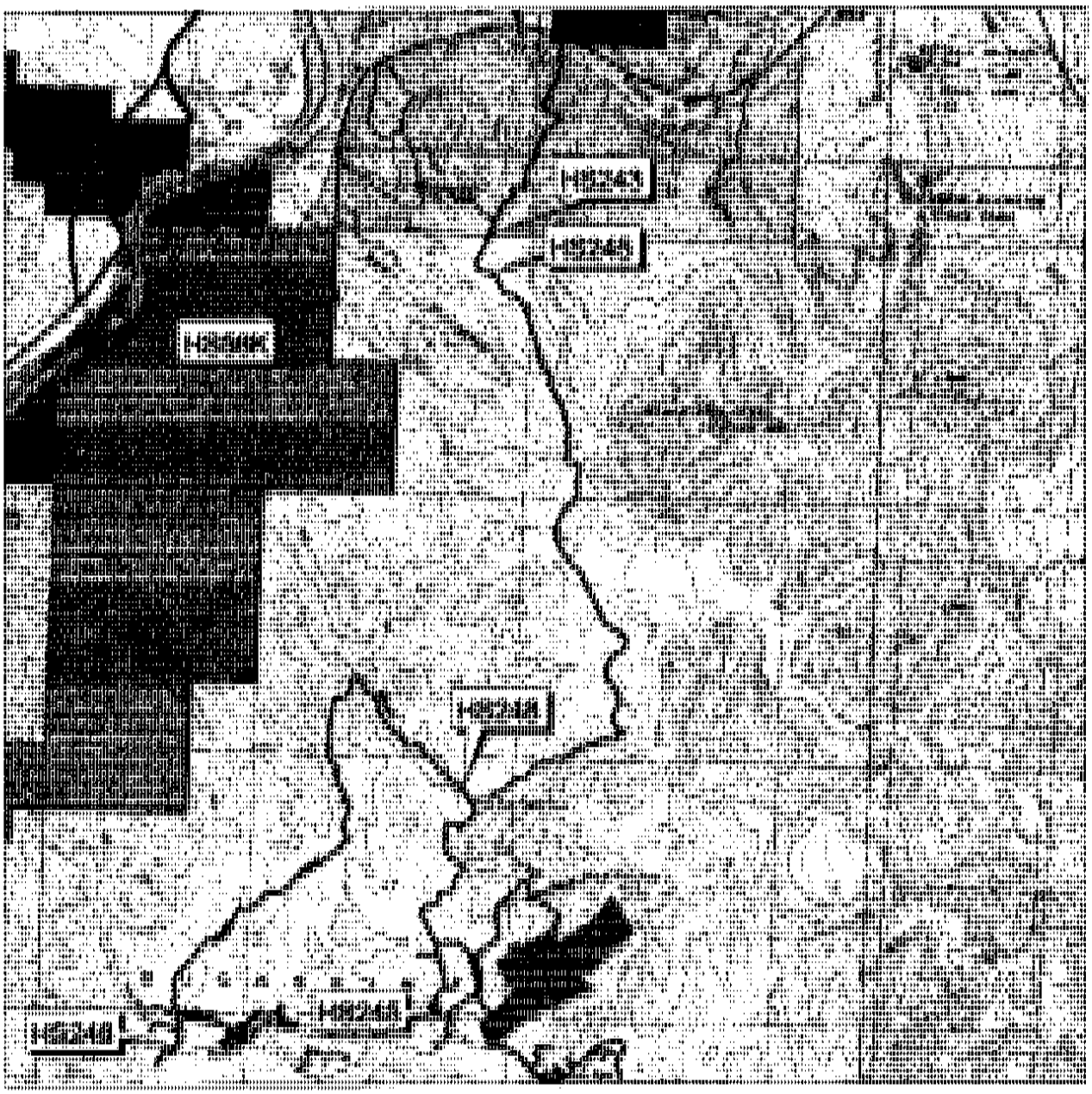
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** Lee D Allen 2/2/2001
Date

Date

Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** Donald E Smith 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



1 0 1 2 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness

BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 2 4 3 Partial
RMA Code Number
H S - 2 4 5
H S - 2 4 8
H S - 5 8 K
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __
__ __ - __ __ __ Thru __ __ - __ __ __

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (Open) (~~Closed~~) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain: _____

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (c) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Routes HS-245 and HS-243 cross into Buckskin Mountains State Park. Gray Eagle Mine Trail is formed by all of route HS-248 and portions of routes HS-245 and HS-272. Red Mountain Trail is formed by a portion of route HS-245. Route HS-58K crosses on to State Trust Lands where a permit is required for vehicle use.

