

GL00679



# Wilderness Review

*Initial Inventory  
of  
Public Lands Administered by  
Bureau of Land Management*

**Decision Report**  
September 1979



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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IN REPLY REFER TO  
8500 (931)

SEP 28 1979

Dear Citizen:

We appreciate your interest in the Bureau of Land Management's wilderness review. The response from the public to our initial inventory proposals has been gratifying. Information provided by people like yourself has been useful in making the final decision on which public lands should be intensively inventoried, and which should be dropped from any further review. This report constitutes the decision.

In the intensive inventory that will begin soon, BLM teams will more closely scrutinize the inventory units remaining in the review to see if they merit classification as Wilderness Study Areas. This intensive inventory is scheduled for completion in the summer of 1980. Ultimately, Congress will make the decision on which of our public lands deserve wilderness designation, but its decision will only follow more intensive public participation. In the meantime, we can assure you that BLM will continue to provide an objective review in carrying out the mandate given us by Congress in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Thank you again for your interest. Once the intensive inventory is completed, we will contact you again with proposals and solicit your comments before making any decision about which public lands, if any, should be classified as Wilderness Study Areas.

If you have questions or want to discuss the lands in any of these units, please contact the appropriate BLM District Manager.

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Acting State Director

Decision on Initial Wilderness Inventory  
Arizona

Introduction

This report announces the decision of the State Director of the Bureau of Land Management concerning the initial wilderness inventory of public lands in Arizona. In this report we describe the environment and explain our decision on each inventory unit that received public comment. The comment period, from April 24, 1979, to August 3, 1979, provided us with information that in some cases changed our original proposal for some inventory units. In these cases we summarize the reasons for the change in our proposal.

Background: The BLM Wilderness Review

The review of public lands for wilderness values is mandated by the Congress in Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The law requires BLM to make recommendations to the Congress on which public lands--if any--deserve the special protection that only Congress can provide with wilderness designation. The review includes roadless parcels of public land of at least 5000 acres, all roadless islands regardless of size, and roadless parcels of public land adjacent to existing or proposed wilderness administered by another federal agency, again regardless of the size of the parcel.

The review is a step-by-step process. In the initial inventory, lands which "clearly and obviously" lack the wilderness characteristics required by law were sorted out from lands which may contain those qualities. The next step, which is about to begin in Arizona, the intensive inventory, involves BLM teams visiting the lands remaining under review to verify their wilderness characteristics. The intensive inventory will be fully underway by October 1979, and we expect to complete it in June, 1980.

At that time we will again present our proposals to the public. We will make proposals that some lands which do not have wilderness qualities be dropped from further review. We will also propose that some lands which we find do have wilderness qualities be designated "Wilderness Study Areas."

After 90 days of public comment on our proposals, we will make our decision on which lands should be designated Wilderness Study Areas. Then, in the "study" phase of the review, we will examine other factors. The U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Bureau of Mines will conduct mineral surveys so that we have a complete understanding of the mineral resources of particular units. We will also study the effect wilderness designation by Congress would have on surrounding communities and on other resources. And, we will recommend what the best use is for the land. All of this information will be compiled into an "environmental statement" covering each Wilderness Study Area.

The purpose of the many steps in the review is to find, in a methodical way, the areas which the BLM should recommend to the Congress and involve the public throughout the review. The record of public comment is a significant part of the review, and will be included with the recommendations eventually made to Congress.

The law requires BLM to make its recommendations to the President by October 1991. The President then must make his recommendations to the Congress by October 1993.

Interim Management Policy

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act, in addition to requiring the review of public lands for their wilderness qualities, also requires that during the inventory and study phases of the review, all BLM land under review must be managed to prevent impairment of potential wilderness values. Consequently, these lands are subject to an "interim management policy" to protect the physical and aesthetic qualities that might make land suitable for wilderness designation. This protection lasts until an area is dropped from the review. Once land is dropped from wilderness consideration, it returns to multiple-use management without restrictions protecting wilderness values. If designated by Congress, the area will be managed under the objectives of the Wilderness Act; the Interim Management Policy will no longer apply.

In January 1979, the BLM published an interim management policy proposal in the Federal Register. Comments on the proposal were accepted until March 1979 and are now being reviewed in Washington, D.C. A final policy is expected to be released in the near future.

Typical Questions Answered

During the public comment period following the "initial inventory", we received many questions about the BLM wilderness review. Here are some of the most commonly-asked questions.

Q. Why is BLM trying to make wilderness?

A. BLM is not making any wilderness. We have just completed the initial part of an inventory of wilderness values on all BLM-administered lands. Only Congress can designate a wilderness.

Q. Why is BLM doing this inventory?

A. BLM is required to do the inventory by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, Section 603. You may obtain a copy of the law from any BLM office.

Q. Who wants wilderness anyway?

A. Many people feel that certain, special places deserve to be preserved in their natural state for not only future generations of Americans but also to protect wildlife and plant life that depend on wilderness for their survival. Wilderness can be a living heritage we leave for our descendants. Congress wants the BLM to find which, if any, of the public lands deserve this special status.

Q. What kind of restrictions would wilderness designation bring?

A. The main restriction would prohibit motorized equipment and vehicles. But, grazing, rock-hounding, hunting, and mining would continue, although locating new mining claims would be prohibited after December 31, 1983. Entry on foot or horseback, of course, is permitted. Wilderness areas are not closed to the public.

Q. What about range improvements?

A. Range improvements can be made in wilderness areas, so long as the improvements do not permanently impair the wilderness values of the place. And, the improvements would have to be made without the use of motorized equipment or vehicles.

Q. What is the initial inventory?

A. It is the first part of the wilderness review. In it, the BLM looked for areas that clearly and obviously did not have wilderness qualities, and sought to eliminate those areas from further consideration as soon as possible. Areas were dropped from the review if they were too small (less than 5000 acres, generally), or had roads or other man-made improvements that obviously detracted from the wilderness qualities of the area.

Q. How can we affect the BLM review?

A. Our recommendations are based on criteria set forth in the "Wilderness Inventory Handbook." You can get a copy at any BLM office. By applying the criteria in this handbook to areas which interest you, you can make your own recommendations to the BLM. In many cases we have heard from people who are intimately familiar with particular inventory units. Their first-hand knowledge is valuable to us.

Q. But isn't your mind already made up?

A. Definitely not. The BLM wants to conduct an objective examination of the public lands, based solely on the criteria in the inventory handbook, but we do not pretend to know everything there is to know about every single acre of public land. That's why we need your help.

Q. Does what we say really matter?

A. Yes. Even the criteria for the inventory were developed with extensive public participation. And, we never make decisions about the fate of parts of the public land without hearing your first-hand information on those lands, and hearing your opinion of our recommendations. All of the comments we have received and will receive from the public will be part of the record that the President and the Congress consider - and your information and opinions will be very important.

Q. If you do consider public comment, and we tell you not to inventory some land, then why will you do it anyway?

A. Unless the public comment we received was specific and mentioned things that would physically disqualify an area, the BLM must conduct an intensive inventory of the unit to prove that it either does or does not have wilderness values. While, in the end, your opinion on the concept of wilderness will be important to the Congress at this stage, the BLM needs specific information about specific places and their particular features and qualities. That kind of information is the most useful you can provide the BLM.

Special Inventory Areas

Special inventory units have previously undergone an "accelerated" inventory for various reasons such as facilities and projects that warrant special consideration. These units have been given new numbers so that their special status is more apparent on the map entitled "Intensive Inventory Areas" (September 1979).

<u>New Unit Number</u>	<u>Number Used on Map Entitled "Proposals for Intensive Inventory" (April 1979)</u>
W1-1	SP 14
W2-1	SP 2-135
W2-2	SP 2-128
W2-3	SP 2-129
W2-4	SP 2-127
W2-5	2-95
W5-1	5-7B

Intermountain Power Project

A proposal to construct a complex of electrical transmission lines from power plants in Utah through the extreme northwest corner of Arizona resulted in this special inventory of wilderness values. Unit Number W1-1 was tentatively identified as a Wilderness Study Area following public comment on that inventory. However, a comment received later indicated that a road dissected the unit. This was verified and the boundary of the proposed Wilderness Study Area has been adjusted. The extreme west end of the unit is dropped from further consideration due to its small size. The proposed Wilderness Study Area is now 16,410 acres in size.

Palo Verde-Devers Transmission Line

Units W2-1, W2-2, W2-3, and W2-4 were identified as proposed Wilderness Study Areas in this special inventory to provide wilderness characteristics information for an environmental statement. (The statement is being prepared for a proposed electrical transmission line from the Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant to Devers, California.) Comments received during the initial inventory comment period reported a road in Unit W2-4, the Little Horn Mountains. The road was verified and found to cut off the southern end of the proposed Wilderness Study Area. The south end is now Inventory Unit 2-127. The area remaining in Unit W2-4 is 21,300 acres in size.

Crossman Peak Project

The Federal Aviation Administration has proposed to construct an air navigation radar facility in western Arizona. Two alternative sites include Crossman Peak (Unit W5-1) and the Harquahala Mountains (W2-5). A detailed report on the Crossman Peak project is available separately.

Inventory Unit Report

We received comment from the public on most of the 486 inventory units in Arizona shown on the attached map. There were a few units, however, that did not receive any comment and will be treated as we originally proposed. We list those units below. (By "dropped" we mean the unit will be dropped from further review just as originally proposed; by "in" we mean the unit will remain scheduled for intensive inventory.)

Arizona Strip District  
 Unit #1-14; 6,053 acres; in  
 1-15; 5,708 acres; in  
 1-17; 17,408 acres; in  
 1-24; 5,171 acres; in  
 1-142; 384 acres; dropped

Safford District  
 Comments were received  
 on all Safford District  
 units

Phoenix District

Unit #2-123; 5,700 acres; dropped  
 2-149; 12,000 acres; dropped  
 2-150; 15,400 acres; dropped  
 2-151; 6,000 acres; dropped  
 2-152; 6,700 acres; dropped  
 2-153; 17,600 acres; dropped  
 2-154; 8,000 acres; dropped  
 2-159; 16,080 acres; dropped  
 2-162; 8,700 acres; dropped  
 2-165; 3,000 acres; dropped  
 2-166; 4,600 acres; dropped  
 2-174; 7,800 acres; dropped

Yuma District

Unit #5-1; 2,560 acres; dropped  
 5-2; 640 acres; dropped  
 5-4; 960 acres; dropped  
 5-9; 4,960 acres; dropped  
 5-10; 1,600 acres; dropped  
 5-18; 480 acres; in  
 5-19; 3,200 acres; in  
 (except for part originally  
 proposed to be dropped)  
 5-35; 2,880 acres; in  
 5-41; 6,080 acres; dropped  
 5-50; 40 acres; dropped  
 5-51; 20 acres; dropped  
 5-52; 10 acres; dropped

The following chart represents a summary of the results of the initial inventory.

