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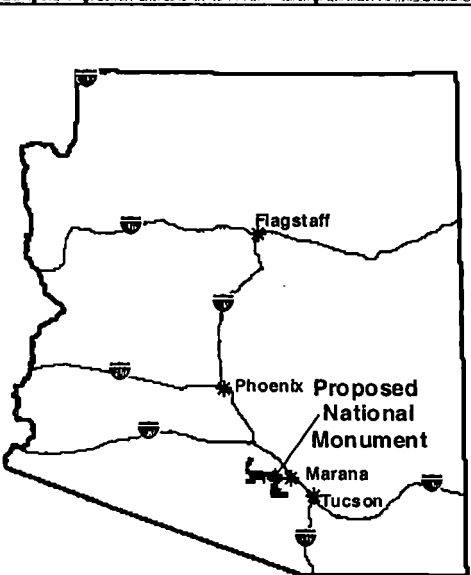
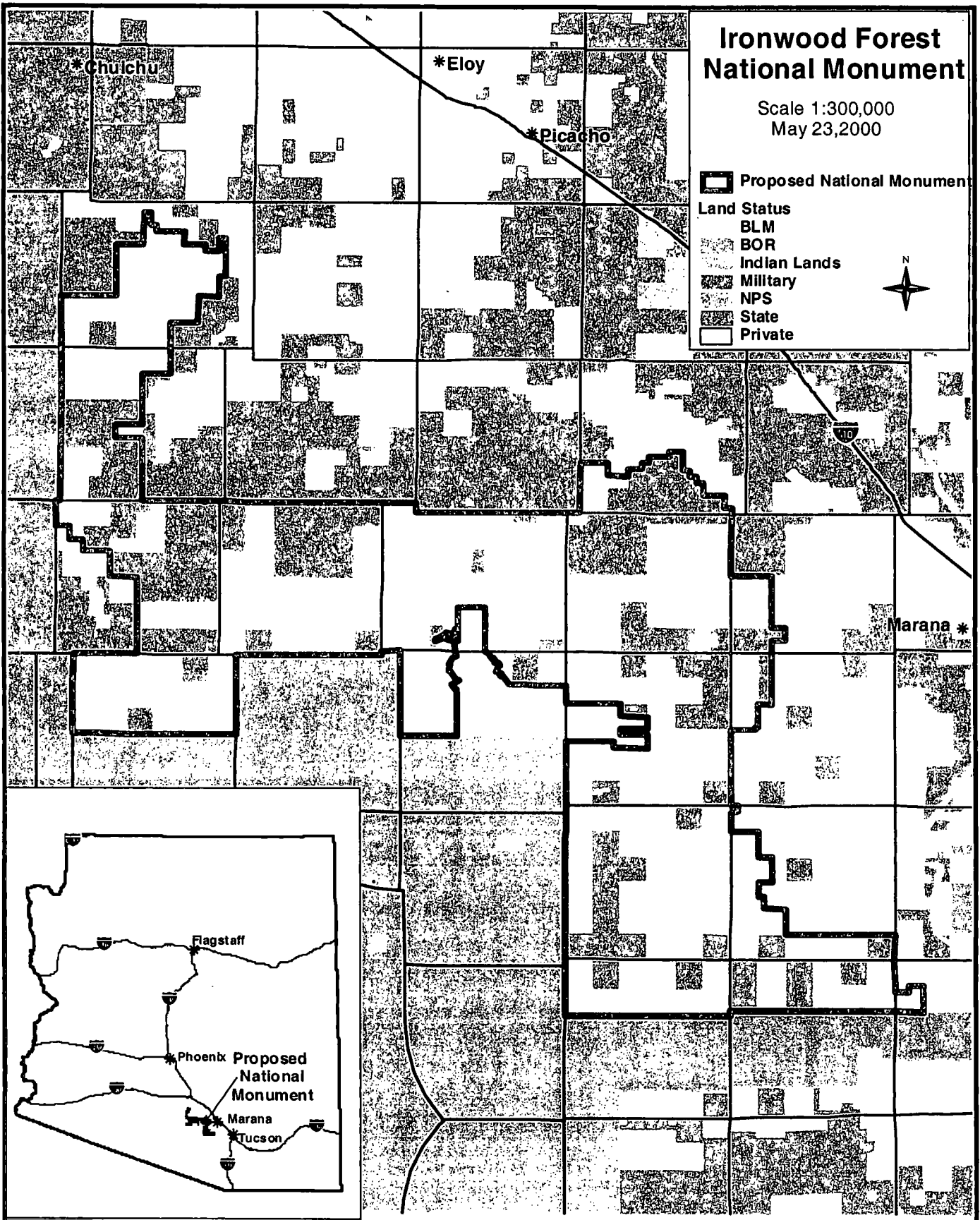
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Proposed Ironwood Forest National Monument

Ironwood Forest National Monument

Scale 1:300,000
May 23, 2000

-  Proposed National Monument
- Land Status
-  BLM
 -  BOR
 -  Indian Lands
 -  Military
 -  NPS
 -  State
 -  Private
-  N



PINAL COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LIONEL D. RUIZ, District 1
Mammoth

SANDIE SMITH, District 2
Apache Junction

JIMMIE B. KERR, District 3
Casa Grande



STANLEY D. GRIFFIS, Ph.D.
County Manager

May 18, 2000

The Honorable Bruce Babbitt
Secretary of the US Department of the Interior
1849 "C" Street NW, Room 6140
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Babbitt,

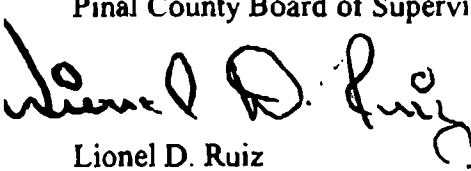
The Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection, an alliance of conservation groups, neighborhood associations and governmental organizations, has formulated an outstanding plan that will protect valuable desert scientific and historical resources. The biodiversity of the proposed monument area is absolutely phenomenal—ironwood trees, pygmy owl, desert bighorn sheep, packrats and other vertebrates, many varieties of cactus including Nichols Turk's Head cactus, desert tortoise, ad infinitum.

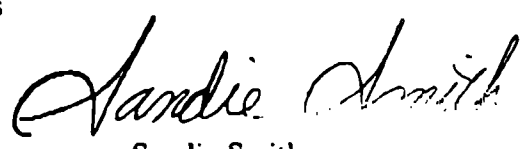
The designation of this area as the "Morris K. Udall Ironwood Forest-Upland Corridor National Monument" would preserve for all posterity this biologically and geologically diverse area while paying tribute to a great American and Arizonan. Individually, either of the two reasons is more than sufficient justification for the designation of this area as a national monument. To preserve the pristine area and honor a great American should leave no doubt about the requested designation of national monument status.

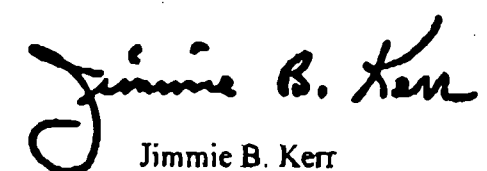
The Pinal County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of all County citizens, strongly support the designation of the area, delineated in the "Proposal for the establishment of the Morris K. Udall Ironwood Forest-Upland Corridor National Monument" and we ask that you give it your full support.

Sincerely,

Pinal County Board of Supervisors


Lionel D. Ruiz
District I Supervisor


Sandie Smith
District II Supervisor


Jimmie B. Kerr
District III Supervisor

BOS/rp

SAN XAVIER DISTRICT OF THE

TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

2018 WEST SAN XAVIER ROAD • TUCSON, ARIZONA 85746

TELEPHONE: (520) 294-5727 • FAX: (520) 294-0613

May 12, 2000

Mr. Bruce Babbitt, Secretary
Department of Interior
1849 C Street NW, Room 6140
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Babbitt:

The San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation would like to express its support for the Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection's proposal for the Morris K. Udall Ironwood Forest-Upland Corridor National Monument.

The Tohono O'odham ancestors, the HoHokam, have occupied the lands being proposed for protected status from time immemorial. These lands as you can see from the Coalition report, are rich in the history of our people. Rock art images, villages, burial sites, metate stones, ancient ball courts, plaza areas, potshards, and quarries are found abundantly throughout the nine units proposed by the Coalition. These sites have very important cultural and spiritual significance to our current members and future generations. We feel that these sites must be protected and a monument designation would put the necessary protections in place.

The Tohono O'Odham also feels very strongly connected to our natural world. For many generations, we have lived among the ironwood and mesquite trees, harvested saguaro fruit and cholla buds, honored and respected the many plants and animals that co-exist with us, such as the desert tortoise, rattlesnake, bighorn sheep, and all other wildlife. And, as development has crept up to many of our borders, our tribal lands have become, in essence, wildlife sanctuaries. We must protect movement corridors and larger areas for these plants and animals as well, in order to preserve the sacred maze of life.

With this show of support, the Tohono O'Odham people will expect to have access to use and visit these sacred sites, and be involved with the development of a management plan regarding this monument.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Austin G. Nunez, Chairman
San Xavier District

Controversy

lives. Outraged members of the animal rights community in Tucson and around the country, held a candlelight vigil to protest the experiments. And it has an ironic mail campaign against the University of Arizona and the UA researchers doing

the experiments done on these animals, including mapping their brain activities implanted in their skulls — are cruel, as are the conditions in which

they plans to strap monkeys into cages and drill holes through their skulls. Bogle, a member of the group in San Francisco.

Kenstein experiments conducted in San Francisco. Activist Roberta Wright, who was arrested, joined by some 60 people in San Francisco.

of the Humane Society of Southern Arizona on the UA's animal care committee

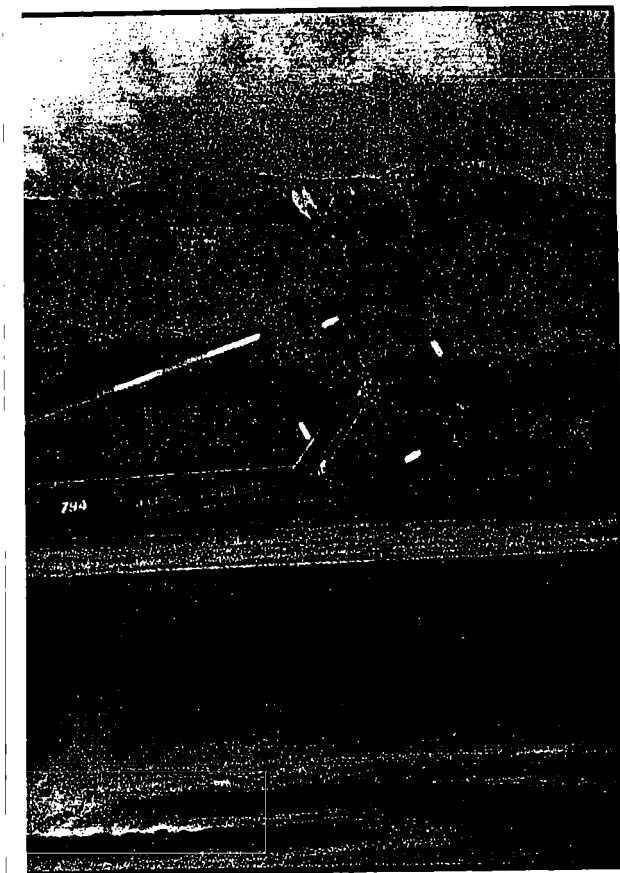


David Sanders/Staff

Freddie will be used in experiments seeking to understand epilepsy in humans.