(continue on reverse)

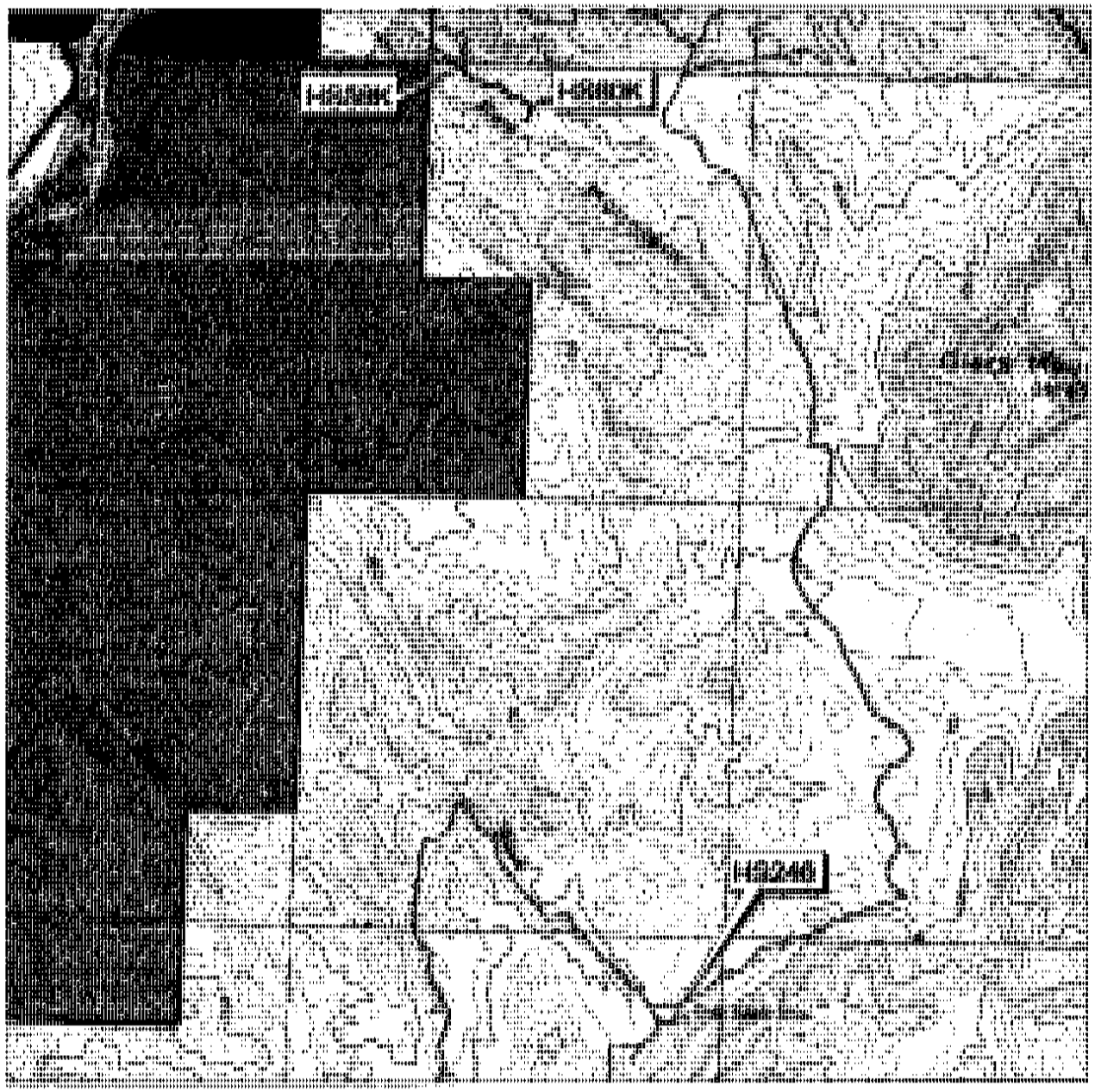
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness

BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 2 4 5
RMA Code Number

H	S	-	5	9	K	Partial							
H	S	-	6	0	K	Partial							
		-				Thru			-				
		-				Thru			-				
		-				Thru			-				

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Cross Roads

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA** - 43 CFR 8342.1

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (Closed) (~~Limited~~)
If Limited, explain:

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (a) (~~b~~) (e) (~~d~~)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** Routes HS-59K and HS-60K are closed to vehicle use since they are hiking trails that extend from Buckskin Mountains State Park. HS-246 is located on or near sensitive resources.

(continue on reverse)

