

**SAFFORD-TUCSON
FIRE MANAGEMENT ZONE

FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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Safford-Tucson Fire Management Zone Fire Management Plan

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

The purpose of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Safford-Tucson Fire Management Zone Fire Management Plan (STFMZ-FMP) is to identify and integrate all wildland fire management guidance, direction, and activities required to implement national fire policy and fire management direction. Overall direction from the Safford Resource Management Plan (SAD-RMP) and the Phoenix Resource Management Plan (PHX-RMP) and their associated implementation plans, as well as the Arizona Statewide Land Use Plan Amendment for Fire, Fuels, and Air Quality Management (LUPA), allows fire to be restored as an integral part of an ecosystem function to meet resource management objectives and to improve protection of human life and property through the reduction of hazardous fuels. The STFMZ-FMP allows management direction to be easily accessible by fire and resource personnel. It highlights management direction to facilitate development and implementation of fire management strategies. A Glossary of Terms is provided at the end of this document to assist in clarifying technical terms.

The FMP was developed around a Zone fire management program and addresses all aspects of it, including Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), rural fire assistance, prescribed fire, fuels management, prevention, and suppression. The FMP identifies a fire program that meets identified fire management objectives. This plan covers all burnable public land acres within the STFMZ and is a strategic document.

The fire management organization outlined in the FMP will be utilized in the development of annual budget requests and annual work plans. Proposed actions, alternatives, and environmental analyses, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), will be based on these strategies and developed for implementation of site specific projects. In addition, this FMP lays the foundation for future collaborative efforts involving interagency partners and state and local cooperators.

B. Relationship to Environmental Compliance

All fire management objectives, constraints, and activities contained within this plan are consistent with the SAD-RMP, the PHX-RMP, and the Arizona Statewide Land Use Plan Amendment for Fire, Fuels, and Air Quality Management and associated Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) and Environmental Analyses (EA).

C. Collaborative Process Identification

This FMP is for the BLM Safford and Tucson Field Offices. The STFMZ-FMP is a strategic document identifying approved fire management direction determined by the RMPs and analyzed in the final environmental impact statements for these plans. Both of these RMPs were developed with input from and consultation with representatives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the State of Arizona, the City of Safford, and interested citizens. The STFMZ-FMP meets the national requirement that all BLM administered lands subject to wildland fires are managed under a current FMP. The STFMZ-FMP also

meets regulatory compliance requirements with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as it is a strategic document that does not make resource management decisions or project specific implementation decisions and therefore is categorically excluded from further NEPA analysis (Categorical Exclusion 516 DM2, Appendix 1, Chapter 2, 1.10). Prior to implementing fire management projects on-the-ground, additional environmental analysis and compliance with other federal and state regulatory requirements such as the National Historic Preservation Act and the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act will be required.

D. Authorities

The “Principal Wildland Fire Laws” reference guide dated October 2003 consolidates in one guide applicable laws covering the BLM fire management program.

Authorities for the Fire Management program are listed below:

1. PROTECTION AND SUPPRESSION

a. BLM LANDS GENERALLY: STATUTORY LAW

- Protection Act of September 20, 1922: Protection of Timber Resource (16 U.S.C. § 594)
- Taylor Grazing Act: Protection of Grazing Districts and Other Interior Lands (43 U.S.C. § 315a)
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA): Preservation and Protection of BLM Lands (43 U.S.C. §§ 1701-52)
- Wildfire Disaster Recovery Act of 1989: Protection of National Forests: Reforestation; Management: Report on Rehabilitation Needs (16 U.S.C. § 551b)
- Wildfire Disaster Recovery Act of 1989: Protection of National Forests: Reforestation; Management: Planning for Fire Protection (16 U.S.C. § 551c)
- Appropriations Act: Wildland Fire Management (2001)

b. BLM LANDS GENERALLY: ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

- Fire Management: Wildfire Prevention (43 C.F.R. § 9212.0 et seq.)
- Fire Management: Wildfire Prevention, Prohibited Acts on BLM Lands (43 C.F.R. § 9212.1)
- Fire Management: Wildfire Prevention, Fire Prevention Orders (43 C.F.R. § 9212.2)
- Fire Management: Wildfire Prevention, Permits (43 C.F.R. § 9212.3)
- Fire Management: Wildfire Prevention, Penalties (43 C.F.R. § 9212.4)
- Forest Management: Sales of Forest Products May Include Provisions for Fire Safety (43 C.F.R. § 5424.0-6)
- Visitor Services: Closures and Restriction Orders, Recreation Management (43 C.F.R. § 8364.1)

- Recreation Management: Temporary Closure of Lands (43 C.F.R. § 9268.3)
- State and Local Laws (43 C.F.R. § 8365.1-7) Executive Order No. 11644: Use of Off-Road Vehicles on Public Lands

c. SPECIFIC BLM LANDS: ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

1. National Wilderness Preservation System

- Regulations for Administration and Use of Wilderness Areas (43 C.F.R. § 19.6)
- Emergency Functions in Wilderness Areas (43 C.F.R.
- Provisions to Control Fire, Insects, and Disease in Wilderness Areas (43 C.F.R. § 6304.22)
- Wild & Scenic Rivers and National Trails System Acts
- Emergency Motorized Vehicle Use on National Scenic Trails (43 C.F.R. § 8351.1-1)
- Special Rules Exempting Fire Fighters on Official Duty (43 C.F.R. § 8351.2-1)
- Prohibition on Fire within National Wild & Scenic River System (43 C.F.R. § 8351.2-1e)

d. OTHER DOI LANDS (NON-BLM): STATUTORY LAW

- National Wildlife System Administration Act of 1966: Interagency Agreements (42 U.S.C. § 668dd)

2. PRESCRIBED FIRE AND FIRE USE

a. BLM LANDS GENERALLY: STATUTORY LAW

- McSweeney-McNary Act (16 U.S.C. § 1647) – repealed.
- Taylor Grazing Act (43 U.S.C. § 315a)
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. §§1701-52)
- Appropriations Act: Wildland Fire Management (2001)

b. STATE LANDS: STATUTORY LAW

- Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act or Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (16 U.S.C. § 669)

3. CONTRACTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, GRANTS AND COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

a. BLM GENERALLY: STATUTORY LAW, CONTRACTS

- Federal Property and Administrative Services Act: Guidelines for Contracting (40 U.S.C. § 471)
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. §§ 1701-52)

- Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act: Using Procurement Contracts, Grants and Cooperative Agreements (31 U.S.C. §§ 6301-6307)
- Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act: Intergovernmental Cooperation: Authority to Provide Specialized or Technical Services (31 U.S.C. § 6505)
- Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act: Intergovernmental Cooperation (31 U.S.C. §§ 6501-6508)
- Economy Act of 1932: Interagency Orders for Goods and Services (31 U.S.C. § 1535)

b. BLM GENERALLY: STATUTORY LAW, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS & GRANTS

- Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act: Using Procurement Contracts, Grants and Cooperative Agreements (31 U.S.C. §§ 6301-6307)
- Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act: Using Procurement Contracts and Grant and Cooperative Agreements: Authority to Vest Title in Tangible Personal Property for Research (31 U.S.C. § 6306)
 - Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act: Using Procurement Contracts and Grant and Cooperative Agreements: Use of Multiple Relationships for Different Parts of Jointly Financed Projects
 - Reciprocal Fire Protection Act of 1955: Reciprocal Fire Protection Agreements (42 U.S.C. § 1856 (a)-(d))
 - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act: Protection and Conservation of Wildlife: Game, Fur-bearing Animals and Fish (16 U.S.C. § 661).
 - Appropriations Act: Wildland Fire Management (2001)
 - Appropriations Act: Wildland Fire Management (Public Law 107-63 (HR 2217))
 - Supplemental Appropriations of 1982 (U.S.C.C.A.N. 96 Stat. 837)

c. STATE LANDS: STATUTORY LAW

- Conservation Programs on Government Lands (16 U.S.C. § 670(h))

d. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS GENERALLY

- Wildfire Suppression Assistance Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. § 1856(m) - (p))

e. SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, U.S./CANADA AND U.S./MEXICO

- Wildfire Suppression Assistance Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. § 1856(m) - (p))

f. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

- Appropriations Act: Wildland Fire Management (2001)

g. NON-DOI LANDS: ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

- Emergency Fire Protection Aid to Other Fire Departments Not Within DOI (43 C.F.R. § 28)

h . BLM GENERALLY: ADMINISTRATIVE LAW, GRANTS

- Grants of Equipment and Supplies from DOI to State and Local Grantees (43 C.F.R. §§ 12.72 & 12.73)
- Enforcement of Grants (43 § C.F.R. 12.83)

4. MAJOR DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES

a. STATUTORY LAW

- Major Disaster Assistance Programs: Fire Management Assistance (42 U.S.C. § 5187)
- Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 as amended: The Federal Emergency Management Administration's Ability to Engage BLM and Other Federal Agencies (15 U.S.C. § 2201)
- National Historic Preservation Act: Historic Sites, Buildings, etc. (16 U.S.C. § 464)

b. ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

- Emergency Management and Requested Assistance (44 C.F.R. § 10.13)
- Fire Prevention and Control: Assistance by Other Federal Agencies (44 C.F.R. § 206.5)
- Donation or Loan of Federal Equipment and Supplies (44 C.F.R. § 206.6)
- Implementation of Assistance from Other Federal Agencies (44 C.F.R. § 206.7)
- Reimbursement of Other Federal Agencies (44 C.F.R. § 206.8)
- Nonliability of Federal Government (44 C.F.R. § 206.9)
- Standards and Reviews (44 C.F.R. § 206.13)
- Recovery of Assistance: Liable Party (44 C.F.R. § 206.15)
- Audit and Investigations (44 C.F.R. § 206.16)
- Designation of Affected Areas and Eligible Assistance (44 C.F.R. § 206.40)
- Responsibilities of Coordinating Officers (44 C.F.R. § 206.42)
- Emergency Support Teams (44 C.F.R. § 206.43)
- Available Assistance under Emergency Declarations (44 C.F.R. § 206.62)
- Provision of Assistance Limited to the Immediate and Short Term (44 C.F.R. § 206.63)

- Coordination of Assistance under the Federal Coordinating Officer (44 C.F.R. § 206.64)
- Cost Sharing (44 C.F.R. § 206.65)
- Duplication of Benefits to Individuals and Families (44 C.F.R. § 206.191)
- Direct Federal Assistance (44 C.F.R. § 206.208)
- Fire Suppression Assistance (44 C.F.R. § 206.390)
- FEMA-State Agreement Governs Federal Assistance (44 C.F.R. § 206.391)
- Providing Assistance (44 C.F.R. § 206.393)
- Expense Recovery (44 C.F.R. § 206.394)

5. OTHER FEDERAL LAWS THAT MAY APPLY

- National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-4370e)
- Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 - 1544)
- Clean Water Act of 1948, as amended 1966, 1972 (CWA) (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 – 1387)
- The Clean Air Act of 1970 (CAA) (42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 - 7671q)
- Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1131-1136)
- Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 U.S.C. §§ 431-433)
- National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended (1992) (16 U.S.C. §§ 470 et seq.)

6. Other Guidance

- United States Department of the Interior Manual (910 DM 1.3)
- 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy
- 2001 Updated Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy Update)
- 1998 Departmental Manual 620 Chapter 1, Wildland Fire Management General Policy and Procedures

II. Relationship to Land Management Planning/Fire Policy

A. Policy

The FMP has been tiered to decisions contained within the approved land use plans for the STFMZ. These plans provide the basis for fire management goals and objectives.

This FMP obtains guidance from the following:

2001 Federal Wildland Fire Policy Statements

- 1. Safety:** Firefighter and public safety is the first priority. All Fire Management Plans and activities must reflect this commitment.
- 2. Fire Management and Ecosystem Sustainability:** The full range of fire management activities will be used to help achieve ecosystem sustainability, including its interrelated ecological, economic, and social components.

3. **Response to Wildland Fire:** Fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and resource related consequences of wildland fire impacts. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to the fire.
4. **Use of Wildland Fire:** Wildland fire will be used to protect, maintain, and enhance resources and, as nearly as possible, be allowed to function in its natural ecological role. Use of fire will be based on approved Fire Management Plans and will follow specific prescriptions contained in operational plans.
5. **Rehabilitation and Restoration:** Rehabilitation and restoration efforts will be undertaken to protect and sustain ecosystems, public health, and safety, and to help communities protect infrastructure.
6. **Protection Priorities:** The protection of human life is the single, overriding priority. Setting priorities among protecting human communities and community infrastructure, other property and improvements, and natural and cultural resources will be based on the values to be protected, human health and safety, and the costs of protection. Once people have been committed to an incident, these human resources become the highest value to be protected.
7. **Wildland Urban Interface:** The operational roles of federal agencies as partners in the Wildland Urban Interface are wildland firefighting, hazardous fuels reduction, cooperative prevention and education, and technical assistance. Structural fire suppression is the responsibility of tribal, State, or local governments. Federal agencies may assist with exterior structural protection activities under formal Fire Protection Agreements that specify the mutual responsibilities of the partners, including funding. (Some federal agencies have full structural protection authority for their facilities on lands they administer, and may also enter into formal agreements to assist State and local governments with full structural protection.)
8. **Planning:** Every area with burnable vegetation must have an approved Fire Management Plan. Fire Management Plans are strategic plans that define a program to manage wildland and prescribed fires based on the area's approved land management plan. Fire Management Plans must provide for firefighter and public safety; include fire management strategies, tactics, and alternatives; address values to be protected and public health issues; and be consistent with resource management objectives, activities of the area, and environmental laws and regulations.
9. **Science:** Fire Management Plans and programs will be based on a foundation of sound science. Research will support ongoing efforts to increase our scientific knowledge of biological, physical, and sociological factors. Information needed to support fire management will be developed through an integrated interagency fire science program. Scientific results must be made available to managers in a timely manner and must be used in the development of land management plans, Fire Management Plans, and implementation plans.

- 10. Preparedness:** Agencies will ensure their capability to provide safe, cost-effective fire management programs in support of land and resource management plans through appropriate planning, staffing, training, equipment, and management oversight.
- 11. Suppression:** Fires are suppressed at minimum cost, considering firefighter and public safety, benefits, and values to be protected, consistent with resource objectives.
- 12. Prevention:** Agencies will work together and with their partners and other affected groups and individuals to prevent unauthorized ignition of wildland fires.
- 13. Standardization:** Agencies will use compatible planning processes, funding mechanisms, training and qualification requirements, operational procedures, values-to-be-protected methodologies, and public education programs for all fire management activities.
- 14. Interagency Cooperation and Coordination:** Fire management planning, preparedness, prevention, suppression, fire use, restoration and rehabilitation, monitoring, research, and education will be conducted on an interagency basis with the involvement of cooperators and partners.
- 15. Communication and Education:** Agencies will enhance knowledge and understanding of wildland fire management policies and practices through internal and external communication and education programs. These programs will be continuously improved through the timely and effective exchange of information among all affected agencies and organizations.
- 16. Agency Administrator and Employee Roles:** Agency administrators will ensure that their employees are trained, certified, and made available to participate in the wildland fire program locally, regionally, and nationally as the situation demands. Employees with operational, administrative, or other skills will support the wildland fire program as necessary. Agency administrators are responsible and will be held accountable for making employees available.
- 17. Evaluation:** Agencies will develop and implement a systematic method of evaluation to determine effectiveness of projects through implementation of the 2001 Federal Fire Policy. The evaluation will assure accountability, facilitate resolution of areas of conflict, and identify resource shortages and agency priorities.

The STFMZ-FMP also establishes program guidance based on the following information:

- 1998 BLM Handbook 9214, “Prescribed Fire Management” describes authority and policy for prescribed fire use on public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.
- September 2000, “Managing the Impacts of Wildfires on Communities and the Environment.”
- October 2000, National Cohesive Strategy goal is to coordinate an aggressive, collaborative approach to reduce the threat of wildland fire to communities and to restore and maintain land health (www.fireplan.gov)
- August 2001, “Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment -10 Year Comprehensive Strategy” provides a foundation for wildland agencies to work closely with all levels of

government, tribes, conservation, and commodity groups and community-based restoration groups to reduce wildland fire risk to communities and the environment,

- May 2002, “Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment, 10 Year Comprehensive Strategy – Implementation Plan”
- August 2002, “Healthy Forests - An Initiative for Wildfire Prevention and Stronger Communities.”
- 1995 Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness Management Plan, Environmental Assessment, and Decision Record
- 1995 Dos Cabezas Mountains Wilderness Management Plan, Environmental Assessment, and Decision Record
- 1998 Gila Box Management Plan, Environmental Assessment, and Decision Record
- 1993 San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Habitat Management Plan.
- 1998 Muleshoe Ecosystem Management Plan and Environmental Assessment
- 2003 Las Cienegas Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision
- Safford District RMP (Date Approved: Record of Decision Part I – 09/1992, Record of Decision Part II – 07/1994)
- 1988 Phoenix District RMP
- 1988 Wilderness Management Plan for the Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness
- Arizona Statewide Land Use Plan Amendment for Fire, Fuels, and Air Quality Management (2004)
- Healthy Forest Restoration Act (2003)

B. Resource Management Plan Guidance

Wildland fire management activities within the STFMZ will assist in meeting the following management goals, standards, and guidelines from the following plans: Safford RMP, Phoenix RMP, Lower Gila RMP, LUPA, Peloncillo Wilderness Management Plan, Dos Cabezas Wilderness Management Plan, and Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness Management Plan, Gila Box Management Plan, San Pedro Riparian NCA Habitat Management Plan, Muleshoe Ecosystem Management Plan, Las Cienegas Resource Management Plan, Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness Management Plan.

Goals, Standards, Objectives, and/or Desired Future Condition

- Protect human life, both the public and firefighters. This is the single, overriding priority in fire management.
- Protect human communities, their infrastructure, and the natural resources on which they depend. Other property and improvements will be protected.
- Promote resource management activities that encourage upland soils to exhibit infiltration, permeability, and erosion rates that are appropriate to soil type, climate and landform.
- Protect riparian and wetland areas in properly functioning condition (PFC) and improve degraded vegetation for long-term health.

- Support the existence and maintenance of productive and diverse native species in upland and riparian-wetland plant communities.
- Protect sensitive areas from fire intrusion.
- Maintain air quality to meet or exceed applicable federal and state standards and regulations.
- Reduce fire risk to Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) communities.
- Manage for healthy and balanced populations of native wildlife species in their natural habitat.
- Manage the habitat for threatened and endangered species of plants and animals to keep viable populations in their natural ecosystems.
- Promote greater diversity within plant communities of the STFMZ through the use of fire as a resource management tool.
- Management tools such as mechanical thinning, prescribed fire, biological, cultural and/or chemical treatments may be used to make forests dominated by shade-intolerant species more resilient to fire, insects, and disease.
- Manage land treatments to conserve site moisture and to protect long-term stream health from damage through increased runoff.
- Establish a fire effects monitoring system that inventories pre-burn species composition and resulting post fire response, over time.
- Employ fire prevention strategies that reduce human ignition occurrence in campgrounds and transportation corridors.

Standards

- Air: Meet federal and state air quality standards through proper management of emissions.
- Flora and Fauna– Threatened and Endangered Species: Ensure that BLM actions will not reduce the likelihood of survival or recovery of any listed species or destroy or adversely affect or modify designated critical habitat to those species.
- Water: Meet Federal and State water quality standards and prevent degradation through Best Management Practices during and after fires and vegetative treatments.
- Visual: Meet established Visual Resource Management (VRM) class objectives through appropriately planning fuel reduction treatments. VRM will be a consideration for any post-fire erosion control and other burned area rehabilitation and restoration needs.
- Public Lands Health: Apply management strategies within this management unit to comply with Arizona Standards and Guidelines for Achieving Rangeland Health through appropriately planning fuel reduction treatment projects.

Resource Use Objectives

Fire and fuels management and related actions will strive to improve areas within this management unit that are characterized as Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC) II or III and working towards FRCC I. Areas classified as FRCC II and III can be characterized as areas:

- Where fire regimes have been moderately to significantly altered from their historical ranges.

- Where there is a moderate to high risk of losing key ecosystem components.
- Where vegetative attributes have been significantly altered from their historical range.
- Where fire return frequencies have departed from their historical frequencies by more than one return interval.

Wilderness/Wilderness Study Areas: Fire and fuels management actions will meet the wilderness non-impairment mandate for Wilderness Areas. For Wilderness Study Areas fire and fuels management will strive to avoid unnecessary impairment that would affect the suitability toward wilderness designation of these areas. The ultimate goal would be to allow fire to play its natural role in fire dependant ecosystems.

III. Wildland Fire Management Strategies

A. General Management Considerations

In order to comply with direction provided in current National Fire Plan guidance, the Safford RMP, Phoenix RMP, LUPA, Peloncillo Wilderness Management Plan, Dos Cabezas Wilderness Management Plan, and Aravaipa Watershed Management Plan, Gila Box Management Plan, San Pedro Riparian NCA Habitat Management Plan, Muleshoe Ecosystem Management Plan, Las Cienegas Resource Management Plan, and Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness Management Plan, the STFMZ developed the following general wildland fire management guidance. The STFMZ will:

- Use fire to restore and/or sustain ecosystem health based on sound scientific principles and information, balanced with other societal goals, including public health and safety, and air quality.
- Utilize AMR on all wildland fires, with emphasis on minimizing suppression costs, considering fire fighter and public safety, benefits and values to be protected consistent with resource objectives, standards and guidelines.
- Meet management goals and objectives through the use of prescribed fire, mechanical treatments, wildland fire for resource benefit, chemical treatments, biological treatments, and/or cultural treatments.
- Work collaboratively with communities at risk within the WUI to develop plans for risk reduction.
- Work collaboratively with federal, state, and local partners to develop cross boundary management strategies and prioritize cross agency fire management actions.

B. Wildland Fire Management Goals

The STFMZ will conduct all wildland fire management actions in compliance with the 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Policy and the 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Policy Update guiding principles. These principles are:

- Firefighter and public safety are the highest priority in every fire management activity.
- Assess risk to communities in terms of direct wildland fire impact and economic values, and implement effective programs to mitigate that risk through collaborative planning and projects.

- Implement the full range of wildland fire and fuels management practices, including prescribed fire, fire use, mechanical, chemical, biological, and cultural treatments that will move all affected landscapes toward desired future condition as described in the RMP.
- Establish partnerships with all interagency cooperators to facilitate coordinated fire management activities.
- Maintain an efficient and effective organization for the suppression of wildland fires consistent with the values at risk.
- Encourage close resource management coordination and collaboration among specialists within the Safford Field Office (SFO), Tucson Field Office (TFO) and among the SFO, TFO, and other federal, interested organizations, private landowners, state, and local partners.
- Develop and use the best scientific information available to deliver technical and community assistance to support ecological, economic, and social sustainability.
- Allow wildland fire to protect, maintain, and enhance resources, and as nearly as possible be allowed to function in its ecological role when appropriate for the site and situation.
- Create an integrated approach to fire and resource management.

Specific fire programmatic direction for each Fire Management Unit (FMU) within the STFMZ is outlined in Chapter III Section D of the STFMZ-FMP.

