



# Ironwood Forest National Monument Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement



## Cultural Resources Terms

**Archaeology:** The scientific study of the material remains (artifacts, buildings, etc) of past human life and activities.

**Archaeological Site:** A discrete location that provides physical evidence of past human activity, usually at least 50 years old.

**Artifact:** An object made or modified by humans.

**Cave:** Any naturally occurring void, cavity, recess, or system of interconnected passages which occurs beneath the surface of the earth or within a cliff or ledge [including any cave resource therein, but not including any vug (a small cavity in a rock), mine, tunnel, aqueduct, or other man-made excavation] which is large enough to permit an individual to enter, whether or not the entrance is naturally formed or man-made. Such term shall include any natural pit, sinkhole, or other feature that is an extension of the entrance.

**Cultural Resources:** A cultural resource is any definite location of past human activity, occupation, or use, identifiable through inventory, historical documentation, or oral evidence. Cultural resources include archaeological, historic, or architectural sites, buildings, structures, districts, places, objects, and artifacts.

**Cultural Resource Use Categories:** It is BLM policy to allocate significant cultural resources to one of five use categories: Scientific use: sites with potential to yield important information; these sites need not be conserved if a data recovery plan can be implemented to make appropriate use of their research importance.

1. Conservation for future use: reserved for cultural resources of exceptional importance, interest, or scarcity that warrant segregation from all other land or resource uses in order to maintain them in their current condition.
2. Traditional use: sites that warrant management to accommodate important continuing traditional uses.
3. Public use: sites suitable for public interpretation or related educational and recreational use.
4. Experimental use: sites suitable for controlled experimental study for the purposes of achieving better management of cultural resources.

Any cultural resources evaluated as lacking significant values are discharged from management and not assigned to a use category.

**Indian Sacred Sites:** Defined in Executive Order 13007 as "any specific, discrete, narrowly delineated location on Federal land that is identified by an Indian tribe, or Indian individual determined to be an appropriately authoritative representative of an Indian religion, as sacred by virtue of its established religious significance to, or ceremonial use by, an Indian religion; provided that the tribe or appropriately authoritative representative of an Indian religion has informed the agency of the existence of such a site."



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## Cultural Resources Terms (Continued)

**Indian Trust Assets:** Legal interests in property held in trust by the United States for Indian tribes or individuals, such as lands, minerals, hunting and fishing rights, and water rights.

**Multiple Use:** Multiple use as defined by the Multiple Use – Sustained Yield Act 1960 means, (1) the management of all the various renewable surface resources so that they are used in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people, (2) making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions, (3) that some land will be used for less than all of the resources, and (4) and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land, with consideration being given to the relative values of the various resources, and not necessarily the combination of uses that will be given the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output.

**National Historic Preservation Act:** This 1966 law is the cornerstone of the Federal government historic preservation program. Section 106 of the Act stipulates that Federal agencies take into account historic properties (that is, resources eligible for the National Register of Historic Places) as Federal undertakings (that is Federal projects or Federally funded or licensed projects) are planned and implemented. Regulations for Protection of Historic Properties (Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 800) define a process for demonstrating such consideration by consulting with State Historic Preservation Officers, the Federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and other interested organizations and individuals.

**National Register of Historic Places (National Register; NRHP):** A listing of districts, sites, structures, buildings, and objects of importance in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture and worthy of preservation because of their national, state, or local significance. The Register was established by the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and is maintained by the National Park Service. Eligible properties must maintain historic integrity, and normally must be at least 50 years old.

**Paleontology:** the science of animal and plant fossil remains.

**Petroglyphs:** Designs pecked onto rock surfaces. Southwestern petroglyphs are sometimes referred to as “rock writing,” but they are not a written language. They also are referred to as “rock art,” but the aesthetics and meaning that petroglyphs had for their makers remain unknown.

**Reclamation:** The process of converting disturbed land to its former use or other productive uses.

**Restore/Restoration:** The process of restoring site conditions as they were before land disturbance. Note: restoration involves restoring a site to a specific point in time.