SEE MONKEYS / A19

Pres and burning



Dave Cruz/Arizona Republic

ket of water from Lake Roosevelt in east-central Arizona to dump on the raging Sierra Ancha Mountains, 30 miles north of Globe. Story, Page A5.

Ironwood monument bid backed by Babbitt

Interior secretary to urge Clinton to OK new preserve

By Tony Davis
and Maureen O'Connell
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt said yesterday he is "absolutely" prepared to make a recommendation to President Clinton for an Ironwood National Monument on Tucson's northwest edge.

Babbitt first must resolve the differences in three site proposals.

The proposals range in size from 96,000 acres favored by the Pima County government, to 479,000 acres supported by an environmentalist coalition.

Babbitt met yesterday with the Ari-

zona Daily Star editorial board while in Tucson to promote a separate land swap that could put more than 100,000 acres of state land near the Silver Bell Mountains ironwoods and the Lake Pleasant area near Phoenix under federal protection.

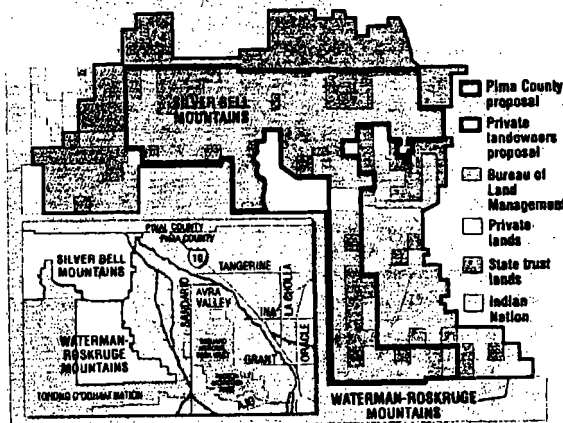
He also said he is ditching a plan to include as part of that swap another 100,000 acres of state-owned land along Cienega Creek that would go into a new, federally run conservation area between Tucson and Sonoita. Babbitt said he hopes the federal government can buy this land later, after Congress approves a now-pending bill to set up a 206,000-acre Las Cienegas National Conservation Area.

Last month, the Pima County Board of Supervisors voted to ask Babbitt to create the 96,000-acre ironwood monument to preserve the county's thickest stand of ironwood

SEE IRONWOOD / A19

Proposed Ironwood National Monument

Secretary of State Bruce Babbitt yesterday said that he will propose that mountainous land northwest of Tucson be turned into a national monument. How much land is in question. Below shows two proposals: Pima County's and one by private landowners. A third proposal, from an alliance of environmental groups called the Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection, calls for 479,000 acres to be preserved. The locations include boundaries shown below as well as non-adjacent areas in the Tortolita Mountains and east of Florence along the Gila River.



Judy Margolis / Staff

IRONWOOD

Babbitt must sort through 3 plans for proposed preserve on northwest side

Continued from Page A1

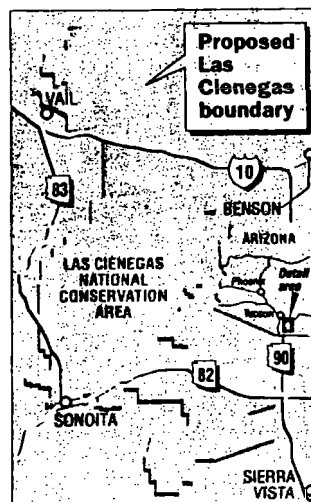
trees in the Silver Bell and Ragged Top mountains.

Since then, private landowners and homeowners and the environmentalist Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection produced two other plans.

The homeowners' plan added sections of the west Silver Bell Mountains and the Samaniego Hills that stretch into neighboring Pinal County. Myra Smith, a spokeswoman for the landowners' group, said these areas offer additional protection for the Tucson area's last remaining large desert bighorn sheep herd, which lives in the Silver Bell Mountains.

The environmental coalition would name the monument after the late U.S. Rep. Morris K. Udall, who represented the Tucson area from 1961 until 1991. Their proposal covers much of the state-owned land in the Tortolita Mountains, and huge swaths of state and federal land up to the southern edge of the Superstition Mountains in Pinal County.

This area houses many of the 80



Judy Margolis / Staff

endangered pygmy owls that state and federal surveyors found last year.

Babbitt suggested it might be hard to gain support for the environmentalist plan because of Pinal County's long-held reputation as a conservative, pro-growth bastion. Pinal officials view Pima County as "Leningrad (a large city in the former Soviet Union) and see themselves as upholders of the Old West," he said.

Environmentalists often believe



Aaron J. Latham/Staff

Monument proponent: Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt will recommend establishment of the Ironwood National Monument to preserve the county's thickest stand of ironwood trees, which are important to the Sonoran Desert's ecology.

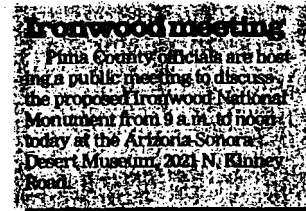
"that if Bruce Babbitt and the county Board of Supervisors propose something, it's got to be at least three times as large, or it's a craven sellout to development interests," Babbitt said.

Pinal County's supervisors and planning director were out of their offices yesterday and could not be reached.

But environmentalists said yesterday that wildlife corridors and habitats do not recognize political boundaries. The county's proposed monu-

ment area, which does not currently house any owls, is not large enough to allow for the owl's recovery without adding the Tortolita Mountains area, said Carolyn Campbell, the coalition's director. The group ran its proposal by a number of local scientists to ensure that it is scientifically sound, said Christina McVie, another coalition member.

Babbitt's offer to defer further discussion about land swaps within the proposed Las Cienegas Conservation



Area, southeast of Tucson, came in a letter to Gov. Jane Hull.

State officials apparently are reluctant to trade that land because of expectations of future appreciation, Babbitt said. State Land Department director Michael Anable, however, said this week that he does not oppose such a trade if he can get equally valuable federal land in Arizona in return.

The proposed conservation area's 200,000 wild acres are made up of a patchwork of land owned by Pima County, the state, the federal Bureau of Land Management and various private owners.

U.S. Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., who introduced a bill in September to establish the conservation area, was disappointed by Babbitt's move.

"It's definitely not helpful," Kolbe said yesterday. "It certainly doesn't help us build momentum to have him on the sidelines when we need support."

The bill is struggling to move through a congressional Parks and Public Lands subcommittee chaired

by Rep. James V. Hansen, R-Utah, who has feuded with Babbitt over the designation of a national monument in that state.

Luther Propst, executive director of the Sonoran Institute, an environmental group rallying for the Las Cienegas bid, said that if the bill dies the fight will continue.

"We'll just come back stronger at the start of the next session," Propst said of the proposal that has yielded unlikely alliances among politicians, ranchers and some environmentalists.

"An idea with this much support from the public will prevail," Propst said.

Yesterday Babbitt described the area, which edges Cienega Creek between Interstate 10 and the Whetstone and Mustang mountains, as the "most beautiful and important area left in the Sonoran Desert."

Its terrain includes rare marshlands, streams, historic sites, riparian forest areas, sacaton grasslands and mesquite bosques.

The proposal would:

- Allow the federal government to buy development rights from owners of private land.

- Allow the federal government to buy or trade state land, or buy development rights for state-owned land.

- Allow livestock grazing.

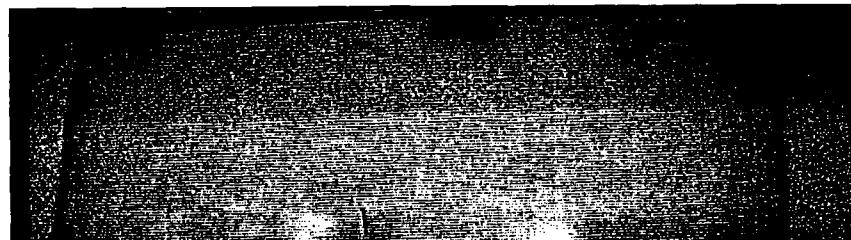
- Ban off-road vehicle use on federal land, although existing access policies would stay put.

MONKEYS

UMC experiments spark animal rights protests

Continued from Page A1

and has reviewed this study and the treatment of the monkeys, reluctantly disagreed, saying the



INTERNET

Federal judge rules distribution of digital music is violation

Continued from Page A1

ten to the copy in the MP3.com database. From that point the user has instant access to it through a password-protected folder on the company's Web site. In addition, MP3.com allows consumers who purchase CDs with a credit card through certain online vendors to immediately hear the music from their folder on the site.

Michael Robertson, MP3.com's

Page Eighteen - Section A

Comment

The Arizona Daily Star

Founded 1877

Jane Aman, Editor and Publisher

James M. Kiser, Editorial Page Editor

Bobbie Jo Buel, Managing Editor

EDITORIALS

Protect the ironwoods

We hope Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt adds Ironwood National Monument to his already impressive record of preserving Western lands.

Babbitt listened to the Pima County Board of Supervisors' proposal to preserve 96,000 acres in the Silver Bell and Waterman-Roskrige mountains.

"Ironwood ecosystems provide habitat for more than 500 species of plants and animals," said Richard H. Daley, executive director of the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. Daley told Babbitt: "Ironwood habitat is being fragmented badly, making the remaining major populations of ever-increasing significance. In some areas, up to 50 percent of the ironwood habitat is being damaged directly by development."

Andrew A. Lipsky, a biologist for Arizona Fish and Game points out that 160 species of plants and 80 bird species use ironwood trees. The trees do not provide nesting places for birds.

However, cacti that grow beneath them fulfill that function. The trees attract insects. Birds and reptiles are attracted to insects.

Lipsky says ironwoods reach 45 feet and live as long as 1,500 years. As the tree grows, it provides shelter for fauna and flora. It matures into a micro habitat. The temperature beneath the tree can be 15 degrees cooler than desert five feet away. It acts as a nursery for starting saguaros and other plants.

County Administrator Chuck Huckleberry said the greatest threat to the area is from mining. Most of the land is federally owned. But 24,000 acres is state trust land, which means it could be developed. The state land could be traded for other federal land.

Babbitt climbed to the crest of one the mountains. "It's a spectacular corner of the county," he said.

That it is.

It should be protected.

Arizona Seeks National Monument To Save Ironwood Forest, Habitat

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



EMAIL THIS ARTICLE

TUCSON, Ariz. -- With Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt on hand, Pima County's supervisors Tuesday unanimously issued a declaration seeking to create a nearly 100,000-acre ironwood preserve.

The declaration marks the first step toward what they hope will become a national monument northwest of here.

Later in the day, Babbitt hiked through a portion of the rugged 96,000-acre expanse in northwestern Pima County that encompasses the Silverbell and Ragged Top mountains. The area includes more than 71,000 acres owned by the Bureau of Land Management, one of the agencies Babbitt oversees.

The proposed preserve also would encompass about 24,000 acres of state land, and would provide a buffer along the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation.

"What I see once again really interests me," Babbitt said. The bulk of it is BLM land, "and I am eager to hear suggestions for how it is we can make certain that that land ultimately becomes a part of the Sonoran Desert [conservation] Plan."

Residents said some ironwood trees several hundred years old already have been lost because of a sand and gravel operation at Ragged Top.

"Ironwood habitat is being fragmented badly, making remaining populations ever-increasing of importance," museum director Richard Daley said.

"In some areas, up to 50 percent of the ironwood habitat is being damaged directly by development," he said. "We simply must find ways to protect the extraordinary diversity of ironwood habitat."