C. Wildland Fire Management Options

The STFMZ will utilize AMR on all wildland fires, with emphasis on minimizing suppression costs, considering fire fighter and public safety, benefits and values to be protected consistent with resource objectives, standards and guidelines. Responses to each wildland fire will be initiated in a timely manner using the appropriate available resources, based upon established fire management direction. All fire management actions will adhere to the standards outlined in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations.

The LUPA assigned all BLM administered lands in Arizona one of the two following land use allocations. The best science available was used to determine the allocations and response to fire.

Allocation 1- Wildland Fire Use:

Areas suitable for wildland fire use for resource management benefit.

This includes areas where wildland fire is desired, and there are few or no constraints for its use. Where conditions are suitable, unplanned and planned wildfire may be used to achieve desired objectives, such as to improve vegetation, wildlife habitat or watershed conditions, maintain non-hazardous levels of fuels, reduce the hazardous effects of unplanned wildland fires and meet resource objectives. Where fuel loading is high but conditions are not initially suitable for wildland fire, fuel loads are reduced by mechanical, chemical or biological means to reduce hazardous fuels levels and meet resource objectives (includes WUI areas).

Allocation 2 – Non Wildland Fire Use:

Areas not suitable for wildland fire use for resource benefit.

This allocation includes areas where mitigation and suppression are required to prevent direct threats to life, property, or natural resources. It includes areas where fire never played a large role, historically, in the development and maintenance of the ecosystem, and some areas where fire return intervals were very long. It also includes areas (including some WUI areas) where an unplanned ignition could have negative effects to the ecosystem unless some form of mitigation takes place. Mitigation may include mechanical, biological, chemical or prescribed fire means to maintain non-hazardous levels of fuels and reduce the hazardous effects of unplanned wildland fires and meet resource objectives.

The allocation of lands is based on the desired future condition of vegetation communities, ecological conditions and ecological risks. The allocation of lands is determined by contrasting current and historical conditions and ecological risks associated with any changes. The condition class concept helps describe alterations in key ecosystem components such as species composition, structural stage, stand age, canopy closure, and fuel loadings.

The STFMZ FMP will include the two allocations and identify areas for including fire use, mechanical, biological or chemical means to maintain non-hazardous levels of fuels, reduce the hazardous effects of unplanned wildland fires and meet resource objectives. They will also identify areas for exclusion from fire (through fire suppression), chemical, mechanical, and/or biological treatments.

D. Description of Wildland Fire Management Strategies by Fire Management Unit

The following sections contain a description of each FMU stating fire management objectives, constraints, and planned actions for that FMU. Maps for each FMU are in Appendix A of this document.

Fire Management Objectives Common to All FMU's

- Reduce hazardous fuels by using mechanical, prescribed fire, and other means where applicable around communities at risk from wildfire.
- Determine the AMR to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and locations.
- Review all cooperative agreements annually, update or modify as necessary to promote full cooperation in mutual fire management.

Fire Management Strategies Common to All FMU's

Utilize an AMR to manage wildfires in accordance with natural resource management objectives based on applicable management authorities and plan objectives.

- Monitoring and holding actions to check or confine spread
- Monitoring with pre-planned contingency actions
- Control and extinguishment

Criteria to use for developing an appropriate management response (AMR):

- Risk to firefighters and public health and safety
- Land and resource management objectives
- Technical information provided through the use of fire behavior or fire effects modeling programs
- Weather
- Fuel conditions
- Threats and values to be protected
- Cost efficiencies

Management strategies and action points will be based on fire activity and location. Normally, specific actions or combinations of actions will be determined on site by the incident commander or fire use manager.

Fire and fuels management and related actions will strive to improve areas within this management unit that are characterized as Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC) II or III and working towards FRCC I. Areas classified as FRCC II and III can be characterized as areas:

- Where fire regimes have been moderately or significantly altered from their historical ranges as identified in the Arizona Statewide Land Use Plan Amendment for Fire, Fuels, and Air Quality Management.
- Where there is a moderate to high risk of losing key ecosystem components.
- Where vegetative attributes have been significantly altered from their historical range.
- Where fire return frequencies have departed from their historical frequencies by more than one return interval.

Upland vegetation on public lands within the STFMZ will be managed for watershed protection, livestock use, recreational use, reduction of non-point source pollution, T&E species protection, priority wildlife habitat, firewood, and other incidental human uses. Best management practices and vegetation manipulation will be used to achieve desired plant community management objectives. Apply management strategies within this management unit to comply with Arizona Standards and Guidelines for Achieving Rangeland Health.

1. Apache Navajo (217,150 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

BLM-managed lands in this FMU are intermixed (“checkerboard” pattern) with private and state lands. This FMU is located in Apache and Navajo counties, in east-central Arizona.

Interstate 40 runs east-west through the upper half of this management unit. State routes 77, 87, 99; U.S. Route 191; as well as various additional roadways also offer adequate ground access to the management unit. A considerable concern is the distance this management unit is from Safford. Driving time

from Safford to this management unit is roughly five hours or approximately 200+ miles.

b. Characteristics

The fuels/vegetation within this management unit is comprised mainly of perennial grasses with extensive stands of piñon pine and juniper. There is little fire potential in the grass fuels due to sparse, discontinuous vegetative coverage.

The vegetation in southern portion of this management unit consists primarily of perennial grasses with scattered stands of piñon pine and juniper.

The vegetation in the northern portion of this management unit is a mixture of mid and short grasses, intermingled with shrubs and half shrubs. The upland soils are dominated by Indian ricegrass, galleta, and black grama. The drainageways support alkali sacaton, galleta, and bottlebrush squirreltail. The soils that are saline or gypsic are dominated by mid grasses, but fourwing saltbush, shadscale, mound saltbush, and black greasewood are also locally abundant.

The terrain in southern portion of this management unit is made up of undulating plains and low hills, with an occasionally deeply incised, steep sided drainageway. Volcanic plugs occasionally stand above the level of the plain. Some buttes and mesas rise abruptly above the level of the plains

The terrain in the northern portion of this management unit is made up of broad alluvial slopes and flood plains bordering the main drainageways of the area. Included, however, are cliffs and scarps where saline and gypsiferous soft geologic materials are exposed.

c. Fire History

Fires greater than 50 acres are uncommon; fires in the piñon/juniper dominated areas tend to be small, often single trees. Fire occurrence is very low.

Between 1980 and 2003, no fires were reported on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit.

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the majority of this management unit is rated as II (0-35 year frequency, stand replacement severity); some areas in the eastern portion of this unit are rated as fire regime I (0-35 year frequency, low severity). The current condition class for this FMU is rated as I and II. Fire has not historically played a significant role in this FMU, livestock use and periods of extended drought are be the primary factors for rating portions of this FMU in condition class II.

e. Values at Risk

Within this FMU, Peeble's Navajo cactus (*Pediocactus peeblesianus* var. *peeblesianus*) population inhabits a specific ecological area with historically low fire frequencies, and a distinct lack of fine fuel (fine herbaceous vegetation) continuity. No known structures exist within the confines of or immediately adjacent to the habitat locations for this T&E species. The primary reasons for

decline/vulnerability for this plant species include off-road vehicle traffic, road construction, urban development, mining activities, and overuse by livestock.

The appropriate management responses to be initiated in the event of a wildfire event within or immediately adjacent to specific vegetative T&E habitat locations may include, and are not limited to, the use of minimum impact suppression techniques (M.I.S.T.), not applying direct suppression procedures within a known area inhabited by a vegetative T&E species, or applying suppression operations outside the known area of habitation to reduce a potential threat from wildfire.

In addition to the vegetative T&E species found in this management unit, other values to be protected include a natural gas pipeline owned by the El Paso Natural Gas Company, a 345 kilovolt (KV) powerline and a 69 KV powerline that are owned by the Arizona Public Service Company. Additionally, there are a few homes that border the southern boundary of the ACEC, north of Interstate 40 located in T17N, R20E, Section 33.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

The 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy states, in part, that fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and resource related consequences of wildland fire impacts. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to the fire.

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. The priority for AMR is to prevent wildland fires from spreading to private or other agencies lands and to protect public lands users. Impacts from smoke could impact local communities in the area. Implementing AMR to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives will be based on current conditions and fire location.

Community Assistance/Protection Objectives

Due to the 200+ miles travel distance from Safford to this management unit, closer cooperation between local fire departments (i.e. Joseph City and Holbrook) and the STFMZ needs to be developed. Specific issues such as initial attack priorities and strategies, management constraints, and values to be protected need to be identified and discussed with all cooperating entities.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

BLM will utilize AMR in managing unplanned ignitions.

Community Assistance/Protection

Specific issues such as initial attack priorities and strategies, management constraints, and values to be protected need to be identified and discussed with all cooperating entities.

2. Dos Cabezas – Bowie Mountain (35,932 acres)



FMU Components:

a. Location

This FMU is bounded primarily by private and state lands. The Fort Bowie National Historic Site (National Park Service) borders this FMU on the southeast.

The area is accessible by ground from the west via some improved and unimproved dirt roads off State Route 186 and from the north and east via a few improved and unimproved dirt roads that tier off the Apache Pass Road. Driving time to this management unit from the Safford Field Office is approximately 1.5 – 2.0 hours depending on the destination.

b. Characteristics

In the Dos Cabezas Mountains, access is limited due to private lands surrounding the public lands. The topography is variable with steep, broken slopes and deep washes and drainages.

At the upper elevations characterized by the oak species and alligator juniper, these species tend to resprout vigorously and quickly following fire and assume dominance which can result in a lower seral stage. At the lower elevations natural fire is a prime factor in maintaining the grass dominated plant community by preventing woody species invasion.

The lower elevations (<5,000 feet) are dominated by warm season perennial grasses. The major species are sideoats, black, blue, hairy, sprucetop, and Rothrock grammas; plains lovegrass, cane beardgrass, Arizona cottontop, plains bristlegrass, big sacaton, alkali sacaton, tobosa, vine mesquite, curly mesquite, bush muhly, and mesa, blue, red, poverty, and spidergrass threeawns. Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,000 pounds per acre.

Important shrubs include false mesquite, range ratany, shrubby buckwheat, fourwing saltbush, soaptree yucca, and sacahuista. Mesquite is the dominant tree of the area with other common trees including catclaw acacia, netleaf hackberry, western soapberry, desert willow, Arizona ash, Arizona black walnut, cottonwood, and black willow.

Summer annual grasses are important in the area and include species of grama, panic, sprangletop, and threeawn. Perennial forbs are also important and include species like evolvulus, sida, dyschoriste, wild bean, lotus, matweed, zinnia, hog potato, perezia, cudweeds, and vetch.

The vegetation at the higher elevations (> 5,000 feet) is characterized as an oak-savannah with open canopies (5-10%) of Emory, Mexican blue, Arizona white oak, and one-seed juniper, and perennial grasses in the understory. The major grasses include sideoats, blue, hairy, and purple gramas, bullgrass, deergrass, Texas bluestem, plains lovegrass, woolly bunchgrass, crinkleawn, prairie junegrass, squirreltail, pinyon ricegrass, and beggartick threeawn. The dominant shrubs include sacahuista, California brickelbush, wait-a-bit mimosa, and yerba de pasmo. Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,500 pounds per acre.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 18 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. These fires burned an estimated 3,200 acres. The largest fire burned 1,615 acres. Average fire size was 246 acres. There have been 4 large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period (**Refer to fire history graph in appendix**).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the majority of this management unit is rated as II (0-35 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The current condition class for this FMU is rated from I to III. The lower elevations in this FMU are primarily condition class III, the upper elevations condition class ratings change from III to II and I consecutively.

e. Values at Risk

None identified.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

The 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy states, in part, that fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and resource related consequences of wildland fire impacts. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare,

natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to the fire.

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. The priority for AMR is to prevent wildland fires from spreading to private or other agencies lands and to protect public lands users. Impacts from smoke could impact local communities in the area. Implementing AMR to manage all fires in accordance with management objectives will be based on current conditions and fire location.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

The use of prescribed fire can be implemented to reduce woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

Fire potential is high in years with sufficient precipitation to promote herbaceous growth. Fires usually range from 10 -15 acres in size but may exceed 100-200 acres. Firefighter and public safety are a prime concern. Fire occurrence in the past has been moderate. Fire potential is high in years with sufficient precipitation to promote herbaceous growth. Fire sizes range from small, often single trees, to those with potential to be 300-500 acres. Historically, fires have been suppressed using aerial resources.

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. BLM will manage unplanned ignitions for the benefit of resources only after public safety and property protection can be assured and in conformance with the RMP.

Prescribed Fire

Develop and implement prescribed fire projects in cooperation with Fort Bowie National Historic Site fire management personnel.

3. Gila Box RNCA (21,767 acres)



FMU Components:

a. Location

The Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area (RNCA) is in rugged mountainous terrain situated between the Gila and Peloncillo Mountains. The eastern part of the RNCA is located at the northwest extremity of the Peloncillo Mountains and the western part at the southeast extremity of the Gila Mountains.

Access into this FMU can be gained via:

Bonita Creek and Gila River (West): From Safford travel approximately 5 miles east on U.S. Highway 70 to the town of Solomon and turn left onto Sanchez road. From there, travel north and cross bridge at the Gila River. Then you will drive seven more miles until you reach a Bonita Creek and Gila Box RNCA BLM sign and turn left onto that dirt road. Once on the dirt road continue traveling approximately 2.5 miles to the West entry sign of the Gila RNCA. Total travel time from Safford is approximately 45 minutes.

Gila River (East): Take U.S. Highway 70 east of Safford for 10 miles then turn north on U.S. Highway 191. Follow highway to milepost 160 (just 4 miles south of Clifton) and turn left onto the Black Hills Back Country Byway. Follow this graded dirt road for 4 miles to the Old Safford Bridge at the Gila River. Total travel time from Safford is approximately 1 ½ hours.

b. Characteristics

The RNCA is in rugged mountainous terrain situated between the Gila and Peloncillo Mountains. The eastern part of the RNCA is located at the northwest extremity of the Peloncillo Mountains and the western part at the southeast extremity of the Gila Mountains. These mountains form a more or less continuous northwest trending range typical of the Southern Basin and Range Province of Arizona and New Mexico. The RNCA is at the northern edge of the Basin and Range Province, abutting the southern edge of what is known as the Transitional Zone. This zone, essentially comprising the Mogollon Rim, is mountainous terrain that separates the Colorado Plateau province to the north from the Basin and Range Province to the south.

The RNCA shares approximately one mile of its boundary with the San Carlos Apache Reservation (R.27E.,T.4S, Sec. 33,34,27,26). This section of RNCA boundary is located at the northern end of Bonita Creek. The City of Safford owns 309 acres within the RNCA, and about 1,300 acres of private land is within the RNCA.

Upland areas are dominated primarily by perennial grasses, small shrubs, cacti, and mesquite. With adequate winter precipitation, cool-season forbs and grasses are abundant. The riparian areas are dominated by mesquite, cottonwood, and willow galleries.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 16 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. These fires burned an estimated 731 acres. The

largest fire burned 300 acres. Average fire size was 46 acres. There have been three large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the riparian portion of this management unit is rated as IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity); the upland areas of this unit are rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The fire regime condition class ratings for this FMU are primarily rated at I and II. The riparian zone within this FMU is rated as condition class I; the upland areas are primarily rated at condition class II.

e. Values at Risk

The Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990 designated the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area in order to conserve, protect, and enhance its riparian areas and associated resources, and the aquatic, wildlife, archaeological, paleontological, scientific, cultural, recreational, educational, scenic, and other resources and values.

The role of fire in riparian areas is not well understood. Since fires historically occurred naturally without suppression it is likely that riparian areas adjacent to grasslands maintained by fire were directly impacted on a regular basis. However, the frequency and amount of historical impact are essentially unknown. The impacts from natural ignitions occurring at a localized source are likely to differ from those from management ignitions which usually are more widespread and burn more thoroughly.

Private lands and structures located within this FMU as well as sensitive riparian vegetation require protection from wildfire. The priority for AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. BLM will manage unplanned ignitions for the benefit of resources only after public safety and property protection can be assured and in conformance with the RMP. BLM will pursue development of and utilize a cooperative fire management strategy with the City of Safford and the San Carlos Apache Tribe (San Carlos Apache tribal lands border this unit to the north) that will consider both ecological and administrative issues. Improve and protect the resources of the RNCA by effectively managing both prescribed and wildfire.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Include small portions of riparian areas in prescribed fire units (both natural and prescribed ignitions) on an experimental basis. Special considerations of burn units with riparian areas will be factored into the annual burning strategy.

Operational burn plans will be designed to minimize the chance of fire damaging riparian areas.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire hazardous fuels reduction treatments will continue to protect improvements and cultural sites as well as improving ingress/egress routes within this FMU.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. BLM will manage unplanned ignitions for the benefit of resources only after public safety and property protection can be assured and in conformance with the RMP.

Prescribed Fire

Special considerations of burn units with riparian areas will be factored into the annual burning strategy. Operational burn plans will be designed to minimize the chance of fire damaging riparian areas.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ will work with Gila Box RNCA personnel to identify areas for non-fire fuels treatments as well as evaluate previous non-fire treatments for effectiveness.

4. Guadalupe Canyon (3,417 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

This FMU is bordered on the east by New Mexico; the south boundary of this unit is delineated by the U.S.-Mexico border, and is bordered on the west by Arizona State managed lands. Private land parcels extend into the center of this management unit from the southwestern edge of the management unit.

This area has been identified as a heavy use area for undocumented illegal entrants as well as drug smugglers for illegally entering the United States. Extreme caution and close coordination with BLM and local law enforcement personnel is to be used when working in this management unit.

This management unit is accessible by ground using various existing improved and unimproved dirt roads. The Guadalupe Canyon Road provides access to the southern portion of the management unit and the McDonald Ranch Road (off the Geronimo Trail) provides access to the northern part of the management unit. Driving time to this management unit from Safford is approximately four hours or approximately 140 miles.

b. Characteristics

The topography in this management unit is broken with rolling hills at lower elevations to steep rocky slopes at higher elevations. The plant communities in this management unit are dominated by warm season perennial grasses. The major plant species are sideoats, black, blue, hairy, sprucetop, and Rothrock

gramas, plains lovegrass, cane beardgrass, Arizona cottontop, plains bristlegrass, sacaton, alkali sacaton, tobosa, vine mesquite, curly mesquite, bush muhly, mesa, blue, red, poverty, and spidergrass threeawns. Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,000 pounds per acre.

Important shrubs include false mesquite, range ratany, shrubby buckwheat, fourwing saltbush, soap tree yucca, sacahuista, mariola, mortonia, chittam, tarbush, whitethorn acacia, and littleleaf sumac. Mesquite is the dominant tree of the area with other common trees including catclaw acacia, netleaf hackberry, western soapberry, desert willow, Arizona ash, Arizona black walnut, cottonwood, and black willow.

Summer annual grasses are important in this management unit and include species of grama, panic, sprangletop, and threeawn. Perennial forbs are also important and include species like evolvulous, sida, dyschoriste, wild bean, lotus, matweed, zinnia, hog potato, perezia, cudweeds, and vetch.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, no fires were reported on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit.

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the majority of this management unit is rated as IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The fire regime condition class ratings for this FMU are primarily rated at I and II. The riparian zone within this FMU is rated as condition class I; the upland areas are primarily rated at condition class II.

e. Values at Risk

None identified; check on jaguar habitat

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

This management unit should continue to be managed in concert with other public lands and the Malpai Borderlands Group for both planned and unplanned ignitions. Fire occurrence in the past has been light. Fires have the potential to become large (>2,000 acres). Smoke from unplanned ignitions would not pose any problems. Aerial suppression tactics (SEAT, helicopter) have been used successfully in the past.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Continue working with the Malpai Borderlands Group to implement identified prescribed fire projects to improve rangeland health and promote interagency cooperative efforts.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

This management unit should continue to be managed in concert with other public lands and the Malpai Borderlands Group for both planned and unplanned ignitions.

Prescribed Fire

Continue working with the Malpai Borderlands Group to implement identified prescribed fire projects.

5. Muleshoe (26,883 acres)



FMU Components:

a. Location

The Muleshoe ecosystem lies within the Basin and Range physiographic province. The topography of much of the Muleshoe is characterized by steep, stony and rocky hills and escarpments as high as 10,000 feet rising from narrow, deeply incised canyons. The escarpments diminish on the southern end of the planning area where the topography consists of subdued rolling hills cut by a few deep canyons.

This FMU is bounded on the east, south, and west primarily by Arizona State managed lands interspersed with parcels of private lands. The management unit is bounded on the north by USFS managed lands (Coronado N.F.).

The primary ground access to this management unit is via the Muleshoe Road off the Airport Road which originates in Willcox. The Muleshoe Road turns into Forest Road (FR) 691 and runs in a north-south direction through the center of the management unit. Driving time to this management unit from Safford is approximately three hours.

b. Characteristics

Five major vegetation communities from 14 vegetation associations have been mapped within the Muleshoe ecosystem boundaries: Sonoran desert scrub, desert grassland/semi-desert shrub land, broadleaf deciduous woodland (riparian), evergreen woodland chaparral, montane forests and woodlands. The lower elevation mesa tops and hotter south- and west-facing slopes are dominated by Sonoran desert scrub with creosote bush, palo verde, diverse shrubs and saguaro. Mid-elevations have semi-desert grassland/scrub communities consisting of open stands of evergreen and deciduous trees such as mesquite and hackberry with an understory of native perennial grasses such as sideoats grama and curly mesquite and with varying levels of shrubs such as

acacias, amole, snakeweed and burroweed. Riparian areas support large broad-leaved deciduous forests of sycamore, cottonwood, willow, walnut, ash, and white oak. Mesquite bosques line higher terraces above the floodplain. Steeper slopes at middle and upper elevations support evergreen woodlands of Mexican blue oak and juniper, and on north slopes, a mixed chaparral with species typical of Sierra Madrean vegetation. The highest elevations of the planning area support montane forests and woodlands consisting of open stands of evergreen trees such as Arizona cypress, piñon pine, and ponderosa pine with dense understories of evergreen chaparral shrub species such as manzanita, buckbrush, and snowberry.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 3 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. These fires burned an estimated 81 acres. The largest fire burned 51 acres. Average fire size was 40 acres (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the majority of this management unit is rated as IIII (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The current condition class ratings for this FMU are I and II.

e. Values at Risk

Included within the planning boundary are the Redfield Canyon Wilderness and Hot Springs Area of Critical Concern.

Maintain or improve riparian and aquatic zones in the Muleshoe ecosystem to achieve properly functioning condition and an ecological state which provides high quality fish and wildlife habitat. The desired ecological state has the following components: a diversity of native riparian vegetation with all age classes of woody riparian vegetation well represented; dense vegetation with structural complexity; a diversity of aquatic habitats including pools, runs, and riffles; natural processes working near optimum.

Maintain or improve upland areas in the Muleshoe ecosystem through the restoration of ecosystem processes. Restore the natural process of periodic fire in the grassland ecological sites of the Muleshoe ecosystem. The desired ecological states are a variety (mosaic) of transitional grassland and shrub/grassland states dominated by mid- to tall-stature perennial grasses which provide high quality wildlife habitat and reduce excessive sedimentation in aquatic habitats.