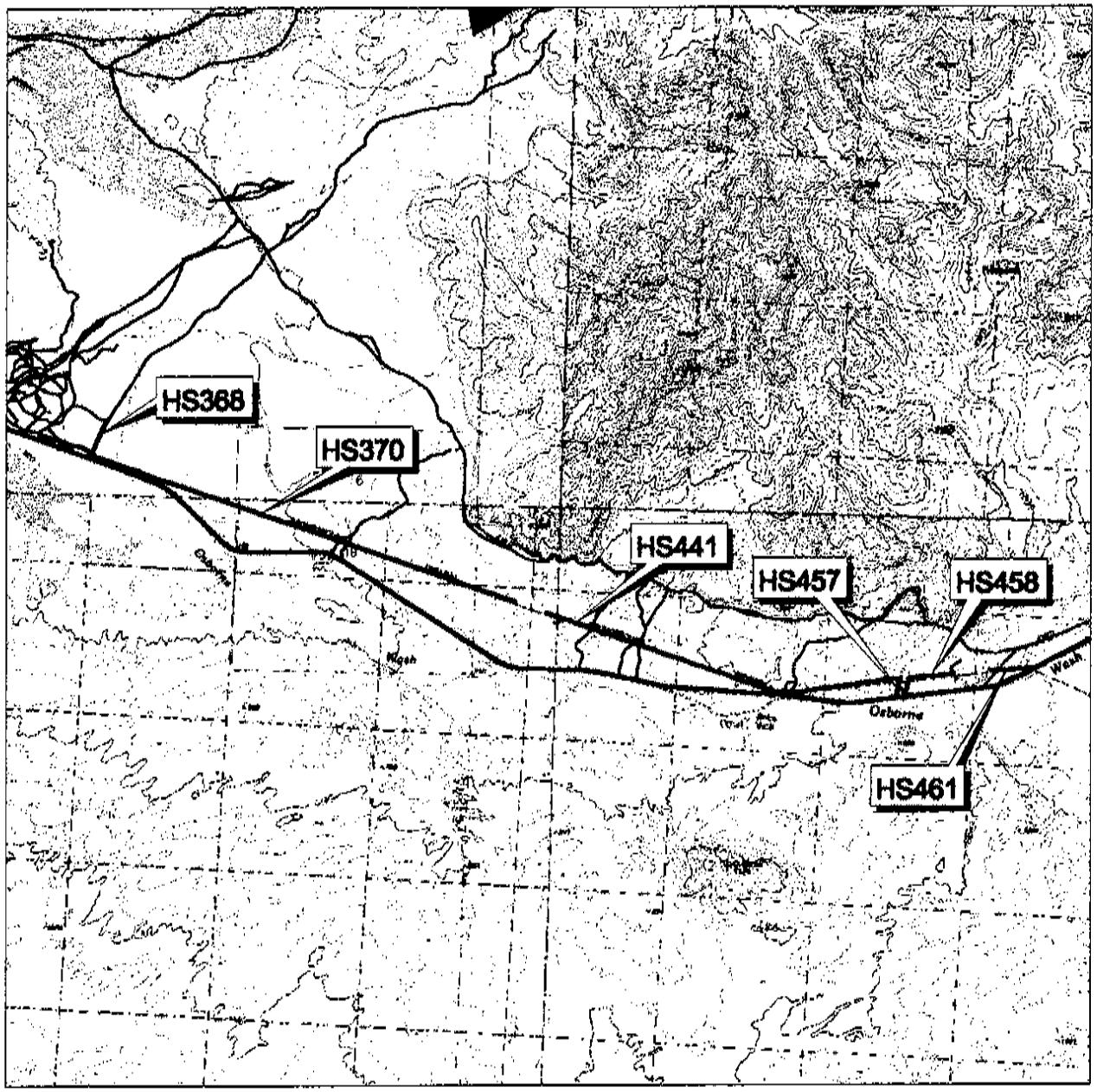
8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

Route Designation Map



0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 Miles

Designated Routes
Other OHV Routes
Planning Area
Wilderness

BLM
Parks, Refuges & Reservations
State Trust Lands
Private

LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION RECORD OF DECISION

1. **AREA DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited) (~~Undesignated~~)

2. **ROUTE NUMBERS:** H S - 3 6 8
RMA Code Number

H S - 3 7 0
H S - 4 4 1
H S - 4 5 7
H S - 4 5 8 Partial
H S - 4 6 1

3. **TOPOGRAPHIC BASE MAP(S):** Bobs Well
Cross Roads
Black Peak

4. **DESIGNATION CRITERIA - 43 CFR 8342.1**

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat. Special attention shall be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

(d) Areas and trails shall not be located in official designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

5. **RECOMMENDATION - PROPOSED DESIGNATION:** (~~Open~~) (~~Closed~~) (Limited)
If Limited, explain: These routes are limited to administrative use by BLM and the ROW holder. No public vehicle access is permitted.

6. **BASED ON 8342.1 CRITERIA (CRITERION):** (~~a~~) (b) (c) (d)

7. **ROUTE SPECIFIC RATIONAL:** These routes are limited to administrative use by BLM and the ROW holder for maintenance of the gas pipeline. The eastern end of HS-458 is closed.

(continue on reverse)

8. **RECOMMENDED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Date

_____ _____
Date

_____ _____
Date

9. **DECISION APPROVED BY:** _____ 2/2/2001
Field Manager Date

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT EA-AZ-070-2000-0043

INTRODUCTION

Background

Background information and an area description, including location, access, general management, and resource descriptions, is provided in Part I and II of the Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan.

Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action

A set of actions has been proposed to meet management objectives for the foreseeable future of the planning area. The management objectives and proposed actions comply with the legal mandates, agreements, and agency policies listed in the Purpose and Legal Guidance section of the plan.

Conformance to Land Use Plans

The Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan was developed to provide management guidance for the Gibraltar Planning Area in conformance with the Yuma District Resource Management Plan (1987, as amended), and under guidance of the Yuma District Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement (1989) and the Arizona BLM Interdisciplinary Resource Management Handbook (1995). The potential impacts of proposed actions and management alternatives that were considered in the plan are analyzed in this environmental assessment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Proposed Action

The proposed action is to adopt and implement the Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan. In general, the proposed action would accomplish the following:

- increase knowledge of and maintain biological diversity, health, function, and habitat continuity while managing resources to ensure rangeland health.
- enhance values of naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, and special features in wilderness portions of the planning area.
- provide a broad spectrum of recreational opportunities while ensuring public safety and minimizing resource conflicts.
- improve protection measures to prevent further loss of information, educational and socio- cultural values and ensure the proper and best use of cultural resources.

Proposed management actions are listed below:

Maintain Biological Diversity

1. AGFD and BLM will maintain all wildlife water developments in the planning area as perennial, reliable water sources, except Goat Spring pending further study. AGFD and BLM will conduct future repair and maintenance activities to improve water collection efficiency while reducing visual impacts of the structures.

