



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Arizona State Office
One North Central Avenue, Suite 800
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4427
www.blm.gov/az/

Dear interested member of the public:

The Bureau of Land Management Tucson Field Office is pleased to announce that the Middle Gila Canyons Transportation and Travel Management Plan (TMP) and related Environmental Assessment (EA) are available for your review and comment. The TMP describes actions for managing access and travel on approximately 96,319 acres of public land administered by the BLM near Florence and Superior, Ariz. The EA provides an analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed plan, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. After the environmental examination was conducted, the BLM has concluded that the preferred action will not have a significant effect on the human environment.

This TMP represents the integration of extensive public collaboration and input into the BLM management of the Middle Gila Canyons area over the past eight years through the Middle Gila Canyon Partnership's efforts. The BLM wishes to express its appreciation to all of those who contributed their time, knowledge and expertise to this effort by participating in the route inventory, route evaluation, and selection of the proposed management actions since the planning process initiated in 2001. We welcome and encourage your continued participation as this plan is implemented during the next three years.

The release of the EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) begins a 60-day comment period. During this period, we encourage you to examine BLM's finding that the proposed action will not result in significant impacts to the environment. Also, if you have information that may lead to a different conclusion, please provide input. Comments should provide information that was overlooked or otherwise not considered that could influence BLM's findings.

BLM's analysis and FONSI are based on the best information available at this time. New information may be revealed by new surveys or studies which could cause adjustments or modifications to the proposed management of the Middle Gila Canyons area in the future.

The plan and EA are available online at http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/travel_mgmt.html. Copies are available for review at the Tucson Field Office, Arizona State Office, and the Phoenix District Office. Written comments may be submitted by May 8, 2009 to the Tucson Field Office, 12661 East Broadway Blvd.; Tucson, Ariz. 85748-7208, attention Mark Lambert, or by e-mail at mgc_travel@blm.gov. For additional information please contact Mark Lambert or Francisco Mendoza at 520-258-7242.

We appreciate your interest and encourage your continued involvement in this planning process.

Sincerely,

/s/ Brian B. Bellew
Field Manager, Tucson Field Office