The Muleshoe ecosystem comprises two major watersheds, Redfield Canyon, which drains 10.1 miles, Hot Springs Canyon, which drains 12.5 miles, and one minor watershed, Cherry Spring, which drains 0.7 miles. Collectively the three watersheds support seven perennial streams and are largely isolated from the major downstream river system, San Pedro River. The above mentioned streams support five native fish species, federally proposed as endangered Gila chub (*Gila intermedia*), four Bureau of Land Management (BLM) sensitive fish

species, longfin dace (*Agosia chrysogaster*), speckled dace (*Rhinichthys osculus*), Sonora sucker (*Catostomus insignis*), and desert sucker (*Pantosteus clarki*), and one wildlife of special concern, lowland leopard frog (*Rana yavapaiensis*). See Appendix C for a listing of special status wildlife and plants within the Muleshoe ecosystem.

Proposed critical habitat considered for Gila chub in the Muleshoe ecosystem:

Hot Springs Canyon: 0.68 miles of creek extending below the Bass Canyon confluence downstream to the end of perennial flow, approximately 0.25 miles below the Muleshoe Ranch Preserve boundary. Gila chub are rare throughout this reach due to the limited number of pools; however, Gila chub maybe locally abundant and common where suitable pool habitat exists. Hot Springs Canyon provides several primary constituent elements for Gila chub, including perennial pools, cover in the form of overhanging vegetation, root wads, undercut banks, and adequate water quality.

Redfield Canyon: 2.24 miles of creek extending from T11S, R20S, section 31, southeast, continuing upstream to the confluence with Sycamore Canyon. Gila chub were first documented in Redfield Canyon in 1961. Subsequent surveys have documented Gila chub as being locally abundant and healthy in this segment of Redfield Canyon, likely due to its remoteness and limited impacts from humans and grazing.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Implement a prescribed fire program for the grassland ecological sites (Volcanic Hills, Granitic Hills, and Loamy Upland) within the Muleshoe ecosystem.

Include small portions of riparian areas in prescribed fire units on an experimental basis. Special considerations of burn units with riparian areas will be factored into the annual burning strategy. Operational burn plans will be designed to minimize the chance of fire damaging riparian areas by removing vegetative cover and thereby allowing excessive sediment loads into these areas.

The role of fire in riparian areas is not well understood. Since fires historically occurred naturally without suppression it is likely that riparian areas adjacent to grasslands maintained by fire were directly impacted on a regular basis. However, the frequency and amount of historical impact are essentially

unknown. The impacts from natural ignitions occurring at a localized source are likely to differ from those from management ignitions which usually are more widespread and burn more thoroughly.

The STFMZ will work with the TNC and USFS to identify and develop a fire use area plan that encompasses BLM and USFS managed lands within this FMU. The development of a fire use area within this FMU would allow fire to resume its natural role and achieve interagency resource management objectives.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Natural ignition fires outside of prescriptive parameters or that threaten to escape the planning area will be suppressed.

Wildland Fire Use

The STFMZ will work with the TNC and USFS to identify and develop a fire use area plan that encompasses BLM and USFS managed lands within this FMU. Allow only natural ignition prescribed fires within the Redfield Canyon Wilderness Area.

Prescribed Fire

Implement management-ignited prescribed fires or natural ignition prescribed fires for remainder of burn units outside of wilderness. Management-ignited prescribed fires will be allowed on units which are partially in wilderness as long as the ignition occurs on the portion of the unit outside of wilderness and then burns into the wilderness area. The acceptable prescription parameters for management ignited fire are listed in the Muleshoe ecosystem Management Plan and Environmental Assessment.

6. North-Central Safford (626,224 acres)



North Rim of Aravaipa – PZ Allotment

FMU Components:

Four Compartments (not including Wilderness & RNCA acres):

- 1. 0601 - Dripping Springs**
- 2. 0602 - Aravaipa**

3. **0603 - North Santa Teresa**
4. **0604 - Black Rock**
5. **0605 - Gila Mountains**

- **Location**

All compartments within this management unit border San Carlos Tribal Lands to the north. Access into the compartments located within this FMU can be gained via:

Dripping Springs

This area is accessible on the ground via a few improved and unimproved dirt roads that commence off either State Route 77 or State Route 177. Otherwise the area is inaccessible except by air. Driving time from Safford to this compartment is approximately three hours.

Aravaipa

The southern portion of this compartment is accessible on the ground via the Klondyke Road (off State Route 70 west of Safford). The Klondyke Road then runs into the Aravaipa Canyon Road which then leads into the compartment. The northern portion of this compartment is primarily accessible via the Aravaipa Road off State Route 77, south of Dudleyville. Otherwise the area is inaccessible except by air. Driving time from Safford to this compartment varies from two to three hours to access the southern portion, to four to five hours to access the northern area. Vehicle traffic into this compartment is limited to All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's).

North Santa Teresa

The northern portion of this compartment is accessible on the ground via either the Black Rock Road or the Emery-Goodwin Wash Road, both of which are accessible from State Route 70. The southern portion of this compartment is accessible on the ground via some unimproved dirt roads that tier off the Klondyke Road. Driving time from Safford to this compartment varies from two to three hours. Vehicle traffic into this compartment is limited to either 4x4 vehicles or ATV's.

Black Rock

This compartment is accessible on the ground via the Tripp Canyon Road, the Klondyke Road, the Black Rock Road, or the Emery-Goodwin Wash Road, all of which are accessible from State Route 70. Driving time from Safford to this compartment varies from two to three hours. Vehicle traffic into this compartment is limited to either 4x4 vehicles or ATV's.

Gila

This compartment is accessible on the ground primarily via a number of both improved and unimproved roads via State Route 70 or U.S. Route 191. Most of these roads are not well maintained and access is significantly limited except by air. Driving time from Safford to this compartment varies anywhere from two

to four hours, depending on the destination. Vehicle traffic into this compartment is limited to either 4x4 vehicles or ATV's.

b. Characteristics

Dripping Springs

The topography in this compartment is varied with extremely steep, broken slopes and narrow ridges. Several locked gates on private land severely limit BLM's legal access to large parts of this compartment. The vegetation in the western and central portions of this compartment is dominated by desert shrubs, trees, and cacti. Deep, upland sites have overstories of mesquite, and palo verde with understories of perennial and annual grasses and forbs. This compartment also supports saguaro cactus as well as a wide diversity of *Opuntia* species (cholla, and prickly pear species) and other cacti on the uplands and hill slopes. Bush muhly is the dominant perennial grass. Other grasses include slender grama, purple threeawn, mesa and spidergrass threeawns, Arizona cottontop, red grama, slim tridens, and fluffgrass. Major forbs include slender janusia, twinberry, spiny goldenhead, desert globemallow, and yerba del venado. Triangle bursage is the dominant half-shrub in this area. Other shrubs include jojoba, false mesquite, desert zinnia, mormon tea, creosotebush, flattop buckwheat, ocotillo, limberbush, and wolfberry species. Annual grasses and forbs of both winter and summer seasons are well represented in years with favorable moisture.

The eastern portion of this compartment is characterized as a well developed interior chaparral zone where nearly continuous stands of low evergreen shrubs occur on specific hillsites. Deep, heavy textured uplands are open grassland areas dominated by blue grama, curly mesquite, vine mesquite, and bottlebrush squirreltail. Shallow soils over deeply weathered bedrock are shrub lands (chaparral sites in this compartment). Turbinella oak is the dominant species. Other important shrubs on these sites include yellow-leaf silktassel, holly-leaf buckthorn, mountain mahogany, skunkbush sumac, algerita, manzanita, sacahuista, and wait-a-bit bush. Associated trees include one-seed juniper, pinyon pine, Arizona white and Emory oak, and Arizona cypress. Shallow soils over hard bedrock (basalt, quartzite, etc.) have diverse plant communities of perennial grasses and forbs, shrubs, and scattered trees. Major grasses include the grammas, cane beardgrass, plains lovegrass, and Bullgrass. Common shrubs include the chaparral species listed above plus shrubby buckwheat, range ratany, cliff fendlerbush, and bundleflower. Important perennial forbs include rock cress, shrubby deervetch, Indian paintbrush, vetch, breadroot, pink perezia, groundsels, and locoweeds.

Aravaipa

The topography in this compartment is variable with flat ridges and narrow to wide draws and canyons. Accessibility is a serious concern, especially on the North Rim; roads in this compartment have deteriorated and are often impassible. Several locked gates on private land severely limit BLM's legal access to large parts of this compartment. The lower elevations in this

compartment (<3,000 feet) are dominated by desert shrubs, trees, and cacti. Deep, upland sites have overstories of mesquite and palo verde with understories of perennial and annual grasses and forbs. This compartment also supports saguaro cactus as well as a wide variety of *Opuntia* species (cholla and prickly pear species) and other cacti on the upland and hill slopes. Bush muhly is the dominant perennial grass. Other grasses include slender grama, purple threeawn, mesa and spidergrass threeawns, Arizona cottontop, Pima pappusgrass, red grama, slim tridens, and fluffgrass. Major forbs include slender janusia, twinberry, spiny goldenhead, desert globemallow, and yerba del vanado. Triangle bursage is the dominant half-shrub in this compartment. Other shrubs include jojoba, false mesquite, desert zinnia, mormon tea, creosotebush, flattop buckwheat, ocotillo, limberbush, and wolfberry species. Annual grasses and forbs of both winter and summer seasons are well represented in years with favorable precipitation.

The upper elevations in this compartment (>3,000 feet) can be characterized as deep, heavy textured uplands are open grasslands dominated by tobosa, vine mesquite, and bottlebrush squirreltail. Deep and moderately deep loamy soils are dominated by grama species, curly mesquite, squirreltail, and shrubs like jojoba, mesquite, blue palo verde, algerita, skunkbush, and scattered turbinella oak. Shallow soils on hill slopes are diverse grass, shrub, and tree mixtures. The major grasses include desert stipa, New Mexico feathergrass, black, hairy, sideoats, and slender grammas, tobosa, curly mesquite, squirreltail, and red and blue threeawns. The common trees include canotia, one-seed juniper, mesquite, catclaw, acacia, and blue palo verde. Important shrubs include jojoba, ratany, shrubby buckwheat, algerita, Skunkbush, and shrubby penstemon. This compartment is a mixture of transition from Upper Sonoran Desert to Interior Chaparral and as such it is not uncommon to see species like saguaro and juniper together on steep southern exposures.

North Santa Teresa

The topography in this area varies widely and is, for the most part, inaccessible. Roads leading into this area have deteriorated and are impassable. Several locked gates on private land severely limit BLM's legal access to large parts of this compartment. Firefighter safety is a significant concern due to fuels, terrain, and inaccessibility. The deep, heavy textured uplands are open grasslands dominated by tobosa, vine mesquite, and bottlebrush squirreltail. Deep and moderately deep loamy soils are dominated by grama species, curly mesquite, squirreltail, and shrubs like jojoba, mesquite, blue palo verde, algerita, skunkbush, and scattered turbinella oak. Shallow soils on hill slopes are diverse grass, shrub, and tree mixtures. The major grasses include black, hairy, sideoats, and slender grammas; tobosa, curly mesquite, squirreltail, and red and blue threeawn species. The common trees include canotia, one-seed juniper, mesquite, catclaw acacia, and blue palo verde. Important shrubs include jojoba, ratany, shrubby buckwheat, algerita, Skunkbush, and shrubby penstemon.

Black Rock

The topography in this compartment varies widely and for the most part is inaccessible. Roads in the unit are deteriorating and often impassible. This compartment is a logistical challenge. Firefighter safety is a significant concern due to fuels, terrain, and inaccessibility. Several locked gates on private land severely limit BLM's legal access to large parts of this compartment. This compartment is dominated by desert rangeland with a sparse cover of perennial grasses and shrubs like creosotebush, whitethorn, burroweed, and mesquite. The major perennial grasses are tobosa, black grama, purple and blue threeawns, bush muhly, sand, spike, and mesa dropseed, and burrograss. Sonoran desert shrubs mix with Chihuahuan species. The major trees include mesquite, catclaw acacia, canotia, and palo verde. Dominant shrubs include soaptree yucca, creosotebush, whitethorn acacia, rayless goldenhead, mariola, staghorn cholla, desert saltbush, shortleaf baccharis, Mormon tea, burroweed, snakeweed, and jimmyweed. Average annual production of these shrublands is about 600 pounds per acre. Annual grasses and forbs of both winter and summer seasons are well represented in years with favorable moisture.

Gila

The topography in this compartment varies widely and many areas are inaccessible. Aerial suppression resources have historically been successful in areas of limited access. Firefighter safety is a significant concern due to terrain, fuels, and inaccessibility. The lower elevations within this compartment are dominated by Chihuahuan and Sonoran desert mixed scrub (mesquite, creosote bush, saltbush, etc.) with minor populations of perennial grasses.

The upper elevations are characterized by semidesert grasslands to mixed oak interspersed with small riparian areas. The topography is rough and broken with steep slopes bordering on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 184 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this compartment. These fires burned an estimated 12,262 acres. The largest fire burned 5,330 acres; the average fire size was 68.5 acres. There have been 21 large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period. (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

Dripping Springs

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is assessed at levels I and II.

Aravaipa

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity); some portions of this compartment are

rated at a fire regime II (0-35 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is assessed at levels I and II.

North Santa Teresa

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated at fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is assessed at levels I and II.

Gila

The fire regime for the lower elevations within this compartment (<4,500') is rated at fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity); the higher elevations within this compartment (>4,500') are rated at a fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is assessed at levels I and II.

Black Rock

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity).

The Condition Class ratings for this compartment are assessed at levels II and III.

e. Values at Risk

The Guthrie Peak communications site is located within the Gila compartment and is included in annual hazardous fuels reduction projects. The Dos Pobres/San Juan Mine site (owned by Phelps Dodge) is also located within this compartment. This site is located approximately 8 miles north of Safford.

There are BLM managed campground sites located on the middle Gila River; these sites are administered out of the Tucson Field Office.

f. Communities at Risk

The Sonoran WUI management unit borders this management unit to the south.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

Firefighter and public safety is a significant concern due to terrain, inaccessibility, and fuels. Private lands and structures located within or immediately adjacent to these compartments require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Prescribed fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

Dripping Springs

Unplanned ignitions will be managed using the AMR with regard to public and firefighter safety, cost, and private property along with other improvements. Efforts on unplanned ignitions will be directed towards containing or confining each unplanned ignition to public lands using natural or man-made fuel breaks. Suppress wildfire in sensitive vegetation communities (i.e. palo verde/saguaro) to reduce the detrimental effects on priority wildlife dependent on those communities.

Aravaipa, North Santa Teresa, Black Rock

Access issues limit the effectiveness of using ground personnel, however, aerial suppression tactics using SEATs and helicopters have been successful in the past. Suppression actions should be based on the AMR with regard to safety, cost, and adjacent tribal and private lands.

Gila

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns.

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

7. Peloncillo Fire Use Management Area (372,010 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

This management unit is bounded primarily by BLM and Arizona State managed lands; New Mexico borders this unit to the east; privately owned lands are also interspersed within this management unit. Of the total 387,011 acres within the PFUMA, approximately 248,081 acres (64.1%) are managed by the BLM; approximately 127,916 acres (33.05%) are managed by the ASLD; and approximately 11,014 acres (2.85%) are privately owned.

The perimeter of the PFUMA is defined by Classes 1, 2, 3, and 4 roads. Interstate 10 borders the area to the south; Haekel road defines the western boundary; U.S. Highway 70 borders the PFUMA to the north; a combination of Class 2, 3, and 4 roads as well as natural barriers comprise the northeast and eastern boundary. In addition, the interior of the area is divided by additional roads, natural barriers, and areas where fuels are too limited to carry fire. Driving time from Safford to this management unit can vary from two to five hours, depending on the destination.

b. Characteristics

The topography in this management unit is broken with rolling hills at lower elevations to steep rocky slopes at higher elevations. The PFUMA is classified as Chihuahuan-Sonoran Desert Shrub Mix (Major Land Resource Area 41-2) and Southern Arizona Semi-Desert Grassland (Major Land Resource Area 41-3). Within Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) 41-2, the major perennial grass species include tobosa, black grama, purple threeawn, blue threeawn, bush muhly, sand dropseed, spike dropseed, mesa dropseed, and burrograss. Sonoran Desert shrubs mix with Chihuahuan species; the major trees include mesquite, whitethorn acacia, rayless goldenhead, mariola, staghorn cholla, desert saltbush, fourwing saltbush, shortleaf Baccharis, Mormon tea, burroweed, snakeweed, and jimmyweed.

Within MLRA 41-3, the potential plant communities are dominated by warm-season perennial grasses. The major species include sideoats grama, black grama, blue grama, sprucetop grama, Rothrock grama, plains bristlegrass, alkali sacaton, tobosa, vine mesquite, curly mesquite, bush muhly, mesa threeawn, blue threeawn, red threeawn, poverty threeawn, and spidergrass. Important shrubs include false mesquite, range ratany, shrubby buckwheat, fourwing saltbush, soaptree yucca, and sacahuista. Mesquite is the dominant tree of the area with other common trees including catclaw acacia, netleaf hackberry, western soapberry, desert willow, Arizona ash, Arizona black walnut, cottonwood, and black willow.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 55 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. These fires burned an estimated 24,554 acres. The largest fire burned 14,560 acres; the average fire size was 454.7 acres. There have been nine large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the majority of this management unit is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity); some areas in the eastern portion of this management unit are rated at a fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class ratings for this management unit are assessed at levels I and II.

e. Values at Risk

Range improvement structures (e.g. fences, water lines, tanks, etc.) from damage by fire. Grazing allotments affected by WFU should be rested from grazing activities by domestic livestock for one to two growing seasons. The Safford BLM range staff should work with the affected grazing permit holders to determine possible changes in pasture rotation schedules, grass banking opportunities, and potential pasture rest schedules to minimize adverse affects.

Natural gas lines will be inspected for leaks by the authorized user if a managed natural fire is predicted to affect the area where the gas line is located. Potential problems involving natural gas lines should be identified and mitigated prior to

the implementation of the PFUMA plan. Powerlines will be monitored in the event of a managed natural fire occurring in the area where a powerline is located. Potential problems involving powerlines should be identified and mitigated prior to the implementation of the PFUMA plan.

Communications sites will be protected from adverse affects of a managed natural fire. If communications sites are threatened by a managed natural fire, the FMO will be notified and determine whether full suppression actions are to be initiated.

Recreation areas, specifically the Hot Well Dunes recreation site will be monitored and evaluated in the event of a natural ignition fire. The restroom and hot tub facilities will be protected if threatened by a wildfire event.

Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness Area

The Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness Management Plan, Environmental Assessment, and Decision Record (USDI-BLM, Safford District, June 1995) states that fire is a natural part of all of the ecological sites located within the Wilderness boundary. Prescribed natural ignition fire and prescribed burning will lead vegetation to a higher seral stage. This will provide for greater plant diversity and density while achieving a mosaic of plant communities. The acceptable prescription range for natural ignition fire within the Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness is listed in the plan.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land. Smoke from wildfire would not pose any problems. Potential impacts from unplanned wildfire could affect grazing management plans by consuming forage for livestock.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

The short-term goal for this management unit is to reintroduce fire using managed natural ignition fire and, where appropriate, prescribed fire to achieve management objectives. The long-term goal is to allow fire to resume a more natural ecological role within the management unit. Improving the grassland community structure significantly benefits water quality by reducing surface runoff and erosion, and increasing moisture infiltration into the soil profile.

Post Fire Rehabilitation and/or Restoration Objectives

Where possible, preventative mitigation measures will be employed to protect:

- Range improvement structures
- Pasture rest to allow for forage production
- Natural gas lines
- Powerlines
- Communications sites
- Recreation areas (Hot Well Dunes)

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

Firefighter and public safety is a significant concern. Private lands and structures located within or immediately adjacent to this management unit will require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Wildland Fire Use

The short-term goal of wildland fire use in this management area is to reintroduce fire using managed natural ignition fire and, where appropriate, prescribed fire to achieve management objectives. The long-term goal is to allow fire to resume a more natural ecological role within the proposed planning area in the Safford-Tucson Fire Management Zone. The implementation of wildland fire use as a management tool, as a valuable component in Arizona's grassland communities, is intended to reduce the overabundance of shrubby plants and to restore a historically degraded ecosystem. Improving the grassland community structure significantly benefits water quality by reducing surface runoff and erosion, and increasing moisture infiltration into the soil profile.

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Restoration and Rehabilitation

Where possible, preventative mitigation measures will be employed to protect range improvement structures. Natural gas lines will be inspected for leaks by the authorized user if a managed natural fire is predicted to affect the area where the gas line is located. Powerlines will be monitored in the event of a managed natural fire occurring in the area where a powerline is located. Recreation areas, specifically the Hot Well Dunes recreation site will be monitored and evaluated in the event of a natural ignition fire. The restroom and hot tub facilities will be protected if threatened by a wildfire event.

8. San Simon (289,192 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

This management unit is accessible via a variety of class 1, 2, 3, and 4 roads. Haekel road runs north – south in the area north of Interstate 10; U.S. Route 70 borders the management unit on the north; U.S. Route 191 borders the management area to the west. Driving time from Safford to this management unit can vary from two to four hours, depending on the destination. The BLM managed lands within this FMU are interspersed primarily with Arizona State managed lands and some private land parcels.

b. Characteristics

This management unit is dominated by desert rangeland with a sparse cover of perennial grasses and shrubs like creosotebush, whitethorn, burroweed, and mesquite. The major perennial grasses are tobosa, black grama, purple and blue threeawns, bush muhly, sand, spike, and sacaton. Sonoran desert shrubs mix with Chihuahuan species. The major trees include mesquite, catclaw acacia,

canotia, and palo verde. Dominant shrubs include soap tree yucca, creosote bush, whitethorn acacia, rayless goldenhead, mariola, staghorn cholla, desert saltbush, shortleaf baccharis, Mormon tea, burroweed, snakeweed, and jimmyweed. Average annual production of these shrublands is about 600 pounds per acre. Annual grasses and forbs of both winter and summer seasons are well represented in years with favorable moisture.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 65 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. These fires burned an estimated 239.5 acres. The largest fire burned 80 acres; the average fire size was 11 acres. The majority of these fires are caused by humans. There have been no large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the majority of this management unit is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity); some areas in the eastern portion of this management unit are rated at a fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this management unit is assessed at levels II and III.

e. Values at Risk

Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

There are several cultural sites located along the San Simon channel, a natural gas pipeline that follows along U.S. Highway 191, south of Safford, and an Arizona Eastern railroad track that follows the San Simon, from Bowie to Safford. A high voltage powerline runs in a north-south direction along the western portion of this management unit.

f. Communities at Risk

The communities of San Simon and Bowie are located within or adjacent to this management unit. Although vegetation (fuel) is generally not a concern in regard to wildfire these communities still need to be considered when evaluating wildfire or hazardous fuels reduction projects.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. BLM will develop a fire management strategy in the planning area that will consider both ecological and administrative issues. Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Prescribed fire treatments will be used to reduce invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads; invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

Most fires occurring in this management unit are caused by humans and less than 10 acres in size. Unplanned, natural ignition fire should be allowed to burn and appropriate suppression action should be taken if safety is compromised or private property is threatened. Fire prevention efforts should target recreationists who visit this management unit for its various recreation opportunities.