   By the end of fiscal year (FY) 2001, in coordination with the AGFD and the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, the BLM will conduct simultaneously the redevelopment of the Red Cliff (Hwy 95) and the maintenance of the Buckskin Tunnel wildlife water catchments.

2. By FY 2002, complete a proper functioning condition evaluation for Lentic Riparian-Wetland Areas at Goat Spring and evaluate the potential for redevelopment. Implement improvements as priorities and funding allow. Explore the option to remove salt cedar from the spring site and revegetate with native riparian species by FY 2005.

3. Continue to enforce a year-round vehicle route closure in Giers Wash from Highway 95 to The Jumpoff to maintain sheep habitat values. Maintain the gate at Jumpoff and the fencing and gate at Highway 95; improve as necessary to prevent unauthorized vehicle use. Post the area as closed to motor vehicle use at the fence along Highway 95, at the BLM boundary in Giers Wash near Goat Spring, and at the Jumpoff gate.

4. Continue seasonal vehicle route closures for lambing grounds from January 1 to June 30. Post and maintain seasonal closure signs as needed. Install traffic counters to monitor compliance. If compliance is not achieved, then BLM and AGFD will evaluate options for barriers.

5. Post and maintain signs near AGFD catchment 629 stating, "Locked gate ahead 2 miles".

6. BLM will coordinate with AGFD for assistance in enforcing OHV regulations.

7. AGFD and BLM would seek a conservation easement for undeveloped private and state land at T. 11 N., R. 18 W., Section 27, for administrative access. The conservation easement with private landowners would provide for administrative access only into Giers Wash.

8. Pursue options to acquire private lands within priority wildlife habitat.

9. If during monitoring of sheep populations it is determined that the sheep herd is no longer sustainable, AGFD and BLM will coordinate to implement sheep transplants to promote population viability. The use of helicopters and fixed wing aircraft will be allowed for transplants and monitoring.

10. If during monitoring of sheep populations it is determined there is a population surplus for transplants, AGFD and BLM will coordinate capture efforts. The use of helicopters will be allowed for capture operations.

11. All mines will be surveyed to identify bat use and to determine the appropriate closure technique. When constructive closures are proposed, BLM will coordinate with the AGFD to develop alternatives to prevent entrapment and minimize impacts to bats.

12. Identify all significant bat roost sites in the planning area by the end FY 2003. Develop a monitoring plan to monitor the significant bat roost sites and evaluate the use of bat grates. Roost sites, such as hibernating sites and maternity roost sites, need to be protected. Many of the bat species have been identified as sensitive species. BLM policy is to manage sensitive species as if they are a listed species.

13. By the end of FY 2004, develop an information flyer explaining how to protect desert tortoise and its habitat, post on all information kiosks/bulletin boards and include in stipulations of every special recreation permit.

14. By the end of FY 2005, conduct a desert tortoise inventory in Giers Wash and on the Mesa.

15. Grazing on the Ganado Allotment will continue the use of the next best pasture grazing system developed in the 1982 Cooperative Grazing Management System as modified through the Ganado Allotment Evaluation. Utilization will be monitored so as not to exceed 50% on big galleta (Hilaria rigida) and 45% on shrubs at Key Areas #1 and #2. As utilization approaches these limits cattle will be moved to a different water development if conditions permit or be removed from the allotment

16. During routine field visits by resource specialists, monitor for the presence of burros, establishment of salt cedar, and any exotic species; remove as needed. The use of herbicides will be permitted in accordance with provisions of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands in Thirteen Western States, 1991. Hand application of herbicides will be permitted within wilderness.

17. Fires that exceed or are expected to exceed a 5 chain per hour rate of spread in the planning area will be suppressed. Within wilderness the following will apply: Minimum impact suppression tactics will be used; reported fires will monitored by air with minimum altitudes of 1000 feet above ground level, or by foot access; nonmotorized hand tools for suppression activities will be used; the rehabilitation of disturbances caused by suppression activities in accordance with BLM Manual 8560.35 will be completed before suppression forces are released.

Preserve Wilderness Values

1. At a minimum, the Wilderness Park Ranger will conduct monthly wilderness patrols to install and maintain boundary signs, information displays, and traffic counters, as needed. By the end of 2001, develop a wilderness brochure and educational materials about "Leave No Trace"and "Tread Lightly!" visitor ethics for the information displays and the BLM public room.

2. No recreational facilities, including trails, will be constructed within the wilderness. Any signing or information needed to manage the area will be located outside the wilderness. Campfire rings discovered during wilderness patrols will be removed and the area rehabilitated.

3. Law Enforcement Rangers will conduct, at a minimum, monthly wilderness patrols. In areas along the wilderness boundary where illegal vehicle entry problems may develop, the first course of action will be to increase patrols and signing along the wilderness boundary. If increased patrols and signing are not effective in ending the illegal entry problem, an increased law enforcement effort will be required. If the problem persists, physical barriers will be placed at the wilderness boundary as a resource protection measure. Posts and cable will be the preferred type of barrier.

4. All administrative wilderness flights will be conducted as indicated on Table 5. The anticipated uses of motorized vehicles and mechanized equipment are determined to be the minimum tool for the listed activity within wilderness and are therefore authorized or provided for.