District	PROPOSED (acres) Before Comment Period		DECISION (acres) After Comment Period		Percentage of Total Lands to be Considered Further
	To be Considered further as Wilderness	To be Dropped From Further Consideration	To be Considered Further as Wilderness	To be dropped From Further Consideration	
Arizona Strip	2,221,300	378,700	2,054,800	545,200	79 percent
Phoenix	2,418,400	4,181,600	2,602,300	3,997,700	39 percent
Safford	321,600	1,146,000	298,100	1,169,500	20 percent
Yuma	637,000	581,300	562,200	656,100	47 percent
Arizona Total	5,598,300	6,287,600	5,517,400	6,368,500	46 percent

Following is a brief description of each of the units which received public comment, along with our analysis of the comment and decision on how the unit will be treated in the intensive inventory.

Arizona Strip District

1-6 Ferry Swale 26,502 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is contiguous to the Paria Canyon Primitive Area and contains rugged sandstone formations in its western portions. The eastern portion contains gentler sandy slopes. The vegetation is desert shrub and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Same comments referred to the influence of a large powerline along the unit's eastern boundary. Others stated that the unit contained outstanding wilderness values. Some comments received regarded other resources or were too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusions

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-7 Glen Canyon 3,098 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is gently rolling to slightly broken in the north. The vegetation is desert shrub and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Some comments referred to the powerlines along the unit's southern boundary while another mentioned outstanding solitude in the area and another mentioned its small size. Reference was made to other resources not a part of the initial inventory.

Conclusions

Since proposals were made in April, Utah BLM has accelerated the study of the contiguous lands in Utah. They were determined not to be wilderness in character. This left the unit at less than the required size for further consideration. The entire unit has been dropped from further review.

1-8 Paria Plateau 118,365 Acres

This unit contains sharp topographic relief in some areas while others are more gently broken, creating low mesas and buttes. There are several areas where sandstone cliffs jut abruptly out of the Paria Plateau. Additionally, there are several small sinks in several locations along the Plateau. Vegetation consists principally of pinyon-juniper with a few pockets of Ponderosa pine and others of cold desert shrubs and grasses.

Summary of Comments

Comments received indicated the area has outstanding wilderness qualities. Roads were mentioned in the coyote springs and Poverty Flat areas. Other resource values were mentioned and will be appropriately considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

Field verification confirmed the presence of roads in the Coyote Springs area but found only ways in the Poverty Flat Area. The portion west of the roads near Coyote Springs is dropped from further consideration. The unit is contiguous to lands in Utah that have been intensively inventoried and found to contain wilderness values. It is also contiguous to the Paria Canyon Primitive Area and Vermillion Cliffs Natural Area. Portions of the Dominguez-Escalante and Honeymoon Trails are found in the unit. It will be intensively inventoried.

1-9 Emmett Wash 25,856 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is gently rolling in the western portions becoming considerably broken on the eastern edge where it is contiguous with Grand Canyon National Park. Vegetation consists of desert grasses and low shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments favored further consideration of this unit during the review process. A comment relating to highway improvement will be appropriately considered later in the review.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-10 House Rock Valley 15,437 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is gently rolling to slightly broken plains in the western part of the unit. The east is contiguous to the Grand Canyon National Park and contains much more broken topography. Vegetation consists principally of desert grasses and shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments supported further consideration in the review process.

Conclusion

This unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-11 Buffalo Range 25,139 Acres

Description of Environment

The vegetation generally consists of grasses and some low shrubs. The terrain is gently rolling in the north, becoming more broken to the south and east in the unit.

Summary of Comments

Comments noted information already known. Other comments provided information that cannot be used during this phase of the wilderness review.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-12 North Canyon 8,550 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain ranges from relatively flat plains in the east to rolling foothills in the west. The vegetation consists of desert grasses and shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments indicated that the unit contained scenic areas and is contiguous to the Grand Canyon National Park. Other comments received provided information that cannot be used during this phase of the wilderness review.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-13 Seegmiller Canyon 11,264 Acres

Description of Environment

The topography includes low rolling plains in the east, rising to foothills and washes to the west. Vegetation consists of desert grasses and shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments mentioned ranch road locations.

Conclusion

The roads in the unit were verified. They and other associated impacts reduced the size of the natural portions of the unit to less than 5,000 acres. Therefore, the unit will be dropped from further review.

1-16 Big Ridge 6,912 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is dominated by a large rounded ridge that extends north to south across the center of the unit. The area around the ridge is generally sloping. Vegetation is principally pinyon-juniper and associated plants.

Summary of Comments

Comments focused on the question of whether a route along the southeast boundary of unit 1-18 was a road. Comments also questioned the status of routes along the southwest boundary of this unit.

Conclusion

The route along the southwest boundary of this unit was found to be a road. This unit was therefore not enlarged, but will be intensively inventoried.

1-18 Corral Valley 12,074 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is rolling sandy hills and valleys. Pinyon-juniper and shrubs and grasses are the predominant vegetation.

Summary of Comment

Comments stated that the triangle between this unit and units 1-16 and 1-8 should be included in this unit since the triangle is roadless. Comments also reported that the route along the southeast boundary of this unit is not a road but merely an unmaintained way.

Conclusion

The reported way was found to be just that, and so the triangular area between this unit, including the addition, will be intensively inventoried.

1-19 Big Pocket 17,024 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is rolling sandy hills with a few small mesas and flat open areas. The vegetation consists mostly of pinyon-juniper and associated shrubs and grasses.

Summary of Comments

Some comments were made that will more appropriately be used later in the review process. Another stated there were roads in the unit.

Conclusion

Some ways but no additional roads were located in the unit. This unit, therefore, will undergo intensive inventory.

1-20 Kaibab 11,990 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is rolling hills over the entire unit. It is dissected by many small drainages. The vegetation is primarily sagebrush and other low shrubs and grasses.

Summary of Comments

Several comments discussed powerline influence and other improvements in the unit which were already known. Other comments addressed factors that will be addressed later in the review process.

Conclusion

Since no new information was provided, this unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-21 Pine Hollow Canyon 12,755 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is gently rolling hills in the west, changing to a series of deeply eroded slopes in the east. The vegetation ranges from pinyon-juniper and sagebrush.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received that disagreed with the proposal to eliminate the area south of the unit from further inventory. Roads in the unit were also mentioned. An additional general comment will be considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

The area south of the unit will not be intensively inventoried since no new information on it was provided. There are two short roads in the unit but they do not bisect the unit and so, it will undergo intensive inventory.

1-22 Buckskin Mountains 9,064 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is relatively level in the higher areas in the south but becomes more dissected to the north, sloping gently to the northwest. The vegetation is a mixture of sagebrush and pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Several comments referring to powerline influences were received. There were also comments regarding roads in the area. Other comments provided information which cannot be used during this phase of the wilderness review.

Conclusion

There are ways in the area but no additional roads were located. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-23 Pasture Canyon 13,850 Acres

Description of Environment

Gentle sloping alluvial areas are found in the northwest part of the unit. Rolling hilly terrain in higher elevations give way to deep canyons. Vegetation is principally pinyon-juniper and cold desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Several comments received provided information which will be used later in the review process. There were also comments regarding roads in the unit.

Conclusion

No roads were verified. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-25 LeFevre Canyon 19,712 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is generally hilly to the southeast but is more broken to the northwest. The vegetation is principally sagebrush and associated plants.

Summary of Comments

Comments discussing improvements within the unit were received. There were also several comments that could not be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Still others addressed different resources that are appropriately considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-26 Muggins Flat 17,894 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain of the unit varies from a broad, gently-sloping central basin to broken terrain and a small plateau in the north. Vegetation is mainly sagebrush and associated shrubs with pinyon-juniper occurring on the plateau and scattered areas in the east.

Summary of Comments

Comments discussing known improvements were received. Other comments received provided information that will be considered during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The improvements cited in the specific comments were already judged to not significantly impair the wilderness values of the unit. Since no new information was provided, the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-27 Shinarump Cliffs 11,996 Acres

Description of Environment

The northern half of the unit is mostly juniper and sagebrush communities on a plateau above the Shinarump Cliffs which run along the center of the unit. The southern half is mostly cold desert shrub and grassland on broken hills below the plateau.

Summary of Comments

Comment was received that discussed the solitude available in the unit.

Conclusion

The comment was too general to be used in the initial inventory and so will be deferred to the intensive inventory when additional factors are considered.

1-28 Wildcat Canyon 39,933 Acres

Description of Environment

The area is predominantly sagebrush covered, low rolling hills dissected by many small drainages and Wildcat Canyon. Pinyon-juniper are scattered in the south and east parts of the unit.

Summary of Comments

Comment was received discussing the solitude available in the unit. Other comment referred to information already noted during the initial inventory. There were also very general comments received which will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

Since no new information was provided and since other comments were of a general nature, the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-29 Pigeon Canyon East 18,755 Acres

Description of Environment

Vegetation ranges from pinyon-juniper in the higher regions in the east to cold desert shrubs and scattered juniper in the west. The terrain in the east is broken by ridges and drainages. The central portion is cut by Pigeon Canyon while the west and north portions are relatively flat. The southern boundary follows the rim of Snake Gulch.

Summary of Comments

Comment received discussed information already known. Comments also addressed factors which will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The factors discussed in the comments were already judged to not impair the wilderness values of the unit. Since no new information was provided the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-30 Little Cedar Knoll 10,320 Acres

Description of Environment

The area is covered principally with cold desert shrubs with small areas of juniper and grass. The terrain is rolling to steep hills dissected by canyons and drainages.

Summary of Comments

Several specific comments were received concerning areas that had been proposed to be dropped from further review. Other comments could not be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking and were deferred to the intensive inventory. Still other comments will be appropriately considered later in the review.

Conclusion

Since no new information was received, the areas of the unit proposed to be dropped from further review will be, and the remainder of the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-31 Kanab Creek 47,645 Acres

Description of Environment

Kanab Canyon attains a depth of several hundred feet and contains several side canyons east and west of it that provide most of the topographic relief in the unit. The area back from the canyon rims is broken in some areas and gently rolling in others. Vegetation is principally the cold desert shrub and grass community.

Summary of Comments

Several comments addressed information already known. Others presented information that could not be utilized or verified during this phase of the inventory but will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

Since the information provided was already known, the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-32 Scotts Hole 11,264 Acres

Description of Environment

The area is a rolling sagebrush covered flat.

Summary of Comments

Comments regarding the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation were received. They were too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking and were deferred to the intensive inventory. Other comments will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-33 Hack Canyon 76,353 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit contains parts or all of several canyons, including Hack Canyon, Grama Canyon, Water Canyon, and Chamberlain Canyon. Topographic relief varies approximately 1,500 feet. Most of the unit is extremely rugged with several ridges and spires present. A portion on top of the plateau above the canyon is somewhat broken to rolling. Vegetation varies considerably throughout the unit. Sagebrush and other cold desert shrubs are present as are yucca, pinyon-juniper, grasses, and other associated plants.