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

9. Sulphur Springs Valley (25,343 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

The BLM lands are located near the top portion of the Swisshelm Mountains as well as scattered randomly within the valley. State and private lands are located at the lower elevations and surround the BLM lands. Scattered structures and range improvements are located throughout these private lands.

This management unit is primarily accessible on the ground via either Leslie Canyon Road from the south or Rucker Canyon Road from the north. Both of these roads are accessible from U.S. Route 191. Driving time from Safford is approximately slightly over two hours or about 120 miles.

b. Characteristics

The topography in this management unit is best characterized by steep slopes with various aspects; the BLM-managed lands are located at the top of the Swisshelm Mountains.

The plant communities in this management unit are dominated by warm season perennial grasses. The major plant species are sideoats, black, blue, sprucetop, and Rothrock grammas, cane beardgrass, plains bristlegrass, alkali sacaton, tobosa, vine mesquite, bush muhly, red threeawn and spidergrass. Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,000 pounds per acre. Important shrubs include false mesquite, range ratany, shrubby buckwheat, fourwing saltbush, soap tree yucca, sacahuista, mariola, mortonia, chittam, tarbush, and whitethorn acacia. Mesquite is the dominant tree of the area. Summer annual grasses are important in this management unit and include species of grama,

panic, sprangletop, and threeawn. Perennial forbs are also important and include species like evolvulous, sida, dyschoriste, wild bean, lotus, matweed, zinnia, hog potato, perezia, cudweeds, and vetch.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 2 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. These fires burned over 97 acres. There have been no large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the majority of this management unit is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class Rating for this management unit has been assessed at level II.

e. Values at Risk

State and private lands are located at the lower elevations and surround the BLM lands. Scattered structures and range improvements are also located throughout these private lands.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Prescribed fire treatments will be used to reduce invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Although historical fire occurrence is low, the potential is moderate for a large fire incident, depending on the amount of fine fuels present. Fires can typically exceed 1,000 acres. Fire suppression actions are to be based on the most appropriate response with regard to firefighter and public safety, costs, and private property. Aerial suppression resources (i.e. SEAT, helicopters) and tactics have historically been used successfully in this area.

Suppression

Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority for AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

10. Wilderness Areas w/ Plans (44,737 acres)

FMU Components:

This management unit is comprised of four wilderness areas with management plans:

1.1001 - Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness (6,699 acres)

2.1002 - Dos Cabezas Mountain. Wilderness (11,998 acres)

3.1003 - Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness (19,440 acres)

4.1004 – Redfield Canyon Wilderness Area (6,600 acres)

a. Location

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness

The eastern portion of this compartment is accessible on the ground via the Klondyke Road (off State Route 70 west of Safford). The Klondyke Road then runs into the Aravaipa Canyon Road which then leads into the compartment. The western portion of this compartment is primarily accessible via the Aravaipa Road off State Route 77, south of Dudleyville. Driving time from Safford to this compartment varies from just over one hour to access the eastern end of the unit near Klondyke and approximately three hours to access the western end of this area.

Dos Cabezas Mountain. Wilderness

This compartment is accessible on the ground via Apache Pass Road heading south from Bowie, AZ; then following the dirt road leading into Happy Camp Canyon. Driving time from Safford to this compartment is approximately two hours.

Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness

To access the northern portion of this compartment, travel east from Duncan, AZ on U.S. Route 70, then head south on Summit Road. Access to the southern portion of this compartment can be gained by traveling north from San Simon, AZ on either the West Doubtful Road or the Indians Springs Road leading to McKenzie Peak. High-clearance or 4x4 vehicles are recommended for access to the wilderness boundary. Driving time from Safford to this compartment is approximately two hours.

Redfield Canyon Wilderness Area

The primary ground access to this compartment is via the Muleshoe Road off the Airport Road which originates in Willcox. The Muleshoe Road turns into Forest Road (FR) 691 which leads to the wilderness boundary. Driving time to this compartment from Safford is approximately just over two hours.

b. Characteristics

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness

The predominant vegetative community in the Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness (ACW) is semidesert grassland and Chihuahuan desert scrub. The ridges are dominated by grama grasses intermingled with semi-desert shrubs. Mesquite, catclaw, juniper, and snakeweed are typical of the shrubs that are beginning to dominate portions of the uplands (tablelands).

The riparian area vegetation is dominated by cottonwood, willow, and sycamore.

An ecological site inventory of the upland areas (predominantly Basalt Hills) show prickly pear (*Opuntia* spp.) to be 10-12% of the shrub component. The desired proportion for this species is 1-5%. Non-native species found in the upland areas include the perennial, warm season grass Lehmann lovegrass, and cool season annual species that include red brome, filaree, and mustards,

A few perennial, non-native plant species have become established in Aravaipa Canyon; these species include Bermuda grass, salt cedar, and watercress. Bermuda grass has become naturalized and appears to cause little problem. Watercress increases during stable flow periods until it impedes flow along the creek. Most of it is removed during floods. Salt cedar has the potential to out compete and dominate over native trees. To date, periodic flooding and control by pulling up young plants has prevented this species from becoming dominant in the canyon.

Dos Cabezas Mountain Wilderness

The Dos Cabezas Mountains Wilderness consists of four ecological sites:

Volcanic Hills/Woodland; currently, 5,202 acres of this ecological site are in high seral stage (20% grasses, 15% forbs, 22% shrubs, and 43% trees).

Volcanic Hills; currently, 1,185 acres of this ecological site are in potential natural community (55% grasses, 15% forbs, 30% shrubs and trees). In addition 2,118 acres are in high seral stage (30% grasses, 10% forbs, 60% shrubs and trees).

Granitic Hills; currently, 2,079 acres of this ecological site are in high seral stage (47% grasses, 15% forbs, 38% shrubs and trees). In addition, 1,324 acres are currently in mid seral stage (25% grasses, 15% forbs, 60% shrubs and trees).

Sand Bottom; currently, all 90 acres of this ecological site are in mid seral stage (10% grasses, 10% forbs, 80% shrubs and trees).

Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness

The Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness consists of seven ecological sites:

Volcanic Hills cover 17,744 acres in the wilderness of which 17,282 acres are in high seral condition (55-60% grasses, 15% forbs, and 25-30% shrubs and trees) and 462 acres in mid seral condition (40% grasses, 10% forbs, and 50% shrubs and trees).

Limy Uplands cover 1,015 acres in the wilderness, all currently in high seral condition (15-30% grasses, 10% forbs, and 60-75% shrubs and trees).

There are 90 acres of loamy upland in the wilderness, all currently in mid seral condition (20% grasses, 10% forbs, and 70% shrubs and trees).

Clay Uplands cover 359 acres in the wilderness, all currently in potential natural condition (85% grasses, 10% forbs, and 5% shrubs and trees).

Deep Sand covers 44 acres in the wilderness, all currently in low seral condition (0% grasses, 10% forbs, and 90% shrubs and trees).

Basalt Hills cover 46 acres in the wilderness, all currently in high seral condition (65% grasses, 10% forbs, and 25% shrubs and trees).

Clay Loam Uplands cover 142 acres in the wilderness, all currently in high seral condition (35% grasses, 15% forbs, and 50% shrubs and trees).

No long term data has been kept on fires occurring specifically within the Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness. It is known that there has been a low incidence of fires in the past 20 years, with a small amount of acres burned in each incident. However, fire has been a natural component in developing the vegetative communities in this area.

Redfield Canyon Wilderness Area

Historically, the ecological sites were producing near their natural potential. The aspect of the rangeland was open grassland dominated by perennial grasses such as plains lovegrass, cane beardgrass, black grama, slender grama, sprucetop grama, bush muhly, curly mesquite, vine mesquite, and several threeawn species intermixed with leaf succulents including beargrass and shindagger. However, partial or extensive invasion of mesquite, juniper, whitethorn, Mormon tea, mimosa, snakeweed, burroweed, and shindagger has occurred over much of the area. Intense grazing pressure and wildfire suppression over the past century has resulted in the transition of much of the area from grassland to a desert shrub vegetative state. Continuous yearlong grazing by domestic livestock prior to The Nature Conservancy's acquisition of the ranch in 1982 resulted in a reduction of some of the desirable perennial grasses (i.e. plains lovegrass, cane beardgrass) and an increase of invasive shrubs (i.e. mesquite, whitethorn), and succulents such as shindagger.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 12 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this compartment. These fires burned an estimated 378 acres. The largest fire burned 110 acres; the average fire size was 31.5 acres. There was only one large fire over 100 acres in size during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity); some portions of this compartment are rated at a fire regime II (0-35 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is assessed at levels I and II.

Dos Cabezas Mountain. Wilderness

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

Redfield Canyon Wilderness Area

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

e. Values at Risk

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness

Management of vegetation in the ACW is directed toward allowing natural ecological processes to operate freely and to return plant communities to conditions similar to those described in the 1860's. Natural revegetation and the natural processes of ecological succession are the preferred methods of ecosystem restoration within the ACW. Reseeding or replanting in rare cases may be authorized by the Director when there is no reasonable expectation of natural revegetation. Only native species and primitive methods would be allowed. Exotic plant control will focus on those species, particularly salt cedar that would jeopardize the continued existence of native plants in the ACW. Control by hand methods is preferred.

Dos Cabezas Mountain. Wilderness, Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness, and Redfield Canyon Wilderness

1) Provide for the long term protection and preservation of the area's wilderness character under a principle of nondegradation. The area's natural condition, opportunities for solitude, opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation, and any ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value present will be managed so that they will remain unimpaired.

2) Manage the wilderness area for the use and enjoyment of visitors in a manner that will leave the area unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. The wilderness resource will be dominant in all management decisions where a choice must be made between preservation of wilderness character and visitor use.

3) Manage the area using minimum tool, equipment, or structure necessary to successfully, safely, and economically accomplish the objective. The chosen tool, equipment, or structure should be the one that least degrades wilderness values temporarily or permanently. Management will seek to preserve spontaneity of use and as much freedom from regulation as possible.

4) Manage non-conforming but accepted uses permitted by the Wilderness Act and subsequent laws in a manner that will prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the area's wilderness character. Non-conforming uses are the exception rather than the rule; therefore, emphasis is placed on maintaining wilderness character.

The preservation of wilderness values strives to maintain or improve naturalness in the designated wilderness areas by:

- Provide for the long term protection and preservation of the area's wilderness character under a principle of nondegradation. The area's natural condition, opportunities for solitude, opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation, and any ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value present will be managed so that they remain unimpaired.
- Manage for the use and enjoyment of visitors in a manner that will leave the area unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. The wilderness resource will be dominant in all management decisions where a choice must be made between preservation of wilderness character and visitor use.
- Manage using the minimum tool, equipment, or structure necessary to successfully, safely, and economically accomplish the objective. The chosen tool, equipment, or structure should be the one that least degrades wilderness values temporarily or permanently. Management will seek to preserve spontaneity of use and as much freedom from regulation as possible.
- Manage non-conforming but accepted uses permitted by the Wilderness Act and subsequent laws in a manner that will prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the area's wilderness character. Non-conforming uses are the

exception rather than the rule; therefore, emphasis is placed on maintaining wilderness character.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

In the semidesert grasslands, fire was probably the single most common disturbance controlling the transition from grassland to shrubland in the volcanic hills, granitic hills, and loamy upland ecological sites prior to European settlement. Periodic wildfires reduced shrub cover and allowed grasses to remain dominant. The wilderness plans for these compartments state that natural ignition fires are allowed within the designated wilderness areas and within stated prescriptive parameters.

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Prescribed fire treatments will be used to reduce invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

The current wildland fire management strategy for all four wilderness areas is to apply an AMR, depending on weather and fuel conditions. Note that the Muleshoe Ecosystem Management Plan states that only natural ignition prescribed fires within the wilderness are allowed. The implementation of management ignited prescribed fires are allowed outside of the wilderness area. Management ignited prescribed fires will be allowed on units that are partially in the designated wilderness area as long as the ignition occurs on the portion of the burn unit located outside of the wilderness boundary and then burns into the wilderness.

In the Safford-Tucson Fire Management Zone (STFMZ), fire danger ratings (low, medium, high, etc.) are generally based on the Burning Index (BI) category of the National Fire Danger Rating System. This rating system is the national standard and is based on input from strategically located Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) throughout the STFMZ. Each wilderness area is represented by one or more of these stations. Actual on the ground conditions may vary slightly in individual wilderness areas due to localized winds, temperature variations, and spotty annual precipitation events. The

planned suppression actions are based on the prevailing fire danger, fuel conditions, fire history in the area, and impacts on wilderness resources. The actions are divided into two separate fire hazard categories:

Category One Fire Hazard

This category covers a period of time when the relative fire danger is equal to low, moderate, or high. The classification is based on evaluation of fuel moisture, relative humidity, and wind speed. During the “low” and “moderate” fire danger periods, fires will be difficult to ignite and easy to control. During the “high” fire danger period of Category One, fires will be less difficult to ignite and harder to control.

Category One Fire Hazard Response

Establish ground and/or aerial surveillance as soon as possible to determine fire location, situation, spread potential, and opportunities for using natural barriers. Evaluate fire conditions, fuel topography, and wilderness resource considerations and work with the Resource Advisor to determine the appropriate management response. The Resource Advisor may be on the fire line or in the fire management office as deemed necessary by the Field Office Manager. Fire crew personnel will use hand tools only. The use of air tankers, helicopters, and portable pumps or chainsaws requires the approval of the Field Office Manager. Emergency vehicle use in the wilderness area must also be approved by the Field Office Manager.

Category Two Fire Hazard

This category covers a period of time when the fire danger rating is classified as very high to extreme based on an evaluation of fuel moisture, temperature, relative humidity, weather conditions, and predicted fire behavior. Heavy fuels are very dry and annual growth has cured. Fire behavior will be intense and may be erratic. Rapid rates of spread, crowning, torching, and spotting will occur. Fires may become serious and difficult to control unless initial attack contains the fire at small acreages.

Category Two Fire Hazard Response

Establish ground and/or air surveillance as soon as possible to determine fire location, assess situation, and initially direct suppression operations. Send fire crew and Resource Advisor immediately to evaluate wilderness resource considerations, fire situation, fuel conditions, and topography. Initiate swift, appropriate suppression actions to control the fire giving priority to techniques which least disturb the natural, cultural, and human-made features. Power saws and portable pumps may be used with Field Office Manager approval. Use of emergency vehicles, air tankers, and helicopters must also be approved by the Field Office Manager.

Wildland Fire Use

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities to implement Wildland Fire Use areas that allow natural ignition fire to achieve resource management objectives.

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

11. Wilderness Areas w/out Plans (14,861 acres)



Baboquivari Peak

FMU Components:

This management unit is comprised of seven wilderness areas without management plans:

- 1. 1101 - Baker Canyon WSA (4,812 acres)**
- 2. 1102 - Fishhooks Wilderness Area (1,003 acres)**
- 3. 1103 - North Santa Teresa Wilderness Area (544 acres)**
- 4. 1104 - Baboquivari Peak & Coyote Mountain Wilderness Areas (7,145 acres)**
- 5. 1105 - Needle's Eye Wilderness Area (821 acres)**
- 6. 1106 - White Canyon Wilderness Area (536 acres)**

a. Location

The Baker Canyon WSA is bordered on the east by the state of New Mexico and on the north and west by Arizona State managed lands. This compartment is accessible by ground using various existing improved and unimproved dirt roads. The Guadalupe Canyon Road provides access to the southern portion of the compartment and the McDonald Ranch Road (off the Geronimo Trail) provides access to the northern part of the compartment. Driving time to this compartment from Safford is approximately four hours or approximately 140 miles.

The Fishhooks Wilderness Area is bordered on the north by San Carlos Apache Indian tribal lands. This compartment is accessible via the Diamond Bar Road off U.S. Route 70 at Fort Thomas west of Safford. Driving time to the boundary of this compartment from Safford is approximately two hours.

The North Santa Teresa Wilderness Area is bordered on the west by the Coronado National Forest. The northern portion of this compartment is accessible on the ground via either the Black Rock Road or the Emery-Goodwin Wash Road, both of which are accessible from State Route 70. The southern portion of this compartment is accessible on the ground via some unimproved dirt roads that tier off the Klondyke Road. Driving time from Safford to this compartment varies from two to three hours. Many of the roads leading into this area have deteriorated and are impassable. Vehicle traffic into this compartment is limited to either 4x4 vehicles or ATV's.

The Baboquivari Peak Wilderness and Coyote Mountain Wilderness Areas are bordered on the west by Tohono O'odham Indian tribal lands. The primary ground access to the Baboquivari Peak Wilderness Area is by traveling west from Tucson, AZ on State Route 86 to its junction with State Highway 286 at Three Points, AZ. Follow State Route 286 south for approximately 30 miles towards Sasabe, AZ to the entrance road to Thomas Canyon. The Nature Conservancy maintains a pedestrian access route to the wilderness area from the Humphrey Ranch located in Thomas Canyon.

The primary ground access to the Coyote Mountain Wilderness Area is by traveling west from Tucson, AZ on State Route 86 to its junction with State Highway 286 at Three Points, AZ. Follow State Route 286 south for approximately 8 miles towards Sasabe, AZ. The Coyote Mountains are located four miles east of Kitt Peak. An unimproved dirt road that follows the South Mendoza Wash leads up to the Wilderness boundary. Driving time to this compartment from the Sierra Vista Project Office is approximately two to three hours. Permission to access the wilderness boundary must be obtained from the private landowner, whose property provides access to this compartment or the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation if access is desired from the Kitt Peak side of the compartment.

The Needle's Eye Wilderness Area is bordered on the north, east and south by San Carlos Apache tribal lands. The primary ground access to the Needle's Eye Wilderness Area is by traveling west from Safford on State Highway 70 to the Coolidge Dam Road just east of Globe at Cutter Air Field. Another access route is to travel south of Globe on State Route 77 for approximately 26 miles to an unimproved dirt road at Dripping Springs Wash. Driving time from Safford is approximately three to four hours.

The White Canyon Wilderness Area is bordered on the north by the Tonto National Forest. The White Canyon Wilderness management unit can be accessed on the ground by traveling west from Safford on State Route 70 to Globe, AZ and then heading south on State Route 77 to Winkelman, AZ. From Winkelman travel northwest on State Route 177 to Battleaxe Road near Walnut Canyon. Battleaxe Road is unmarked and most likely has not been maintained;

vehicle traffic to the wilderness boundary will require 4x4 vehicles or ATV's. Driving time from Safford is approximately four to five hours.

b. Characteristics

Baker Canyon WSA

The topography in this compartment is broken with rolling hills at lower elevations to steep rocky slopes at higher elevations. The plant communities in this compartment are dominated by warm season perennial grasses. The major plant species are sideoats, black, blue, hairy, sprucetop, and Rothrock gramas, plains lovegrass, cane beardgrass, Arizona cottontop, plains bristlegrass, sacaton, alkali sacaton, tobosa, vine mesquite, curly mesquite, bush muhly, mesa, blue, red, poverty, and spidergrass threeawns. Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,000 pounds per acre.

Important shrubs include false mesquite, range ratany, shrubby buckwheat, fourwing saltbush, soap tree yucca, sacahuista, mariola, mortonia, chittam, tarbush, whitethorn acacia, and littleleaf sumac. Mesquite is the dominant tree of the area with other common trees including catclaw acacia, netleaf hackberry, western soapberry, desert willow, Arizona ash, Arizona black walnut, cottonwood, and black willow.

Summer annual grasses are important in this compartment and include species of grama, panic, sprangletop, and threeawn. Perennial forbs are also important and include species like evolvulus, sida, dyschoriste, wild bean, lotus, matweed, zinnia, hog potato, perezia, cudweeds, and vetch.

Fishhooks Wilderness Area

The topography in this area varies widely and is, for the most part, inaccessible. This compartment is characterized as a well developed interior chaparral zone where nearly continuous stands of low evergreen shrubs occur on specific hillsites. Deep, heavy textured uplands are open grasslands dominated by blue grama, curly mesquite, vine mesquite, and bottlebrush squirreltail. Shallow soils over deeply weathered bedrock are shrub lands (chaparral sites in this compartment). Turbinella oak is the dominant species. Other important shrubs on these sites include yellow-leaf silktassel, holly-leaf buckthorn, mountain mahogany, skunkbush sumac, algerita, manzanita, sacahuista, and wait-a-bit bush. Associated trees include one-seed juniper, pinyon pine, Arizona white and Emory oak, and Arizona cypress. Shallow soils over hard bedrock (basalt, quartzite, etc.) have diverse plant communities of perennial grasses and forbs, shrubs, and scattered trees. Major grasses include the gramas, cane beardgrass, plains lovegrass, and Bullgrass. Common shrubs include the chaparral species listed above plus shrubby buckwheat, range ratany, cliff fendlerbush, and bundleflower. Important perennial forbs include rock cress, shrubby deervetch, Indian paintbrush, vetch, breadroot, pink perezia, groundsels, and locoweeds.

North Santa Teresa Wilderness Area

The topography in this area varies widely and is, for the most part, inaccessible. The deep, heavy textured uplands are open grasslands dominated by tobosa, vine mesquite, and bottlebrush squirreltail. Deep and moderately deep loamy soils are dominated by grama species, curly mesquite, squirreltail, and shrubs like jojoba, mesquite, blue palo verde, algerita, skunkbush, and scattered turbinella oak. Shallow soils on hill slopes are diverse grass, shrub, and tree mixtures. The major grasses include black, hairy, sideoats, and slender grammas; tobosa, curly mesquite, squirreltail, and red and blue threeawn species. The common trees include canotia, one-seed juniper, mesquite, catclaw acacia, and blue palo verde. Important shrubs include jojoba, ratany, shrubby buckwheat, algerita, Skunkbush, and shrubby penstemon.

Baboquivari Peak and Coyote Mountain. Wilderness Areas

The topography in these two wilderness areas is relatively steep and difficult to access by ground. The plant communities on the lower elevations (3,500 – 5,500 feet) are dominated by warm season perennial grasses. The major species are sideoats, black, blue, hairy, sprucetop, and Rothrock grammas; plains lovegrass, cane beardgrass, Arizona cottontop, plains bristlegrass, big sacaton, alkali sacaton, tobosa, vine mesquite, curly mesquite, bush muhly, and mesa, blue, red, poverty, and spidergrass threeawns.

Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,000 pounds per acre. Important shrubs include false mesquite, range ratany, shrubby buckwheat, fourwing saltbush, soap tree yucca, and sacahuista. Mesquite is the dominant tree of the area with other common trees including catclaw acacia, netleaf hackberry, western soapberry, desert willow, Arizona ash, Arizona black walnut, cottonwood, and black willow.