Ragged Top is the densest area of ironwood forest in Pima County, providing habitat protection for some 500 plant and animal species, including the endangered cactus ferruginous pygmy owl.

village.

Most of the land proposed for preservation is owned by the federal Bureau of Land Management, while the rest is owned by the state. Some mineral mining has occurred on the land, but that would stop if the area were designated a national monument, Bronson said.

County staff has prepared two proposals for supervisors to consider. The first would ask Babbitt to press for protection of 96,000 acres in the Silver Bell-Ragged Top area as well as in the Waterman-Roskrige mountains. The second proposal would exclude the Waterman-Roskrige area and protect 73,600 acres.

County Manager Chuck Huckelberry said the proposal should be popular with area residents.

"They have actually requested special protection for that area, which was originally left out of the mountain park area," he said. "Our interest is parallel with theirs. We haven't heard any specific objection to this proposal."

Vermilion Flycatcher

Tucson Audubon Society

Leaders in Conservation & Education since 1949

May - June 2000

Volume 44, Number 7 ISSN 1094-9909

Summer schedule:

Next
Vermilion
Flycatcher:
July 2000

Call Mt. Lemmon Hwy.
Hotline, 751-9405,
for construction delays
and closures.
M-F through Sept. 2001

Birdathon
2000



See pages 9 and 31

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Photo: Mary Ann Marazzi

Festival

First Annual
Ironwood Festival &
Grand Opening
of the
Mason Audubon
Center

by Kathy Cooper,
Ironwood Festival Coordinator

Lilac smoke against the gray-green thornscrub, punctuated by exclamation points of giant saguaros. It's a landscape that the privileged few of us who live in the northwest corner of this valley see for a fortnight every spring. The seeming fragility of blooming Ironwood trees in the early morning light belies their persistent grasp on life. Artfully shaped for five to eight centuries by the blistering heat and violent storms of the low desert, they provide habitat for 674 species of flora and fauna.

On May 13, the Tucson Audubon Society

will enhance the Grand Opening of the Mason Audubon Center, located at the corner of Thornydale and Hardy Roads, with a celebration of these grand old guardians.

Sponsored by Tucson Electric Power, the first annual Ironwood Festival will be held at the Center and at Mountain View High School on Saturday, May 13, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., with shuttles running between the two locations.

The morning will begin at the Mason

See IRONWOOD on page 4

Blake
Morlock

Babbitt seeks to preserve ironwood forests

U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt is so enamored of Pima County's desert conservation efforts, he wants a giant land swap with the state to protect more Arizona wilderness, starting with the Northwest Side's ironwood forests.

Babbitt said he will heed a request by the Board of Supervisors and ask President Clinton to create a national monument northwest of Marana to protect ironwood forests, once stakeholders agree on boundaries and monument uses.

During an interview with the Tucson Citizen editorial board, Babbitt said no place is safe from development if it can fetch a good enough price.

He offered the house-dotted east face of Camelback Mountain in Phoenix as "definitive proof that money will make water run uphill and provide comfortable places on vertical cliffs," he said.

The former two-term Arizona governor said Pima County is the national trendsetter in growth management and wants to start here with the wholesale protection of public land.

"It is the most comprehensive approach to these issues that has ever been undertaken anywhere in this country," Babbitt said.

In March, Babbitt hiked the ironwood land with County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry and promised to help preserve it but didn't say then he would recommend the president establish the monument. County plans call the area the Ragged Top Silverbell Mountain Ironwood National Monument.

Babbitt said he is "staggered" by the unanimity of support from county supervisors and the lack of protest about the proposed monument.

Two linchpins of Babbitt's efforts, which include more than 100,000 acres, are in Pima County.

On a larger scale, Babbitt asked Gov. Jane Hull on Monday to cede a total of 102,000 acres of state trust land to the feds in return for federal land of equal value chosen from a pool of 900,000 acres.



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

June 1, 2000

Memorandum for the President

Pursuant to your November 10, 1998 letter, I am recommending that you designate the following areas as national monuments under the authority granted to you by the Antiquities Act of 1906:

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument – Southwest Colorado

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument – Ashland, Oregon

Hanford Reach National Monument – Hanford, Washington

Ironwood National Monument – Tucson, Arizona

In each instance, I have personally interacted with local government officials and stakeholders regarding these designations. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson has collaborated with me on the Hanford Reach recommendation and is supportive. I believe that establishing these national monuments would be an exemplary exercise of Presidential authority under the Antiquities Act, well in keeping with past practice through which many notable objects of historic and scientific interest have been preserved, to the Nation's great and lasting benefit.

Secretary of the Interior

Proposed Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

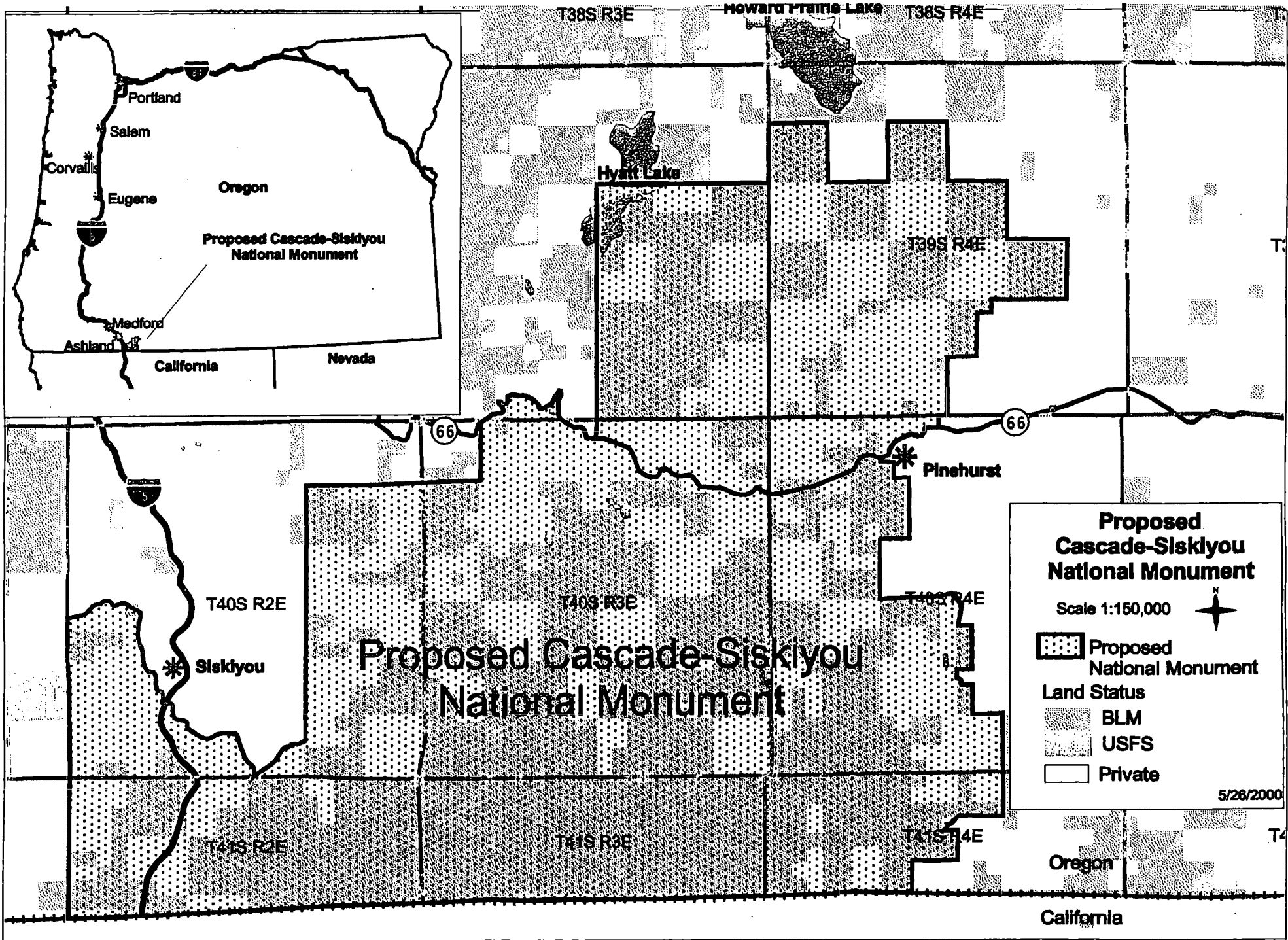
Location: The proposed Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument is located in south central Oregon, twenty-five miles southeast of Medford along the California border. It includes Soda Mountain and encompasses approximately 52,000 acres of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Elevations range from 2,300 to 6,000 feet above sea level.

Description: The proposed monument is located where the Klamath and Cascade Mountains converge. The area's location at the interface of the Cascade, Klamath, and Eastern Cascade Slope ecoregions makes it an ecological wonder with biological diversity unmatched in the Cascade Range. The special assemblage of plants and animals in each ecoregion meet and mix in the diverse habitats provided by the area's unique geology, climate, and topography.

The proposed monument is home to a spectacular variety of rare and beautiful species of plants and animals, whose survival in this region depends upon its continued ecological integrity. The area also supports an exceptionally high diversity of fauna, including one of the highest diversities of butterfly species of any area in the United States. The Jenny Creek portion of the proposed monument is a globally significant center of fresh water snail diversity, and is home to three endemic fish species, including a long-isolated stock of redband trout. The area also contains old growth habitat crucial to the threatened Northern spotted owl. The monument would protect the unique intersection of these ecoregions and their associated flora and fauna from resource exploitation and habitat degradation.