5. Require conformance with BLM standards for range developments at the Red Hill Well by the end of FY 2001. Permittee will be required to choose one of the existing wells, the other will be abandoned in conformance with state environmental regulations. The well selected by the permittee will either be cased and capped, abandoned, or cooperatively relocated. Abandoned well(s) will be sealed at ground level and restored to natural appearance. The use of motorized vehicles and mechanized equipment will be authorized for an initial 10-day period. Vehicles will only be used on historically used access routes.

6. Prior to grazing use in the Red Hill area, the Field Manager will authorize the minimum vehicle access and use of motorized or mechanized equipment needed to initially redevelop and then operate and maintain the site. Redevelopment will require pump and pipeline installation. Water will be piped to facilities located outside the wilderness boundary. Operations and use of the site will require use of a portable generator to pump water from the well to the facilities. Vehicles will only be used on historically used access routes. Routine inspections will be conducted by nonmotorized, nonmechanical means.

7. Improve coordination, develop protocol, and foster understanding with state, county and municipal agencies, and volunteer organizations for search and rescue response and law enforcement activities. Provide a wilderness advisor to facilitate these activities.

8. Allow natural rehabilitation of surface disturbances in wilderness, in general, to continue. Some of the impacts will be further rehabbed as follows:

   - Evaluate the current condition of impacts I-1, 2, 4, and 5. Determine if additional rehab is necessary. Utilize hand tools to reduce berms. and use permeon to reduced visual contrast of disturbance. Remove non-historic trash and debris.

   - Remove the remaining large pieces of aircraft wreckage at I-3 using a heavy lift helicopter and slingloads. No helicopter landing within the wilderness will be permitted and flight time over wilderness will be minimized. The crash site access route will be evaluated for additional rehab work, if necessary, route will be partially reclaimed to a primitive trail.

   - Evaluate the current condition of impacts at I-6, allow natural reclamation to continue, remove non-historic trash and debris.

   - Evaluate the current conditions of the closed vehicle routes at I-7, determine best methods for total reclamation. Utilize short segments of post-and-cable vehicle barrier if additional wilderness signing fails to prevent further unauthorized OHV use.

Provide Recreation Opportunities

1. Over a five year period, evaluate safety hazards presented by abandoned mine features, identify the appropriate action, and implement mine closures using the "Cienega Mining District, Mine Feature Closure" (EA-AZ-070-99-27). Mine hazards along the proposed Adopt-a-Trails and Cienega Springs/ Nellie Mine Road will be addressed first, followed by the Carnation and Eagle Nest mines, followed by the remaining identified mine features.

2. By end of FY 2001, complete a Cooperative Management Agreement (CMA) between Arizona State Parks, La Paz County, and the BLM for management of the Gray Eagle Mine and Red Mountain Adopt-A-Trails. Establish traffic counters to assist in monitoring activities on the Red Mountain and Gray Eagle Trails by the end of FY 2002.

3. By the end of FY 2003, cooperatively work with the CMA partners to:

   - mitigate mine hazards along the Adopt-A-Trails by utilizing the State OHV Grant,

   - cooperatively develop information/interpretive materials and signing for the trails,

   - utilize the Parker 4-Wheelers under a group volunteer agreement as the primary volunteer group responsible for signing, road maintenance, and monitoring use along the Adopt-a-trails.

4. The current OHV area designations (Table 6 and Map 4) will be implemented through increased signing, monitoring, enforcement, and route designations. Changing the OHV area designations of open, limited, or closed would only be considered and implemented if approved in the future through an amendment to the Yuma RMP. No changes have been made to the Yuma RMP OHV area designations.

5. The OHV route inventory documented in this plan is a complete inventory of all existing roads and trails in the planning area as required by the Yuma RMP. All routes are identified with a route number which will be used for identification purposes on the updated OHV Access Guide and signing posted on all major routes. Vehicle route limitations consistent with the Yuma RMP OHV designations will be implemented through signing and, if necessary, barriers. Potential resource conflicts were considered and a designation of the OHV routes as open, closed, or limited is recommended (Appendix G).

Table 7 shows the miles and percentages of routes in these categories.

6. Conduct periodic field inventories of OHV routes to identify new unauthorized routes. Inventory will begin at the Rio Vista Mine, Shea Road Pit, and the Dune, which are the three identified high use OHV areas. New routes will be signed as closed and rehabilitated to the extent necessary to mitigate the impact. Barriers will be installed if signing and rehabilitation measures are not successful.

7. Revise the Cactus Plain-Arizona Access Guide as necessary to provide visitors with accurate information about responsible OHV use (Tread Lightly!), route identification, seasonal limitations, points of interest, and safety in the desert.

8. By the end of FY 2001, develop and maintain educational/informational materials and displays at Cienega Springs/Nellie Mine Road and Shea Road Pit. Increase public awareness of potential recreational use conflicts, and specifically, target shooting in high use OHV areas.

9. Maintain all post and cable barriers around the Shea Road Pit and Parker 400 course. Sign all access points to the Shea Road Pit as "limited to existing roads and trails". No additional facilities are planned at this time.

10. By the end of FY 2001, post "14-day camp stay limit," "Pack-it-in Pack-it-out," and "No Dumping" signs in camping areas along Shea Road and Cienega Springs/ Nellie Mine Road.

    Rationale: No additional facilities for dispersed camping are planned.

11. Develop a Volunteer Program for resource monitoring and site/sign/facilities/trails maintenance to reduce resource impacts and use conflicts.

