

PUBLIC WORKSHOP

*Draft Vision and
Public Participation Opportunities*

MARCH 29, 2004



Presentation Overview

- Why are we planning?
- Review of the Planning Process
- Review of the March 8, 2004 Workshop
- Upcoming Public Involvement Opportunities
- Overview of IFNM Ecology
- Allowable uses within the IFNM
- Revised Vision for the IFNM
- Draft Overarching Goals for the IFNM
- Break-out Groups



Why are we planning?

- Designation of the Ironwood Forest National Monument (IFNM)
- Community growth with increased demands on public land
- Community values



Planning Area

- Encompasses over 189,600 acres
 - 128,900 acres of public land
 - 54,700 acres of State Trust Land
 - 6,000 acres of private land
- Current management guidance
 - 1989 Phoenix Resource Management Plan (RMP)
 - 1987 Eastern Arizona Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
 - Presidential Proclamation 7320
 - Interim guidance for the IFNM



Planning Process

- Logical sequential steps
- Includes technical studies
- Allows for interaction with agencies and the public throughout



March 8, 2004 Workshops

- Overview of BLM's History
- Reviewed the results of scoping
- Gathered public input on what types of public involvement activities should be provided
- Gathered input on the draft vision for the IFNM



Comments on Public Involvement Opportunities

- Strong desire to have organized field trips
- Present technical information on resources or uses
- Guest speakers from Arizona Game and Fish Department, Border Patrol, tribes, researchers, non-profit organizations



Next Steps for Public Involvement

- Workshops with technical presentation
 - Air, water resources, geology, soils, vegetation
 - Wildlife habitat, special status species, cultural resources
 - Visual resources, transportation, access
 - Lands and realty, ranching/grazing, mining
- Input on resource-specific goals



Ecology of the IFNM

MARK DIMMITT/

TOM VANDEVENDER

Arizona Sonora Desert Museum



Currently Allowable Uses

- Ranching/livestock grazing
- Mining
- Utilities/infrastructure
- Recreation
- Etc.



Vision, Goals, Objectives, and Alternatives

- Develop vision
- Develop overarching goals – relevant to multiple resources
- Develop resource-specific goals
- Develop objectives to describe how to achieve each resource-specific goal
- Develop alternatives for each objective



Draft Vision for the IFNM

“The Ironwood Forest National Monument will remain a place where the ironwood-rich Sonoran Desert ecosystem retains its naturalness, open spaces, outstanding vistas, and unique resources for present and future generations to use, enjoy, and appreciate.”



Revised Vision for the IFNM

“The Ironwood Forest National Monument is a place where the ironwood-rich Sonoran Desert ecosystem, including its open spaces, outstanding vistas, and unique resources, is conserved, protected, and enhanced while providing opportunities for recreation, education, and other allowable uses for the enjoyment and appreciation of present and future generations.”



Draft Overarching Goals

- Protect, conserve, enhance, and restore biodiversity, habitat integrity, and population viability of the biotic community.
- Provide for compatible, sustainable public use and enjoyment of public land.
- Encourage community and agency collaboration for managing and protecting the Monument.
- Manage cultural resources to protect and conserve their integrity and values.



Draft Overarching Goals (continued)

- Expand understanding and appreciation of the IFNM and its natural and cultural resources.
- Use a landscape-based approach to maintain and enhance the natural and cultural values of the IFNM.
- Manage public land and pursue partnerships to provide social and economic benefits to local residents, businesses, visitors, and future generations.



Break-out Groups

- Review the Draft Overarching Goals for the IFNM
- Make your comments most effective by being specific
- Reconvene following break-outs to hear ideas from other groups



General Comments or Questions?