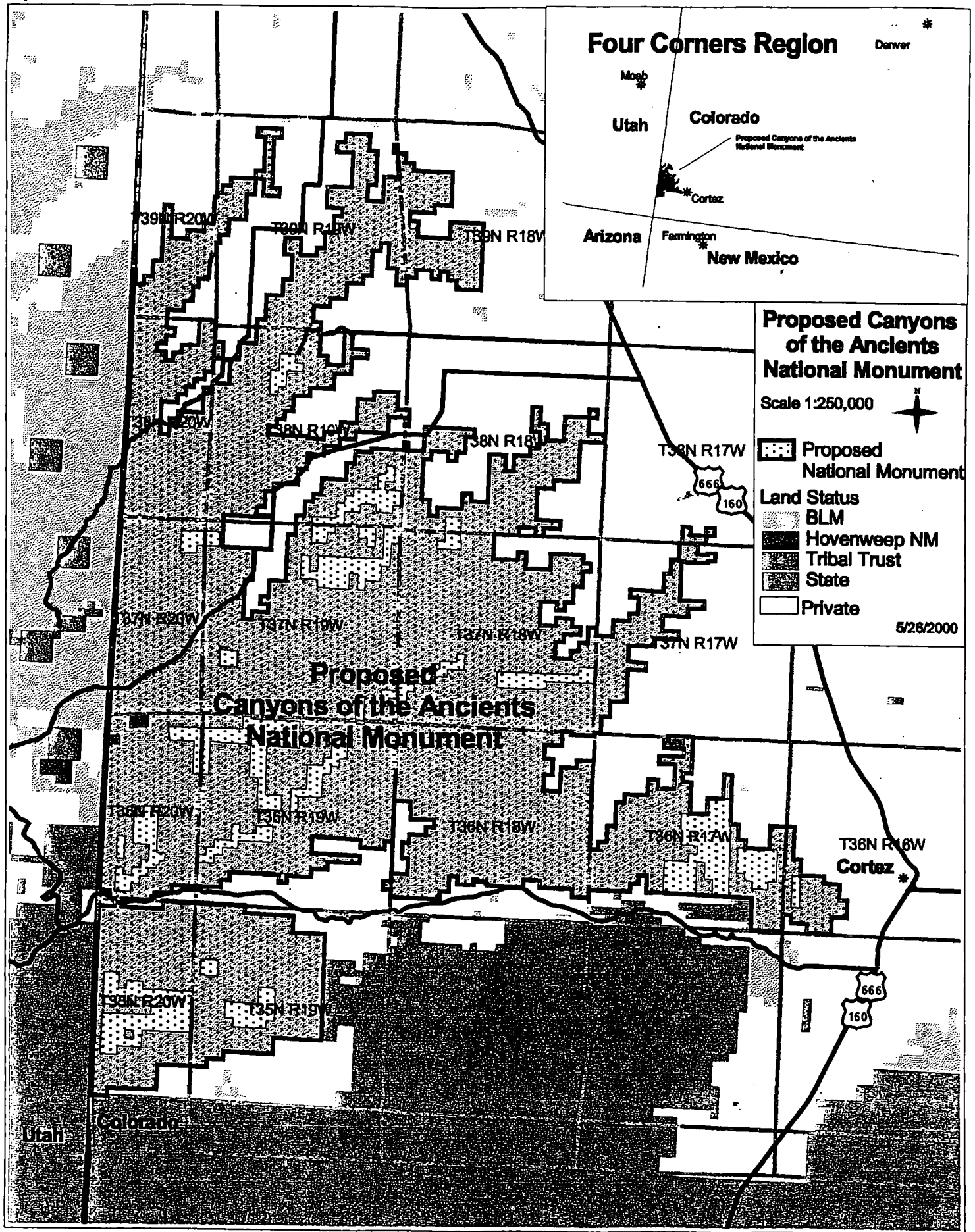
Management: Managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the area was designated as an "Ecological Emphasis Area" in the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan and BLM's 1995 Resource Management Plan (RMP) because of its unique ecological and biological characteristics. The area is currently under a timber harvesting moratorium that Secretary Babbitt's proposal would make permanent. Grazing under the proposal could continue while BLM completes a study to determine if continued livestock use is compatible with the protective purposes of the monument.

Process: Preparation of the President's Northwest Forest Plan brought the area to the attention of Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. At the request of local community groups, Secretary Babbitt visited the area in October 1999 and began a dialogue about future management. He returned with Congressman Greg Walden (R-Oregon) in mid-February 2000 to continue the discussion. The Secretary held two subsequent roundtable meetings with a range of community representatives to discuss appropriate management for the area.



Proposed Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

- Location:** Part of the Four Corners region of southwest Colorado, the proposed Canyons of the Ancients National Monument is in Montezuma and Dolores counties, Colorado, about 45 miles west of Durango and 9 miles west of Mesa Verde National Park. It includes approximately 164,000 acres of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management.
- Description:** The proposed National Monument contains the highest known density of archeological sites in the nation. More than just isolated islands of architecture, the cultural resources are spread across the landscape and reflect all the physical components of past human life: villages, field houses, check dams, reservoirs, great kivas, cliff dwellings, shrines, sacred springs, agricultural fields, petroglyphs, and sweat lodges.
- Occupation of this area by hunters and gatherers likely began over 10,000 years ago. Farming in the area blossomed between 450 and 1300 AD, when the area was occupied by Ancestral Northern Pueblo People. Year-round villages were established, evolving from pit house dwellings to the cliff-dwelling pueblos.
- The proposed monument is estimated to contain more than 20,000 archeological sites. Some of the area has more than 100 sites per square mile. Because of the remoteness of the area and the protection efforts of both the Bureau of Land Management and the local community, the integrity of most of these sites has been maintained. The growth of population and tourism in the Four Corners area will increasingly threaten these resources with vandalism and other types of degradation, making additional protections necessary.
- Management:** The Bureau of Land Management designated the area as the Anasazi Area of Critical Environmental Concern in 1985. Because the vast majority of the federal lands within the proposed monument have already been leased for oil and gas (including carbon dioxide) and development already is occurring, Secretary Babbitt is recommending that the lands remain open to oil and gas leasing and development. Development would be managed, subject to valid existing rights, so as not to create any new impacts that would interfere with the proper care and management of the objects protected by the designation. New leases under this proposal would be allowed only for the purpose of promoting conservation of oil and gas (including carbon dioxide) in reservoirs now being produced under existing leases or to protect against drainage. Finally, any Indian rights in the proposed monument area would not be affected.
- Process:** Public discussions regarding protection of this area date back to 1894 when the Salt Lake Times ran a story detailing interest in protecting the region. In 1979, a bill was introduced in Congress to designate the area a National Conservation Area. In the spring of 1999, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt began a dialogue with the local communities concerning proper management and protection of the area. The local Resource Advisory Council held five public meetings, consulted with local governments, and forwarded management recommendations to the Secretary in August 1999. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell introduced new National Conservation Area legislation in February 2000 (S. 2034), but he suspended all action on his bill on March 23, 2000.



Proposed Ironwood Forest National Monument

Location: The proposed Ironwood Forest National Monument is 25 miles west-northwest of Tucson, Arizona. It encompasses approximately 134,750 acres of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Elevations range from 1,800 feet to about 4,250 feet above sea level.

Description: The landscape of the proposed Ironwood Forest National Monument is swathed with the rich, drought-adapted vegetation of the Sonoran Desert. Stands of ironwood, blue palo verde, and saguaro blanket the monument's lower elevations beneath the rugged Silver Bell, Ragged Top, and Waterman Mountains. The geologic and topographic variability of the proposed monument contribute to its high biological diversity. Ironwood trees, which can live in excess of 800 years, are the dominant nurse plant in this region of the Sonoran Desert, with dominant influence on the surrounding ecosystem. The Silver Bell Mountains support the highest density of ironwood trees recorded in the Sonoran Desert.

The ironwood habitat in the Silver Bell Mountains is associated with more than 674 species, including 64 mammals and 57 bird species. These numbers include several species Federally listed as threatened or endangered, including historic and potential habitat for the Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy Owl. The desert bighorn sheep in the proposed monument may represent the last viable population indigenous to the Tucson basin.

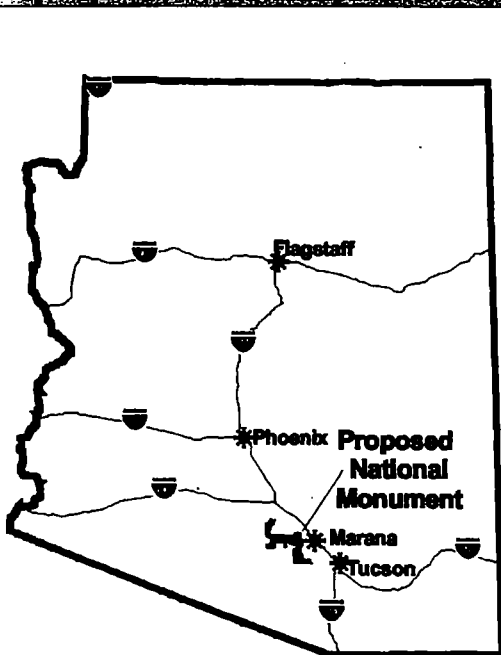
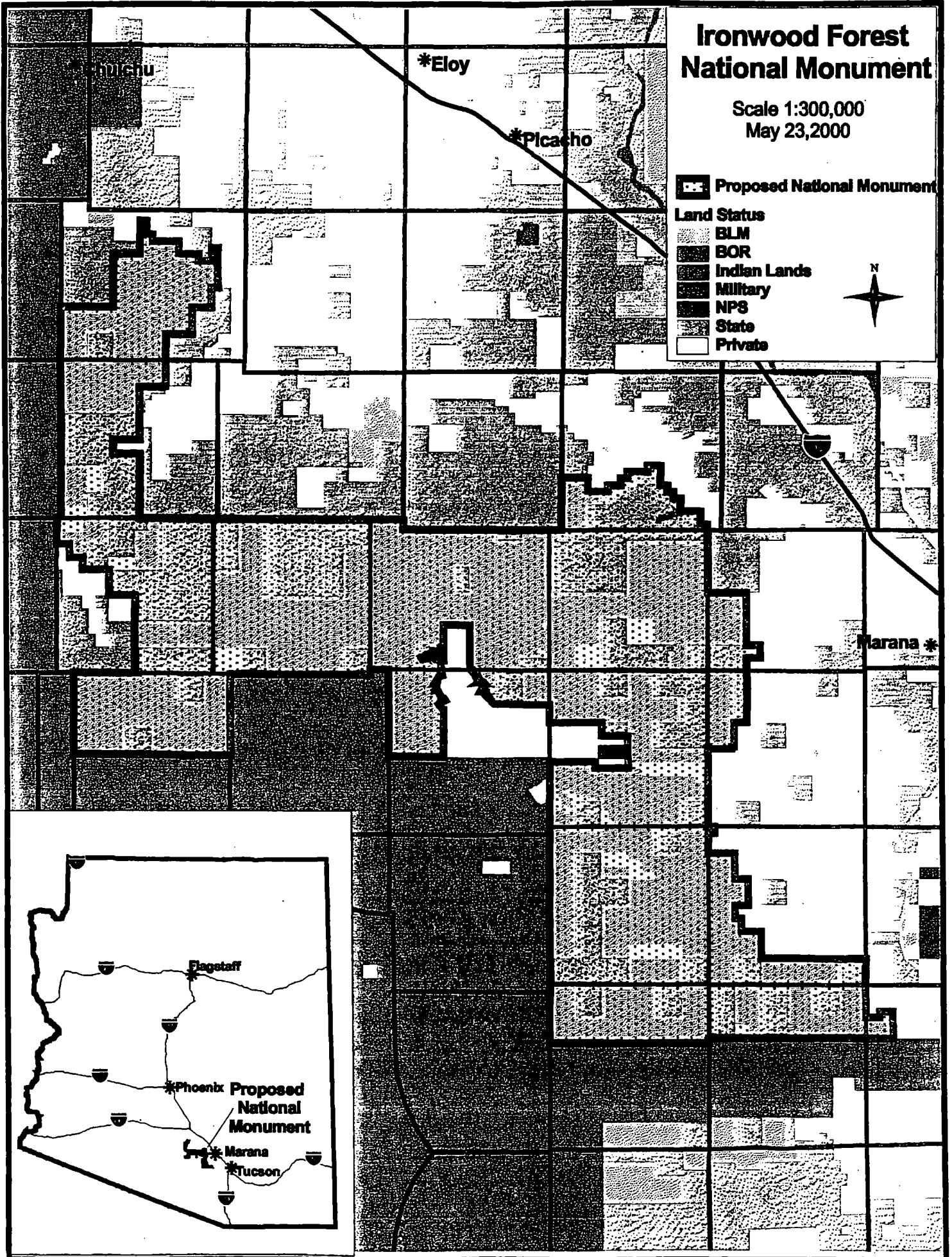
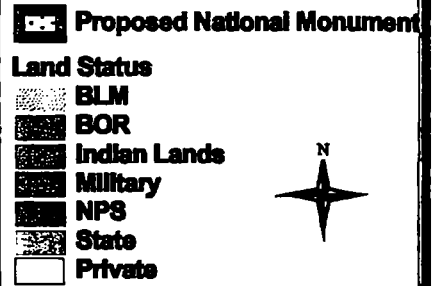
With the continuing urban expansion of southern Arizona, protecting critical wildlife habitat and preserving these rich stands of ironwood are of paramount importance.