12. The BLM will cooperate with La Paz County and the State Land Department to manage OHV activities in the Dune area and evaluate the development of additional OHV opportunities.

13. Evaluate the portion of Shea Road within the planning area as part of a National Back Country Byway by FY 2006.

14. Special recreation permits will include stipulations which prevent the permitted activities from impacting the wilderness, wildlife, cultural, recreation, and other resources in the planning area.

15. By the end of FY 2003, BLM will acquire legal public access to existing routes that cross private and State lands, including Cienega Springs/Nellie Mine Road and the Adopt-a-Trails.

Protect and Ensure Proper Use of Cultural Resources

1. Previous Yuma RMP allocations of specific cultural properties to the Conservation Use category are changed to either Scientific Use, Traditional Use, or dual allocation, based on the priority management objective.

2. All prehistoric cultural resources are allocated to Scientific Use, Traditional Use, or a dual allocation, based on the priority management objective.

3. All prehistoric cultural properties would be interpreted through off-site information. No prehistoric sites would be allocated to public use through this plan.

4. All historic cultural resources are allocated to either Scientific Use, Public Use, or dual allocation categories, based on the priority management objective.

5. During the life of the plan conduct field visits with members of local tribes to archaeological sites in the planning area. Frequency of field visits will be dependent on both their interest in previously recorded sites and in newly discovered locations. Field visits will be at least annual beginning in FY 2001. Share existing and newly discovered site information with their museums or cultural program staff at a minimum of once a year. Consult with tribal members and cultural staff to develop appropriate monitoring, mitigation measures, or develop research designs on a case-by-case basis.

6. Develop interpretive materials appropriate to the intended audiences on the importance of all cultural resources, (archaeological, traditional and historic) by the end of FY 2002.

7. Include historic road and trail information as part of any access or trail guide developed. Provide signs at historic properties to indicate active management.

8. Include cultural resource protection and appreciation message on any new information bulletin boards.

9. Conduct condition assessment and develop emergency stabilization or maintenance plans for any standing historic structures or ruins in the planning area by the end of FY 2003. Begin implementing plan in FY 2004.

10. A patrol plan will schedule monitoring to identified sites and gather information to evaluate potential impacts. Field documentation of known properties, and inventory of areas where impacts are anticipated to affect cultural resources, will provide a baseline for a patrol plan. Complete the patrol plan

and conduct orientation field trips with personnel that will be responsible for monitoring (LHFO law enforcement, members of the Arizona Site Stewards Program, or other qualified volunteers) by the end of FY 2002.

Alternative A - No Action

Under the no action alternative, management direction would be provided by general legal guidance listed in the Purpose and Legal Guidance section of the draft plan. No specific coordination would be proposed for: redevelopment of two wildlife waters in Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness, maintaining and enhancing species diversity by protecting wildlife habitat and taking actions to minimize conflicts from public activities and other resource uses; rehabilitation of existing disturbances and enhancement of wilderness values; providing additional recreation opportunities while mitigating safety hazards and preventing illegal off-road vehicle use; revising cultural use allocations; providing public information sites and materials to provide for the protection and promote proper use of the areas resources and opportunities.

Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis

Several alternatives to the proposed redevelopment/ maintenance of the Red Cliff and Tunnel wildlife water catchments were considered but rejected. An alternative to remove the developments from Wilderness and rehab the sites was considered but rejected since Agency wildlife biologists considered the catchments mitigation for human impacts and vital for wildlife management of the bighorn sheep herd residing in the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness. Alternative sites located outside the wilderness boundary were considered but rejected due to an increased distance from lambing grounds and decreased distance to the popular OHV recreation and target shooting areas. Several alternative construction techniques were considered at the Red Cliff site. Replacement of the existing water storage tanks was rejected since it did not reduce visual impacts. Complete burial of the storage tank was considered unlikely due to the rocky site conditions. The replacement of a single fill pipe at the Tunnel catchment was determined to be inadequate to maintain a reliable water supply.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

A description of the affected environment can be found in the Background Information and Area Description sections of the Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The following critical elements have been analyzed and would not be adversely affected by the proposed action and alternatives:

1. Air Quality
2. Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
3. Cultural Resources
4. Environmental Justice
5. Prime or Unique Farmlands
6. Floodplains
7. Native American Religious Concerns
8. Threatened or Endangered Species
9. Solid or Hazardous Wastes
10. Water Quality
11. Wetlands or Riparian Zones
12. Wild and Scenic Rivers

Impacts of the Proposed Action

Biological Resources

Opposing views exist concerning the impacts of maintaining the wildlife catchments and quantitative research is inconclusive. It is the observation and professional opinion of the BLM Wildlife Biologist and the AGFD personnel identified in Appendix D that the maintenance of catchments is vital to the management of bighorn sheep and will benefit other wildlife species as well. Others cite studies suggesting that the wildlife water developments are not critical for sheep populations and may actually be detrimental to the sheep by increasing predator populations. BLM recognizes that quantitative research related to the effectiveness and need for artificial waters is inconclusive (The Center for the Study of Law, Science and Technology, Arizona State University 1998).

Preventing the establishment of exotic species and unauthorized use of OHVs would limit adverse impacts to native plant communities and wildlife populations. Bat habitat would be protected.

In the event that fire suppression activities are required, resulting disturbances would be rehabilitated.