Summary of Comments

Some comments mentioned specific road locations in the unit. Other comments addressed wilderness criteria only in general terms or voiced interest in factors that will be addressed later in the review process.

Conclusion

A field check found ways, but no roads in the unit. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-42 Sandridge 18,227 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a flat plain covered with blue gramma and other grasses.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory. Another comment agreed with dropping the unit from further consideration.

Conclusion

The unit will not be reviewed further.

1-43 Upper Canyon 4,637 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a flat plain covered with saltbush and grassland species.

Summary of Comments

Several specific comments addressed wilderness criteria, especially the naturalness and roadlessness of the area. Other comments were too general to be useful in this phase of inventory.

Conclusion

A road and several impacts on naturalness were verified. The unit will not be intensively inventoried.

1-44 Big Warren 10,905 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a flat plain covered with saltbush and grassland species.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

Since no new information was provided, the unit will be dropped from further review as proposed, April, 1979.

1-45 Wild Band Pockets 7,706 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is primarily flat except for some hills and a minor ridge. The vegetation types are mainly saltbush and grassland species.

Summary of Comments

Specific comments were received stating locations of reservoirs and dikes. Other comments were too general to be considered until the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

Several reservoirs and dikes were located in the unit and were found to significantly impact the naturalness of that portion of the unit. Therefore, that portion was excluded from further review. The remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-46 Big Dike 18,265 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is comprised of a large flatland covered with a grassland community.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

Since no new information was provided, the unit will be dropped from further review as proposed in April, 1979.

1-47 Swapp 9,022 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is mostly flat with some hilly areas. The vegetation is a grassland community with a few shrubs interspersed throughout.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

The portion of the unit identified as meeting the basic wilderness criteria will be intensively inventoried, as proposed in April, 1979.

1-48 Hancock Knolls 7,909 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is hilly with many knolls. The vegetation consists of pinyon-juniper and sagebrush.

Summary of Comments

Specific comments were received regarding the presence of roads in the unit. Other general comments will be field checked in the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

No roads were verified. However, the cumulative effect of several improvement reduced the size of the unit that will be intensively inventoried.

1-49 Broad Canyon 4,122 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is flat to rolling interrupted by the Toroweap Cliffs and Broad Canyon on the east. The vegetation consists of pinyon-juniper and some grassland.

Summary of Comments

The general comments received will be applicable later in the review process.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-50 Toroweap 5,427 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain ranges from a flat valley in the east to steep slopes and knolls in the west. Vegetation ranges from sagebrush in the east to pinyon-juniper in the west.

Summary of Comments

General comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They will be incorporated in the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-51 Mount Logan 18,608 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consist of generally level terrain with scattered knolls, a large eroded basin and a volcanic mountain. Vegetation is primarily ponderosa pine and pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Some of the comments received were too general to be verified without intensive field work. They will be deferred until the intensive inventory. Other comments dealt with resources other than wilderness and will be appropriately considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding roads and water developments were also received.

Conclusion

Specific comments regarding roads were field checked and the roads were found to be either ways within the unit or boundaries of the unit itself. Water developments reported were judged to not significantly affect the wilderness values in the unit. The unit will therefore undergo intensive inventory.

1-52 Mt. Trumbull 9,413 Acres

Description of Environment

Mt. Trumbull dominates this unit with the remainder of the terrain being hills and knolls. The vegetation is primarily pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine.

Summary of Comments

Some of the comments received were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field work. Other comments dealt with resources other than wilderness and will be considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-53 Marshall Ranch 5,555 Acres

Description of Environment

The topography is generally rolling with hills and knolls. The vegetation is principally pinyon-juniper and sagebrush.

Summary of Comments

Some comments were either too general or gave information that could not be utilized during the initial inventory. Specific comments received mentioned road locations and a stock reservoir location.

Conclusion

Field work determined that the routes mentioned are ways and the stock reservoir does not substantially impair the area. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-54 Little Toroweap 4,710 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of rolling, hilly terrain with a vegetative cover of pinyon-juniper and grassland.

Summary of Comments

The comment received agreed with the proposal to remove the area from wilderness consideration.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

1-55 Pugh Knoll 20,302 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is rolling and hilly with several cinder cones. The vegetation consists of pinyon-juniper and sagebrush.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and listing other man-made improvements were received. They were too general to be verified without intensive field work. They will be deferred until the intensive inventory. Specific comments regarding roads, fences and a reservoir were also received.

Conclusion

Field work determined the reported roads were ways. Other improvements were known and determined to not impair the unit's naturalness. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-56 Crosby Tank 8,320 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of cinder cones, knolls and rolling hilly terrain covered with pinyon-juniper and sagebrush plant communities.

Summary of Comments

Some comments received were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Values other than wilderness were mentioned, and will be considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-57 Nicholas 14,993 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain consists of rugged broken hills with evidence of volcanic extrusives in some areas. The majority of vegetation is a sage brush community with areas of pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be considered in the initial inventory without intensive field work and will be deferred until the intensive inventory. Specific comments regarding roads, fences, and stock reservoir locations were also received.

Conclusion

Field work determined the routes to be ways. Other improvements were known and determined not to impair the unit's naturalness. The unit will undergo intensive inventory.



1-58 Hurricane Cliffs 36,071 Acres

Description of Environment

The Hurricane Cliffs is the dominant topographic feature with areas of gentler relief above and below. The vegetation ranges from grassland through sagebrush to pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Comments listing roads and other man-made improvements were received, but were too general to be verified without intensive field checking. This will be deferred until the intensive inventory. Other comments dealt with resources other than wilderness and will be appropriately considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding roads were also considered.

Conclusion

The routes mentioned were determined to be ways during field checking. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-59 Vinkaret 43,059 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is characterized by extensive volcanic features such as cinder cones and lava flows. The area is relatively level with a vegetative cover of grassland, sagebrush and saltbush.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments dealt with non-wilderness resources that will be considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding roads, reservoirs, corrals, dike and other impacts were also received. Some comments referred to improvements on adjacent land.

Conclusion

Field work determined the routes mentioned to be ways. Many of the other improvements were already known and found to not impair the unit's naturalness. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-60 Cabin Valley 6,272 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is undulating plains with scattered small, grass-covered knolls.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Another comment supported the decision to drop this unit from wilderness consideration.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

1-61 Clayhole 16,640 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is undulating plains broken in places by eroded hills. Vegetation is primarily saltbush and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comment received agreed with the decision to drop the unit from wilderness consideration.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

1-62 Flat Top 9,088 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has flat plains with a few small buttes and mesas. Vegetation is saltbush and associated species with areas of grassland in the north.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments provided information that could not be utilized during the initial inventory. Other comments dealt with non-wilderness resources. All these will be considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding roads, reservoirs, corrals, dikes, windmills, fences and a well were also received.

Conclusion

Field work determined the routes mentioned to be ways, except one that was determined to be a road but had already been dropped during preliminary findings. The other improvements did not substantially detract from the naturalness of the area. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-63 Rocks 8,960 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a flat plain broken by several intermittent streams and arroyos. Vegetation is saltbush and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments dealt with resources other than wilderness. These comments will be considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding roads, windmills, reservoirs, dikes, wells, and a corral were also received.

Conclusion

Field work determined the reported roads to be ways. The other impacts did not substantially detract from the naturalness of the area and so, the unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-64 Snake Pond 13,309 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has flat plains with several small washes and arroyos. Vegetation is saltbush, grasses and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Some comments dealt with non-wilderness resources and will be considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding the location of roads, reservoirs, corrals, wells, a ranch house, windmills and dikes were received.

Conclusion

As a result of field work, the routes were determined to be ways. The other improvements were already known and found to not detract from the unit's naturalness. Other improvements are on adjacent private land. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-65 White Packets 8,653 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has flat plains broken in the south by hills and washes. Vegetation is saltbush, grasses, and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments dealt with non-wilderness resources. These comments will be considered later in the review process. Specific comments that were received dealt with the location of roads, a windmill and a well.

Conclusion

The routes mentioned were determined by field checking to be ways. The other impacts did not substantially detract from the naturalness of the unit. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-66 East Antelope 6,029 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain is rolling plains dissected by intermittent washes. Vegetation is saltbush and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments dealt with non-wilderness resources. These comments will be considered later in the review process. Specific comments received dealt with a road leading to a windmill.

Conclusion

Field work determined that the road was a way and the windmill was covered in the Situation Evaluation. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-67 Atkins Well 6,451 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has flat plains with several hills and mesas. Vegetation is saltbush, grasses and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These will be deferred until the intensive inventory. Some comments dealt with resources other than wilderness and will appropriately be considered later in the review process. Some comments mentioned known improvements.

Conclusion

The improvements were already determined to not impair the unit's naturalness. The unit will therefore be intensively inventoried.

1-68 Spring Mountains 6,584 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a flat plateau cut by several deep canyons. Vegetation is pinyon-juniper with areas of sagebrush and grass.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred until the initial inventory. Some comments dealt with non-wilderness resources. They will also be considered later in the review process. A specific comment mentioned a road to a spring in the unit.

Conclusion

Field work determined the road mentioned to be a way. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-69 Caanan Gap 21,090 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a flat plateau with several rolling hills and covered by both pinyon-juniper forests and grasslands.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments dealt with resources other than wilderness. These comments will be considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-70 West Antelope 5,274 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a flat plain broken by several small hills and washes. Vegetation is saltbush and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Another comment identified a specific road. Several comments dealt with the naturalness of the unit.

Conclusion

As a result of verification of public comment, it was determined that a portion of the unit is unnatural in appearance. The remainder is less than 5,000 acres and so the unit will be dropped from further consideration.

1-71 Cottonwood Canyon 41,112 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces two plateaus separated by the 1,600 foot high Hurricane Cliffs with the upper plateau cut by two deep canyons. Desert shrub, grasslands, and sagebrush cover the area.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Some comments dealt with non-wilderness resources that will be considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding roads were also received.

Conclusion

Field work determined the roads to be ways. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-72 East Mesa 29,286 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes rugged, highly eroded hills with many isolated buttes and mesas. Creosote bush, desert shrub, and grasses cover the unit.

Summary of Comments

Some comments dealt with resources other than wilderness and will be appropriately considered later in the review process. Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. They will be deferred until the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-73 Quail Draw 10,440 Acres (1-73A)  
22,540 Acres (1-73B)

Description of Environment

The terrain consists of a large, basalt-capped plateau that drops steeply to rolling plains. Pinyon-juniper forests and sagebrush cover the unit.

Summary of Comments

Some comments dealing with non-wilderness resources were received and will be considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding roads were also received. Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. There were many comments dealing with the unit's naturalness.