Management: Managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the proposed monument includes the Waterman Mountains Area of Critical Environmental Concern and the Silver Bell Resource Conservation Area.

Process: The Pima County Board of Supervisors forwarded a resolution to Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt in March 2000 seeking national monument designation for the area. The Secretary has toured the area and discussed the proposal with the Pima County Board of Supervisors and members of the community. The Tohono O'odham Nation and the Pinal County Board of Supervisors have also given their support to the proposal.

Ironwood Forest National Monument

Scale 1:300,000
May 23, 2000



Proposed Hanford Reach National Monument

- Location:** The proposed Hanford Reach National Monument is located in south central Washington along the Columbia River. It encompasses approximately 200,000 acres of public land within the borders of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Hanford Reservation.
- Description:** The proposed monument contains an irreplaceable natural, cultural, and historic legacy, a legacy preserved by unusual circumstances. As a buffer zone around a portion of the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, development and human use has been limited for the past fifty years and the proposed monument is now a haven for important and increasingly scarce objects of scientific and historic interest. The proposed monument lands have been or are being cleaned up to meet EPA and State requirements under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). None of the reactors or associated out-buildings are included in the boundary.
- Bisected by the stunning Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, the proposed monument contains the largest remnant of the shrub-steppe ecosystem that once blanketed the Columbia River Basin. The Hanford Reach is the last free-flowing, non-tidal stretch of the Columbia River, where approximately 80% of fall chinook salmon spawn. Within its mosaic of habitats, the proposed monument supports a wealth of increasingly uncommon native plant and animal species, the size and diversity of which is unmatched in the Columbia Basin. Migrating salmon, birds and hundreds of other native plant and animal species rely on its natural ecosystems.
- The proposed monument is also one of the few remaining archaeologically rich areas in the western Columbia Plateau, containing well preserved cultural artifacts of Native American history and other remnants of human history spanning more than 10,000 years. It is equally rich in geologic history, with dramatic landscapes that reveal creative geologic forces including volcanism.
- Numerous proposals have been made for converting portions of the proposed monument to agricultural and other uses. Such proposals could jeopardize sensitive salmon habitat and the integrity of the salmon habitat and threaten the other important scientific and historic objects within the proposed monument.
- Management:** Much of the proposed monument is now managed for its ecological and biological values by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) under agreement with DOE, and under Secretary Babbitt's recommendation that management would continue within the proposed monument. The FWS and DOE would extend such agreements in the future to lands included in the proposed monument that are not now managed by FWS when appropriate cleanup has been completed. The monument proposal would not affect the operations of Bureau of Reclamation's Columbia Basin Project facilities already located within the proposed monument.
- Process:** In 1988, Congress passed Public Law 100-605 which directed the National Park Service (NPS) to study the Hanford Reach of the Columbia to recommend protection measures. In 1994, the NPS completed an Environmental Impact Statement that recommended designation of a National Wildlife Refuge north and east of the river, and a National Wild and Scenic River designation for the Hanford Reach. Senator Murray promptly introduced legislation in 1995 to implement the Park Service's EIS by designating the Reach as a Wild and Scenic River. In 1997, Senator Patty Murray and Representative Norm Dicks introduced companion bills, S. 200 and H.R. 1477, that would designate the Hanford Reach a Wild and Scenic River. Intense discussions followed until 1999, but failed to produce legislation.
- In 1999, after extensive discussions with the State of Washington, Tribes, local governments, other Federal agencies, environmental groups, and the public, DOE issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for future land uses of the entire Hanford site, which designated the lands covered in the proposed monument for preservation. In the Spring of this year, Senator Patty Murray asked the Secretary of the Interior to consider recommending monument designation to protect the area. In May Secretary Babbitt visited the area to discuss protection for the Hanford Reach and surrounding land with a wide variety of affected interests.



THE SECRETARY OF THE
WASHINGTON

John- ✓
Here are copies of the
monument proposals. The
originals were sent to you
and we gave them to Staff
Secretary.

Memorandum to the President

Date: June 6, 2000

From: Secretary Babbitt

Fern

Discussion of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Proposal

Attached is a draft proclamation, with an accompanying map,¹ to establish the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in southern Oregon. This memorandum describes (a) the basis for my recommendation that you establish the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, (b) the draft proclamation, and (c) the resources, ownership patterns, and management issues present in the area. After careful review of the record, I am convinced that the scientific and historic objects satisfy the criteria for establishment of a national monument pursuant to the Antiquities Act, and that the boundaries of the land reserved represent the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of those objects.

THE ANTIQUITIES ACT

Section 2 of the Antiquities Act, 16 U.S.C. 431, authorizes the President to establish as national monuments "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States...."

A. Objects of Historic or Scientific Interest

The proposed Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument is located in southern Oregon, at the intersection of the Klamath and Cascade Mountains. Elevations within the proposed monument range from 2,300 to 6,000 feet above sea level. The map appended to the draft proclamation sets out the boundaries of the land that would be reserved in the monument. The outer boundaries of

¹The boundaries of the proposed monument are drawn on the map entitled "Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument," which would be attached to, and made a part of, your proclamation. It is not practicable, as of this date, to describe the boundaries of the land reserved as a part of the proposed monument either by metes and bounds or by reference to designated subdivisions on official surveys shown on publicly recorded plats or maps. The BLM will produce a description conforming to the BLM Specifications for Descriptions of Tracts of Land for Use in Land Orders and Proclamations as soon as practicable should you decide to proceed.

the area encompass approximately 86,000 acres of land, approximately 52,000 acres of which are owned by the federal government and managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The draft proclamation attached to this memo describes objects in the area that warrant protection as a monument. Attachment A is a bibliography of the principal sources of information relied upon in making this recommendation.

With towering fir forests, sunlit oak groves, wildflower-strewn meadows, and steep canyons, the proposed Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument is an ecological wonder, with biological diversity unmatched in the Cascade Range. This rich enclave of natural resources is a biological crossroads – the interface of the Cascade, Klamath, and Siskiyou ecoregions, in an area of unique geology, biology, climate, and topography.

The proposed monument is home to a spectacular variety of rare and beautiful species of plants and animals, whose survival in this region depends upon its continued ecological integrity. Plant communities present a rich mosaic of grass and shrublands, Garry and California black oak woodlands, juniper scrublands, mixed conifer and white fir forests, and wet meadows. Stream bottoms support broad-leaf deciduous riparian trees and shrubs. Special plant communities include rosaceous chaparral and oak-juniper woodlands. The proposed monument also contains many rare and endemic plants, such as Greene's Mariposa lily, Gentner's fritillary, and Bellinger's meadowfoam.

The proposed monument supports an exceptional range of fauna, including one of the highest diversities of butterfly species in the United States. The Jenny Creek portion of the proposed monument is a significant center of fresh water snail diversity, and is home to three endemic fish species including a long-isolated stock of redband trout. The proposed monument contains important populations of small mammals, reptile and amphibian species, and ungulates, including important winter habitat for deer. It also contains old growth habitat crucial to the threatened Northern spotted owl, and numerous other bird species such as the western bluebird, the western meadowlark, the pileated woodpecker, the flammulated owl, and the pygmy nuthatch.

The proposed monument's geology contributes substantially to its spectacular biological diversity. The majority of the proposed monument is within the Cascade Mountain Range. The western edge of the proposed monument lies within the older Klamath Mountain geologic province. The dynamic plate tectonics of the area, and the mixing of igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary geological formations, have resulted in diverse lithologies and soils. Along with periods of geological isolation and a range of environmental conditions, the complex geologic history of the area has been instrumental in producing the diverse vegetative and biological richness seen today.

One of the most striking features of the Western Cascades in this area is Pilot Rock, located near the southern boundary of the proposed monument. The rock is a volcanic plug, a remnant of a feeder vent left after a volcano eroded away, leaving an outstanding example of the inside of a

volcano. Pilot Rock has sheer, vertical basalt faces up to four hundred feet above the talus slope at its base, with classic columnar jointing created by the cooling of its andesite composition.

The Siskiyou Pass in the southwest corner of the proposed monument contains portions of the Oregon/California Trail, the region's main north/south travel route first established by Native Americans in prehistoric times, and used by Peter Skene Ogden in his 1827 exploration for the Hudson's Bay Company.

Much of the area within the proposed monument was designated as the Cascade Siskiyou Ecological Emphasis Area in the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan and the 1995 Medford District Resource Management Plan (RMP) because of its unique, diverse ecological and biological characteristics. The Medford RMP also established other special designations in the area based on important resource values: two Resource Natural Areas, two Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and a Late-Successional Reserve (LSR).

The area has been evaluated for its wilderness characteristics under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. Approximately 5,867 acres, known as the Soda Mountain Wilderness Study Area, were recommended to Congress for wilderness designation in 1991. No Congressional action has been taken on this recommendation. The documentation of this area assembled in the wilderness inventory and study process has identified many of the objects of scientific and historic interest within the proposed monument.

B. Land Area Reserved for the Proper Care and Management of the Objects to be Preserved

The Antiquities Act authorizes the President, as part of his declaration of a national monument, to reserve land, "the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected...." 16 U.S.C. § 431. The area proposed for reservation has been carefully delineated, based on review of available information, to meet the goals of effectively caring for and managing the objects in perpetuity.

The area includes the biological, geological, and historic objects identified in the draft proclamation and Attachment A accompanying this memorandum. The area of the proposed monument is based on the conservation needs of the objects to be protected. Some of these objects, such as the biological resources, are present throughout the entire proposed monument area. Others, such as the historic trail, are confined to a smaller area. Many objects, including the biological resources, depend for their scientific value on their location at various sites or elevations.

Preservation of such objects requires, among other things, protection of enough land to maintain the conditions that have made their continued existence possible. The scientific value of many of the objects within the proposed monument requires preservation of areas large enough to maintain the objects and their interactions. Many of the biologic objects in the area result from

the extraordinary geology and blending of ecoregions, which provides habitat for a high diversity of species. The proposed monument also provides an important link for migration and dispersal of species between habitats in the Northwest. Many species must range within and through the area to maintain viable populations and their role in the ecosystem. Thus, protection of the aggregate area is necessary for proper care of the objects. Management of a patchwork of reserved lands would be impractical, as it would make it more difficult to care for the objects, reduce options for natural resource management and lead to inconsistent resource management standards for overlapping resources. For these reasons, the reservation of a smaller area would undermine proper care and management of the objects to be protected by this proposed monument.

LEGAL EFFECTS OF THE PROCLAMATION

There are several significant aspects of the draft proclamation. First, it would reserve only the federal lands in the area, because the Antiquities Act applies only to objects of historic or scientific interest “that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States.” 16 U.S.C. § 431.

Second, the draft proclamation would be subject to valid existing rights. Thus, to the extent a person or entity has valid existing rights in the federal lands or resources within the area, the draft proclamation would respect their rights. The exercise of such rights could, however, be regulated in order to protect the purposes of the proposed monument.

Third, the draft proclamation appropriates and withdraws the federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of the proposed monument from entry, location, sale, leasing or other disposition under the public land laws, including but not limited to withdrawal from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing, other than by exchange that furthers the protective purposes of the proposed monument. This withdrawal prevents the location of new mining claims under the 1872 Mining Law, and prevents the Secretary of the Interior from exercising discretion under the mineral leasing acts and related laws to lease or sell federal minerals within the boundaries of the proposed monument.

