



Ironwood Forest National Monument Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement



Draft Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Goals and Objectives

Goal: Maintain or restore ecosystem health and native biodiversity.*

Objectives:

1. Management and implementation of all resource programs must consider the standards component of the *Arizona Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Administration*.
2. Acquire non-Federal lands within the monument based on the potential to maintain or restore ecosystem health and native biodiversity.
3. Evaluate proposals to enhance wildlife populations through reintroductions, transplants, and supplemental stockings of wildlife species.

**Note: This goal and associated objectives may be discussed again during the workshop related to vegetation and special status species, as appropriate.*



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Goal: Conserve and recover threatened and endangered species and their habitats, and manage to prevent the listing of additional species.*

Objectives:

1. Implement monitoring programs for known populations of listed and candidate species. Where monitoring identifies threats to these populations, take actions to protect the species and their habitats.
2. Acquire lands that contain habitat for listed or proposed species, as the opportunity arises and in accordance with the following criteria.
3. Within the range/distribution of listed or proposed species, livestock grazing allowable use will conform to the guidelines described in the "Not Likely to Adversely Affect" section of *Guidance Criteria for Determinations of Effects of Grazing Permit Issuance and Renewal on Threatened and Endangered Species* (Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona and New Mexico, 1999), or any subsequent agreed upon amendment to these guidelines.
4. Continue to support recovery efforts for threatened and endangered species that occur on the monument.
5. Update the BLM Sensitive Species List for the monument, and implement management decisions to support their conservation.
6. Continue to support conservation efforts for species occurring on the monument that are identified as BLM Sensitive Species or designated as rare or sensitive by resource management agencies.

**Note: This goal and associated objectives may be discussed again during the workshop related to vegetation and special status species, as appropriate.*



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Goal: Conserve, restore, or enhance native wildlife habitats.

Objectives:

1. Identify, minimize, and mitigate for wildlife habitat degradation, loss, and fragmentation.
2. Develop, implement, and update wildlife habitat management through the use of Wildlife Habitat Management Plans, developed in cooperation with Arizona Game and Fish Department, to meet the requirements of the Sikes Act and address site-specific habitat management objectives.
3. Manage desert tortoise habitat to achieve “no net loss” in the quality or quantity of desert tortoise habitat. Mitigation for conflicts is permissible to achieve no net loss in quantity or quality of desert tortoise habitat.
4. Support and/or implement public education program(s) directed to management of wildlife and wildlife habitat.
5. Manage/conservate areas identified as important for the viability of the bighorn sheep populations, including but not limited to lambing areas and movement corridors.
6. Evaluate impacts of existing and potential future artificial wildlife waters. Manage the waters accordingly, including existing and consideration of new artificial waters.



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Draft Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Goals and Objectives

Goal: Maintain, restore, or enhance wildlife corridors.

Objectives:

1. Maintain, restore, or enhance corridors between blocks of habitat to ensure unrestricted wildlife movement.
2. Acquire lands or easements within the monument deemed necessary to provide corridors between blocks of habitat for wildlife.



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Draft Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Goals and Objectives

Goal: Maintain habitat connectivity and limit habitat fragmentation.

Objectives:

1. Prevent fragmenting habitat when siting roads, communication sites, or permitting other activities within the monument.
2. Protect large, contiguous blocks of native Sonoran desert habitat to ensure habitat remains viable and sustainable.