Conclusion

As a result of public comment, the presence of roads and intrusions on naturalness were confirmed. The unit has been reduced in size and divided into two units that will be intensively inventoried.

1-74 Seegmiller 6,840 Acres

Description of Environment

The terrain consists of a high basalt-capped plateau sloping 3,000 feet down to rolling plains. Vegetative communities range from pinyon-juniper froests to creosote bush, and grasslands.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. They will be deferred until the intensive inventory. Some comments dealt with non-wilderness resources. They will also be considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-75 Blakes Pond 4,864 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has rolling plateau with several small buttes and covered with desert shrubs and grasslands.

Summary of Comments

General comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review, as proposed in April, 1979.

1-76 Gyp Pocket 7,275 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces rolling hills covered by grassland species.

Summary of Comments

Mention of non-wilderness resources was made in one of the comments. They will be considered later in the review process. None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-77 Nutter Pond 9,427 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes rolling hills that are cut by several deep washes. Desert shrubs and grasses cover the unit.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory. A comment dealt with non-wilderness resources. It will be considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-78 Lower Hurricane 5,018 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has rolling hills covered with grasses and desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory. A comment mentioned resources other than wilderness and will be considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-79 Navajo 4,996 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has rolling hills cut by several washes and covered by desert shrubs and grasses.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory. Non-wilderness resources were dealt with in the comment and will be considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-80 Hole-N-Wall 12,723 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has many flat mesas that are divided by deep washes. Vegetation consists of sagebrush, grasses, and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. A comment dealt with non-wilderness resources that will be considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding the location of roads were also received.

Conclusion

As a result of verification of public comment regarding the presence of roads bisecting the unit (northern portion), the unit has been reduced to 12,723 acres. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-81 Main Street 10,163 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has rolling hills covered by sagebrush, grasses and associated species.



1-89 Rocky's 6,451 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has rolling hills covered with sagebrush, grasses, and associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Other comments dealing with resources will be addressed later in the review.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-90 Jones Pond 6,886 Acres

Description of Environment

Topography consists of washes, cliffs, crags, and lava flows on the north facing slope of Poverty Mountain. Pinyon-juniper forests cover the unit.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments dealing with mineral resources were received. One comment did outline several specific man-made improvements. No comments in support of wilderness consideration were received.

Conclusion

The comment outlining specific man-made improvements supported the proposal to drop this unit from wilderness consideration. It will be dropped from further review.

1-91 Poverty Mountain 11,136 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes Poverty Mountain and Poverty Knoll with sagebrush, grass and pinyon-juniper communities.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-92 Whitmore 9,523 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes various canyons, cliffs, rolling hills and plant communities of pinyon-juniper and black brush.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

1-93 Parashant 36,378 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes Parashant Canyon and its surrounding rolling hills.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Statements of support for wilderness designation and comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review. Three comments reported one road and several man-made improvements.

Conclusion

The reported road was found to be a road and an intrusion on naturalness. The impact of this road on the unit's naturalness will be studied in the intensive inventory. The man-made improvements were previously known and found to not impact naturalness. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-94 2,945 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of cliffs, washes and hills in a pinyon-juniper black brush community.

Summary of Comments

Two comments were received, one comment, expressing support of wilderness designation, will be addressed later in the review. The other comment reported a road that traversed the unit.

Conclusion

The reported road was verified and the unit reduced to 2,945 acres. Since this resulting 2,945-acre unit is contiguous to the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, it will be intensively inventoried.

1-95 1,920 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes the east side of Parashant Canyon and its gently sloping west rim.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Statements of support for wilderness designation and comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review. One comment reported two roads.

Conclusion

The two reported roads already form the east and west boundary of the unit. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-96 49,279 (1-96) Grassy Mountain  
294 (1-96A) Dansil  
7,000 (1-96B) Gardner Reservoir

Description of Environment

The unit includes cliffs, canyons, plateau tops in a juniper community.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory statements supporting wilderness designation and comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review. Two comments reported two roads and man-made improvements.

Conclusion

The two reported roads were verified as maintained roads. These two roads divide unit 1-96 into three separate inventory units. The two new units are named Dansil Canyon, No. 1-96A, and Gardner Reservoir, No. 1-96B and have 294 and 7,000 acres respectively. Dansil Canyon meets the size requirement because it's contiguous with National Park Service lands proposed for wilderness designation. The remaining comments addressed man-made intrusions that were previously known and found to not impair the unit's naturalness. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-97 Castle Peak 10,698 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has Castle Peak and lava flows, vegetated with pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Statements supporting wilderness designation and comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review. One specific comment reported fences and stock tanks.

Conclusion

The impacts of the fences and stock tanks naturalness will be examined during the intensive inventory.

1-98 640 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has pinyon-juniper forests growing on gently sloping land. The unit borders an area under wilderness study in Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Statements supporting wilderness designation and comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-99 640 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has pinyon-juniper forests growing on gently sloping land. The unit borders an area under wilderness study in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-100 640 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has pinyon-juniper forests on gently sloping topography. The unit is contiguous to lands proposed for further wilderness study in Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-101 320 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit has pinyon-juniper forests on gently sloping topography. This unit is contiguous to lands proposed for further wilderness study in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-102 640 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of pinyon-juniper and related species on gently rolling topography. It is contiguous to lands proposed for further wilderness study in Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. The majority were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review. One comment reported a road.

Conclusion

The reported road is one of the unit boundaries. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-103 Burnt Canyon 6,400 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of relatively level terrain covered with pinyon-juniper, Indian ricegrass and other associated plant species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Statements supporting wilderness designation and comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-104 Salt House 49,522 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of vegetation ranging from cacti, yucca, and blackbrush in the lower elevations to pinyon-juniper forests in the higher elevations. The topography consists of steep slopes, high cliffs, and gently rolling terrain at the higher elevations.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Statements supporting wilderness designation and comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review. Two comments reported ten roads and several man-made improvements.

Conclusion

Nine of the reported roads are ways. The remaining road was verified and intrudes on naturalness. The impact of these nine ways and one road on unit naturalness will be studied in the intensive inventory. All of the man-made improvements were previously known and found to not affect naturalness. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-105 Snap Point 33,382 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of alluvial plains, deep canyons, benches and cliffs covered with a mixture of cacti, reosote, grasses, and pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Statements supporting wilderness designation and comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review. One comment reported four roads and several man-made improvements.

Conclusion

Three of the reported roads are ways. The remaining road was verified, and is an intrusion on naturalness. The impact of these three ways and one road on unit naturalness will be studied in the intensive inventory. All of the man-made improvements were previously known and found not to impair naturalness. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-106 1,280 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit contains creosote, yucca, cacti and other associated species scattered over an area of alluvial plains.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-107 Grand Gulch 8,141 Acres

Description of Environment

The area consists of small, basalt-covered mesas that drop away to broad alluvial slopes covered with creosote, cacti and other associated species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Statements supporting wilderness designation and comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-108 Little Arizona 16,930 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit contains a broad rolling alluvial plain cut by many washes and covered with creosote, cacti and related species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Comments dealing with mineral resources will be addressed later in the review. One comment reported three roads.

Conclusion

The three roads were found to be ways. The impact of these ways on unit naturalness will be studied in the intensive inventory.

1-109 Pigeon Canyon 33,643 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of broad alluvial plains, deep canyons, and rolling terrain covered with plant species such as creosote, cacti, and black brush.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. Some comments dealt with non-wilderness resources and will also be considered later in the review process. Specific comments regarding roads, mines, and water tank locations were also received.

Conclusion

Field work determined the routes reported to be ways. The mines reported were excluded from the unit in the initial inventory and are outside of the unit, and so are not affected by the review. The water tanks do not substantially affect the naturalness of the unit, although another portion of the unit was found to be essentially unnatural during a field check. The remainder of the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

1-110 Hidden Wash 19,950 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of rolling hills, basalt flows and cliffs with a vegetative cover of pinyon-juniper and black brush.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. These comments will be deferred to the intensive inventory. A comment addressing roads was also received.

Conclusion

The roads were found to be ways. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-111 Last Chance 38,460 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit's terrain is canyons, cliffs, steep slopes and rolling hills covered with pinyon-juniper and shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Some comments were too general to be considered without intensive field work. These have been deferred until the intensive inventory. Other comments dealt with roads and other man-made impacts.

Conclusion

A road was verified in this unit. It removed a portion of the unit from further consideration. The remainder will be intensively inventoried.

1-112 Grand Wash Cliffs 33,818 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit contains a ruggedly-eroded cliff line with broad alluvial plains below and gently sloping terrain on top. Vegetation consists of creosote, cacti, grasses, blackbrush and pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments dealt with other resources and will be considered appropriately during a later phase of the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-113 Olaf Knolls 25,702 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists mainly of gently-undulating plains cut by washes and topped with scattered knolls. Vegetation consists of grasses, Joshua trees, creosote and grasses.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments addressed resources other than wilderness and will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-114 Pakoon Springs 24,842 Acres

Description of Environment

Rugged terrain, broad alluvial plains and basalt-capped mesas covered with creosote, cacti and other associated species characterize this unit.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments dealt with resources not considered in this phase of the inventory. They will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-115 Cedar Wash 44,848 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit contains rolling terrain cut by deep washes with a vegetative cover of grasses, Joshua trees and some pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments addressed non-wilderness resources and will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-116 Nutter 6,835 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of rolling hills, canyons, and washes covered with pinyon-juniper and shrubs.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-117 Englestead 5,350 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit's topography is dominated by rolling, rocky hills covered by pinyon-juniper, shrubs, and associated grasses.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Information about other resources was received and will be considered later in the wilderness review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-118 Shoe Buckle 11,955 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of rolling hills with vegetation consisting of shrubs, pinyon-juniper, and associated grasses.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Comments about other resources will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-119 Hidden Rim 16,563 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes the Upper Grand Wash Cliffs and slopes with a pinyon-juniper and a Mohave Desert plant community.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Comments about other resources will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.



1-120 Mud Mountains 50,278 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is dominated by Mud Mountain and a rolling plain. Vegetation consists of pinyon-juniper, creosote, and other desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. References to other resources will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-121 Hecs Hole 20,045 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located on the east alluvial slopes of the Virgin Mountains. The vegetation varies from the Mohave Desert to the pinyon-juniper communities. Total overall vertical relief is 4,310 feet.

Summary of Comments

Several comments received were too general to be used during the initial inventory and were deferred to the intensive inventory. Other comments referred to specific roads and livestock improvements in the unit.

Conclusion

The reported roads were found to be ways and so the unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-122 Jacobs 5,706 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit consists of a long, 900-foot high ridge between two washes in a Joshua tree and pinyon-juniper community.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Reference to other resources will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-123 Jump Canyon 14,054 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is surrounded by canyons and is in a pinyon-juniper and black brush community.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Comments regarding mineral values will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-124 Hobble Canyon 13,942 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is in a pinyon-juniper sagebrush community with topographic features including canyons, washes, and other sloping hills.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Some comments did not apply to the situation within the unit. Still others mentioned the mineral resource which will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-125 Hobble Pond 17,126 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of rolling hills covered with pinyon-juniper and sagebrush.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Some comments about specific road locations were received.