Wilderness Resources

Wilderness values would be maintained and enhanced for the foreseeable future under provisions of the proposed action. Educational displays would be located outside the wilderness. Promoting "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly" land use ethics within the planning

area would assist in preventing new visitor use impacts to natural values and would protect cultural resources.

There would be short-term impacts to solitude from wilderness patrols and other monitoring activities that would be offset by the long-term benefits of enhancing and maintaining wilderness values and opportunities for primitive recreation.

Temporary impacts to wilderness values from proposed rehabilitation efforts would be limited to the vicinity of existing disturbances for the duration of each project and would ultimately result in the long-term enhancement of natural values. Opportunities for unconfined primitive recreation would continue and improve as the rehabilitation of existing surface disturbances occurs.

Temporary impacts to solitude and wilderness values from low level aircraft operations would be limited to no more than one day every other year for bighorn sheep surveys. Temporary impacts from wildlife management activities would be offset by long-term improvement in habitat for several wildlife species benefitting from the maintenance of dependable year round water sources.

The wilderness values of naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be temporarily impaired or diminished by the presence or sound of motorized/mechanized equipment in wilderness during the maintenance/redevelopment activities. Wilderness users in the immediate area of work would experience the sight and sound of motorized/mechanized tools, a helicopter, possibly explosives, and a group of volunteers, perhaps as large as 40 individuals, during the construction activities. These impacts could interfere with the visitor's perception and expectation of a landscape free of human activity and the natural quiet expected in wilderness. Recreational use of the wilderness in general and in the particular area of the developments, however, is expected to be very low and therefore affect a very minimum number of individuals.

The presence of the existing water developments is a long-term impact to naturalness which can be mitigated by the use of camouflage techniques and the need to maintain a viable bighorn sheep population within the wilderness. The proposed action would effectively reduce the long- term impacts to naturalness of the existing projects by reducing the overall size of the above- ground structure at Red Cliff catchment, by more effectively camouflaging the necessary pipes and collection dams at both projects, and by removing excess materials currently stored at the Tunnel catchment site.

While redevelopment may have immediate large short-term impacts to wilderness values, it is anticipated that it will reduce the need for continued, intermittent motorized/mechanized impacts for increasingly frequent maintenance activities and emergency water hauls. The proposed action incorporates measures which prevent, minimize, and mitigate the anticipated potential impacts to wilderness values caused by the construction activities.

Visual Resources

The wilderness is a Visual Resources Management Class I area. The Class I Objective is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes: however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.

1. Buckskin Tunnel

Maintenance activities at the Buckskin Tunnel will not change the existing character of the landscape. The existing facility was designed to blend with topographic forms in shape and placement. Maintenance of the collection point will include repainting the dam to more effectively match the color of the surrounding rock. The fill pipes will be screened behind rocks and vegetation, and buried when possible. Exposed sections of pipe will also be covered with paint and stucco to match the color of the surrounding rock. Overall visual impacts will be reduced from the existing condition.

2. Red Cliff Catchment

Redevelopment will improve visual resource conditions. The overall size and shape of the water storage tank will be significantly reduced (height reduced from 5.5 ft. to less than 3 ft.), particularly the more it is recessed into the ground. Excavated material arranged around the tank and the use of paint and stucco will further reduce the degree of contrast between the structure and the form, line, and texture of existing site. The fill pipe will be run along the hillside using existing rocks and natural material to blend into the topography and will be a significant improvement over the existing fill pipe and concrete block support structures which will be removed.

Recreation Opportunities

Generally would be improved and expanded. The Adopt-a-Trail proposals would be implemented to ensure public safety, increase public education, and protect the trails. OHV management would improve and resource damage would be reduced with increased signing, monitoring, enforcement, and route designations.

Cultural Resources

Proper use of cultural properties would be ensured, consultation and coordination would be improved, public education and appreciation of cultural resources would be increased.

Impacts of Alternative A - No Action

Current conditions and opportunities would be maintained under Alternative A. With this alternative, existing laws, regulations, and policies would be followed without an integrated management strategy.

Wildlife waters would not be redeveloped and habitat protection measures would not be implemented.

There would be no temporary impacts to opportunities for solitude from rehabilitation efforts and construction projects. In the long term, there would be a lower quality of naturalness due to the continuing presence of existing human disturbances. The lack of site displays to promote "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly" would lessen the opportunity for providing visitor information that would assist in enhancing and maintaining existing natural and cultural values and recreational opportunities. Mine safety would not be improved and recreation opportunities would be diminished. Proper use of cultural properties would not be ensured.

Recreation opportunities would not be improved or expanded. The Adopt-a-Trail proposal would not be implemented. Recreational impacts to resources due to OHV use in the planning area would likely increase without additional management emphasis.

Cumulative Impacts

In general, the proposed action provides for the protection of biological, wilderness, recreation, and cultural values from potential cumulative impacts that would be likely if there were unrestricted and unmonitored visitor use. Implementing the proposed action would reduce the potential for cumulative impacts to wilderness values from repeated motorized vehicle trespass, unmonitored visitor use, and use of aircraft to conduct emergency water hauling. Implementing the proposed action would reduce the potential for cumulative impacts to resource values from OHV route proliferation. Additionally, implementing the proposed action would not have any significant cumulative effects.

