

1610 (L0310)

8/20/2010

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Las Cruces District Office is preparing the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument Resource Management Plan (RMP) and an associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). An RMP for public land is more effectively implemented if the management decisions made by BLM reflect the values and interests of the public. However, for this Monument, the management plan also must address and is guided by the Legislation designating the Monument.

The formal scoping process began with the publication of a Notice of Intent on January 5, 2010. This Notice indicated the Las Cruces District Office's intent to prepare an RMP, an associated EIS, and to hold a public scoping meeting in conjunction with that process. One formal scoping meeting was held on January 26, 2010, to share information about the Monument, preliminary issues, and the planning process. The BLM asked the public for comments and suggestions regarding the management of the natural, cultural, recreation, and scientific resources within the Monument. Approximately 100 people attended the public scoping meeting. The BLM received 17,388 total comment submittals, of which 17,287 were a variety of repeat form letters. The initial "formal scoping" period closed on February 10, 2010.

A scoping report was developed to address comments from this initial scoping period. The intent of the scoping report is to provide a summary of the comments received, to refine the preliminary issues, and to identify new issues. The results of the scoping process are documented in the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument Scoping Report, which is available for review on the Las Cruces District website at:

http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Las_Cruces_District_Office/trackways_rmp.html.

The Report also will provide direction to the BLM planning team in order to clearly identify issues and to aide in the development of alternatives for the environmental impact analysis. Once preliminary alternatives are developed, the BLM will provide you an opportunity to provide your ideas, comments, and thoughts at an Alternatives Workshop. The workshop will be announced at a later date in the local news media and on our BLM website.

Although the formal comment period has ended, the BLM will continue to accept and consider all comments received throughout the planning process. Your thoughts, ideas, and comments are important to us throughout the process. The comments will become a part of the administrative record.

If you have any questions, would like to be on the mailing list, or would like to speak with someone, please call Lori Allen at (575) 525-4454.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill Childress

Bill Childress
District Manager