Summer annual grasses are important in the area and include species of grama, panic, sprangletop, and threeawn. Perennial forbs are also important and include species like evolvulus, sida, dyschoriste, wild bean, lotus, matweed, zinnia, hog potato, perezia, cudweeds, and vetch.

The vegetation on the higher elevations (5,500 – 8,500 feet) is oak-savannah with open canopies (5-10%) of Emory, Mexican blue, Arizona white oak, and one-seed juniper, and perennial grasses in the understory. The major grasses include sideoats, blue, hairy, and purple grammas, Bullgrass, deergrass, Texas bluestem, plains lovegrass, woolly bunchgrass, crinkleawn, prairie junegrass, squirreltail, pinyon ricegrass, and beggartick threeawn. The dominant shrubs include sacahuista, California brickelbush, wait-a-bit mimosa, and yerba de pasmo. Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,500 pounds per acre.

Needle's Eye Wilderness Area

The topography in this wilderness area is relatively steep and difficult to access by ground. The western portion of this compartment is dominated by desert shrubs, trees, and cacti. Deep, upland sites have overstories of mesquite, and palo verde, with understories of perennial and annual grasses and forbs. This

compartment also supports saguaro cactus as well as a wide diversity of *Opuntia* species (cholla, and prickly pear species) and other cacti on the uplands and hill slopes. Bush muhly is the dominant perennial grass. Other grasses include slender grama, purple threeawn, mesa and spidergrass threeawns, Arizona cottontop, red grama, slim tridens, and fluffgrass. Major forbs include slender janusia, twinberry, spiny goldenhead, desert globemallow, and yerba del venado. Triangle bursage is the dominant half-shrub in this area. Other shrubs include jojoba, false mesquite, desert zinnia, mormon tea, creosotebush, flattop buckwheat, ocotillo, limberbush, and wolfberry species. Annual grasses and forbs of both winter and summer seasons are well represented in years with favorable moisture.

The eastern portion of this compartment is characterized as a well developed interior chaparral zone where nearly continuous stands of low evergreen shrubs occur on specific hillsites. Deep, heavy textured uplands are open grassland areas dominated by blue grama, curly mesquite, vine mesquite, and bottlebrush squirreltail. Shallow soils over deeply weathered bedrock are shrub lands (chaparral sites in this compartment). Turbinella oak is the dominant species. Other important shrubs on these sites include yellow-leaf silktassel, holly-leaf buckthorn, mountain mahogany, skunkbush sumac, algerita, manzanita, sacahuista, and wait-a-bit bush. Associated trees include one-seed juniper, pinyon pine, Arizona white and Emory oak, and Arizona cypress. Shallow soils over hard bedrock (basalt, quartzite, etc.) have diverse plant communities of perennial grasses and forbs, shrubs, and scattered trees. Major grasses include the gramas, cane beardgrass, plains lovegrass, and Bullgrass. Common shrubs include the chaparral species listed above plus shrubby buckwheat, range ratany, cliff fendlerbush, and bundleflower. Important perennial forbs include rock cress, shrubby deervetch, Indian paintbrush, vetch, breadroot, pink perezia, groundsels, and locoweeds.

White Canyon Wilderness Area

The topography in this wilderness area is relatively steep and difficult to access by ground. The vegetation in this compartment is dominated by desert shrubs, trees, and cacti. Deep, upland sites have overstories of mesquite, and palo verde with understories of perennial and annual grasses and forbs. This compartment also supports saguaro cactus as well as a wide diversity of *Opuntia* species (cholla, and prickly pear species) and other cacti on the uplands and hill slopes. Bush muhly is the dominant perennial grass. Other grasses include slender grama, purple threeawn, mesa and spidergrass threeawns, Arizona cottontop, red grama, slim tridens, and fluffgrass. Major forbs include slender janusia, twinberry, spiny goldenhead, desert globemallow, and yerba del venado. Triangle bursage is the dominant half-shrub in this area. Other shrubs include jojoba, false mesquite, desert zinnia, mormon tea, creosotebush, flattop buckwheat, ocotillo, limberbush, and wolfberry species. Annual grasses and forbs of both winter and summer seasons are well represented in years with favorable moisture.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 11 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this compartment. These fires burned an estimated 1,560 acres. The largest fire burned 1,117 acres; the average fire size was 195 acres. There have been two large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

Baker Canyon WSA

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

Fishhooks Wilderness Area

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

North Santa Teresa Wilderness Area

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

Baboquivari Peak & Coyote Mountain Wilderness Areas

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

Needle's Eye Wilderness Area

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

White Canyon Wilderness Area

The fire regime for the majority of this compartment is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

e. Values at Risk

For all wilderness areas within this management unit:

1) Provide for the long term protection and preservation of the area's wilderness character under a principle of nondegradation. The area's natural condition,

opportunities for solitude, opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation, and any ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value present will be managed so that they will remain unimpaired.

2) Manage the wilderness area for the use and enjoyment of visitors in a manner that will leave the area unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. The wilderness resource will be dominant in all management decisions where a choice must be made between preservation of wilderness character and visitor use.

3) Manage the area using minimum tool, equipment, or structure necessary to successfully, safely, and economically accomplish the objective. The chosen tool, equipment, or structure should be the one that least degrades wilderness values temporarily or permanently. Management will seek to preserve spontaneity of use and as much freedom from regulation as possible.

4) Manage non-conforming but accepted uses permitted by the Wilderness Act and subsequent laws in a manner that will prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the area's wilderness character. Non-conforming uses are the exception rather than the rule; therefore, emphasis is placed on maintaining wilderness character.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

In the semidesert grasslands, fire was probably the single most common disturbance controlling the transition from grassland to shrubland in the volcanic hills, granitic hills, and loamy upland ecological sites prior to European settlement. Periodic wildfires reduced shrub cover and allowed grasses to remain dominant. The wilderness plans for these compartments state that natural ignition fires are allowed within the designated wilderness areas and within stated prescriptive parameters.

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Prescribed fire treatments will be used to reduce invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

The current wildland fire management strategy for wilderness areas is to apply an AMR, depending on weather and fuel conditions. Suppression actions are to be based on the prevailing fire danger, fuel conditions, fire history in the area, and impacts on wilderness resources. The actions are divided into two separate fire hazard categories:

In the Safford-Tucson Fire Management Zone (STFMZ), fire danger ratings (low, medium, high, etc.) are generally based on the Burning Index (BI) category of the National Fire Danger Rating System. This rating system is the national standard and is based on input from strategically located Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) throughout the STFMZ. Each wilderness area is represented by one or more of these stations. Actual on the ground conditions may vary slightly in individual wilderness areas due to localized winds, temperature variations, and spotty annual precipitation events. The planned suppression actions are based on the prevailing fire danger, fuel conditions, fire history in the area, and impacts on wilderness resources. The actions are divided into two separate fire hazard categories:

Category One Fire Hazard

This category covers a period of time when the relative fire danger is equal to low, moderate, or high. The classification is based on evaluation of fuel moisture, relative humidity, and wind speed. During the “low” and “moderate” fire danger periods, fires will be difficult to ignite and easy to control. During the “high” fire danger period of Category One, fires will be less difficult to ignite and harder to control.

Category One Fire Hazard Response

Establish ground and/or aerial surveillance as soon as possible to determine fire location, situation, spread potential, and opportunities for using natural barriers. Evaluate fire conditions, fuel topography, and wilderness resource considerations and work with the Resource Advisor to determine the appropriate management response. The Resource Advisor may be on the fire line or in the fire management office as deemed necessary by the Field Office Manager. Fire crew personnel will use hand tools only. The use of air tankers, helicopters, and portable pumps or chainsaws requires the approval of the Field Office Manager. Emergency vehicle use in the wilderness area must also be approved by the Field Office Manager.

Category Two Fire Hazard

This category covers a period of time when the fire danger rating is classified as very high to extreme based on an evaluation of fuel moisture, temperature, relative humidity, weather conditions, and predicted fire behavior. Heavy fuels are very dry and annual growth has cured. Fire behavior will be intense and may be erratic. Rapid rates of spread,

crowning, torching, and spotting will occur. Fires may become serious and difficult to control unless initial attack contains the fire at small acreages.

Category Two Fire Hazard Response

Establish ground and/or air surveillance as soon as possible to determine fire location, assess situation, and initially direct suppression operations. Send fire crew and Resource Advisor immediately to evaluate wilderness resource considerations, fire situation, fuel conditions, and topography. Initiate swift, appropriate suppression actions to control the fire giving priority to techniques which least disturb the natural, cultural, and human-made features. Power saws and portable pumps may be used with Field Office Manager approval. Use of emergency vehicles, air tankers, and helicopters must also be approved by the Field Office Manager.

Wildland Fire Use

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities to implement Wildland Fire Use areas that allow natural ignition fire to achieve resource management objectives.

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

12. Altar Valley (12,117 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

The Buenos Aires Wildlife Refuge borders the BLM managed lands to the west; Arizona State managed and private land parcels border the BLM lands to the north, east, and south. The BLM administered lands within this management unit are not contiguous and are located in and near the Las Guijas Mountains, the Sierrita Mountains, and a few scattered areas to the north and south of the Baboquivari Peak Wilderness, bordering the Tohono O'odham Nation.

Ground access to the Las Guijas Mountains is primarily via the Arivaca Road; a few unimproved dirt roads lead into this area from the Arivaca Road.

Ground access into the Sierrita Mountains can be gained from the east by using either Mission Road or Duvall Mine Road and then following various unimproved dirt roads that tier off either Mission Road or Duvall Mine Road. Ground access from the west is by using unnamed roads that tier off State Route 286 south of Three Points; these unimproved dirt roads generally follow such drainageways as Banner Wash and Fresno Wash.

The scattered BLM parcels that border the Tohono O'odham Nation are generally inaccessible from the ground except for the Three Peaks area. This area can be accessed by following the dirt road that follows the Santa Margarita Wash, west of State Route 286 about 15 miles north of Sasabe, AZ.

Overall, ground access into this area from the Sierra Vista Project Office is approximately three to five hours depending on the destination.

b. Characteristics

The topography for the most part can best be described as ranging from primarily steep slopes to more gently sloped hills with various aspects. The plant communities on the lower elevations (< 5,500 feet) are dominated by warm season perennial grasses. The major species are sideoats, black, blue, hairy, sprucetop, and Rothrock grammas; plains lovegrass, cane beardgrass, Arizona cottontop, plains bristlegrass, big sacaton, alkali sacaton, tobosa, vine mesquite, curly mesquite, bush muhly, and mesa, blue, red, poverty, and spidergrass threeawns. Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,000 pounds per acre.

Important shrubs include false mesquite, range ratany, shrubby buckwheat, fourwing saltbush, soap tree yucca, and sacahuista. Mesquite is the dominant tree of the area with other common trees including catclaw acacia, netleaf hackberry, western soapberry, desert willow, Arizona ash, Arizona black walnut, cottonwood, and black willow.

Summer annual grasses are important in the area and include species of grama, panic, sprangletop, and threeawn. Perennial forbs are also important and include species like evolvulus, sida, dyschoriste, wild bean, lotus, matweed, zinnia, hog potato, perezia, cudweeds, and vetch.

The vegetation on the higher elevations (>5,500 feet) is oak-savannah with open canopies (5-10%) of Emory, Mexican blue, Arizona white oak, and one-seed juniper, and perennial grasses in the understory. The major grasses include sideoats, blue, hairy, and purple grammas, Bullgrass, deergrass, Texas bluestem, plains lovegrass, woolly bunchgrass, crinkleawn, prairie junegrass, squirreltail, pinyon ricegrass, and beggartick threeawn. The dominant shrubs include sacahuista, California brickelbush, wait-a-bit mimosa, and yerba de pasmo. Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,500 pounds per acre.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, one fire started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. This fire burned an estimated 1,117 acres. There have been no other fires recorded within this management unit during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the compartments located in the Las Guijas Mountains is rated at fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The fire regime for the compartments located in the Sierrita Mountains is rated

at fire regime II (0-35 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The remaining areas located within this management unit are rated at fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this management unit is predominantly assessed at level II with some isolated areas being rated at level III.

e. Values at Risk

Within this FMU, Pima pineapple cactus (*Coryphantha scheeri* var. *robustispina*) populations inhabit specific ecological areas with historically low fire frequencies, and, usually, a distinct lack of fine fuel (fine herbaceous vegetation) continuity (unless above-average winter precipitation is received). No known structures exist within the confines of or immediately adjacent to the BLM-managed habitat locations for this T&E species. The primary reasons for decline/vulnerability for this plant species include illegal collection, habitat degradation due to overuse by livestock, habitat loss due to mining, agriculture, road construction, urbanization, and aggressive non-native plants.

The 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy states, in part, that fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and resource related consequences of wildland fire impacts. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to the fire.

The appropriate management responses to be initiated in the event of a wildfire event within or immediately adjacent to specific vegetative T&E habitat locations may include, and are not limited to, the use of minimum impact suppression techniques (M.I.S.T.), not applying direct suppression procedures within a known area inhabited by a vegetative T&E species, or applying suppression operations outside the known area of habitation to reduce a potential threat from wildfire.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Prescribed fire treatments will be used to reduce invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

Unplanned ignitions will be managed using the most appropriate management response with regard to public and firefighter safety, cost, and private property along with other improvements. Efforts on unplanned ignitions will be directed towards containing or confining each unplanned ignition to public lands using natural or man-made fuel breaks.

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

13. Ironwood Monument (17,628 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

Tohono O'odham tribal lands border this FMU to the south and west; the north and eastern boundaries are bordered with Arizona State managed lands as well as private land parcels.

The Ironwood Forest National Monument is located 25 miles northwest of Tucson, AZ. There are two main points of entry for access into this management unit. Ground access can be gained by either Interstate 10 at Avra Valley Road, or Interstate 10 and using the Red Rock exit, proceed southwest on Sasco Road to Silverbell Road. Driving time from the Sierra Vista Project Office is approximately two hours.

b. Characteristics

This 129,000 acre management unit contains a significant system of cultural and historical sites covering a 5,000 year period. The Ironwood Monument has one of the richest stands of ironwood trees (*Olnea tesota*) in the Sonoran Desert. The monument also encompasses several desert mountain ranges that include the Silverbell, Waterman, and Sawtooth Mountains with desert valleys in between. Elevation ranges from 1,800 to 4,261 feet.

The vegetation in this management unit is dominated by desert shrubs, trees, and cacti. Deep, upland sites have overstories of mesquite, littleleaf palo verde, and ironwood, with understories of perennial and annual grasses and forbs. This management unit also supports saguaro cactus as well as a wide diversity of *Opuntia* species (cholla, and prickly pear species) and other cacti on the uplands and hill slopes. Bush muhly is the dominant perennial grass. Other

grasses include slender grama, purple threeawn, mesa and spidergrass threeawns, Arizona cottontop, Pima pappusgrass, red grama, slim tridens, and fluffgrass. Major forbs include slender janusia, twinberry, spiny goldenhead, desert globemallow, and yerba del venado. Triangle bursage is the dominant half-shrub in this area. Other shrubs include jojoba, false mesquite, desert zinnia, Mormon tea, creosotebush, flattop buckwheat, ocotillo, limberbush, and wolfberry species. Annual grasses and forbs of both winter and summer seasons are well represented in years with favorable moisture.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 0 fires were reported on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for this management unit is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this management unit is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level II.

e. Values at Risk

The desired future conditions are for an adequate cover and mix of natural plant species that have good vigor. In terms of fire management and fire ecology, the desired future conditions are for fire to control or reduce the exotic annual weeds such as red brome, Mediterranean grass, and buffelgrass and to limit woody vegetation to non-hazardous levels.

Upland vegetation on public lands within the STFMZ will be managed for watershed protection, livestock use, reduction of non-point source pollution, T&E species protection, priority wildlife habitat, firewood, and other incidental human uses. Best management practices and vegetation manipulation will be used to achieve desired plant community management objectives. Apply management strategies within this management unit to comply with Arizona Standards and Guidelines for Achieving Rangeland Health.

Sonoran desert vegetation is not considered to be fire adapted or dependent. The invasion of non-native species like buffelgrass (perennial, warm-season grass) and red brome (cool-season annual grass), has created areas that are now prone to high intensity fires with high rates of spread. The potential exists for fires to exceed 1,000 acres in a short period of time. Suppression forces must respond quickly to be effective in containing fires at a reasonable size. Firefighter safety is a primary concern due to the high rates of spread in this fuel type.

Within this FMU, Nichol Turk's head cactus (*Echinocactus horizonthalonius* var. *nicholii*) populations inhabit a specific ecological area with historically low fire frequencies, and usually a distinct lack of fine fuel (fine herbaceous vegetation) continuity (unless above-average winter precipitation is received). No known structures exist within the confines of or immediately adjacent to the habitat locations for this T&E species. The primary reasons for

decline/vulnerability for this plant species include specialized habitat requirements, limited habitat, off-road vehicle use, other recreational uses of habitat, mining, and road construction.

The 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy states, in part, that fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and resource related consequences of wildland fire impacts. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to the fire.

The AMR to be initiated in the event of a wildfire event within or immediately adjacent to specific vegetative T&E habitat locations may include, and are not limited to, the use of minimum impact suppression techniques (M.I.S.T.), not applying direct suppression procedures within a known area inhabited by a vegetative T&E species, or applying suppression operations outside the known area of habitation to reduce a potential threat from wildfire.

f. Communities at Risk

There are no identified communities at risk within this FMU.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority for AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land. The scattered locations of privately owned structures are of significant importance as well as public safety on roadways; impacts from smoke may cause problems by slowing traffic. Suppression resources must respond quickly to be effective in containing fires at a reasonable size.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

14. Las Cienegas NCA (51,090 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

This management unit is located about 50 miles southeast of Tucson, AZ. Combined, the NCA and Acquisition Planning District total 142,000 acres of public, private, county, and state trust lands. There are two main access points into the Las Cienegas NCA. The best is located off State Route 83 about seven miles north of Sonoita, AZ. This maintained dirt road leads three miles to the Empire Ranch House and continues to other areas within the NCA. Another, less developed road, is located five miles east of Sonoita, AZ off State Route 82. Driving time from the Sierra Vista Project Office is approximately two hours.

This FMU is bordered primarily by Arizona State managed lands and private land parcels; USFS lands (Coronado N.F.) border sections of this management unit to the west.

b. Characteristics

Together, this unit can best be described as a scenic landscape of vast desert grasslands and rolling oak-studded hills. Cienega Creek flows south to north and sustains a lush riparian corridor. The potential plant communities on the Las Cienegas NCA are dominated by warm season perennial grasses. The major species are sideoats, black, blue, hairy, sprucetop, and Rothrock grammas; plains lovegrass, cane beardgrass, Arizona cottontop, plains bristlegrass, big sacaton, alkali sacaton, tobosa, vine mesquite, curly mesquite, bush muhly, and mesa, blue, red, poverty, and spidergrass threeawns.

Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,000 pounds per acre. Important shrubs include false mesquite, range ratany, shrubby buckwheat, fourwing saltbush, soap tree yucca, and sacahuista. Mesquite is the dominant tree of the area with other common trees including catclaw acacia, netleaf hackberry, western soapberry, desert willow, Arizona ash, Arizona black walnut, cottonwood, and black willow.

Summer annual grasses are important in the area and include species of grama, panic, sprangletop, and threeawn. Perennial forbs are also important and include species like evolvulus, sida, dyschoriste, wild bean, lotus, matweed, zinnia, hog potato, perezia, cudweeds, and vetch.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 14 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. These fires burned an estimated 5,547 acres. The largest fire burned 4,471 acres; the average fire size was 396 acres. There have been three large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for the majority of this management unit is rated as fire regime II (0-35 year frequency, stand replacement severity); the western 1/3 of this management unit is rated at fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this management unit is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated areas being rated at level

II. The Condition Class rating for this management unit is predominantly assessed at level I with some isolated locations being rated at level II.

e. Values at Risk

Risks associated with fire suppression in the WUI: power lines, propane tanks, areas of poor ingress/egress, etc. High potential exists for wildland fire to move onto private lands located within the Las Cienegas NCA.

Within this FMU, the Pima pineapple cactus (*Coryphantha scheeri* var. *robustispina*) populations inhabit specific ecological areas with historically low fire frequencies, and usually a distinct lack of fine fuel (fine herbaceous vegetation) continuity (unless above-average winter precipitation is received). No known structures exist within the confines of or immediately adjacent to the BLM-managed habitat locations for this T&E species. The primary reasons for decline/vulnerability for this plant species include illegal collection, habitat degradation due to overuse by livestock, habitat loss due to mining, agriculture, road construction, urbanization, and aggressive non-native plants.

The 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy states, in part, that fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and resource related consequences of wildland fire impacts. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to the fire.

The appropriate management responses to be initiated in the event of a wildfire event within or immediately adjacent to specific vegetative T&E habitat locations may include, and are not limited to, the use of minimum impact suppression techniques (M.I.S.T.), not applying direct suppression procedures within a known area inhabited by a vegetative T&E species, or applying suppression operations outside the known area of habitation to reduce a potential threat from wildfire.

f. Communities at Risk

Las Cienegas NCA

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Prescribed fire treatments will be used to reduce invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Community Assistance/Protection Objectives

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Because of the planning area's small size, and the proximity of an increasing number of homes in the WUI, BLM will manage unplanned ignitions for the benefit of resources only after public safety and property protection can be assured and in conformance with the RMP. Due to intermixed land ownership patterns,

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

15. San Pedro RNCA (47,668 acres)



FMU Components:

This management unit has two compartments:

- 1. 1501 - San Pedro RNCA Upland (46,424 acres)**
- 2. 1502 - San Pedro RNCA Riparian (1,244 acres)**

a. Location

The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (SPRNCA) is located east of Sierra Vista, AZ and follows the San Pedro River north for approximately 40 miles beginning at the international border with Mexico to just south of the community of St. David, AZ. The area is easily accessible using State Routes 80, 82, 90, or 92. This FMU is bordered primarily by Arizona State managed

lands and private land parcels; Military managed lands (Fort Huachuca) border sections of this management unit to the west.

b. Characteristics

The riparian corridor is dominated primarily by cottonwood and willow trees and to a lesser extent by Arizona ash, walnut, netleaf hackberry, and soapberry. The uplands slope gently, for the most part, towards the riparian zone and are dominated by sacaton, mesquite, fourwing saltbush, tarbush, creosote bush, and acacia. The SPRNCA consists of 12 ecological sites.

The Clay Loam Upland is characterized as a Mixed Grass – Mesquite Association and is in poor to fair condition. The site should be grassland with a few shrubs in evidence. The presence of Lehman lovegrass further contributes to the poor rating.

The Clay Bottom is characterized by the typical Big Sacaton (*Sporobolus wrightii*) Association and is in good to excellent condition. The mesquite present in places on this site lowers the rating since this is primarily a bottomland grassland site.

The Deep Sandy Loam site is typified by the mesquite bosque community. This site is in poor to fair condition due to the large numbers of mesquite.

The Granitic Hills site is typified by the Mixed Grass – Mixed Shrub Association and is in a high-poor to a low-fair condition. This site is considered to be a disclimax grassland and has been invaded extensively by shrubby species. The condition is not expected to change either up or down very quickly.