Conclusion

There were no additional roads verified in the unit. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-126 Mustang Knoll 6,502 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit consists primarily of rolling terrain including Mustang Knoll. There has been considerable vegetative manipulation in the unit.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

The unit will not be intensively inventoried.

1-127 Ide Valley 8,400 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of rolling hills with pinyon-juniper, shrubs and associated species. There are a few winding canyons and a low cliff line.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other resources mentioned will be addressed later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-128 Sand Cove 42,936 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit contains a great variety of topographic features and vegetation. Five different plant communities cover mountain slopes, sand dunes, canyons and basalt boulder fields.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments specifically praised the wilderness qualities of the unit. References to mineral values will be considered at a later stage of the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-129 Virgin Mountains 46,976 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes the part of the Virgin Mountains, canyons, and alluvial slopes. Topographic relief varies considerably. Total vertical relief is approximately 4,575 feet. Vegetation also varies considerably from Mohave Desert to pinyon-juniper communities.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments specifically addressed the outstanding qualities of the unit. Still others addressed specific livestock improvements.

Conclusion

Nothing noted in the public comments reported anything that would substantially detract from the wilderness quality of the unit. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-130 Virgin River 17,507 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit consists of an alluvial plain covered by a Mohave Desert vegetative community.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments specifically addressed the wilderness values of the area. Still others referred to other resources that will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-131 Wolfs Hole 12,211 Acres

Description of Environment

The vegetation is primarily pinyon-juniper and associated species with some open, sagebrush flats. The terrain is generally of low relief in the east and south, becoming steeper and rugged to the west and north, finally reaching a basalt-capped plateau.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. There were other comments that will be used later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be studied intensively.

1-132 Purgatory 21,187 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes Black Rock Canyon and Little Purgatory Canyon. The rugged Black Rock Mountains are located along the units west edge. The vegetation varies from a desert community to a ponderosa pine community, including vegetation found in the transition between these communities.

Summary of Comments

Comments relating to the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Other comments dealt specifically with wilderness criteria. Still others referred to mineral resources and will not be used during this phase of the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-133 Mokaac Mountains 34,246 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit includes part of Wolf Hole Mountain and all of Mokaac Mountain. There are also numerous washes, canyons, gypsum hills, and gently rolling plains in the north. Vegetation varied considerably from desert shrubs to pinyon-juniper. Overall topographic relief in the unit is about 3,400 feet.

Summary of Comments

Comments relating to the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. References to other resources were deferred until the appropriate point in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-134 Lime Hills 35,976 Acres

Description of Environment

The topographic features include the rugged Black Rock Mountains, lower Sullivans Canyon, Purgatory Canyon, Black Rock Gulch, and numerous other deep and narrow canyons. The overall vertical relief is 5,153 feet. The vegetation varies from desert shrubs at lower elevations to ponderosa pine forests on the Black Rock Mountains.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Comments referring to other resources will be deferred until a later phase of the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-135 Narrows 14,643 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit includes part of the Virgin River Gorge, Beaver Dam Mountains, cliffs, and broad alluvial slopes. The vegetation is principally a Mohave desert community with many Joshua trees present.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Some comments referred to specific wilderness criteria. References to other resources will be considered later in the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-136 Mt. Emma 8,320 Acres

Description of Environment

Topography varies from the bottom of Whitmore Canyon, elevation 4,000 feet to Mt. Emma at 7,702 feet. The vegetation is pinyon-juniper with associated species such as sagebrush, cliffrose and grasses.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Comments praising the wilderness values of the unit were received. Other comments will be appropriately considered later in the review process.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-137

1,408 Acres

Description of Environment

Slide mountain, elevation 7,604 feet, occupies the entire unit. Its lowest slopes within this unit are at an elevation of 6,200 feet. The major vegetation type is pinyon-juniper. The unit is contiguous to Grand Canyon National Park lands that are proposed wilderness.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory. References to other resources will be considered at a later phase of the review.

Conclusion

The unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-138

614 Acres

Description of Environment

Entire unit is the side slope of the Toroweap Cliffs, elevation 6,280 down to Toroweap Valley, elevation 4,640. There is sparse vegetation which is mainly pinyon-juniper type. The south and east sides are contiguous to Grand Canyon National Park lands that are proposed for wilderness designation.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory. Reference to the size of the unit was also made.

Conclusion

When considered with the contiguous roadless area, this unit meets the size requirement for further consideration and so, the unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-139

1,485 Acres

Description of Environment

Part of Toroweap Valley, elevation 4,960 feet, and the Toroweap Cliffs, elevation 6,000 feet and the western half of Paradise Canyon occupy the major part of this unit. The majority of the vegetation is pinyon-juniper on the higher elevations with some sagebrush and grasses in the lower elevations. The eastern side is contiguous to a proposed wilderness in Grand Canyon National Park.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory. Reference was made to the small size of the unit.

Conclusion

Since this unit is contiguous to proposed wilderness in Grand Canyon National Park, it does meet size requirements, and so, the unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-140

1,446 Acres

Description of Environment

Hancock Knoll, elevation 6,450 feet, occupies most of this unit. Its lower slopes within this unit are at an elevation of 6,000 feet. The main type of vegetation is pinyon-juniper and associated shrubs and grasses. The entire southern boundary is contiguous to proposed wilderness in Grand Canyon National Park.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

Since the unit is contiguous to Grand Canyon National Park, it does meet size requirements. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-141

179 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is predominantly flat with pinyon-juniper being the main vegetation type. Sagebrush and grasses are also associated with this unit. The entire southern boundary is contiguous to a proposed wilderness in Grand Canyon National Park.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

This unit is contiguous to Grand Canyon National Park lands proposed for wilderness and, therefore, meets size requirements. It will be intensively inventoried.

1-143

2,266 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is on the Kaibab Plateau and is predominantly low rolling hills. The vegetation is mostly sagebrush and grasses with some pinyon-juniper. The southern boundary is contiguous to proposed wilderness in Grand Canyon National Park.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

Since the unit is contiguous to the Grand Canyon National Park lands proposed for wilderness, it meets size requirements. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-144

2,200 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is predominantly flat and is on the Kaibab Plateau. The main type of vegetation is sagebrush with associated shrubs and grasses. There is also some pinyon-juniper. The southern boundary is adjacent to Grand Canyon National Park.

Summary of Comments

Comment agrees with the proposal to drop unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

1-145

2,312 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is on the Kaibab Plateau and is predominantly flat. Vegetation is sagebrush and associated shrubs and grasses. There is some pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. A specific comment regarding roads was also received.

Conclusion

Field checks verified two roads in the west end. A portion of the unit was consequently dropped. Since the unit is contiguous to proposed wilderness in the Grand Canyon National Park, the remainder still meets size requirements. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-146

4,057 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is a flat plateau covered with sagebrush and associated species.

Summary of Comments

None of the comments received provided information that could be utilized or verified during initial inventory.

Conclusion

During verification of public comment, a road on the west end was observed which removes 115 acres of the unit. This unit is contiguous to proposed wilderness in the Grand Canyon National Park. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

1-147

June Heaton

6,720 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a flat plateau covered with sagebrush and related species.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They were too general to be incorporated in the initial inventory without intensive field checking. A specific comment regarding roads was also received.

Conclusion

As proposed, this unit will be dropped from further review.

Phoenix District

2-1

MOUNT WILSON

32,600 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-1 is the large volcanic mass of Mount Wilson, rising to 5,445 feet from the surrounding outwash plain. The majority of Wilson Ridge is in the unit and runs north-south, commanding the view from Lake Mead. A large outwash plain descends to Detrital Wash on the east. The vegetative cover is primarily creosote. The unit is adjacent to Unit #7 and H of the National Park Service's wilderness proposals at Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

Public comment was mixed. Several respondents questioned the lack of naturalness of the unit, while others suggested that there were outstanding wilderness opportunities present.

Conclusion

No specific information was received precluding wilderness characteristics. Therefore unit 2-1 will be intensively inventoried.

2-2

SQUAW PEAK

18,800 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is comprised of a broad outwash plain that forms the east side of the Detrital Wash valley. There are two low volcanic mountains that rise (Young Mountain and Squaw Peak) 1,200 feet above the valley floor. The vegetative cover is primarily creosote and occasional Joshua trees. Lake Mead National Recreation Area lies directly to the north.

Summary of Comments

Although some support for intensive inventory was stated, most comments referred to a lack of naturalness or characteristics defined in the Wilderness Act.

Conclusion

None of the comments questioning wilderness values contained specific information which could be used to alter the proposal. Therefore, unit 2-2 will be intensively inventoried.

2-3

TRAIL RAPIDS HILLS

10,200 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is comprised of several, low, round basalt hills running parallel to one another in a north-south direction. The surrounding bajada drains to Lake Mead to the north. The vegetation is sparse creosote with occasional Joshua trees. The unit is contiguous to Unit #9 of the National Park Service's Lake Mead wilderness proposals.

Summary of Comments

No specific, verifiable information appropriate to this stage of the review were received that would remove this unit from further consideration. General support for further inventory of this unit was mixed. Many of the comments addressed alternative land used.

Conclusion

Information received either was unverifiable or was not appropriate to this initial inventory phase. Therefore, unit 2-3 will be intensively inventoried.

2-4 CENTRAL DETRITAL VALLEY 8,240 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-4 is a low, sandy plain, part of the broad Detrital Valley. Vegetation is sparse and consists of a creosote-bursage community intermixed with occasional Joshua trees.

Summary of Comments

Nearly all comments suggested that this unit may possibly have wilderness character and that inadequate documentation to the contrary was provided to the public.

Conclusion

The initial proposal was to drop this unit from further consideration. However, a review of available information does not "clearly and obviously" disqualify the area. It, therefore, will be intensively inventoried.

2-5 SOUTH DETRITAL VALLEY 5,700 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-5 consists of a portion of the Detrital Valley. This is a low, sandy valley which rises gently nearly 1,000 feet (to 3,913 feet) to a series of small volcanic hills on the northeast edge of the unit. Vegetation is very sparse, consisting primarily of a creosote-bursage community with occasional Joshua trees and palo verde.

Summary of Comments

Nearly all comments suggested that this unit may possibly have wilderness character and that inadequate documentation to the contrary was provided to the public.

Conclusion

The initial proposal was to drop this unit from further consideration. However, a review of available information does not "clearly and obviously" disqualify the area. It, therefore, will be intensively inventoried.