Fourth, the draft proclamation would reserve, subject to valid existing rights and as of the date of the proclamation, sufficient water to fulfill the purposes for which the monument would be established.

Fifth, the draft proclamation prohibits the commercial harvest of timber or other vegetative material, except when part of an authorized science-based ecological restoration project aimed at meeting protection and old growth enhancement objectives. The draft proclamation also states that no portion of the monument shall be within the timber base or used in a calculation or basis for a sustained yield of timber. The Act of August 28, 1937, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1181a-1181j), commonly known as the “O&C Act,” provides that certain federal lands within the

monument shall be managed for “permanent forest production” and that the timber thereon “shall be sold, cut, and removed in conformity with the principal [sic] of sustained yield for the purpose of providing a permanent source of timber supply, protecting watersheds, regulating stream flow, and contributing to the economic stability of local communities and industries, and providing recreational facilities [sic]....” The Secretary may, if necessary, amend land use plans of the Bureau of Land Management to assure that the total productive capacity of harvestable timber for all lands subject to the O&C Act is not diminished by implementation of this proclamation.

Sixth, the draft proclamation directs the Secretary of the Interior to study the impacts of livestock grazing on the objects of biological interest in the monument with specific attention to sustaining the natural ecosystem dynamics. Existing authorized permits or leases would continue with appropriate terms and conditions under existing laws and regulations. Should grazing be found incompatible with protecting the objects of biological interest, the Secretary would retire the grazing allotments pursuant to the processes of applicable law. Should grazing permits or leases be relinquished by existing holders, the Secretary would not reallocate the forage available under such permits or for livestock grazing purposes unless the Secretary specifically finds, pending the outcome of the study, that such reallocation will advance the purposes of the proclamation.

Seventh, the draft proclamation directs the Secretary to develop a management plan, including appropriate transportation planning, that addresses any actions, such as road closures or travel limits, necessary to protect the objects identified in the draft proclamation. The draft proclamation also prohibits motorized and mechanized vehicle use off road, except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes, and closes the Schoheim road with the same exception.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE MONUMENT

A. Management by the Bureau of Land Management

The federal lands in the area described in the attached draft proclamation are currently under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Department of the Interior. BLM manages the land pursuant to its basic organic authorities, the primary one being the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA).

I believe the area is best left under BLM management, and the attached draft proclamation would have the Secretary of the Interior manage the proposed monument through this agency under its existing authorities, but subject to the overriding purpose of protecting the objects described in the draft proclamation. The establishment of the monument thus constitutes an overlay on the management regime otherwise applicable to lands managed by the BLM. It limits the management discretion that the BLM would otherwise have, by mandating protection of the historic and scientific objects within the national monument.

The inclusion of wilderness study area lands within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument would have no effect on the Wilderness Study Area status or on any Congressional action to

designate lands within the monument as wilderness. Congress has, in fact, many times in the past designated wilderness within existing national monuments. The Wilderness Act of 1964 serves some values (e.g., outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation) that are not addressed in the Antiquities Act of 1906 which, as noted earlier, serves to protect “objects of historic or scientific interest.” Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act expressly acknowledges that wilderness areas “may...contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, education...or historic value,” and section 4(b) directs that wilderness areas “shall be devoted to the public purposes” of, among others, “scientific, educational, conservation, and historical use.”

B. Impact of Monument Designation on Existing or Planned Activities in the Area

1. Currently permitted livestock grazing

Grazing occurs on five allotments within the proposed monument under eight separate grazing permits. The draft proclamation directs the Secretary of the Interior to study the impacts of livestock grazing on the objects of biological interest in the proposed monument with specific attention to sustaining the natural ecosystem dynamics. If the study so indicates, existing authorized permits or leases may continue with appropriate stipulations under existing laws and regulations. Should grazing be found incompatible with protecting the objects of biological interest, the grazing allotments would be retired pursuant to the processes of applicable law. Should grazing permits or leases be relinquished by existing holders, the Secretary would not reallocate the forage available under such permits for livestock grazing purposes unless the Secretary specifically finds, pending the outcome of the study, that such reallocation will advance the purposes of the proclamation.

2. Recreation, hunting, fishing and similar activities

Recreation and other similar uses would generally not be affected except where (1) the BLM, through processes required by existing law, identifies places where such uses ought to be restricted or prohibited as necessary to protect the federal lands and resources, including the objects protected by the monument designation; or (2) the BLM finds a clear threat from such a use to the federal lands and resources, including the objects protected by the proposed monument designation, and the circumstances call for swift protective action. Such uses would, of course, remain subject to applicable laws and regulations, and would therefore remain subject to regulation and limitation under such provisions for reasons other than establishment of the proposed monument. Hunting and fishing would continue to be governed under applicable law.

3. Use of existing rights-of-way (such as those established under Title V of FLPMA)

Use of existing rights-of-way would generally be subject to the same standards as described in the preceding section. Some existing rights-of-way may include valid existing rights. The exercise of such rights may be regulated in order to protect the purposes of the proposed monument, but any regulation must respect such rights.

4. Access

For purposes of protecting the objects identified in the draft proclamation, it would prohibit motorized and mechanized vehicle travel off road, except for authorized administrative or emergency purposes. The current management plan prohibits travel off road, so there should be no change in actual practice. The draft proclamation directs the Secretary to develop a transportation plan that addresses road closures or travel limits as necessary to protect the objects identified in this proclamation. In addition, the draft proclamation would close Schoheim Road in order to prevent fragmentation of crucial deer winter habitat, in accordance with a recommendation from the Oregon Department of Fish and Game. Closing the road will also prevent degradation of water quality.

5. Activities on private land

The area within the boundaries of the draft proclamation contains approximately 34,000 acres of private land, owned by a mix of large and small land owners. The two largest landowners are Boise Cascade Corporation and U.S. Timberlands. The proposed monument designation would not apply to those lands, but the draft proclamation provides that if any of these lands within the outer boundaries of the proposed monument are acquired into federal ownership in the future, they would become part of the proposed monument. In the absence of acquisition, the laws applicable to the use of private or state lands prior to the establishment of the proposed monument would continue to apply.

6. Mineral activities

The area has no known potential for oil and gas development. There are no existing mining claims. New mining claims, mineral leases or mineral sales would be prohibited as the draft proclamation withdraws the area from the 1872 Mining Law and from the mineral leasing acts and related laws.

7. Timber Harvest

The commercial harvest of timber or other vegetative material would be prohibited, except when part of an authorized science-based ecological restoration project aimed at meeting protection and old growth enhancement objectives. Any such project must be consistent with the purposes of the draft proclamation. No portion of the proposed monument would be considered to be suited for timber production for the purposes of any calculation or provision of a sustained yield of timber. Removal of trees from within the proposed monument area may take place only if clearly needed for ecological restoration and maintenance or public safety. There is currently a moratorium on all timber harvest in much of the area until 2005 pending the completion of a management plan. The remainder of the area is in a Late Successional Reserve status where timber harvest is essentially prohibited, except for projects designed to meet ecological

objectives under the Northwest Forest Plan. Thus, the proclamation's immediate impact on commercial timber harvest would be minimal.

CONCLUSION

Establishing the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument would be an exemplary exercise of Presidential authority under the Antiquities Act, well in keeping with past practice through which many notable objects of historic and scientific interest have been preserved, to the Nation's great and lasting benefit. I strongly recommend you sign the proclamation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Babbitt", with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

The Secretary of the Interior

DRAFT

Presidential Proclamation #####

Establishment of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

By the President of The United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

With towering fir forests, sunlit oak groves, wildflower-strewn meadows, and steep canyons, the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument is an ecological wonder, with biological diversity unmatched in the Cascade Range. This rich enclave of natural resources is a biological crossroads – the interface of the Cascade, Klamath, and Siskiyou ecoregions, in an area of unique geology, biology, climate, and topography.

The monument is home to a spectacular variety of rare and beautiful species of plants and animals, whose survival in this region depends upon its continued ecological integrity. Plant communities present a rich mosaic of grass and shrublands, Garry and California black oak woodlands, juniper scrublands, mixed conifer and white fir forests, and wet meadows. Stream bottoms support broad-leaf deciduous riparian trees and shrubs. Special plant communities include rosaceous chaparral and oak-juniper woodlands. The monument also contains many rare and endemic plants, such as Greene's Mariposa lily, Gentner's fritillary, and Bellinger's meadowfoam.

The monument supports an exceptional range of fauna, including one of the highest diversities of butterfly species in the United States. The Jenny Creek portion of the monument is a significant center of fresh water snail diversity, and is home to three endemic fish species including a long-isolated stock of redband trout. The monument contains important populations of small mammals, reptile and amphibian species, and ungulates, including important winter habitat for deer. It also contains old growth habitat crucial to the threatened Northern spotted owl, and numerous other bird species such as the western bluebird, the western meadowlark, the pileated woodpecker, the flammulated owl, and the pygmy nuthatch.

The monument's geology contributes substantially to its spectacular biological diversity. The majority of the monument is within the Cascade Mountain Range. The western edge of the monument lies within the older Klamath Mountain geologic province. The dynamic plate tectonics of the area, and the mixing of igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary geological formations, have resulted in diverse lithologies and soils. Along with periods of geological isolation and a range of environmental conditions, the complex geologic history of the area has been instrumental in producing the diverse vegetative and biological richness seen today.

One of the most striking features of the Western Cascades in this area is Pilot Rock, located near the southern boundary of the monument. The rock is a volcanic plug, a remnant of a feeder vent left after a volcano eroded away, leaving an outstanding example of the inside of a volcano. Pilot Rock has sheer, vertical basalt faces up to four hundred feet above the talus slope at its base, with classic columnar jointing created by the cooling of its andesite composition.

The Siskiyou Pass in the southwest corner of the monument contains portions of the Oregon/California Trail, the region's main north/south travel route first established by Native Americans in prehistoric times, and used by Peter Skene Ogden in his 1827 exploration for the Hudson's Bay Company.

Section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431) authorizes the President, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and to reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

WHEREAS it appears that it would be in the public interest to reserve such lands as a national monument to be known as the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431), do proclaim that there are hereby set apart and reserved as the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, for the purpose of protecting the objects identified above, all lands and interests in lands owned or controlled by the United States within the boundaries of the area described on the map entitled "Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument" attached to and forming a part of this proclamation. The Federal land and interests in land reserved consist of approximately 52,000 acres, which is the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

All Federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of this monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, or leasing or other disposition under the public land laws, including but not limited to withdrawal from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing, other than by exchange that furthers the protective purposes of the monument.

There is hereby reserved, as of the date of this proclamation and subject to valid existing rights, a quantity of water sufficient to fulfill the purposes for which this monument is established. Nothing in this reservation shall be construed as a relinquishment or reduction of any water use or rights reserved or appropriated by the United States on or before the date of this proclamation.

The commercial harvest of timber or other vegetative material is prohibited, except when part of an authorized science-based ecological restoration project aimed at meeting protection and old growth enhancement objectives. Any such project must be consistent with the purposes of this proclamation. No portion of the monument shall be considered to be suited for timber production, and no part of the monument shall be used in a calculation or provision of a sustained yield of timber. Removal of trees from within the monument area may take place only if clearly needed for ecological restoration and maintenance or public safety.

For the purpose of protecting the objects identified above, the Secretary shall prohibit all motorized and mechanized vehicle use off road and shall close the Schoheim Road, except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes.