The Limy Slopes are characterized by either a Mixed Chihuahuan Scrub Association or a Creosote Bush – Mixed Scrub Association, usually in high-fair to low-good condition. The only plants that occur are extremely tolerant of drought and limy soils. The site does not respond well to management practices.

The Limy Upland sites are similar to and support the same vegetation communities as the Limy Slopes. However, due to their position on the landscape and the soil characteristics, the potential for grass production is lower than the Limy Slopes. These sites are in high-good to low-excellent condition and will remain so regardless of the management practices applied.

Loamy Upland sites support a variety of vegetation communities: Big Sacaton – Mesquite Association, Mixed Grass – Mesquite Association, Burroweed – Mesquite Association, and Creosote Bush – Mixed Scrub Association. The condition of the ecological site varies from poor in the Burroweed – Mesquite and Creosote Bush Associations to fair in the Mixed Grass – Mesquite

Association, to good to excellent in the Big Sacaton – Mesquite Association. Condition on these sites will change slowly regardless of management practices.

The Sandy Upland site is represented primarily by the mesquite bosque community and is generally in fair to good condition.

The Shallow Upland site is characterized by the Mixed Grass – Mixed Scrub Association and is in fair to good condition depending on the relative mix of grasses to shrubs. Grasses should be 70 to 85% of the plant community in excellent condition. The site rating should change fairly rapidly through the use of fire as a management tool to reduce the mixed scrub species.

The Sandy Loam Bottom sites are characterized by the Mixed Chihuahuan Scrub Association and are considered to be in poor condition primarily due to the dominance of the shrubby species in what should be a grass dominated site. A change in the condition of this site would be slow with the application of any management practice.

The Sandy Loam Upland sites are dominated by three major plant communities: Mixed Chihuahuan Scrub, Mixed Grass – Mesquite, and the Burroweed – Mesquite Association. These sites are considered to be in poor condition because they should be dominated by mixed perennial grasses with few shrubs; the opposite is the case. Any change in condition will be slow with or without any management practices.

Volcanic Hills are characterized by the Mixed Grass – Mixed Scrub Association and is considered to be in fair to good condition depending on the amount of perennial grass species present. This site should be dominated by nearly all grass species with few shrubs. Prescribed or natural fire could shift this site to a higher condition class; without fire, change will be slow.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 70 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. These fires burned an estimated 4,014 acres. The largest fire burned 1,466 acres; the average fire size was 78 acres. There have been four large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

San Pedro RNCA Upland

The fire regime for this compartment is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this compartment is predominantly assessed at level II. Some isolated units within the upland zone are rated at level III.

San Pedro RNCA Riparian

The fire regime for this compartment is rated as fire regime IV (35-100 year frequency, stand replacement severity). The Condition Class rating for this

compartment is predominantly assessed at level II. Some isolated units within the riparian zone are rated at level I.

e. Values at Risk

Within this FMU, the Huachuca water umbel (*Lilaeopsis schaffneriana* var. *recurva*) population inhabits a specific ecological area where no known structures exist within the confines of or immediately adjacent to the habitat locations for this T&E species. The primary reasons for decline/vulnerability for this plant species appears to be related to watershed degradation.

The 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy states, in part, that fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and resource related consequences of wildland fire impacts. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to the fire.

The appropriate management responses to be initiated in the event of a wildfire event within or immediately adjacent to specific vegetative T&E habitat locations may include, and are not limited to, the use of minimum impact suppression techniques (M.I.S.T.), not applying direct suppression procedures within a known area inhabited by a vegetative T&E species, or applying suppression operations outside the known area of habitation to reduce a potential threat from wildfire.

f. Communities at Risk

Communities at risk located within this management unit include Babocomari, Hereford, Lewis Springs, Palominas, and St. David.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. BLM will develop fire management strategies in the planning area that will consider both ecological and administrative issues. Private lands and structures located adjacent to this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

The SPRNCA is comprised of a variety of different vegetative communities that require unique and individual approaches for fire management. Each vegetative category has its own set of objectives that is intended to benefit its particular fuel type. The prescribed fire management objectives for each vegetative community include:

1) Riparian: Maintain canopy cover and structural diversity of cottonwood and willow galleries; reduce the number of flood debris piles concentrated directly against cottonwood trees; reduce the fuel loading in and adjacent to the riparian areas; promote regeneration of cottonwood and willow trees; reduce the

number, intensity and size of wildfires in the cottonwood and willow galleries; create mosaic burn patterns.

2) Grasslands: Increase cover and density of native perennial grasses; reduce annual weed cover and density; reduce canopy cover of shrub species; reduce fuel loads; improve wildlife habitat; reduce exotic species; create mosaic burn patterns.

3) Cienegas: maintain or increase reed and sedge cover; reduce exotic, invasive weed cover and density; create open areas for wildlife access to water; improve wildlife habitat; maintain canopy cover of trees around the margins of the cienegas; create mosaic burn patterns.

4) Uplands: Increase density of perennial native grass species; reduce exotic, invasive weed cover; reduce frequency of shrub species; improve wildlife habitat; maintain scattered canopy of desert tree species; create mosaic burn patterns.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Community Assistance/Protection Objectives

The San Pedro WHAMP identifies hazardous fuel reduction projects, public and firefighter safety issues, and partnering opportunities with local Firewise groups. The Arizona Firewise Communities program is the primary tool to achieve wildland fire hazards awareness to the public.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Because of the proximity of an increasing number of homes in the WUI, BLM will manage unplanned ignitions for the benefit of resources only after public safety and property protection can be assured and in conformance with the RMP. Due to intermixed land ownership patterns,

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Community Assistance/Protection

In order to protect communities at risk from wildfires, continue community assistance through the Rural Fire Assistance Program (RFA) and other partnering opportunities. Technical assistance is being provided by the BLM allowing Firewise groups to develop local plans that meet mutual goals with the BLM. Through grants, communities will acquire the necessary equipment which can be contracted for use with the BLM, in order to reduce hazardous

fuels on private and public lands. Firewise groups are also partnering with the BLM and other entities to promote wildland fire awareness to their respective communities.

16. Sonoran Desert (141,313 acres)



FMU Components:

a. Location

The BLM administered lands within this management unit are not contiguous; they are located from the north end of the Altar Valley, north of Tucson to just north of the Gila River and south of Superior, AZ, as well as west of the San Pedro River to Florence, AZ. These areas are accessible on the ground via a number of Class 1, 2, 3, and 4 roads. The BLM managed lands within this FMU are interspersed primarily with Arizona State managed lands; some privately owned land parcels are also located within this management unit.

b. Characteristics

The topography for the most part can best be described as ranging from primarily steep slopes to more gently sloped hills with various aspects. The vegetation in this management unit is dominated by desert shrubs, trees, and cacti. Deep, upland sites have overstories of mesquite, littleleaf palo verde, and ironwood, with understories of perennial and annual grasses and forbs. This management unit also supports saguaro cactus as well as a wide diversity of *Opuntia* species (cholla, and prickly pear species) and other cacti on the uplands and hill slopes. Bush muhly is the dominant perennial grass. Other grasses include slender grama, purple threeawn, mesa and spidergrass threeawns, Arizona cottontop, Pima pappusgrass, red grama, slim tridens, and fluffgrass. Major forbs include slender janusia, twinberry, spiny goldenhead, desert globemallow, and yerba del venado. Triangle bursage is the dominant half-shrub in this area. Other shrubs include jojoba, false mesquite, desert zinnia, Mormon tea, creosotebush, flattop buckwheat, ocotillo, limberbush, and wolfberry species. Annual grasses and forbs of both winter and summer seasons are well represented in years with favorable moisture.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, one fire has been reported on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. This fire burned an estimated 30 acres (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for this management unit is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this management unit is predominantly assessed at level II. Some isolated areas are rated at either level I or III.

e. Values at Risk

Sonoran desert vegetation is not considered to be fire adapted or dependent. The invasion of non-native species like buffelgrass (perennial, warm-season grass) and red brome (cool-season annual grass), has created areas that are now prone to high intensity fires with high rates of spread. The potential exists for fires to exceed 1,000 acres in a short period of time.

Within this FMU, the Acuña cactus (*Echinomastus erectocentrus* var. *acuñensis*) populations inhabit specific ecological areas with historically low fire frequencies, and, usually, a distinct lack of fine fuel (fine herbaceous vegetation) continuity (unless above-average winter precipitation is received). No known structures exist within the confines of or immediately adjacent to the habitat locations for this T&E candidate species. The primary reasons for decline/vulnerability for this plant species include illegal collection, habitat loss/fragmentation from urban development, mining operations, and perhaps drought-induced mortality.

The 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy states, in part, that fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and resource related consequences of wildland fire impacts. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to the fire.

The appropriate management responses to be initiated in the event of a wildfire event within or immediately adjacent to specific vegetative T&E habitat locations may include, and are not limited to, the use of minimum impact suppression techniques (M.I.S.T.), not applying direct suppression procedures within a known area inhabited by a vegetative T&E species, or applying suppression operations outside the known area of habitation to reduce a potential threat from wildfire.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land. The scattered locations of privately owned structures are of significant

importance as well as public safety on roadways; impacts from smoke may cause problems by slowing traffic. Suppression resources must respond quickly to be effective in containing fires at a reasonable size.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads; invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

Suppress wildfire in sensitive vegetation communities (i.e. palo verde/saguaro) to reduce the detrimental effects on priority wildlife species. Firefighter safety is a primary concern due to the high rates of spread in this fuel type.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

17. Sonoran WUI (73,116 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

The BLM managed lands within this FMU are interspersed primarily with Arizona State managed lands as well as numerous privately owned land parcels that are located within this management unit. This area is accessible on the ground primarily by using various maintained or unimproved dirt roads off either State Route 77 or 177.

b. Characteristics

The topography is characterized by rolling hills at the lower elevations to steep rugged and broken slopes at higher elevations which make fire management difficult. The vegetation in this management unit is dominated by desert shrubs, trees, and cacti. Deep, upland sites have overstories of mesquite, littleleaf palo verde, and ironwood, with understories of perennial and annual grasses and forbs. This management unit also supports saguaro cactus as well as a wide diversity of *Opuntia* species (cholla, and prickly pear species) and other cacti on the uplands and hill slopes. Bush muhly is the dominant perennial grass. Other grasses include slender grama, purple threeawn, mesa and spidergrass threeawns, Arizona cottontop, Pima pappusgrass, red grama, slim tridens, and fluffgrass. Major forbs include slender janusia, twinberry, spiny goldenhead, desert globemallow, and yerba del venado. Triangle bursage is the dominant half-shrub in this area. Other shrubs include jojoba, false mesquite, desert zinnia, Mormon tea, creosotebush, flattop buckwheat, ocotillo, limberbush, and wolfberry species. Annual grasses and forbs of both winter and summer seasons are well represented in years with favorable moisture.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, no fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for this management unit is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this management unit is predominantly assessed at level II. Some isolated areas are rated at either level I or III.

e. Values at Risk

The desired future conditions are for an adequate cover and mix of natural plant species that have good vigor. In terms of fire management and fire ecology, the desired future conditions are for fire to control or reduce the exotic annual weeds such as red brome, Mediterranean grass, and buffelgrass and to limit woody vegetation to non-hazardous levels. Apply management strategies within this management unit to comply with Arizona Standards and Guidelines for Achieving Rangeland Health.

f. Communities at Risk

This management unit encompasses the communities of Dudleyville, Winkelman, Hayden, Kearny, Mammoth, Kelvin, Riverside, and Hayden Junction as well as numerous rural developments where homes have been built or mobile homes have been located. These areas can best be described as having single, narrow, marginally maintained dirt roads that provide ingress and egress.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority for Appropriate Management Response (AMR) is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land or from private land onto BLM managed areas. The scattered locations of privately owned structures are of significant importance as well as public safety on roadways; impacts from smoke may cause problems by slowing traffic. Suppression resources must respond quickly to be effective in containing fires at a reasonable size.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads; invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Community Assistance/Protection Objectives

Community assistance/protection objectives include identifying hazardous fuel reduction projects, public and firefighter safety issues, and partnering opportunities with local Firewise groups. The Arizona Firewise Communities program is the primary tool to achieve wildland fire hazards awareness to the public.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

Suppress wildfire in sensitive vegetation communities (i.e. palo verde/saguaro) to reduce the detrimental effects on priority wildlife species. Firefighter safety is a primary concern due to the high rates of spread in this fuel type.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Community Assistance/Protection

In order to protect communities at risk from wildfires, continue community assistance through the Rural Fire Assistance Program (RFA) and other partnering opportunities. Technical assistance is being provided by the BLM allowing Firewise groups to develop local plans that meet mutual goals with the BLM. Through grants, communities will acquire the necessary equipment which can be contracted for use with the BLM, in order to reduce hazardous fuels on private and public lands. Firewise groups are also partnering with the BLM and other entities to promote wildland fire awareness to their respective communities.

18. Tombstone-Bisbee WUI (48,783 acres)

FMU Components:

a. Location

The BLM managed lands within this FMU are interspersed primarily with Arizona State managed lands; the SPRNCA borders this management unit to the west. Some privately owned land parcels are also located within this management unit. The BLM lands within this management unit can be easily accessed on the ground via numerous maintained as well as unimproved roads that are located within the management unit.

b. Characteristics

The plant communities in this management unit are dominated by warm season perennial grasses. The major plant species are sideoats, black, sprucetop, and Rothrock grammas, cane beardgrass, Arizona cottontop, plains bristlegrass, sacaton, alkali sacaton, tobosa, vine mesquite, curly mesquite, bush muhly, mesa, blue, red, poverty, and spidergrass threeawns. Average annual production of these grasslands is about 1,000 pounds per acre.

Important shrubs include false mesquite, range ratany, shrubby buckwheat, fourwing saltbush, creosotebush, soap tree yucca, sacahuista, mariola, mortonia, chittam, tarbush, whitethorn acacia, and littleleaf sumac. Mesquite is the dominant tree of the area with other common trees including catclaw acacia, netleaf hackberry, and desert willow.

Summer annual grasses are important in this management unit and include species of grama, panic, sprangletop, and threeawn. Perennial forbs are also important and include species like evolvulus, sida, dyschoriste, wild bean, lotus, matweed, zinnia, hog potato, perezia, cudweeds, and vetch.

c. Fire History

Between 1980 and 2003, 20 fires started on the BLM administered public lands within this management unit. These fires burned an estimated 2,861 acres. The largest fire burned 291 acres; the average fire size was 318 acres. There have

been three large fires over 100 acres in size during this time period (Refer to fire history graph in appendix).

d. Fire Regime/Condition Class

The fire regime for this management unit is rated as fire regime III (35-100 year frequency, mixed severity). The Condition Class rating for this management unit is assessed predominantly at level II. Some isolated areas are rated at either level I or III.

e. Values at Risk

Upland vegetation on public lands within the STFMZ will be managed for watershed protection, livestock use, reduction of non-point source pollution, T&E species protection, priority wildlife habitat, firewood, and other incidental human uses. Best management practices and vegetation manipulation will be used to achieve desired plant community management objectives. Apply management strategies within this management unit to comply with Arizona Standards and Guidelines for Achieving Rangeland Health.

State and private lands are interspersed with the BLM managed lands. Scattered structures and range improvements are also located throughout these private lands.

f. Communities at Risk

Communities at risk located within this management unit include Tombstone, Bisbee, and scattered, unincorporated areas with numerous homes and structures.

g. Fire Management Objectives

Suppression Objectives

BLM will suppress natural or human-caused wildland fires by first addressing the safety concerns of firefighters and the public and then addressing resource concerns. Private lands and structures located within this FMU require protection from wildfire. The priority AMR is to prevent wildfires from spreading to private land.

Fire Use and Prescribed Fire Objectives

Prescribed fire treatments will be used to reduce invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatment Objectives

Non-fire treatments will be used to reduce hazardous fuel loads, invasive or woody species cover, increase herbaceous cover, improve ingress/egress routes, improve water infiltration, and reduce soil erosion.

Community Assistance/Protection Objectives

Community assistance/protection objectives include identifying hazardous fuel reduction projects, public and firefighter safety issues, and partnering opportunities with local Firewise groups. The Arizona Firewise Communities program is the primary tool to promote wildland fire awareness to the public.

h. Fire Management Strategies

Suppression

Scattered structures are of significant importance as well as public safety on roadways; impacts from smoke may cause problems by slowing traffic. Suppression resources must respond quickly to be effective in containing fires at a reasonable size.

Fire occurrence is light to moderate and is predominantly lightning caused. Higher fire potential exists in years with enough precipitation to produce abundant herbaceous growth. Fires usually range from 10-50 acres but may exceed 100-200 acres. Scattered structures and communication sites are of significant importance in this management unit.

Prescribed Fire

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective prescribed fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

STFMZ fire staff will work with Resource Management Specialists to identify opportunities and implement effective non-fire treatments to achieve resource management objectives.

Community Assistance/Protection

In order to protect communities at risk from wildfires and to assist them economically BLM is partnering with them. Technical assistance is being provided by the BLM allowing Firewise groups to develop local plans that meet mutual goals with the BLM. Through grants, communities will acquire the necessary equipment which can be contracted for use with the BLM, in order to reduce hazardous fuels on private and public lands. Firewise groups are also partnering with the BLM and other entities to promote wildland fire awareness to their respective communities.

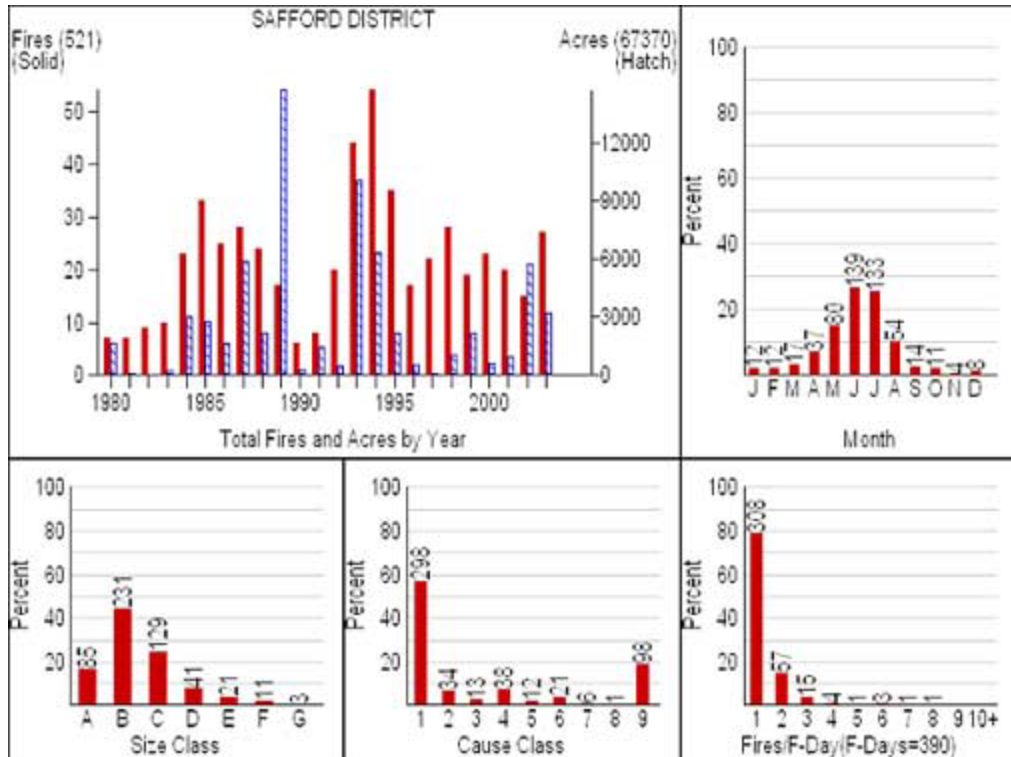
IV. Fire Management Components:

A. Wildland Fire Suppression

1. Fire History

From 1980 through 2003 the STFMZ has responded to 521 action type fires. The STFMZ averages 27 BLM fires and 2930 acres consumed per year. The peak fire season is May through June. The majority of fires are class C or smaller in size. The fire zone does not experience a large number of multiple fire days, where two or more fires are started on BLM lands. Lightning has caused Sixty percent of the fires that have occurred within the zone.

Annual precipitation and the resulting fine fuels has a significant impact on fire ignitions and resistance to control. The effect however is different between the fuel types, brush and forested areas versus the predominant grass areas.



2. Suppression / Preparedness Actions

Based on historical analysis the STFMZ length of season is 120 to 150 days. STFMZ uses Appropriate Management Response (AMR) to suppress all fires in accordance with management objectives based on current conditions and fire location. Firefighter and public safety is the one priority in all fire management and suppression actions.

A response can vary from an aggressive initial direct action to indirect actions based on firefighter and public safety. AMR strategies will be tailored to address areas of significant constraints including Wildland Urban Interface, Wilderness, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), critical habitat for T&E species, and areas of other resource constraints.

The STFMZ goal is to be fire ready by the end of April/first week in May. This includes the staffing of the two engines and the two Single Engine Airtankers ready to respond.

Required fire operations/suppression plans can be found in the “Interagency Standard for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations” (Red Book) and the Office of Fire and Aviation website at <http://www.fire.blm.gov/>. All plans for the STFMZ are located in the STFMZ dispatch office.

The operational role of the BLM in the wildland/urban interface is wildland firefighting, hazard fuels reduction, cooperative prevention and education, and technical assistance. Structural fire suppression is the responsibility of tribal,

State, or local governments as described in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations. Chapter 1, Federal Fire Program Policy and Guidance Overview, under 3. Policy # L.

Agency Administrators will ensure that their employees are trained, certified, and made available to participate in the wildland fire program locally, and nationally as the situation demands as described in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations. Chapter 1, Federal Fire Program Policy and Guidance Overview, under C. Elements of the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy # 17 Agency Administrator and Employees Roles.

3. Fire Prevention, Community Education, Community Risk Assessment, and other Community Assistance Activities

a) Annual Prevention Program

The STFMZ Fire, Prevention Program strives to develop and apply efficient and effective prevention efforts to minimize unwanted human caused wildfires. The prevention program focuses on mitigation through education, aimed at changing people's behavior through awareness and knowledge. This is accomplished through printed materials, mass media, personal contacts, group and school presentations, signing, events and parades.

The fire prevention program is also focused on reducing the risk from wildfire in wildland urban interface areas. A primary goal is to work collaboratively and cooperatively with communities, agencies, groups, organizations and private homeowners to develop and implement citizen driven solutions for mitigating wildfire hazards and risks. The mitigation, fire and fuels staff is and will continue to develop cohesive partnerships with community stakeholders. Those partnerships will increase community and public awareness and help them to understand and appreciate the importance of hazardous fuel reduction and risk mitigation. Additionally, the zone fire staff is working in collaboration with the Arizona State Land Department, fire departments, counties, and other cooperators in preparing community wildfire protection plans which will establish guidelines and procedures for managing incidents with high risk or catastrophic potential.

b) Special Orders and Closures

During times of high fire danger, restrictions and or closures may be imposed to mitigate the risk of wildland fires. Emergency closures have a substantial impact on the public and are only used under the most sever conditions. All Special Orders and Closures will be coordinated with local cooperators and regional agencies.