2-6 POPE MINE 1,100 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-6 is the northern end of the ridge separating Detrital Valley from the Colorado River Valley. The ridge is a string of low volcanic hills with very little vegetation. The unit is contiguous to Unit D of the National Park Service's wilderness proposal for the Lake Mead National Recreation area.

Summary of Comments

Nearly all of the comment received supported dropping the unit from further consideration. A few of these comments contained location-specific information on intrusions. Some concern was expressed about the visibility of mining activity outside of the unit. It was pointed out that the unit was under 5,000 acres.

Conclusion

Although the unit is under 5,000 acres, size is not a factor since it adjoins another federal agency's wilderness proposal the unit will be intensively inventoried at which time specific information on intrusions will be verified.

2-7 VAN DEEMAN 2,200 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is just south of unit 2-6 and characterized by the same vegetation and topography. It is contiguous to Unit C of the National Park Service's wilderness proposal for the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

A mixture of opinions was received. Several comments remarked about historic mining activity in the unit and about the lack of solitude.

Conclusion

This unit is adjacent to another federal agency's wilderness proposal and because of the inconclusive comments will be intensively inventoried.

2-8 MOCKINGBIRD 5,700 acres

Description of Environment

This unit straddles the north-south ridge of the Black Mountains five miles north of Mount Perkins. A series of small volcanic peaks separate the flat upper reaches of Detrital Valley on the east from the more dissected and rocky plain descending to the Colorado River on the west. The unit is adjacent to Unit #3 of the National Park Service's wilderness proposal for the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

There were a mixture of comments about naturalness and solitude for this unit. Several specific comments were received about a maintained road leading into the unit.

Conclusion

This unit is adjacent to another federal agency's wilderness proposal and due to the inconclusive nature of comments will be intensively inventoried. Specific information will be verified during the intensive inventory phase.

2-9 NORTH BLACKS 19,800 acres

Description of Environment

This unit begins 4 miles south of Mount Perkins and comprises about 8 miles along the ridge of the Black Mountains. The northeast corner of the unit is a broad, flat plateau draining into the Detrital Valley. The western ridge of that plateau breaks into isolated peaks that drop precipitously 2,000 feet to the volcanic plain just east of the Colorado River. The unit is adjacent to Unit B of the National Park Service's wilderness proposals for the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

The majority of comments expressed the general belief that this area did not have wilderness qualities. Specific information regarding "roadlessness" or "naturalness" was received. Intrusions affecting the opportunity for solitude or unconfined primitive recreation were pointed out.

Conclusion

Although specific information received suggested that a portion of the unit may not qualify, this was not sufficient to significantly alter the proposal to intensively inventory this unit. This information will be checked. During the intensive inventory.

2-10 BURNS SPRINGS 29,700 acres

Description of Environment

This is a southern continuation of unit 2-9. The ridge top of the Black Mountains rise somewhat more steeply, cresting in colorful spires and cliff faces. The western edge of the unit parallels Lake Mohave along the Colorado River drainage three miles distant. This is a very rocky, volcanic bajada with little vegetation. Burns Springs Canyon bisects the unit.

Summary of Comments

The majority of comments expressed the general belief that this area did not possess wilderness qualities. However, no information regarding "roadlessness" or "naturalness" was received.

Conclusion

Since specific information regarding "roadlessness" or "naturalness" was not received, this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-11 WHITE HILLS 11,200 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-11 consists of the southwestern extent of the White Hills and a small part of the Detrital Valley. Elevation rises approximately 700 feet to the White Hills along the northeast side of the unit. The vegetation is creosote and desert scrub, with a few Joshua trees along the eastern edge.

Summary of Comments

One comment discussed roads outside of the unit while another supported wilderness status.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No valid doubt was raised about the rationale behind that conclusion. This unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-12 PACKSADDLE 14,560 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is made up of alternating ridges and washes rising on the western edge of the Cerbat Mountains. Desert scrub occurs at the lower elevations, mixing into juniper and pinyon above 4,000 feet. An occasional conifer can be found on the north slopes of ridges. There is a 3,800 foot elevation change in the unit.

Summary of Comments

There were several specific comments on roads and intrusions, most of which were actually outside the unit. Concern was expressed about the general evidence of man in the western portion of the unit.

Conclusion

Specific comments dealt with intrusions either outside the unit or on its edges. These intrusions are unverified, but are not considered significant enough to warrant an alteration in our original decision to intensively inventory the unit.

2-13 CHLORIDE 9,300 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-13 rises from the fringes of the Sacramento Valley from nearly 1,300 feet to 5,000 feet along the southern ridge of the Cerbat Mountains. The lowlands are dominated by desert scrub which yields to juniper and pinyon at higher elevations. The unit overlooks the historic mining townsite of Chloride.

Summary of Comments

One comment suggested that this unit met each wilderness criterion. The only other comment documented roads and mine-related intrusions on the south portion of the unit.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No valid doubt was raised about that conclusion. This unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-14 GRAPEVINE WASH 2,200 acres

Description of Environment

This is a small unit at the base of the Grand Wash cliffs. The rocky outwash plain is bisected by Grapevine Wash. The vegetation is predominantly creosote and Joshua trees, with palo verde in the drainages. Unit 2-14 is contiguous to Unit #22 of the National Park Service's wilderness proposal for the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received which stated that the area is natural. Opinions about values required in the Wilderness Act were mixed. It was pointed out that the unit was under 5,000 acres in size.

Conclusion

Although this unit is under 5,000 acres, it is adjacent to another federal agency's wilderness proposal and will be intensively inventoried.

2-15 GRAND WASH CLIFFS 12,400 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is north of the Music Mountains and shares its eastern boundary with the Hualapai Indian Reservation. The unit contains the dramatic face of the Grand Wash Cliffs, and the edge of a plateau that drops 2,000 feet into the Hualapai Valley. The western side of the unit is a series of spires and crags separated from the higher cliff. The upper plateau is a rolling plain of mountain shrub and pinyon-juniper woodland.

Summary of Comments

A variety of comments and opinions was received concerning our original proposal. Some very explicit information including photographs and detailed maps suggesting the presence of wilderness values, as well as others giving locations of intrusions and access roads was received.

Conclusion

A field check of this unit showed that a substantial part of specific intrusions information was either inaccurate or did not adequately apply BLM's road definition. Therefore, this area will be intensively inventoried.

2-16 RED LAKE 7,260 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-16 is part of the Hualapai Valley at the base of the Grand Wash Cliffs. This flat unit rises less than 200 feet and is adjacent to the northeast corner of Red Lake, a dry alkaline bed. Vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of grasses, saltbush, and creosote.

Summary of Comments

Although comments were received supporting this unit for further consideration, they appeared to refer to an area outside of the unit. Other comments agreed with the initial proposal.

Conclusion

The initial proposal was that this area "clearly and obviously" did not meet wilderness qualifications. Contrary to comments supporting the unit, a field check found the unit substantially intruded and bisected by status and a road so that it no longer meets the 5,000 acre requirement. It is concluded that it will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-17 MUSIC MOUNTAINS 28,500 acres

Description of Environment

This unit bordering the Hualapai Indian Reservation is the western edge of a high desert plateau rising from the Grand Canyon to form the Music Mountains. Portions of the Grand Wash Cliffs are also in the unit, dropping nearly 2,000 feet in less than 1-2 mile. The predominant vegetation is sagebrush and pinyon-juniper.

Summary of Comments

Comments received provided conflicting information and opinions concerning naturalness and values required in the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Conclusion

The sharply conflicting comments demonstrate that it is not "clear and obvious" that the unit possesses no wilderness values. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-18 TRUXTON 7,600 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-18 is dominated by a low bluff looking west 1,500 feet above a grass plain 3-1-2 miles east of Truxton. To the east the table land is creased by washes and small hills covered with juniper and pinyon.

Summary of Comments

Comments suggested that the BLM did not adequately document the lack values required by the Wilderness Act in the unit. Comment was also received regarding the presence of roads in the unit.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. A review of the Situation Evaluation and a field check of the area corroborated the initial proposal. The flat and vegetatively uniform character of the unit provides only limited opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-19 ROCK CANYON 5,540 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-19 is essentially a southern continuation of Unit 2-18. A low bluff to the west end of the unit divides a grassy plain from a juniper upland.

Summary of Comments

Several comments suggested that the BLM had misapplied wilderness criteria to this unit. A comment was also received on the roads bordering the unit.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. The low opportunity for solitude is based in part on the lack of topographic screening and not on the lack of outstanding topography. The opportunities for a limited number of recreational activities is moderate and not unique. A review of the Situation Evaluation and a field check of the area corroborated the initial proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-20 COTTONWOOD HILLS 6,660 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-20 is a gradual sloping plain that rises to the south up to 5,083 feet in elevation. Pinyon-juniper and chaparral dominate the rolling hills above the plain.

Summary of Comments

A comment suggested that wilderness criteria were misapplied. A comment concerning the boundary roads was also received.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. The low opportunity for solitude is based in part on the lack of topographic screening and not on the lack of outstanding topography. The opportunities for a limited number of recreational activities is moderate and not unique. A review of the Situation Evaluation and a field check of the area corroborated the initial proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-21 MOUNT DAVIS 2,500 acres

Description of Environment

This unit consists of four land parcels contiguous to National Park Service's Unit #3 wilderness proposal within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. The unit's topography consists of low volcanic mountains and sloping bajada from the outwash plain of Mt. Perkins to the east. The area supports only sparse vegetation, primarily creosote.

Summary of Comments

Little substantive comment was received for this unit, though most respondents expressed an opinion that the unit did not meet wilderness criteria. Several comments indicated the unit was under 5,000 acres.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried, due to the lack of specific information.

2-22 SENATOR MOUNTAIN 8,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-22 consists of a portion of a plain which rises gently toward Senator Mountain three miles southwest of the unit. Numerous shallow washes cross the unit. Vegetation is sparse and consists of desert scrub with occasional Joshua trees.

Summary of Comments

No substantive comment was received for this unit.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt was not raised concerning this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-23 THE PINNACLES 10,460 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-23 just east of Lake Mohave contains a dramatic razorback ridge of volcanic pinnacles rising nearly 1,000 feet above the Sacramento Valley. This unit within the Black Mountains contains a mesa with a long, narrow canyon bounded by steep bluffs and a long flat valley. A mixed desert scrub vegetation with palo verde, creosote, and cholla predominates.

Summary of Comments

Although generalized support was generated for the unit, most comments were statements on the lack of wilderness value in the unit. Only one location-specific comment on intrusions was received.

Conclusion

The existence of a windmill and road in Section 35 was by itself not sufficient to preclude further inventory. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-24 MOUNT NUTT 26,600 acres

Description of Environment

The Black Mountains cross southwesterly through this unit rising to their highest elevation (5,215 feet) at Mt. Nutt. The range then drops 2,000 feet to the Sacramento Valley floor. Steep cliffs, spires, and deep canyons characterize this unit. Evidence of aboriginal habitation can be found in the hundreds of caves within the perennial spring fed canyons. Vegetation varies from Mohave desert scrub in the Sacramento Valley to pinyon-juniper and oak at the higher elevations.