Lands and interests in lands within the proposed monument not owned by the United States shall be reserved as a part of the monument upon acquisition of title thereto by the United States.

The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the monument through the Bureau of Land Management, pursuant to applicable legal authorities (including, where applicable, the Act of August 28, 1937, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1181a-1181j)), to implement the purposes of this proclamation.

The Secretary of the Interior shall prepare, within 3 years of this date, a management plan for this monument, and shall promulgate such regulations for its management as he deems appropriate. The management plan shall include appropriate transportation planning that addresses the actions, including road closures or travel restrictions, necessary to protect the objects identified in this proclamation.

The Secretary of the Interior shall study the impacts of livestock grazing on the objects of biological interest in the monument with specific attention to sustaining the natural ecosystem dynamics. Existing authorized permits or leases may continue with appropriate terms and conditions under existing laws and regulations. Should grazing be found incompatible with protecting the objects of biological interest, the Secretary shall retire the grazing allotments pursuant to the processes of applicable law. Should grazing permits or leases be relinquished by existing holders, the Secretary shall not reallocate the forage available under such permits or for livestock grazing purposes unless the Secretary specifically finds, pending the outcome of the study, that such reallocation will advance the purposes of the proclamation.

The establishment of this monument is subject to valid existing rights.

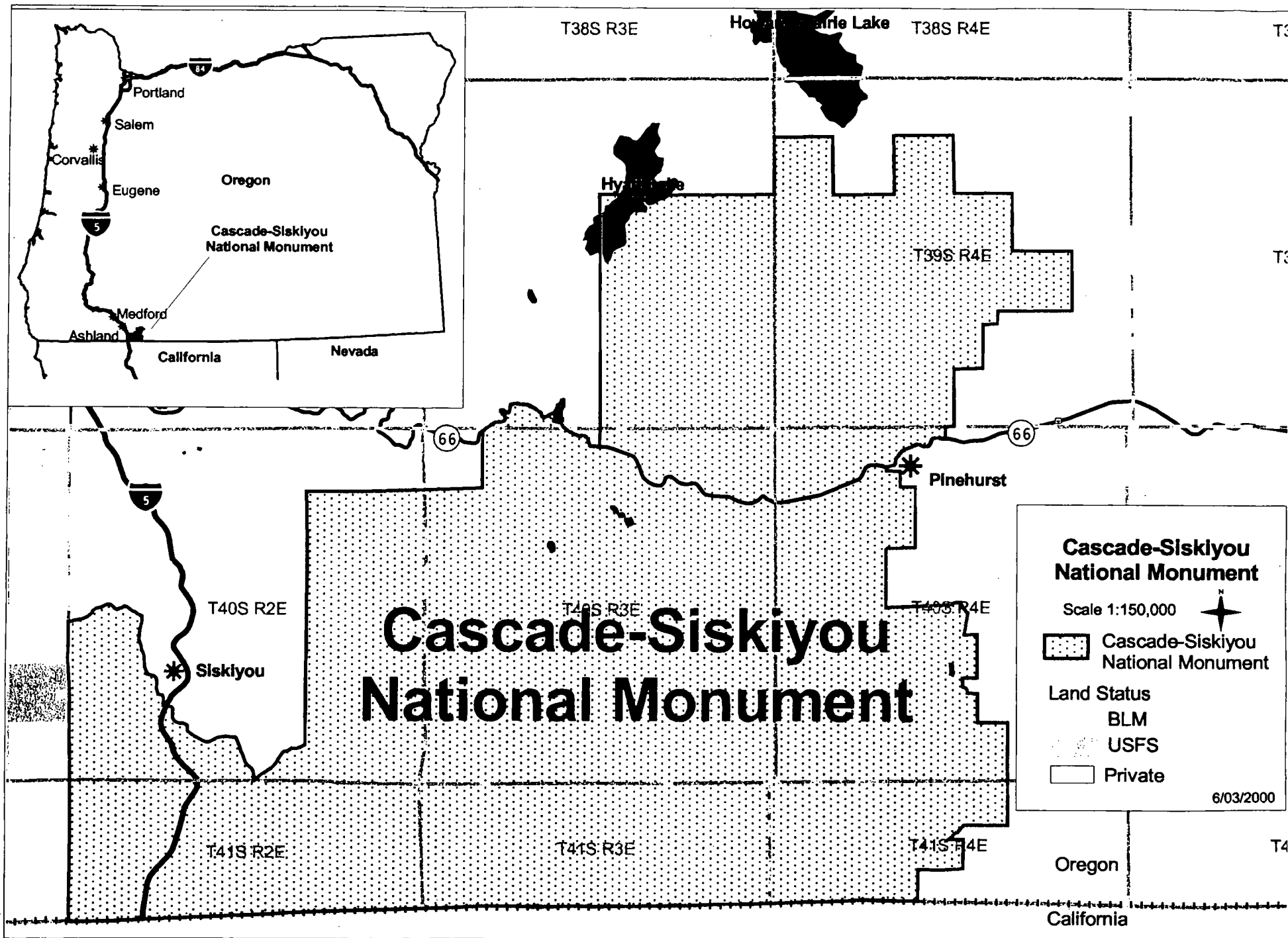
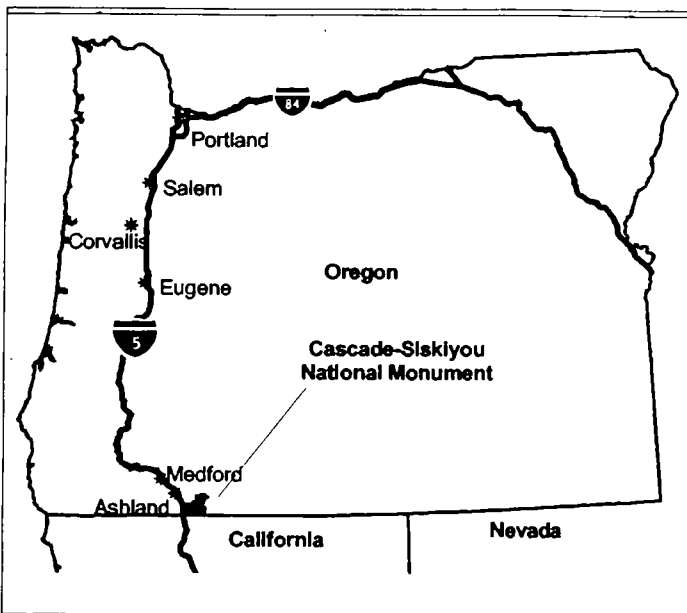
Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the jurisdiction of the State of Oregon with respect to fish and wildlife management.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to revoke any existing withdrawal, reservation, or appropriation; however, the national monument shall be the dominant reservation.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of this monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this xxxxx day of xxxxx, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton



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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

Memorandum to the President

Date: June 6, 2000

From: Secretary Babbitt

Discussion of the Ironwood Forest National Monument Proposal

Attached is a draft proclamation, with an accompanying map,¹ to establish the Ironwood Forest National Monument in southern Arizona. This memorandum describes (a) the basis for my recommendation that you establish the Ironwood Forest National Monument, (b) the draft proclamation, and (c) the resources, ownership patterns, and management issues present in the area. After careful review of the record, I am convinced that the objects satisfy the criteria for establishment of a national monument pursuant to the Antiquities Act, and that the boundaries of the land reserved represent the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of those objects.

THE ANTIQUITIES ACT

Section 2 of the Antiquities Act, 16 U.S.C. 431, authorizes the President to establish as national monuments "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States...."

A. Objects of Historic or Scientific Interest

The proposed Ironwood Forest National Monument is located outside Tucson, Arizona. Elevations within the proposed monument range from about 1,800 feet to about 4,261 feet above sea level. The map appended to the draft proclamation sets out the boundaries of the land that would be reserved in the monument. The outer boundaries of the area encompass approximately

¹The boundaries of the proposed monument are drawn on the map entitled "Ironwood Forest National Monument," which would be attached to, and made a part of, your proclamation. It is not practicable, as of this date, to describe the boundaries of the land reserved as a part of the monument either by metes and bounds or by reference to designated subdivisions on official surveys shown on publicly recorded plats or maps. The BLM will produce a description conforming to the BLM Specifications for Descriptions of Tracts of Land for Use in Land Orders and Proclamations as soon as practicable should you decide to proceed.

189,564 acres of land, approximately 128,917 acres of which are owned by the federal government and managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The draft proclamation attached to this memo describes objects in the area that warrant protection as a monument. Attachment A is a bibliography of the principal sources of information relied upon in making this recommendation.

The landscape of the proposed Ironwood Forest National Monument is swathed with the rich, drought-adapted vegetation of the Sonoran Desert. The proposed monument contains objects of scientific interest throughout its desert environment. Stands of ironwood, palo verde, and saguaro blanket the proposed monument floor beneath the rugged mountain ranges, including the Silver Bell Mountains, and Ragged Top Mountain is a biological and geological crown jewel amid the depositional plains in the proposed monument.

The proposed monument presents a quintessential view of the Sonoran Desert with ancient legume and cactus forests. The geologic and topographic variability of the proposed monument contributes to the area's high biological diversity. Ironwoods, which can live in excess of 800 years, generate a chain of influences on associated understory plants, affecting their dispersal, germination, establishment, and rates of growth. Ironwood is the dominant nurse plant in this region, and the Silver Bell Mountains support the highest density of ironwood trees recorded in the Sonoran Desert. Ironwood trees provide, among other things, roosting sites for hawks and owls, forage for desert bighorn sheep, protection for saguaro against freezing, burrows for tortoises, flowers for native bees, dense canopy for nesting of white-winged doves and other birds, and protection against sunburn for night blooming cereus.

The ironwood-bursage habitat in the Silver Bell Mountains is associated with more than 674 species, including 64 mammalian and 57 bird species. Within the Sonoran Desert, Ragged Top Mountain contains the greatest richness of species. The proposed monument is home to species federally listed as threatened or endangered, including the Nichols turk's head cactus and the lesser long-nosed bat, and contains historic and potential habitat for the cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl. The desert bighorn sheep in the proposed monument may be the last viable population indigenous to the Tucson basin.

In addition to the biological and geological resources, the area holds abundant rock art sites and other archeological objects of scientific interest. Humans have inhabited the area for more than 5,000 years. More than 200 sites from the prehistoric Hohokam period (600 A.D. to 1450 A.D.) have been recorded in the area. Two areas within the proposed monument have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Los Robles Archeological District and the Cocoraque Butte Archeological District. The archeological artifacts include rhyolite and brown chert chipped stone, plain and decorated ceramics, and worked shell from the Gulf of California. The area also contains the remnants of the Mission Santa Ana, the last mission constructed in Pimeria Alta.

The proposed monument area includes the Waterman Mountains Area of Critical Environmental Concern and the Silver Bell Resource Conservation Area, both designated under the BLM's

Phoenix Area Resource Management Plan (1988), because of the unique ecological and biological characteristics.

B. Land Area Reserved for the Proper Care and Management of the Objects to be Preserved

The Antiquities Act authorizes the President, as part of his declaration of a national monument, to reserve land, "the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected." 16 U.S.C. § 431. The area proposed for reservation has been carefully delineated, based on review of available information, to meet the goals of effectively caring for and managing the objects in perpetuity.

The area includes the biological and archeological objects identified in the draft proclamation and Attachment A accompanying this letter. The area of the proposed monument is based on the conservation needs of the objects to be protected. Some of these objects, such as the biological resources, are present throughout the entire proposed monument. Others, such as the archaeological resources, are scattered throughout the proposed monument.

