

IRONWOOD FOREST NATIONAL MONUMENT
INFORMATION MEETING
MARCH 13, 2002
PINAL AIR PARK, MARANA

Agenda:

6 p.m.	Welcome and introductions, purpose of meeting	Tony Herrell
6:15	Presentation of Interim Grazing Management	Darrell Tersey
6:30	Presentations by Workgroups	Workgroup participants
	Recreation	
	Cultural	
7:30	BREAK	
7:45	Continuation of Workgroup Presentations	
	Wildlife	
	Vegetation	
	Lands and minerals	
9:15	Wrap-up	
9:30	Adjourn	

Approximately 60 individuals attended a public information meeting about the Ironwood Forest National Monument, on March 13, 2002, at Pinal Air Park near Marana.

Tony Herrell of the Bureau of Land Management thanked the public for their time, interest and participation at Ironwood public meetings.

He then introduced Mike Brown, manager of the Sonoran Desert National Monument, and some of his staff.

Shela McFarlin, Tucson Field Manager, followed with the immediate management priorities for the monument:

- 1) Managing target shooting in relation to public safety
- 2) Garbage and public safety in relation to undocumented immigrants
- 3) Addressing the Asarco trespass
- 4) Other interim management issues
- 5) long term planning for the monument

Darrell Tersey then updated the public on interim grazing management in the monument and three grazing livestock operation proposals. Interim grazing guidelines on the monument are the standard BLM guidelines. EAs are required for all three proposals.

The first proposal is a request to drill a well, which would move livestock and other impacts away from the Nichols Turkshead cactus. The new well would require about 50 ft of new line, then connect to the existing line. Anticipated impacts included short term noise, dust and a 50 ft trench. Vegetation is sparse.

The second proposal is to build a well on Arizona State Trust land to replace runoff that now supports new grass cover. The storage tank would be on adjacent BLM land and funding would come through NRCS.

The third proposal is to reconstruct 6 miles of boundary fence through the Aguirre Valley against the Tohono O'odham nation. The current fence is overgrown, cattle wander freely and there are large erosion cuts. Normal fence mending does not require an EA, however one is required to rebuild an entire fence. The fence is near a historic site and there are also cultural issues.

Each work group then presented key highlights of preliminary issues and necessary data needed for the beginning of the planning process. Copies of workgroup issues and necessary data, as well as pertinent public questions, are available upon request. Please contact Na'ama Tubman, BLM Editorial Assistant, at 258.7223 for more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.