Summary of Comments

Public sentiment towards further inventory of this unit was mixed. All specific comment received addressed intrusions outside the unit except for several comments on mining intrusions in the southeast corner of the unit.

Conclusion

Specific, substantive comment did not address anything which would allow us to drop any portion of the unit at this time. However all obviously unnatural areas of significant mining disturbance would not meet the necessary criteria. A boundary correction will be made on the west end of the unit. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-25 CATHEDRAL ROCK 16,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-25 is 2 miles northwest of Oatman within the Black Mountains. The unit is dominated by Oatman Mountain and Cathedral Rock rising nearly 2,000 feet above the valley floor. Numerous volcanic spires fall to the west into a rocky creosote bajada. Vegetation consists of a creosote-bursage community with palo verde, saguaro, and cholla.

Summary of Comments

Although some support was generated for further inventory of this unit, an overwhelming number of comments addressed a lack of wilderness values in the unit. In addition, however, several comments provided location-specific information concerning noticeable mining activity and roads.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as potentially meeting wilderness criteria. Field verification of substantive public comment has led to the conclusion that the unit, as a whole, is essentially unnatural. Therefore, this unit will not be intensive inventoried, and is dropped from further review.

2-26 DAVIS DAN SOUTHEAST 8,560 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-26 is a portion of a bajada which rises gently toward the Black Mountains. The bajada, which rises about 500 feet within the unit, is cut by numerous large, well-channeled washes. A creosote-bursage community predominates with dispersed ocotillo.

Summary of Comments

Several comments were received stating the opinion that the area did not merit further consideration.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. None of the comments received questioned BLM's proposal. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-27 BOUNDARY PLAIN 8,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-27 is a part of a bajada and rises approximately 400 feet toward the Black Mountains to the east. Several washes drain west across the unit toward the Colorado River. There are extensive sand dunes on the west edge of the unit. The vegetation is sparse consisting primarily of a creosote-bursage community with ocotillo.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received opposing further consideration of this unit.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Questions about BLM's proposal were not raised. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-28 WARM SPRINGS 132,000 acres

Description of Environment

This large unit south of Oatman contains a variety of topographic features. The Black Mountains rising 3,714 feet traverse the center of the unit. Dominant features include McHeffy Butte, Ute Mountain, Boundary Cone, and Black Mesa. Characteristically steep volcanic spires and rugged canyons predominate. A central valley in the unit is cut by Warm Springs Wash. The vegetation is creosote-bursage and mixed desert scrub with palo verde and stands of ocotillo and cholla.

Summary of Comments

Comments on this unit were mixed. Some detailed the natural and roadless condition of the area. Others pointed out specific intrusions and intruded areas on the north and west boundaries. There were also comments which simply either opposed or supported BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as requiring further inventory. Specific comments, after field checking, allowed areas not meeting wilderness criteria on the north and west boundaries to be dropped from further inventory. Other comments pointed to lack of documentation for dropping eastern portions of the unit. For this reason, all but 8,600 acres along the north and west sides will be intensively inventoried.

2-29 FRANCONIA 11,000 acres

Description of Environment

This unit penetrates into the south central portion of the Warm Springs unit (2-28) just north of the community of Franconia. The unit includes the southern tail of the Black Mountains consisting of various volcanic hills with hogbacks opening to a bajada. Numerous washes and a small valley cut the southern portion of the unit. Vegetation consists primarily of mixed desert scrub and cacti.

Summary of Comments

Comments received on this unit dealt primarily with the unit being not outstanding, but were not substantive. Support for intensive inventory as well as a question of the validity of trimming off fringes of areas in the initial inventory without adequate documentation was received.

Conclusion

A portion of this unit was initially proposed for intensive inventory. Comments were received questioning the validity of BLM's rationale for elimination of a portion of the unit. To properly document presence or absence of wilderness values, this entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-30 MILLTOWN 5,100 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-30 is a continuation of the bajada of unit 2-27 and slopes gently to the west. Sand dunes are present along the west boundary of the unit. Vegetation consists primarily of a creosote-bursage community with scattered ocotillo.

Summary of Comments

No substantive comment was received.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not generated. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-31 BADLANDS 14,700 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-31 consists of a volcanic plain highly dissected by numerous washes. A colorful badlands topography occurs in the south and west portions of the unit. The vegetation is sparse and consists of a creosote-bursage community with dense stands of cholla.

Summary of Comments

No substantive comment was received.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not generated. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from an further review.

2-32 FIVE MILE WASH 6,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-32 is a continuation of a large basalt flow at the foot of the Black Mountains. The flow slopes toward the southwest with approximately 200 feet in elevation change. The flow is cut by several deep washes. Creosote, ocotillo, and saguaro predominate, interspersed with basalt boulders. The vegetation is very sparse palo verde-saguaro community. The plain gradually descends to a colorful badlands devoid of vegetation.

Summary of Comments

One comment supporting further consideration of this unit was received.

Conclusion

This area was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" lacking wilderness values. No valid objection was raised against this determination. Therefore, this area will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from an further review.

2-33 CERBAT PEAK 6,800 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-33 consists of a volcanic plateau north of Kingman. The plateau is cut by several large washes which drain Brian Mountain and Cerbat Peak. The unit also includes part of Bull Mountain, a steep volcanic mesa which lies in the southeast corner of the unit. Juniper scrub dominates the vegetation.

Summary of Comments

Several comments were received concerning intrusions in the area.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not generated. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from an further review.

2-34 LOCKOUT SPRING 8,360 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-34 consists of small, rocky volcanic hills which rise from 3,000 feet to 4,906 feet in elevation. The vegetation consists primarily of a sparse palo verde-saguaro community with stands of creosote and chollas.



Summary of Comments

All comment received agreed with BLM proposals.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-35                                  YELLOW FLOWER                                  21,700 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-35 includes the northwest portion of the Hualapai Mountains approximately one mile west of Hualapai Peak. The unit rises precipitiously 2,000 feet in 3-1/2 miles from 2,900 feet along Black Rock Wash to the west to 4,959 feet in elevation. The Hualapai Mountains are dissected by numerous steep rocky canyons and contain several large gneiss outcrops. Vegetation is of both Upper and Lower Sonoran Life Zones as well as both Sonoran and Mohave desert scrubs. A palo verde-saguaro, Joshua tree-creosote, open and closed chaparral, and a juniper-pinyon mix community all occur within the unit. There is some ponderosa at the east edge in the higher elevations.

Summary of Comments

Numerous comments were received on this unit. Several comments supported intensive inventory of the unit, but others provided specific information on intrusions in the area.

Conclusion

This unit was initially recommended for intensive inventory. A field check of comments, however, has verified the existence of numerous criss-crossing jeep trails within the unit, the cumulative impact of which renders the unit unnatural. Therefore, this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-36                                  DRAKE                                  10,800 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-36 is a small portion of the Sacramento Valley. The plain slopes gently to the southwest and is dissected by a few shallow washes. Vegetation is dominated by a sparse creosote-bursage community.

Summary of Comments

All specific and general comments received support the BLM proposal that this area was not in a natural condition.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-37                                  WABAYUMA PEAK                                  22,700 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-37 consists of a portion of the central Hualapai Mountains west of Borianna Canyon. The unit in 6 miles rises dramatically from 2,600 feet on the desert to the west to 7,601-foot Wabayuma Peak. A series of massive ridges extending west and south from the peak are strikingly punctuated by outcroppings, spires, and crags. These rise precipitiously above the numerous deep canyons and large basins. Vegetation within the unit includes both the Upper and Lower Sonoran Life Zones as well as the transition life zone. Palo verde-saguaro, Joshua tree-creosote, open and closed chaparral, juniper-pinyon mix, and oak-pine communities are represented within the unit. The unit represents a overlap of Mohave and Sonoran desert scrubs.

Summary of Comments

A large amount of comment was received both supporting and opposing further consideration of this unit. Very little comment supplied specific information.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed for intensive inventory and was examined under an accelerated inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All comments were taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-38                                  BEE SPRING                                  8,100 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-38 is along the east side of the deep Borianna Canyon. Part of a bajada cut by several washes and a small portion of a plain is also within the unit. Vegetation varies from a dense palo verde-saguaro community with Mohave desert scrub influence in the lower elevations, to chaparral, pinyon, and possibly isolated stands of ponderosa pine along the crest.

Summary of Comments

Both specific and general comments received support the BLM proposal that this area is not in a natural condition. Many comments addressed later phases of the review.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No valid doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-39                                  DETRITAL VALLEY                                  16,600 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-39 encloses a portion of Detrital Valley which slopes to the west with approximately 1,000 feet in elevation change. Vegetation is primarily a palo verde-creosote community with a few scattered Joshua trees.

Summary of Comments

The majority of comments received questioned the inadequate data and supported intensive inventory.

Conclusion

This unit was originally recommended as "clearly and obviously" lacking wilderness values. Valid doubts as to the BLM's application of wilderness criteria to this unit were raised. Therefore this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-40                                  THE BOUNDARY CONE PLAIN                                  6,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-40 consists of a portion of a bajada which rises approximately 600 feet to the west foothills of the Black Mountains. Vegetation is primarily a sparse palo verde-desert scrub community with dense stands of creosote and cholla.

Summary of Comments

No substantive comment was received.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-41                                  SECRET PASS                                  6,000 acres

Description of Environment

This unit consists of volcanic foothills west of the Black Mountains with some sandstone extrusions and circuitous sandy washes. The vegetation is primarily creosote-bursage community.

Summary of Comments

Comment was received which supported BLM proposal that the unit is not in a natural condition.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. This proposal was not questioned. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-42                                  TIPTON MOUNTAIN                                  8,100 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-42 is within the Cerbat Mountains approximately 7 miles north of Chloride. This unit is dominated by Mt. Tipton which rises to an elevation of 7,148 feet. Primarily the unit is the west face of the Cerbats and a sloping bajada down to the Detrital Valley. Vegetation graduates from a creosote plain to the pinyon-juniper belt and isolated stands of Ponderosa pine.

Summary of Comments

Comment received both supported and opposed further consideration of this unit. There was specific information presented on private land ownership within the unit.

Conclusion

Land ownership as shown on the map for this unit reflects recent land exchange actions and is therefore correct. Other information could not be verified. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-43 WHISKEY BASIN 15,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-43 consists of a portion of the central Hualapai Mountains approximately 6 miles south and west of Hualapai Peak and 4 miles north of Wabayuma Peak. The unit rises steeply from the desert floor to the west to 5,410 feet at the highest point. The numerous ridges and peaks are capped with dramatic outcrops which tower above the surrounding canyons. Biologically, the unit is of both the Upper and Lower Sonoran Life Zones with small isolated areas of transition life zone. Vegetative communities represented include palo verde-saguaro, Joshua tree-creosote, open and closed chaparral, juniper-pinyon mix, and some oak-pine.

