Prehistoric Trackways National Monument
Draft Resource Management Plan
and
Environmental Impact Statement

ABSTRACT

The Prehistoric Trackways National Monument Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) considers and evaluates alternative management strategies and their potential effects on lands and resources administered by the Bureau of Land Management's Las Cruces District Office in south-central New Mexico. The planning area is located within Doña Ana County and includes approximately 5,280 surface acres and 4,812 acres of Federal minerals administered by the Las Cruces District Office. BLM management decisions considered in the plan must be consistent with the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009.

This EIS analyzes four alternatives in detail. Alternative A, the No Action Alternative, is defined by the *Mimbres RMP* (1993) and the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, which is the legislation designating the Monument. This Alternative provides for a baseline of comparison against the other alternatives. Alternative B is the most restrictive in human interventions, use of the Monument's resources would be minimal, designed towards more resource preservation and, and natural processes would continue at the current rate. Alternative C, which is the BLM's preferred alternative at this point of the planning process; strives to balance the protection and enhancement of natural and paleontological values with resource uses and development. Alternative D emphasizes resource uses and provides for the greatest opportunities for resource uses, development, and recreation while still following the constraints of the designating Legislation. Upon completion, the RMP will provide direction for the long-term management of all public land and resources within the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument.

Comments on this Draft RMP Amendment/EIS must be postmarked within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency Notice of Availability is published in the *Federal Register*.

RECOMMENDED:

Bill Childress
District Manager, Las Cruces District Office

APPROVED:

Jesse Juen
State Director, BLM New Mexico