The Zone Fire Management Officer will make recommendations to Field Office Managers for the approval of restrictions and/or closures. Those restrictions and/or closures recommendations will follow the guidelines outlined in the Interagency Closures and Restriction Tool Box and will be implemented in the interest of public safety.

c) Industrial Operations and Fire Precautions

Within the Phoenix/Kingman Fire Management Zone, industrial operations are limited and have very little impact on BLM public lands as a source of wildfire ignitions. Some commercial mining operations are active. However these operations tend to be in areas of low risk and historically have posed a minimal ignition potential.

d) Community Assistance, Mitigation and Prevention Education

Fire mitigation and prevention are an active part of the STFMZ fire management program. Details of the prevention program may be found in the STFMZ Wildland Fire Prevention Plan, available at Safford. Current mitigation projects can be found on the Arizona BLM web site under fire management, or through the national BLM Fire and Aviation web site, under Snapshots.

The operational roles of the BLM in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) entail wildland firefighting, hazardous fuels reduction, cooperative interagency mitigation and prevention education, as well as technical assistance provided to individual landowners and communities in the WUI. Structural fire suppression is the responsibility of tribal, State, or local governments, as described in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations.

Public awareness programs (Arizona Firewise Communities) are a major emphasis of the zone's fire mitigation program, while prevention messages are also delivered at public functions and through various field messages (signs), and through and discussion literature at public functions.

Funding for a full-time Fire Mitigation Technician is proposed in the current budget request, in order to meet the demand for fire mitigation projects in the STFMZ, particularly in the implementation of hazardous fuels reduction projects. These fuels projects are required by the National Fire Plan, in WUI areas deemed at risk from wildfires. Each year fire hazard risks assessments and/or mitigation activities (hazardous fuels reduction projects and education programs) are conducted in partnership with the local communities.

4. Training Activities

a) Qualification and Fireline Refresher

Only qualified personnel will participate in wildland firefighting activities, prescribed fire implementation projects and support functions. A list of qualified personal, training records and annual requirements are maintained at Dispatch Office, in accordance to the "Interagency Standard for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations" (Red Book) and Bureau policy.

b) Fire Season Readiness

Preparedness Reviews will be completed by end of May of each year. Established fire season on the STFZ varies, based on unusually dry or wet years. The Zone

can expect the bulk of fire season being 120 to 150 days, mid April to mid September.

5. Detection

The Zone does not maintain any lookouts during the established fire season. Daily monitoring of weather and lighting patterns may trigger zone wide aerial reconns by helicopter or fixed wing aircraft. The Zone also relies heavily on reports from the public passing through on the multiple transportation corridors within the zone.

6. Fire Weather and Fire Danger

The Zone maintains and updates annually a National Fire Danger Rating Operating Plan, also initiates the calculation of daily and forecasted outputs in the Weather Information Management System (WIMS).

The field office has five permanent Remote Automatic Weather Stations (RAWS) that are used for NFDRS.

Station	Station ID	Elevation	Location
Horse camp	0220903	4040	32 / 110
Mule shoe	021007	4580	32 / 110
Black Hills	021008	3300	33 / 109
Guthrie	021104	6340	32 / 109
Empire	021205	4620	31 / 110

7. Aviation Management

The Zone has two Single Engine Airtanker’s, located at Safford, Arizona, The STFZ maintains and updates annually a Zone Aviation Plan.

8. Initial Attack

a. FMU Suppression Priorities

FMU Suppression priorities are ranked as Low, Moderate or High. These rating levels identify the FMU priority setting for suppression action and will assist the Fire and Line Manager in setting priorities for suppression actions when wildfires are occurring in multiple FMUs.

The highest priority FMUs within the fire planning unit for initial attack are ranked as follows:

1. San Pedro RNCA
2. Las Cienegas NCA
3. North-Central Safford
4. Sonoran WUI
5. Muleshoe

Preparedness and Dispatch Level Matrix

Staffing Class Preparedness Level (PL)	Burning Index (BI)	Fire Danger	Management Actions
PL-1	0-10 (FIL-1)	<u>LOW</u> Initiating fires low intensity with low resistance to control; fine fuels drying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal tour of duty 0745 - 1615 • One engine dispatched initial attack response. • Phone & radio monitored by SAD until 1630 (or longer if initial attack is extended).
PL-2	11-26 (FIL-2)	<u>MODERATE</u> Initiating fires moderate intensity with low-moderate resistance to control; heavy fuels drying.	<p>All above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily roster/staffing reports to SEZ and ASO started. • Designated acting Field Office Manager for fire season weekends established. • Establish on call dispatcher list • Assess seasonal trends and the need to request severity funding. • Current MOU's with surrounding agencies in place.
PL-3	27-39 (FIL-3)	<u>HIGH</u> Initiating fires of moderate to moderate-high intensity with potential for spotting w/ winds & passive crowning possible; all fuel classes available at high end BI.	<p>All above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 day staffing 0745–1800 M-F and 0900-1800 S/S. • Consider increased patrols following dry lightning storms. • Consider aerial recon flights after lightning storms. • Consider additional overhead for critical command functions. • Predicted LAL between 4-6, bump up to Level IV.
PL-4	40-53 (FIL-4)	<u>VERY HIGH</u> Fires present moderate to high intensity and high resistance to control; escapes are common at high end BI; all fuels classes available for rapid combustion; air temps high, humidities low with high winds possible; spotting & intermittent crowning likely.	<p>All above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefings for agency administrators as needed. • Notify all STFMZ personnel of red flag warnings. • Increased engine patrols through areas with historically high incidence of fires. • Additional recon flights after lightning. • Consider fire restrictions; fire safety messages distributed. • Consider canceling planned prescribed fires and postponing project work. • Consider staging call when needed crews on weekends.
PL-5	54 + (FIL-5+)	<u>EXTREME</u> High to extreme intensities with crowning, short-long range spotting common; project fires likely under high wind conditions.	<p>All above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue fire restrictions and closures. • Evaluate the need to order and preposition additional resources. • Consider daily briefings for agency administrators. • Media coverage on any type of additional fire restrictions or closures.

b. Dispatch Procedures

The dispatch office will be staffed seven days per week, during the core fire season. Staffing will be increased as fire activity increases.

Dispatchers will initiate an appropriate dispatch considering location, expected fire behavior, fuels, time of day, time of year and availability of resources. The “closest resource concept” will be the guiding principle in all Zone dispatch operations. Zone resources are NOT allowed to self-dispatch unless otherwise instructed by the appropriate Duty Officer. Additional resources may be moved up, as the situation requires. The Initial Attack I.C. has the responsibility to assess the situation and adjust the type and quantity of resources being dispatched. When in High to Extreme fire danger or when Zone resources are not available, state and local cooperators will be ordered as needed. Additional resources can also be ordered from adjacent Federal, State or Local cooperators while in the initial attack phase of the fire, and from the Southwestern Geographic area for extended attack fires.

As a minimum, at least one qualified individual will be dispatched to each wildland fire. Law Enforcement Officer is dispatched, if human caused is suspected.

c. Criteria for the Appropriate Initial Attack Response

The intensity of initial attack and the priority between competing incidents will vary based on the following considerations:

- Threats to human life
- Threats to high value private property and natural resources
- Fuel type
- Predicted fire behavior
- Natural Resource and Fire Management objectives

d. Equipment

Based on the 1998 FMP (initial attack analysis) the zone is approved for one heavy engine, one light engine, and two Single Engine Air tankers. The zone also maintains a non working capital fund light engine for use by qualified field office personnel.

9. Extended Attack and Large Fire Suppression

A Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSa/WFIP) is done to evaluate suppression responses to wildland fires that have exceeded initial attack response, exceeded planned management capability or are being considered for wildfire fire use.

The complexity analysis is done to determine the appropriate management level for the incident. Procedures and documentation requirements for transitioning to

Type III, II, or I Teams will adhere to the protocol in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations.

The STFZ should maintain three Type III Incident Commanders to handle extended attack fires.

10. Other Fire Suppression Considerations

FMU specific special considerations are identified and discussed in individual FMU descriptions, Chapter III, section D. part 3.a.

B. Wildland Fire Use

1. Description of the Wildland Fire Use Opportunities

Within the Fire Planning Unit there are 3 FMUs where wildland fire may be used for resource benefits. These FMUs are:

- 1) Peloncillo Fire Use Management Area
- 2) Muleshoe
- 3) Wilderness Areas with Plans

Specific objectives for each FMU are listed in Chapter 3. These wildland fire implementation areas were identified through the land use planning process and the activity level planning process.

2. Preplanned Implementation Procedures

Annual activities required to designate and manage incidents for wildland fire use include:

- Local communities, county officials, and the Resource Advisory Council (RAC) have been involved in discussion on proposed wildland fire use areas. Notification procedures have been established to alert these officials when a fire maybe managed for resource benefit within each FMU.
- Necessary management action points have been identified for each FMU. These management action points can be found in the appropriate Fire Use Management Plan.
- An open burning permit has been obtained from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).
- Wildland fire use applications will follow the National Interagency Mobilization Guide direction when in preparedness level IV and V.

3. Initial Action Procedures

All wildfires will be subject to an initial attack response. This response will include size up of the current fire situation, determination of probable fire cause and estimate of potential for fire spread. A suppression action will be initiated unless the fire is determined to be a candidate ignition for management as a wildland fire use incident. All candidate ignitions will be managed in accordance with the procedures and requirements outlined in the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Management Policy Implementation Procedures Reference Guide. All ignitions determined to be human caused will be suppressed using an appropriate

management response.

4. Required Personnel

The STFMZ will manage wildland fire use incidents up to and including those at the Type III/IV complexity level. When fires occur that may exceed this complexity level a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) will be completed to determine the appropriate management strategy. A Fire Use Management Team will be ordered for incidents exceeding this level of complexity. Current qualified staff members may act as interim fire use managers pending the arrival of a Fire Use Manager (FUMA) or Fire Use Management Team. A current list of all personnel qualified to manage and/or assist in wildland fire use incidents is available through the respective agency(ies).

Wildland fire use applications will follow the National Interagency Mobilization Guide direction when in Preparedness Level IV.

- Public information/coordination should occur with agency(ies) public affairs staff to prepare pre-season news releases.
- Target audiences include: agency(ies) staff and publics focusing on special use permittees, recreationists and public or communities that would be potentially affected by a wildland fire use incident.

5. Documentation and Reporting

The Incident Management Team, line manager, fire management officer, or staff representative will conduct and document an informal/formal post-incident critique. This critique will include a discussion and documentation of what went right/wrong, issues with implementation, corrective actions, and recommendations for the next project. The STFMZ Fire Management Officer will retain the following documentation for all wildland fire use incidents:

- Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP) including all amendments and revisions.
- Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) including all amendments and revisions.
- Record of Periodic Fire Assessment and Certification(s).
- Record of resource management concerns addressed.
- Resource monitoring reports and post-incident evaluation.
- Financial documents including preliminary cost estimates, incident cost summaries.
- Agreements.
- The final fire report.

C. Prescribed Fire

1. Planning and Documentation

Projects to treat in areas outside the WUI are prioritized as follows:

- a. Wildlife habitat enhancement
- b. Range improvement
- c. Watershed improvement

- d. Hazardous fuels reduction
- e. Restoration of fire dependant ecosystems (primarily condition class 2 areas).
- f. Maintenance of ecosystems currently in fire condition class 1.

Project level analysis through the NEPA process and other state and federal regulatory compliance processes document the purpose and need for treatment and identifies the goals and objectives that the prescribed fire treatment is intended to realize. The management direction for the FMU's identified in the RMP's and LUPA, this FMP permits the use of management ignited fire in various FMU's as identified.

See Appendix B for a list of annual proposed treatments. Future project workloads are maintained in the RAMS database.

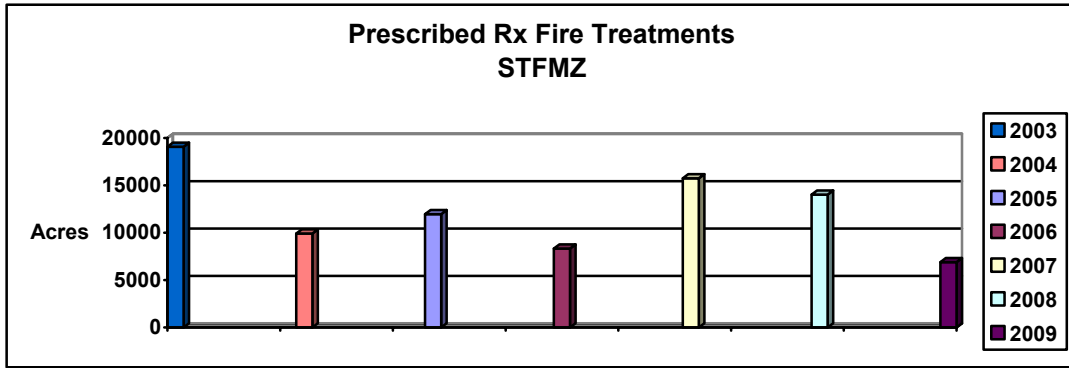
Primary burn windows occur in the spring. However, burning is also accomplished in the early summer, fall and winter, depending on the prescribed fire objectives. Winter burning is normally conducted in riparian zones to minimize fire damage to non-fire adapted vegetation.

All prescribed fire implementation will be completed according to BLM prescribed fire policy and procedures.

Prescribed burn bosses are required to evaluate prescribed burns each day upon completion of burning to assess results and effectiveness of the burn as implemented. These evaluations are maintained as part of the project file. Long term effectiveness monitoring is accomplished by the resource staff through analysis of study transects established prior to treatment. These transects are subsequently re-assessed every other year. This data is stored in electronic format.

Maps displaying prescribed fire treatments since 1998 are maintained in Geographical Information System (GIS) by the local fuels staff. Future prescribed fire treatments will also listed in the GIS database.

- FY 2005: Planned prescribed fire treatment acres: 11,962
- FY 2006: Planned prescribed fire treatment acres: 8,322
- FY 2007: Planned prescribed fire treatment acres: 15,743
- FY 2008: Planned prescribed fire treatment acres: 14,022
- FY 2009: Planned prescribed fire treatment acres: 6,889



2. Air Quality and Smoke Management

In accordance with the project plan and smoke management permits, a monitoring plan will be established and reviewed for conformance. A burning permit from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality will be obtained. Lists of proposed projects must be submitted to the state by February 1 of each year. Permits are issued by March 1st. Prior day approval for each burn is required the day before planned ignition from the State. Best management practices from the Interagency Smoke Management Guide are incorporated into individual prescribed burn plans.

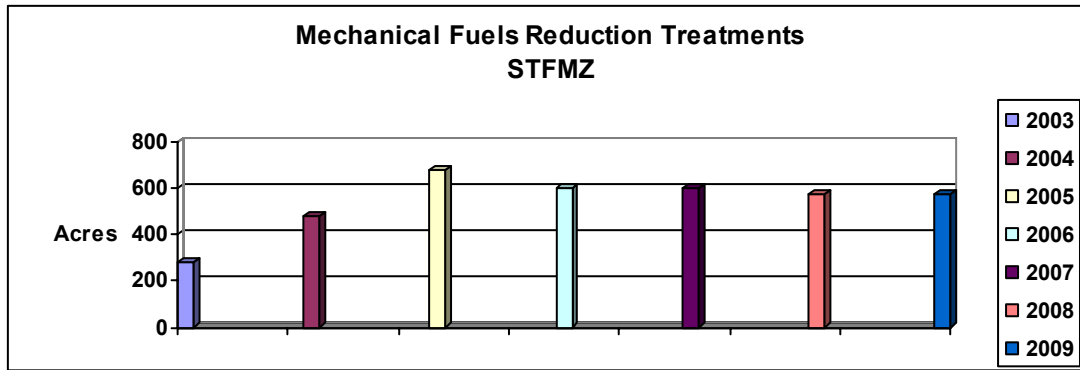
There are no Class 1 airsheds near or adjacent to the FPU. Prescribed fires are ignited under conditions that facilitate high lofting of smoke into the transport layer and over identified sensitive areas. Any impacts produced are short term in nature.

D. Non-Fire Fuels Treatments

1. Annual Activities for Implementation

The STFMZ develops out-year program planning and budgeting information for treatments in accordance with the preferred alternative in the Resource Management Plan. Projects are identified and developed in the Risk Assessment Mitigation Strategy (RAMS). Planned treatment acreages for the STFMZ include:

- FY 2005: Planned non-fire treatment acres: 674
- FY 2006: Planned non-fire treatment acres: 595
- FY 2007: Planned non-fire treatment acres: 601
- FY 2008: Planned non-fire treatment acres: 576
- FY 2009: Planned non-fire treatment acres: 573



The development of treatment proposals is typically accomplished one to three years in advance of planned treatments. Field reconnaissance and interdisciplinary analysis are completed one to two years in advance of project implementation. All specific non-fire fuels treatment project plans include pre/post project criteria. For specific action items refer to each individual project plan.

See Appendix B for a listing of non-fire treatment projects.

2. Reporting and Documentation Requirements

Project level reporting requirements have been established and include submissions in Rangeland Improvement Project System (RIPS), Annual Work Plan (AWP), Management Information System (MIS), and National Fire Plan Operations Reporting System (NFPORS). Documentation requirements including weather, monitoring, and project notes are completed or reviewed by the project manager. For information on the requirements refer to the individual project plans.

E. Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation

The STFMZ stabilization and rehabilitation program is undertaken to prevent further and unacceptable resource damage from soil erosion due to the effects of wildland fire. For information see the BLM Supplemental Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Guidance. This supplement provides specific BLM guidance and is tiered to the 2002 Department of the Interior (DOI) ESR Handbook (<http://fire.r9.fws.gov/ifcc/esr/handbook/>) relative to planning and implementing ESR projects on public lands administered by the BLM. Treatment activities must conform to the BLM Supplemental Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Guidance, the RMP and LUPA.

F) Community Assistance/Protection

There are 6 communities within the FPU that are listed in the Federal Register as communities at risk. These communities have completed a Wildfire Hazard and Mitigation Plan. The communities have held several public meetings to address the WUI situation and collaborative planning efforts have begun. Following is a

list of these communities prioritized for accomplishment of Community Risk and Action Plans:

- 1) Babocomari
- 2) Hereford
- 3) Lewis Springs
- 4) Palominas
- 5) St. David

A Wildfire Hazard and Mitigation Plan (WHAMP) has been completed for the communities of Babocomari, Hereford, Lewis Springs, Palominas, St. David, and Tombstone. Projects, by priority are listed in the Upper San Pedro WHAMP. Full implementation of projects to reduce the risk to this community should be completed by FY 2009.

Rural Fire Assistance (RFA) grants have been awarded to a number of rural fire departments within the FPU. On average, five departments within the FPU receive RFA grants annually. Specific items purchased have included personal protective equipment (PPE), radios, wildland fire training, and funding for Firewise meetings and projects. For more details on community assistance information refer to the RAMS database (Appendix C).

V. Organization and Budget

A. Workforce and Equipment Identification

This section contains information pertaining to the wildland fire management organization and budget. It identifies the fire organization and budget needed to achieve the goals and objectives outlined in land and resource management and the fire management plan (Tables 1, 2, & 3). The wildland fire management organization is based on the Interagency Initial Attack Assessment (IIAA) conducted in 1998, the approved National Fire Plan additions, and RAMS completed in 2004. It identifies both the 2004 (current fiscal year) and the desired (Normal Year Readiness). Attachment 1 in Appendix F shows the fire organization implemented at the peak of the 2004 fire season. Attachment 2 in Appendix G will be added by the end of February 2005 to show the organization planned in FY 2005 based on the approved Annual Work Plan (AWP). By July 31, 2005, the table showing the fire organization implemented during the 2005 fire year will be updated to show the organization at the peak of the 2005 fire season. These two tables will continue to be updated each year (February and July).

Table 1. Workforce Identification

Resource	Current Staffing FY-04	Desired Staffing	Normal Activation	Sub Activity	Cost NYR
FMO – PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$95,586
				2823/2824	\$
AFMO – PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$38,043
				2823/2824	\$38,043
LOGISTIC COORDINATOR – PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$60,615
				2823/2824	\$
I.A. DISPATCHER – PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$26,528
				2823/2824	\$
Heavy Engine Module Leader – PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$28,194
				2823/2824	\$28,194
Heavy Engine Operator – PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$22,386
				2823/2824	\$22,386
Heavy Engine FFTR – CSLT	1	1	Apr – Sept	2810	\$14,952
				2823/2824	\$14,952
Heavy Engine FFTR- TEMP	1	1	Apr-July	2810	\$11,316
				2823/2824	
Heavy Engine FFTR- TEMP	1	1	Apr-July	2810	\$8,912
				2823/2824	\$
Heavy Engine FFTR- TEMP	1	1	May-July	2810	\$8,912
				2823/2824	\$
Heavy Engine FFTR- TEMP	0	1	May – July	2810	\$8,912
				2823/2824	\$
Light Engine Module Leader – PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$27,363
				2823/2824	\$27,363
Light Engine Operator – CSLT	1	1		2810	\$25,369
				2823/2824	\$25,369
Light Engine FFTR- TEMP	1	1		2810	\$8,916
				2823/2824	\$
Light Engine FFTR- TEMP	0	1		2810	\$8,916
				2823/2824	\$
Light Engine FFTR- TEMP	0	1		2810	\$7,934
				2823/2824	\$
SEAT Manager / Fire Cache-Warehouse – PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$30,683
				2823/2824	\$
SEAT Manager- TEMP	0	1		2810	\$17,999
				2823/2824	\$
Fuels Specialist– PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$83,457
Fuels Technician – PFT	0	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$21,002
				2823/2824	\$29,403
Fire Ecologist– PFT	1	1	Oct – Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$89,116

Table 1. Workforce Identification (continued)

Fire Mitigation Specialist-- PFT	1	1	Oct - Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$79,980
Fire Mitigation Technician-- PFT	0	1	Oct - Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$50,404
Fire Use Module Leader- PFT	0	1	Oct - Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$50,404
Fire Use Module Crew- CSLT	0	1	Apr - Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$14,950
Fire Use Module Crew- TEMP	0	1	Apr - Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$13,363
Fire Use Module Crew- TEMP	0	1	Apr - Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$13,363
Fire Use Module Crew- TEMP	0	1	Apr - Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$13,363
Fire Use Module Crew- TEMP	0	1	Apr - Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$13,363
Fire Use Module Crew- TEMP	0	1	Apr - Sept	2810	\$
				2823/2824	\$13,363

Table 2. Resource Operations Costs

Resources Operations Dollars	Current Staffing FY-04	Desired Staffing	Normal Activation	Sub Activity	Cost NYR
Contract / Services				2810	\$11,500
				2823/2824	\$31,600
Equipment				2810	\$8,100
				2823/2824	\$20,000
Other				2810	\$1,000
				2823/2824	\$2,000
Rent				2810	\$1,000
				2823/2824	\$6,200
Supplies / Materials				2810	\$35,600
				2823/2824	\$54,300
Telephones / Communications				2810	\$9,000
				2823/2824	\$3,000
Travel				2810	\$49,000
				2823/2824	\$29,000
Vehicles				2810	\$10,000
				2823/2824	\$28,000

Table 3. Equipment Costs

Equipment	Current Staffing FY-04	Desired Staffing	Normal Activation	Sub Activity	Cost NYR
Heavy Engine (crew cab)					\$35,000
Light Engine					\$25,000
Light Engine (non wcf)					\$20,000
National Held funding for contracts					
Single Engine Airtanker (base cost)					\$70,000
(flight cost)					\$80,000
Single Engine Airtanker (base cost)					\$70,000
(flight cost)					\$80,000

B. Emergency Equipment Rental Agreements

The STFMZ uses emergency equipment rental agreements (EERA) for fire suppression and other incident support activities. These EERA’s are prepared by the Southeast Zone and/or Safford Field Office. Copies are available in the Safford Dispatch office.