Mitigation

Mitigation measures specific to the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness are as follows:

1. Schedule administrative actions for periods when there is the least potential for impacts to wilderness visitors such as during weekdays when visitor use is likely to be the lowest.
2. Use the minimum tool or action to reasonably accomplish management objectives.
3. Actively promote educational programs like "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly!" land use ethics so that in the long term visitor use might occur with a minimum impact to wilderness values and resources with a minimum need for management restrictions.
4. The following stipulations are incorporated in the proposed action to mitigate impacts specifically associated with the wildlife water redevelopments:

A meeting shall be held at least 15 days prior to construction to finalize project logistics, to review the requirements and stipulations of the proposed action, and to identify and resolve any foreseeable problems. Both BLM and AGFD project coordinators shall ensure that all volunteers, employees, and contractors working on the project have been briefed and have read and understand all requirements and stipulations of the Proposed Action prior to departing for the work sites.

All impacts from construction will be rehabbed and naturalized to the satisfaction of BLM personnel on-site. Disturbance to native perennial vegetation will be avoided whenever possible during the project. State protected plant species (e.g. all cactus species, ocotillo, palo verde, mesquite, ironwood, and smoketree) shall be avoided if possible. The proposed water development shall avoid mature palo verde trees and saguaro. Care will be taken not to harass or harm any wildlife. Any refueling, oil changes, or lubrication of vehicles or machinery will be done so in a manner as to prevent oil spills on the ground. Garbage, trash, and excess building materials will be transported off site and properly disposed of by the AGFD.

To protect wilderness values, the use of helicopters will be restricted to the transportation of AGFD personnel, construction materials, water, tools and equipment, and excess materials and waste to be removed from the project sites. Helicopter landings within wilderness will be of short duration and occur in areas not requiring the preparation or clearing of a landing zone. Project volunteers and BLM construction personnel will hike to

the two project sites. A self- contained portable toilet will be provided at both project sites. No camping or campfires will be authorized within the wilderness.

Cultural Resources - Because of potential for surface and ground disturbance, any cultural and/or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf, on public or Federal land shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the authorized office to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of the evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures will be made by the authorized officer after consulting with the holder. This stipulation is pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act as implemented by 36CFR800.11.

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Information about consultation, coordination, and public involvement can be found in Appendix D and Appendix E of the proposed Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan.

Finding of No Significant Impact/Decision Record

Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan

Environmental Assessment No. EA-AZ-070-2000-0043
Case File AZA 25499

Finding of No Significant Impact: Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in EA-AZ-070-2000-0043, I have determined that impacts are not expected to be significant, therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Decision: It is my decision to approve the proposed action alternative which is to adopt and implement the Gibraltar Mountain Interdisciplinary Management Plan (the Plan) per the changes to the draft plan as documented on the errata sheet. The Plan establishes management goals and objectives, management actions, an implementation schedule for the identified management actions, and mitigation and monitoring. for the planning area.

In part, the Plan will maintain biological diversity by maintaining functional wildlife water developments, enforcing year-round vehicle closures of Giers Wash from Highway 95 to The Jumpoff, continuing seasonal vehicle closures of routes within bighorn sheep lambing grounds, surveying mines for use by bats, developing a monitoring plan of significant bat roost sites, and conducting a desert tortoise inventory in Giers Wash and on the Mesa.

The Plan will preserve Wilderness values by conducting, at a minimum, monthly wilderness patrols by Law Enforcement Rangers and Park Rangers, by requiring conformance with BLM standards for range developments at Red Hill Well, by rehabilitating surface disturbances, and by developing a wilderness brochure and educational materials about Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly! Visitor ethics.

The Plan will provide recreation opportunities while ensuring public safety and minimizing resource conflicts by mitigating mine safety hazards, completing a cooperative management agreement for the proposed OHV adopt-a-trails, recognizing the OHV route inventory documented in the plan as a complete inventory of all existing roads and trails in the planning area and implementing the recommended OHV route designations (Appendix G), developing additional educational/informational materials, maintaining signs, barriers, and displays.

The Plan will protect and ensure proper use of cultural resources by adopting the specified cultural property use allocations, conducting field visits with members of the local tribes to share existing and newly discovered site information, developing interpretive materials, conducting condition assessment and emergency stabilization of historic structures, and monitoring identified sites.

Rationale for Decision: The environmental analysis considered all relevant information and incorporated substantial comments provided by the public. The plan is in conformance with the Yuma District Resource Management Plan, as amended (1987) and the Yuma District Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement (1989). The decision conforms with the Yuma Resource Management Plan, as amended.

The decision to implement the management action calling for the maintenance and redevelopment of wildlife water catchments was based primarily on the recommendations of BLM and AGFD staff. Existing scientific research was considered but is currently inconclusive, and therefore built into the plan is the commitment to cooperatively gather and utilize new research to better address the need for and continued maintenance of the existing wildlife waters.

The decision to implement the recommended OHV route designations is based both on comments received and the observed need to implement this action to implement the Yuma RMP.

Other Alternatives Considered: The Proposed Action Alternative and the No Action Alternative were considered.

Mitigation/Stipulations: Mitigation measures are generally incorporated within the proposed action. Mitigation measures specific to the Gibraltar Mountain Wilderness and Cultural Resources are included in the environmental analysis.

Approved by: _____ 3/8/2001
Field Manager, Lake Havasu Field Office — Date

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 2001 — 673-076 / 40010 Region No. 8