



Ironwood Forest National Monument Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement



Draft Goals and Objectives – Cultural Resources

Goal: Continue ongoing inventory and evaluation of cultural resources on the monument.

Objectives:

1. Complete 5,000-acre survey being conducted via a cooperative agreement with the University of Arizona.
2. Plan and conduct surveys in areas having potential significant resources that are at risk. The following are identified as high priority areas for survey:
 - areas within 200 feet of roads and trails
 - vicinity of Cocoraque Butte Archaeological District
 - vicinity of Santa Ana del Cuiquiburitac Mission Site



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Draft Goals and Objectives – Cultural Resources

Goal: Preserve and protect significant cultural resources and ensure that they are available for appropriate uses by present and future generations.

Objectives:

1. Protect and preserve in place representative examples of the full array of cultural resources on public lands for the benefit of scientific and public use by present and future generations.
2. Ensure that proposed land uses, initiated or authorized by BLM, avoid inadvertent damage to Federal and non-Federal cultural resources through reviews in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
3. Continue the program of archaeological site monitoring and develop adaptive management responses to identified threats.



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Draft Goals and Objectives – Cultural Resources

Goal: Recognize the potential public and scientific use of, and the values attributed to cultural resources on the public lands, and manage the lands and cultural resources so that these uses and values are not diminished, but rather are maintained and enhanced.

Objectives:

1. In accordance with BLM policy, allocate cultural resources to (1) scientific use, (2) conservation for future use, (3) traditional use, (4) public use, or (5) experimental use, or if lacking significant values, classify as discharged from management.
2. Provide educational and interpretive opportunities to enhance public understanding and appreciation of the cultural resources on the monument focusing on the themes of (1) prehistoric adaptations to the Sonoran Desert, (2) Tohono O’odham interactions with Euro-American settlers, and (3) historic mining and ranching.
3. Develop opportunities for the public to actively participate in volunteer programs that protect, preserve, conserve and interpret cultural resources on the monument.
4. Promote public interpretation of selected cultural resources in partnership with other organizations pursuing heritage tourism.
5. Promote archaeological research through partnerships and cooperative programs.



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Goal: Contribute to land use planning and multiple use management of the public lands in ways that make optimal use of the thousands of years of land use history inherent in cultural resources information, and that safeguard opportunities for attaining appropriate uses of cultural resources.

Objectives:

1. Develop cultural resource management plans for (1) portions of Los Robles Archaeological District within IFNM, (2) Cocoraque Butte Archaeological District, and (3) Santa Ana del Cuiquiburitac Mission Site.
2. Participate in development of any plan amendments or implementation plans that have a potential to affect cultural resources.
3. Continue to participate in the Arizona State Office strategic planning for the cultural resource program on public lands.
4. Coordinate with the agencies and tribes that manage cultural resources on adjacent lands.



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Draft Goals and Objectives – Caves

Goal: Protect and manage caves in accordance with Federal Cave Resources Protection Act and BLM management guidelines. Protect significant cave resources including cultural, geological, biological, hydrological, educational, and recreational values and manage each cave for its primary unique resource opportunity.

Objectives:

1. Establish Memoranda of Understanding for Cooperative Agreements with appropriate scientific organizations, and other Federal and State agencies to allow for discovery and inventory of cave locations, and assessment of cave condition.
2. Establish criteria to assess the quality of the cave including cultural, geological, biological, hydrological, educational, and recreational values.
3. Conduct surveys where, based on geology, caves may occur. If cave is located, conduct assessment of quality of the cave.
4. Establish database for inventory of caves on the monument to include information to assess the quality of the cave. This may include locations that should remain confidential (adequate protection must be developed for these data entries) until a time, as determined by the BLM Director from advisement of resource staff that the cave has been evaluated and methods of protection from human entry established, if suitable.



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Draft Goals and Objectives – Paleontology

Goal: Protect and manage the paleontological resources for their scientific, educational, and recreational values in accordance with BLM management guidelines. Encourage the protection, storage, and preservation of fossils collected by qualified personnel from IFNM lands.

Objectives:

1. Establish Memoranda of Understanding for Cooperative Agreements with a museum(s), university(ies), or other appropriate scientific organizations to allow for evaluation, collection, mitigation, curation, and protection of paleontological resources discovered on the monument and surrounding BLM lands.
2. Develop and maintain a database for known and discovered paleontological sites the monument and BLM administered lands.
3. Encourage paleontological surveys of areas that may have paleontological resources as part of the Memoranda of Understanding and cooperative agreement(s) with the restriction of fossil collection on the IFNM to qualified personnel, with fossils remaining in federal ownership in perpetuity.
4. Consider paleontological resources survey of areas on the monument subject to ground disturbance.