Preservation of such objects requires, among other things, protection of enough land to maintain the conditions that have made their continued existence possible. The scientific value of many of the objects within the proposed monument requires preservation of areas large enough to maintain the objects and their interactions. For example, while archaeological sites are by definition identifiable discrete concentrations on the landscape, much of their scientific significance stems from interrelationships among such sites when considered in a much larger comparative context. Individual sites are viewed as elements in community patterns, settlement patterns, or regional populations of sites. Evaluation of specific sites requires adequate knowledge of these larger local and regional patterns. Protection of the aggregate area is necessary for proper care of the objects. For these reasons, our analysis indicates that reservation of a smaller area would undermine proper care and management of the objects to be protected by this proposed monument.

LEGAL EFFECTS OF THE PROCLAMATION

There are several significant aspects of the draft proclamation. First, it would reserve only the federal lands in the area, because the Antiquities Act applies only to objects of historic or scientific interest "that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States." 16 U.S.C. § 431.

Second, the draft proclamation would be subject to valid existing rights. Thus, to the extent a person or entity has valid existing rights in the federal lands or resources within the area, the proclamation would respect their rights. The exercise of such rights could, however, be regulated in order to protect the purposes of the monument.

Third, the draft proclamation appropriates and withdraws the federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of the monument from entry, location, sale, leasing or other disposition under the public land laws, including but not limited to withdrawal from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing, other than by exchange that furthers the protective purposes of the monument. This withdrawal prevents the location of new mining claims under the 1872 Mining Law, and prevents the Secretary of the Interior from exercising discretion under the mineral leasing acts and related laws to lease or sell federal minerals within the boundaries of the proposed monument.

Fourth, the draft proclamation would not reserve new water resources under federal law pursuant to the so-called Winters doctrine, but would not relinquish or abandon any existing federal rights. For protection of monument resources, the proclamation would direct the Secretary of the Interior to work with appropriate state authorities to ensure that water resources needed for monument purposes are available.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE MONUMENT

A. Management by the Bureau of Land Management

The federal lands in the area described in the attached draft proclamation are currently under the jurisdiction of the BLM in the Department of the Interior. BLM manages the land pursuant to its basic organic authorities, the primary one being the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA).

I believe the area is best left under BLM management, and the attached draft proclamation would have the Secretary of the Interior manage the proposed monument through this agency, under its existing authorities, but subject to the overriding purpose of protecting the objects described in the draft proclamation. The establishment of the monument thus constitutes an overlay on the management regime otherwise applicable to lands managed by the BLM. It limits the management discretion that the BLM would otherwise have by mandating protection of the historic and scientific objects within the national monument.

B. Impact of Monument Designation on Existing or Planned Activities in the Area

1. Currently permitted livestock grazing, recreation, hunting, and similar activities

Grazing, recreation and other similar uses would generally not be affected except where: (1) the BLM, through processes required by existing law, identifies places where such uses ought to be restricted or prohibited as necessary to protect the federal lands and resources, including the objects protected by the monument designation; or (2) the BLM finds a clear threat from such a use to the federal lands and resources, including the objects protected by the proposed monument designation, and the circumstances call for swift protective action. Such uses would, of course,

remain subject to applicable laws and regulations, and would therefore remain subject to regulation and limitation under such provisions for reasons other than establishment of the monument. Hunting would continue to be governed under applicable laws.

2. Use of existing rights-of-way (such as those established under Title V of FLPMA)

Use of existing rights-of-way would generally be subject to the same standards as described in section B.1. addressing currently permitted uses. Some existing rights-of-way may include valid existing rights. The exercise of such rights may be regulated in order to protect the purposes of the proposed monument, but any regulation must respect such rights.

3. Access

For purposes of protecting the objects identified in the draft proclamation, it would prohibit motorized and mechanized vehicle travel off road, except for authorized administrative or emergency purposes. The current management plan confines vehicular traffic to existing roads, but does not designate particular roads. Although the extremely rugged terrain in part of the area is a limiting factor for this use, the draft proclamation would curtail use of vehicles off road. The draft proclamation directs the Secretary to develop a transportation plan that addresses road closures or travel restrictions as necessary to protect the objects identified in this proclamation.

4. Activities on private and state land

The area within the boundaries of the proposed monument contains approximately 54,653 acres of state land and 6,011 acres of private land. The monument designation would not apply to those lands, but the draft proclamation provides that if any state or private lands within the outer boundaries of the monument are acquired in the future, they would become part of the monument. In the absence of acquisition, the laws applicable to the use of state or private lands prior to establishment of the monument would continue to apply.

5. Mining claims/oil and gas leases

The area has no known potential for oil and gas development. There are no existing mineral leases. Asarco has an existing mining operation near the proposed monument, but the monument boundaries have been drawn to exclude it. The proposed monument contains 372 mining claims, 235 of which are held by Asarco Mining Company. To the extent their claims contain a valid discovery of a valuable mineral deposit as of the date of this designation, they would be respected as valid existing rights. The exercise of such rights may be regulated in order to protect the purposes of the monument, but any regulations must respect such rights. Existing mining claims that lack a valid discovery of a valuable mineral deposit have no valid existing rights; activities on such claims may be regulated or prohibited to protect the purposes of the monument. New mining claims would be prohibited as the draft proclamation withdraws the area from the 1872 Mining Law.

CONCLUSION

Establishing the Ironwood Forest National Monument would be an exemplary exercise of Presidential authority under the Antiquities Act, well in keeping with past practice through which many notable objects of historic and scientific interest have been preserved, to the Nation's great and lasting benefit. I strongly recommend you sign the proclamation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Babbitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bruce" and last name "Babbitt" clearly distinguishable.

The Secretary of the Interior

DRAFT

Presidential Proclamation #####

Establishment of the Ironwood Forest National Monument

By the President of The United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

The landscape of the Ironwood Forest National Monument is swathed with the rich, drought-adapted vegetation of the Sonoran Desert. The monument contains objects of scientific interest throughout its desert environment. Stands of ironwood, palo verde, and saguaro blanket the monument floor beneath the rugged mountain ranges, including the Silver Bell Mountains. Ragged Top Mountain is a biological and geological crown jewel amid the depositional plains in the monument.

The monument presents a quintessential view of the Sonoran Desert with ancient legume and cactus forests. The geologic and topographic variability of the monument contributes to the area's high biological diversity. Ironwoods, which can live in excess of 800 years, generate a chain of influences on associated understory plants, affecting their dispersal, germination, establishment, and rates of growth. Ironwood is the dominant nurse plant in this region, and the Silver Bell Mountains support the highest density of ironwood trees recorded in the Sonoran Desert. Ironwood trees provide, among other things, roosting sites for hawks and owls, forage for desert bighorn sheep, protection for saguaro against freezing, burrows for tortoises, flowers for native bees, dense canopy for nesting of white-winged doves and other birds, and protection against sunburn for night blooming cereus.

The ironwood-bursage habitat in the Silver Bell Mountains is associated with more than 674 species, including 64 mammalian and 57 bird species. Within the Sonoran Desert, Ragged Top Mountain contains the greatest richness of species. The monument is home to species federally listed as threatened or endangered, including the Nichols turk's head cactus and the lesser long-nosed bat, and contains historic and potential habitat for the cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl. The desert bighorn sheep in the monument may be the last viable population indigenous to the Tucson basin.

In addition to the biological and geological resources, the area holds abundant rock art sites and other archeological objects of scientific interest. Humans have inhabited the area for more than 5,000 years. More than 200 sites from the prehistoric Hohokam period (600 A.D. to 1450 A.D.) have been recorded in the area. Two areas within the monument have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Los Robles Archeological District and the Cocoraque Butte

Archeological District. The archeological artifacts include rhyolite and brown chert chipped stone, plain and decorated ceramics, and worked shell from the Gulf of California. The area also contains the remnants of the Mission Santa Ana, the last mission constructed in Pimeria Alta.

Section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431) authorizes the President, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and to reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

WHEREAS it appears that it would be in the public interest to reserve such lands as a national monument to be known as the Ironwood Forest National Monument:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. § 225, 16 U.S.C. § 431), do proclaim that there are hereby set apart and reserved as the Ironwood Forest National Monument, for the purpose of protecting the objects identified above, all lands and interests in lands owned or controlled by the United States within the boundaries of the area described on the map entitled "Ironwood Forest National Monument" attached to and forming a part of this proclamation. The Federal land and interests in land reserved consist of approximately 128,917 acres, which is the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

All Federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of this monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, or leasing or other disposition under the public land laws, including but not limited to withdrawal from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing, other than by exchange that furthers the protective purposes of the monument.

For the purpose of protecting the objects identified above, the Secretary shall prohibit all motorized and mechanized vehicle use off road, except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes.

Lands and interests in lands within the proposed monument not owned by the United States shall be reserved as a part of the monument upon acquisition of title thereto by the United States.

The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the monument through the Bureau of Land Management, pursuant to applicable legal authorities, to implement the purposes of this proclamation.

The Secretary of the Interior shall prepare a transportation plan that addresses the actions, including road closures or travel restrictions, necessary to protect the objects identified in this proclamation.

The establishment of this monument is subject to valid existing rights.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the jurisdiction of the State of Arizona with respect to fish and wildlife management.

This proclamation does not reserve water as a matter of Federal law. Nothing in this reservation shall be construed as a relinquishment or reduction of any water use or rights reserved or appropriated by the United States on or before the date of this proclamation. The Bureau of Land Management shall work with appropriate state authorities to ensure that any water resources needed for monument purposes are available.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the rights of any Indian tribe.

Laws, regulations, and policies followed by the Bureau of Land Management in issuing and administering grazing permits or leases on all lands under its jurisdiction shall continue to apply with regard to the lands in the monument.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to revoke any existing withdrawal, reservation, or appropriation; however, the national monument shall be the dominant reservation.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of this monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this xxxxx day of xxxxx, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton

Ironwood Forest National Monument

Scale 1:300,000



 Ironwood Forest National Monument

Land Status

-  BLM
-  BOR
-  Indian Lands
-  Military
-  NPS
-  State
-  Private

6/5/2000

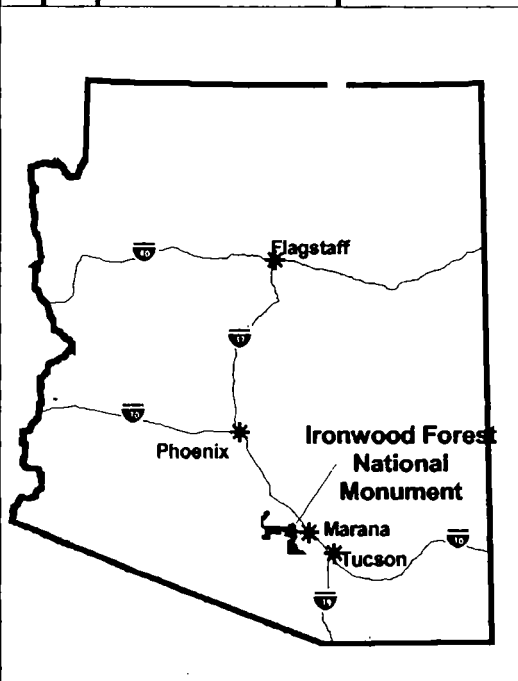
*Chulchu

*Eloy

*Picacho

Ironwood Forest National Monument

Marana *



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