C. Assistance Agreements and Intra/Interagency Agreements

Fire suppression is generally handled by the agency/entity responsible for fire protection of the lands on which the fire occurs. However, undue delay in dispatching initial attack crews is not warranted simply because land ownership cannot be immediately determined.

The Interagency Agreement for Fire Management states”that among the Federal Wildland Fire Management Agencies, the Interagency Agreement for Fire Management provides the framework and authority for cooperative arrangements for initial attack efforts by fire suppression forces that can arrive at a fire first, regardless of agency ownership. A Federal agency performing the initial attack will notify the agency that is responsible for the land as soon as ownership is determined, and will continue suppression pursuant to the procedures outlined in the Federal National Interagency Mobilization Guide. Additional provisions for fire suppression efforts are provided for emergency or a declared major disaster through United States Code. Assistance Agreements, which includes Cooperative Agreements and Grants with state, local and non-profit entities provides for mutual or reciprocal fire protection assistance.“ The following is a list of agreements that pertain to fire management activities in the STFMZ:

Southeastern Arizona Zone Operations Plan – this is an interagency agreement that coordinates fire management activities between the agencies represented in the Zone.

Southwestern Area Mobilization Guide – this guide covers operational procedures for extended attack and other incident support activities within the Southwestern Geographical Area.

Reciprocal Fire Protection Agreement – this agreement is with the Arizona State Land Dept. (ASLD) – Div. of Forestry and the DOI, BLM; the agreement covers fire suppression activities with State Land and BLM resources.

Joint Powers Operating Plan – this plan is between USFS, Coronado N.F.; ASLD; BIA, Western Region; BLM, Safford Field Office; NPS, Chiricahua N.M.; NPS, Saguaro N.P.; USFWS, SW Region; the plan establishes operating procedures for fire protection services between the cooperating agencies.

Joint Powers Agreement between the State of Arizona and Federal Wildland Agencies

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NPS, Fort Bowie National Historic Site; NPS, Chiricahua N.M.; BLM, Safford Field Office; this plan facilitates sharing the Fuels Management Specialist between the agencies in southeastern Arizona.

D. Contract Suppression and Prescribed Fire Resources

None in the STFMZ

VI. Monitoring and Evaluation

The STFMZ-FMP is a working reference for wildland fire management and hazardous fuels treatments within the STFMZ. This plan will be reviewed annually and revised as needed to ensure that the strategic guidance provided is assisting the STFMZ in meeting its resource management and fire management goals and objectives. Revisions, additions, and adjustments that are compliant with the applicable planning documents may be incorporated into the FMP.

Any major changes may require amending the RMP. The review will also ensure that the fire program is being implemented in a safe, cost effective manner and as directed in this fire management plan. As national wildland fire performance measures are issued, monitoring and evaluation protocols will be developed to meet those requirements and follow Department and Bureau guidelines.

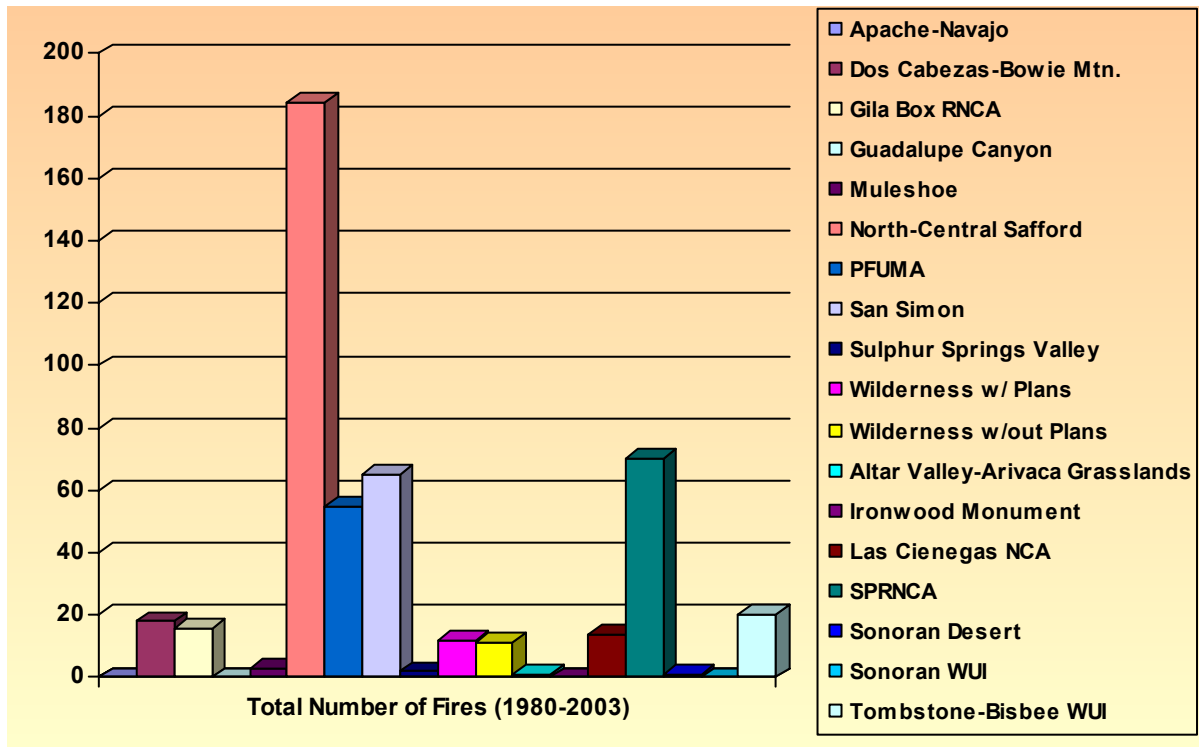
Monitoring and evaluating fuels/vegetation treatments applied through the fire program will occur to determine if the program and associated projects are meeting resource management objectives and to determine if the costs of implementing the fire program and management effects are occurring as predicted.

Monitoring related to wildland fire or fire related projects falls under the general monitoring and evaluation guidelines outlined in the Resource Management Plan. Site specific monitoring needs are identified in analysis for individual fire related projects.

Appendix A.

Appendix B.

Fire History Graphs



Appendix C.

Proposed Fuels Treatments Safford Tucson Fire Management Zone

Gila Box RNCA – Mechanical Treatments

- ◆ Old Lady Gay- Maintain thinning within 30ft. of the cabin and other structures.
- ◆ Dry Canyon Floatboat Take-Out- Thin and limb within 30ft. of recreation facilities (5 acres).
- ◆ Spring Canyon Picnic Area- Thin and limb within 30ft. of recreation facilities (2 acres).
- ◆ Serna Cabin Picnic Area- Thin and limb within 30ft. of recreation facilities (3 acres).
- ◆ Lee Trail Picnic Area- Thin and limb within 30ft. of recreation facilities (3 acres).
- ◆ Old Safford Bridge Picnic Area- Thin and limb within 30ft. of recreation facilities (2 acres).
- ◆ Old Safford Bridge Floatboat Put-In- Thin and limb within 30ft. of recreation facilities (2 acres).
- ◆ Kearny Camp Road (western RNCA entrance road)- Thin and limb mesquite trees within 30ft. of the road edge.

Appendix C. (continued)

Muleshoe

- ◆ Muleshoe Fire Use Plan, Wildland Fire Use - Wildland Fire

Fiscal Year 2005

- ◆ Cherryswamp Aerial Ignition Burn, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire
- ◆ Cherryswamp Postburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Cherryswamp Preburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Hot Springs Burn Plan/EA, Prescribed Fire – General

Fiscal Year 2006

- ◆ Cascabel - Firebreaks, Mechanical
- ◆ Hot Springs Aerial Ignition Burn, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire
- ◆ Hot Springs Preburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Hot Springs Postburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire (Monitoring)

North-Central Safford

Fiscal Year 2005

- ◆ Juniper Mountain Thinning, Mechanical Treatment - Chip & Removal
- ◆ Guthrie Peak Comm. Site, Mechanical Treatment - Chip & Removal

Fiscal Year 2006

- ◆ West Virgus Burn Plan, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire
- ◆ Guthrie Peak Comm. Site, Mechanical Treatment - Chip & Removal

Fiscal Year 2007

- ◆ West Virgus Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire
- ◆ West Virgus Postburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Turkey Creek Burn Plan, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire
- ◆ Guthrie Peak Comm. Site, Mechanical Treatment - Chip & Removal

Fiscal Year 2008

- ◆ Sandwash Burn Plan, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire
- ◆ Sandwash Preburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Turkey Creek Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire
- ◆ Turkey Creek Postburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Guthrie Peak Comm. Site, Mechanical Treatment - Chip & Removal

Fiscal Year 2009

- ◆ Sandwash Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire
- ◆ Sandwash Postburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire - Aerial Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Guthrie Peak Comm. Site, Mechanical Treatment - Chip & Removal

Appendix C. (continued)

Wilderness Areas w/ Plans

Fiscal Year 2006

- ◆ West Virgus Burn Plan, Prescribed Fire

Fiscal Year 2007

- ◆ Turkey Creek Burn Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ West Virgus Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ West Virgus Postburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire

Fiscal Year 2008

- ◆ Sandwash Preburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Turkey Creek Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Turkey Creek Postburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire

Fiscal Year 2009

- ◆ Sandwash Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Sandwash Postburn Monitor, Prescribed Fire

Las Cienegas NCA

Fiscal Year 2005

- ◆ Empire Ranch Mowing, Mechanical

Fiscal Year 2006

- ◆ Cedar Burn Unit Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Cinco Burn Unit Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Empire Burn Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Empire Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Las Cienegas Burn Monitoring, Prescribed Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Mud Spring Burn Unit Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Oil Burn Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Oil Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire

Fiscal Year 2007

- ◆ Cedar Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Cinco Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Mud Spring Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Audubon 1 Burn Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Las Cienegas Burn Monitoring, Prescribed Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ South Burn Unit Plan, Prescribed Fire

Fiscal Year 2008

- ◆ Audubon 1 Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ South Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire

Appendix C. (continued)

- ◆ Audubon 3 Burn Unit Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Audubon Burn Unit Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Crystal Burn Unit Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Las Cienegas Burn Monitoring, Prescribed Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Maternity Burn Unit Plan, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ North Burn Unit Plan, Prescribed Fire

Fiscal Year 2009

- ◆ Audubon 3 Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Audubon Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Crystal Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ Las Cienegas Burn Monitoring, Prescribed Fire (Monitoring)
- ◆ Maternity Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ North Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire

San Pedro RNCA

Fiscal Year 2005 – Prescribed Fire

- ◆ SPRNCA - San Pedro Pile Burning, Prescribed Fire - Pile Burn
- ◆ SPRNCA - Beaver Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Hargis Unit Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Hearse Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Hereford II Unit Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Highway 92 Unit Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Landburn Unit Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Bridge Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Cobb Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Deer Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Dirt Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Grass Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Lion Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Miller Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Paloma Unit Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Palominas Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Rabbit Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - River Unit Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Rock Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - San Pedro Monitoring, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Sand Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Stone Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Tank Burn, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Trail Burn, Prescribed Fire

Appendix C. (continued)

Fiscal Year 2005 – Mechanical Treatments

- ◆ St. David Firebreaks, Mechanical Treatment - Chip & Removal
- ◆ SPRNCA - Hereford - Kolbe Firebreak, Mechanical
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Boquillas Ranch, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Curtis Ranch, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Fairbank, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hereford II, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hwy. 92, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Jacks Fields, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Kolbe, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Lewis Springs, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow San Pedro House, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Palominas - Bridge Firebreak, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Thinning Boquillas Ranch, Mechanical Treatment - Chip & Removal
- ◆ SPRNCA - Thinning Curtis Ranch, Mechanical Treatment - Chip & Removal

Fiscal Year 2006 – Prescribed Fire

- ◆ SPRNCA - Charles Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Cienega Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Escapule Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Moson Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Oxbow I Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Ram Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - San Pedro Monitoring, Prescribed Fire (Monitoring)

Fiscal Year 2006 – Mechanical Treatments

- ◆ SPRNCA - Hereford - Hargis Ranch Road F, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Boquillas Ranch, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Curtis Ranch, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Fairbank, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hereford II, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hwy. 92, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Jacks Fields, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Lewis Springs, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow San Pedro House, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Palominas - Border Firebreak, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Palominas - Bridge Firebreak, Mechanical Treatment

Fiscal Year 2007 – Prescribed Fire

- ◆ SPRNCA - Adobe Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Charleston Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Fairbank Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire

Appendix C. (continued)

- ◆ SPRNCA - Flood Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Pipeline Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Stagg Ranch Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA Riparian Burn Plans, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - San Pedro Monitoring, Prescribed Fire (Monitoring)

Fiscal Year 2007 – Mechanical Treatments

- ◆ SPRNCA - Babocomari Firebreak, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Lewis Springs - Firebreak, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Boquillas Ranch, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Curtis Ranch, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Fairbank, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hereford II, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hwy. 92, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Jacks Fields, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Lewis Springs, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow San Pedro House, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Palominas - Bridge Firebreak, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Lewis Springs - Escapule Mechanical Treatment

Fiscal Year 2008 – Prescribed Fire

- ◆ SPRNCA - Cottonwood Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Willow Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Babocamari Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Border Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Flat Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Juan 2 Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Juan Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Kellar Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Railroad Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Siphon Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - San Pedro Monitoring, Prescribed Fire (Monitoring)

Fiscal Year 2008 – Mechanical Treatments

- ◆ Tombstone Firebreaks, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Hereford - Evacuation Routes, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Boquillas Ranch, Mechanical
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Curtis Ranch, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Fairbank, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hereford II, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hwy. 92, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Jacks Fields, Mechanical Treatment

Appendix C. (continued)

- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Lewis Springs, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow San Pedro House, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Palominas - Bridge Firebreak, Mechanical Treatment

Fiscal Year 2009 – Prescribed Fire

- ◆ SPRNCA - Beaver Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Border 2 Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Contention Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Copper Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Lehner Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Oxbow Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Quail Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Rafael Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Terranate Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - Waters Burn Unit, Prescribed Fire
- ◆ SPRNCA - San Pedro Monitoring, Prescribed Fire (Monitoring)

Fiscal Year 2009 – Mechanical Treatments

- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Boquillas Ranch, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Curtis Ranch, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Fairbank, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hereford II, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Hwy. 92, Mechanical
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Jacks Fields, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow Lewis Springs, Mechanical Treatment
- ◆ SPRNCA - Mow San Pedro House, Mechanical Treatment

Appendix D.

Special Status Wildlife and Plants of the Muleshoe Ecosystem.

Species	Federal Endangered	Federal Threatened	Federal Proposed	BLM Sensitive Species	USFS Sensitive Species	Wildlife of Special Concern in Arizona
Gila chub			X			X
Longfin dace				X		
Speckled dace				X		
Sonoran sucker				X		
Desert sucker				X		
Mexican garter snake						X
Canyon spotted whiptail	Former C2 Candidate Species – Now Federal Species of Concern					
Desert tortoise						X
Texas horned lizard	Former C2 Candidate Species – Now Federal Species of Concern					
Lowland leopard frog						X
Common black-hawk						X
Northern gray hawk				X		X
Peregrine falcon	X					X
Western yellow-billed cuckoo						X
Mexican spotted owl		X				X
Southwestern willow flycatcher	X					X
Loggerhead shrike				X		
Baird's sparrow						X
Gould's Turkey					X	
Western yellow bat						X
Western red bat						X
Townsend's big-eared bat						X
Spotted bat				X		
Southwest cave myotis	Former C2 Candidate Species – Now Federal Species of Concern					
Occult little brown bat				X		
California leaf-nosed bat				X		
Lesser long-nosed bat	X					X
Mexican long-tongued bat				X		X
Greater western mastiff bat	Former C2 Candidate Species – Now Federal Species of Concern					
Yellow-nosed cotton rat	Former C2 Candidate Species – Now Federal Species of Concern					
Aravaipa sage				X		

Appendix E.

RAMS Report
Safford-Tucson Fire Management Zone
Community Actions

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Las Cienegas NCA		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	1	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 2 Implementation (event @ 40 hrs)	0	1
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1hr)	1	1
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	1	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	1	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	1	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Hours:	299	283

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
St. David		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	1	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	1	1
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1hrs)	1	1
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Hours:	251	243

Appendix E. (continued)

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Babocamari		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	0	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	0	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 2 Implementation (event @ 40 hrs)	0	0
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	0	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	0	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	0	1
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	0	1
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	1
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	0	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1 hr)	0	0
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	0	1
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Hours:	81	162

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Tombstone		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	0	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	0	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	0	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 2 Implementation (event @ 40 hrs)	0	0
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	0	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Hours:	95	243

Appendix E. (continued)

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Lewis Springs		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	0	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	0	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	0	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 2 Implementation (event @ 40 hrs)	0	0
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	0	1
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	0	1
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	0	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1hr)	0	1
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	0	1
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Hours:	71	163

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
SPRNCA Rural Areas		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	0	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	0	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	0	0
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	0	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	0	0
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1hr)	0	0
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	0	0
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Hours:	51	79

Appendix E. (continued)

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Hereford		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	0	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 2 Implementation (event @ 40 hrs)	1	1
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Hours:	243	259

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Palominas		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	0	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 2 Implementation (event @ 40 hrs)	1	1
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Hours:	243	259

Appendix E. (continued)

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Cascabel		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	1	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 2 Implementation (event @ 40 hrs)	0	1
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1hr)	1	1
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	1	1
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	1	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	1	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	1	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Hours:	307	275

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Aravaipa		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	0	1
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	0	1
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	0	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	0	0
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	0	1
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	0	1
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	0	1
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	1
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1hr)	0	1
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	0	1
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Hours:	34	195

Appendix E. (continued)

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Dudleyville – San Manuel		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	0	0
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	0	0
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	0	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	0	0
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	0	0
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1hr)	0	0
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	0	0
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	1
Hours:	34	34

Community Action (unit of measure)	FY 2005	FY 2006
Hayden - Superior		
Media Contacts - WUI-Media Contacts (each @ 1 hr)	0	0
Volunteers-Plan For Volunteers (plans @ 20 hrs)	0	0
Volunteer Fire Departments-Mitigation Training (each @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Community Education-Mitigation Programs (event @ 8 hrs)	1	1
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Prepare Plan (plan @ 24 hrs)	0	0
Community Mitigation Campaigns-Level 1 Implementation (event @ 80 hrs)	0	0
School Program-Presentation (event @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Fire Education Materials-Fire Education Materials (order @ 2 hrs)	1	1
Printed Materials-Design (each @ 16 hrs)	1	1
Exhibits-# of Exhibits (each @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Contact-Homeowner Groups (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Contact-Key Person (each @ 2 hrs)	0	0
Community FireWise Assessment-Structure Vulnerability (each @ 8 hrs)	0	0
Community Stakeholder Meeting-Participate In Meetings (meeting @ 4 hrs)	1	1
Wildfire Threat Notification/Procedures-Provide Notification (each @ 1hr)	0	0
Community Partnership Development-Partnership Development (each @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Residence-Residential Assessment (each @ 1 hr)	0	0
Rural Fire Assistance-Assist Fire Department (dept @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Mitigation Plan (plan @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Community Involvement (involve @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Community Protection Plan-Risk Assessment (assess @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Prevention Program-Program In Place (prevention @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Volunteer Community-Funded or Cost-Share-Effort Initiated (initiate @ 16 hrs)	0	0
Hours:	34	34

Total Community Action Hours: 1,743 2,229
Annual Community Action Cost: \$4,022 \$5,144

Appendix F.

**Attachment 1 - Bureau of Land Management Implemented Fire Resources
Office: Safford**

Resources	Quantity	Number of Personnel	Total Work Months
Number of Engines:	2	5	59.5
Number of Water tenders:	0		
Number of Dozers:	0		
Number of Tractors / plows:	0		
Number of Fire Boats:	0		
Number of Type 1 Crews:	0		
Number of Helitack Crews:	0		
Number of Fuels Crews:	0		
Number of Type 2 Crews sponsored:	0		
Number of Smokejumpers (AK & NIFC only):	0		
Number of Fire Management Officers:	1		12
Number of Assistant FMOs / FCOs:	1		12
Number of Fire Operations Specialists:	0		
Number of Dispatchers:	2		24
Number of Other Aviation Staff (Aviation Mgr., Seat Mgr, etc.):	1		12
Number of Mitigation/Education/Prevention Specialists / Techs:	1		12
Number of Resource Specialists:	1		12
Number of Fuels Specialists:	1		12
Number of Other Fire Staff:	0		
Number of PFT funded by Preparedness:	9		
Number of Career Seasonals funded by Preparedness:	1		
Number of Temporaries funded by Preparedness:	7		
Number of PFT funded by Fuels:	2		
Number of Career Seasonals funded by Fuels:	0		
Number of Temporaries funded by Fuels:	0		

* In completing this table, only include Preparedness resource numbers funded by Fire Preparedness (2810) and reflect the peak fire organization resources for the year. Do not include resources funded under severity. The fuels related resources numbers are to include the resource funded by the non-WUI (2823) and WUI (2824) programs.

Appendix G

Attachment 2 - Bureau of Land Management Planned Fire Resources

Office: Safford

Resources	Quantity	Number of Personnel	Total Work Months
Number of Engines:			
Number of Water tenders:			
Number of Dozers:			
Number of Tractors / plows:			
Number of Fire Boats:			
Number of Type 1 Crews:			
Number of Helitack Crews:			
Number of Fuels Crews:			
Number of Type 2 Crews sponsored:			
Number of Smokejumpers (AK & NIFC only):			
Number of Fire Management Officers:			
Number of Assistant FMOs / FCOs:			
Number of Fire Operations Specialists:			
Number of Dispatchers:			
Number of Other Aviation Staff (Aviation Mgr., Seat Mgr, etc.):			
Number of Mitigation/Education/Prevention Specialists / Techs:			
Number of Resource Specialists:			
Number of Fuels Specialists:			
Number of Other Fire Staff:			
Number of PFT funded by Preparedness:			
Number of Career Seasonals funded by Preparedness:			
Number of Temporaries funded by Preparedness:			
Number of PFT funded by Fuels:			
Number of Career Seasonals funded by Fuels:			
Number of Temporaries funded by Fuels:			