Summary of Comments

The large response to this unit was mixed in its support of BLM's original proposal. Opinions as to the presence of '2c' values were conflicting. Several comments documented the existence of roads and intrusions.

Conclusion

This unit was examined under an accelerated inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. The comment received is reflected in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-44 DELUGE WASH 7,600 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-44 consists of a portion of a detrital outwash plain. The upper end of the unit consists of numerous, tightly spaced, low lying hills. The vegetation is uniformly sparse consisting of palo verde-saguaro and creosote-bursage communities.

Summary of Comments

All comment received agreed with the BLM proposal that the opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive recreation were not outstanding.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not expressed. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-45 LOWER GUNSIGHT CANYON 9,900 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-45 consists of a portion of a bajada on the east slope of the southern Hualapai Mountains. The unit slopes uniformly 700 feet to the Big Sandy River. The vegetation consists of palo verde-saguaro and creosote-bursage communities with a few dense cholla stands.

Summary of Comments

All comment received agreed with the BLM proposal that the opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive recreation were not outstanding.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not expressed. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-46 NATURAL CORRALS WASH 21,300 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-46 includes a portion of the east slope of the southern extension of the Hualapai Mountains and portions of a bajada and alluvial plain which slope down to the Big Sandy River near Wikieup. The unit is characterized by a large alluvial plain and bajada dissected by several broad, sandy washes, and by the rocky hills which rise westwardly up to three peaks near the 4,700 foot level. Vegetation is of both the Upper and Lower Sonoran Life Zones and includes a palo verde-saguaro, with Mohave Desert influence, and chaparral communities.

Summary of Comments

Comment received on this unit contained both specific information on intrusions and support for intensive inventory.

Conclusion

This unit was examined under the accelerated inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. The comment received was taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-47 UPPER GUNSIGHT CANYON 6,500 acres

Description of Environment

The major features of unit 2-47 are several of the lower peaks of the Hualapai Mountains, a narrow portion of the Gunsight Mountains, and several steep, exposed canyons in the northern portion of the unit. Except for Gunsight Canyon, the entire unit consists of very steep slopes. The vegetation consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community with many dense cholla stands.

Summary of Comments

Comments received did not provide specific information, but all supported BLM's proposal that the unit lacks wilderness potential.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not raised. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-48 DUGWELL CANYON 18,900 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-48 is located 9 miles west of Wikieup on the east slope of the southern extension of the Hualapai Mountains. The hills rise westwardly from 3,700 feet in Stove Spring Canyon to 5,817 feet at the highest point. The ridges are dominated by craggy outcrops of granite and gneiss. Vegetation within the unit is of Upper Sonoran Life Zone. This consists of a chaparral community with juniper, and some pinyon above 4,600 feet.

Summary of Comments

Comments on this unit were mixed. Several comments addressed relative outstandingness while others addressed intrusions within the unit.

Conclusion

This unit was examined as part of an accelerated inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. Comments were taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-49 BRONCO CREEK 7,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-49 consists of several volcanic hills with plain and portions of old lake terraces. The vegetation consists primarily of palo verde-saguaro community.

Summary of Comments

Comment received supported BLM's original proposal but did not contain specific information.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not raised. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-50 POTTS MOUNTAIN 5,400 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-50 is dominated by Potts Mountain, a 3,378-foot volcanic plug which rises symmetrically 1,200 feet above the surrounding terrain. To the west of the mountain are two parallel northwest-trending ridges which rise to 3,000 feet and are characterized by many precipitous faces. Vegetation is primarily a palo verde-saguaro community with Joshua trees and bigelow nolina (an agave).

Summary of Comments

The little comment that was received on Potts Mountain was mixed and general.

Conclusion

This unit was examined as part of an accelerated inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. Comments were taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-51	DUTCH FLATS	18,500 acres	<u>Summary of Comments</u>	2-56	BLACK MESA	21,700 acres	<u>Description of Environment</u>
<u>Description of Environment</u>			Comment was mixed in its support for intensive inventory. Much of it addressed relative outstandingness of recreational opportunities. No specific information was received concerning naturalness or roads.	<u>Description of Environment</u>			Black Mesa is located 3 miles northwest of Alamo Lake and consists of a large southwest sloping mesa surrounded by bajadas. The east side of the mesa has precipitous walls which rise over 900 feet to Eagle Point at 3,420 feet in elevation. The mesa top is dissected by numerous small canyons. The vegetation is of the Lower Sonoran Life Zone and consists of a dense to sparse palo verde-saguaro community with Joshua tree and bigelow nolina (an agave).
Unit 2-51 consists of a small portion of Dutch Flat, a large, sandy plain. The unit slopes gently (approximately 400 feet in 6 miles) to the southwest and is cut by several interlacing washes. The vegetation includes a palo verde-saguaro community with Joshua trees, and creosote-bursage communities.			<u>Conclusion</u>	<u>Summary of Comments</u>			<u>Summary of Comments</u>
<u>Summary of Comments</u>			This unit was examined as part of an accelerated inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All comments were taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.	Most of the comments stated that the area was unnatural due to roads and mines. It was also suggested that parts of the unit had been eliminated arbitrarily and without justification.			<u>Conclusion</u>
Comments were received which stated that the ecological values of the area had been overlooked and that there had been a violation of BLM procedures in applying the wilderness criterion to this area.			2-54	AUBREY PEAK	17,300 acres	<u>Conclusion</u>	
<u>Conclusion</u>			<u>Description of Environment</u>			This unit was examined under the accelerated inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. The comment received was taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.	
This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Valid doubt was expressed about this decision. Therefore, this unit needed to be intensively inventoried. The unit was examined as part of an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All comment was taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.			Unit 2-54 is characterized by a series of rugged volcanic buttes, dikes, and plugs, with precipitous cliffs and intricate canyons. The elevation rises from 1,800 feet on the southern bajada to over 3,200 feet. A two-mile stretch of Centennial Wash runs through the eastern edge of the unit. The vegetation consists of a dense palo verde-saguaro community with Joshua tree and bigelow nolina (an agave). Along Centennial Wash there is a desert scrub riparian community.			This unit was examined under the accelerated inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All comments were taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.	
2-52	CASTANEDA HILLS	23,000 acres	<u>Summary of Comments</u>	2-57	CENTENNIAL WASH	9,900 acres	<u>Description of Environment</u>
<u>Description of Environment</u>			Little specific information was received on intrusions. Most of the comments received indicated the presence of wilderness values. Several addressed later phases of the review criteria for dropping northern portion of unit was questioned.	<u>Description of Environment</u>			Unit 2-57 consists of a small network of highly-eroded gneiss hills. These rise gently nearly 800 feet (to 2,385 feet) above the surrounding lowlands. South of these hills the terrain consists of a low southwest-draining outwash plain composed of numerous parallel sandy washes separated by steep narrow ridges. Centennial Wash runs along the western edge of the unit. The vegetation is uniformly sparse (except for stretches of riparian habitat) and consists of a palo verde-saguaro and a creosote-bursage community. Along the wash a desert scrub riparian community of mesquite, ironwood, and smoke tree occurs.
Unit 2-52 consists of a series of rugged volcanic plugs and dikes surrounded by small hills to the north and by a large "outwash" plain to the south. Three dramatic peaks, of which 2,733-foot Castaneda Peak is the tallest, dominate the topography and stand as notable landmarks. The southern portion of the unit consists of several parallel sandy washes separated by small linear hills. The vegetation is of a very sparse palo verde-saguaro community to the north with a uniformly sparse creosote-bursage community to the south.			<u>Conclusion</u>	<u>Summary of Comments</u>			<u>Summary of Comments</u>
<u>Summary of Comments</u>			This entire unit was examined as a part of an accelerated inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All comments were taken into account in the resulting recommendation.	Comment received was mixed. Several location-specific comments stated that man's presence is evident while other comments endorsed the area's naturalness and opportunity for solitude.			<u>Conclusion</u>
A few specific comments regarding roads were received. General comments concerning BLM's proposal to intensively inventory were mixed. Many of these address concerns more appropriate to a later phase of the review.			2-55	BATEMAN SPRING	7,300 acres	<u>Conclusion</u>	
<u>Conclusion</u>			<u>Description of Environment</u>			This unit was subjected to an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All comments were considered in the resulting recommendation for the unit.	
This unit was subjected to an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. The specific comments received were taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.			Unit 2-55 encloses a small portion of the central McCracken Mountains, from 800 feet to 3,300 feet in elevation. Vegetation consists of a palo verde-saguaro community intermixed with a few Joshua trees.			This unit was subjected to an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All comments were considered in the resulting recommendation for the unit.	
<u>Summary of Comments</u>			<u>Summary of Comments</u>			<u>Summary of Comments</u>	
2-53			PLANET			11,800 acres	
<u>Description of Environment</u>			Comment received was general in nature and stated that this area does not meet wilderness criteria.			<u>Description of Environment</u>	
Unit 2-53 consists of two very different landscapes. The northern portion of the unit consists of a volcanic flow intricately dissected by washes which have cut small narrow canyons. The south is characterized by a large, highly dissected "hill and wash" plain which drains southwest into the Bill Williams River, 6 miles to the south of the unit. Vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community with a creosote-bursage community to the south.			<u>Conclusion</u>			Unit 2-58 consists of portions of two mountain ranges, the Rawhides and the Buckskins, separated by the Bill Williams River. The Rawhide Mountains are low hills composed of highly eroded gneiss and shist, and rise approximately 700 feet to an elevation of 2,430 feet. These hills are cut by several washes, most notably, Mississippi Wash. The uniform Buckskin Mountains rise from 1,700 feet in Butler Valley to the south to 3,927-foot Ives Peak. The Bill Williams River meanders for 8 miles through a steep 600-foot deep canyon between the two ranges. The vegetation is of the Lower Sonoran Life Zone and consists of palo verde-saguaro, creosote-bursage, desert scrub riparian, and cottonwood-willow communities.	
<u>Conclusion</u>			This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude this unit will <u>not</u> be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.			This unit was subjected to an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All comments were considered in the resulting recommendation for the unit.	

Summary of Comments

Comments received stated the opinion that this area deserves wilderness protection as well as the opinion that the area does not meet wilderness criteria for dropping portion of the unit from the intensive inventory. Several comments stated that man's presence is evident while others stated that the area is in its natural state. Comments supported BLM did not adequately document rationale.

Conclusion

This entire unit was subjected to an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All specific comments received for the initial inventory were considered in the resulting recommendation.

2-59 ARRASTRA MOUNTAIN 155,160 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-59 is a large diverse area in the southeast corner of Mohave County. The Poachie Mountains trend northwest-southeast in the north portion of the unit, and rise 2,200 feet to 4,807-foot Poachie Peak. The east end of the range is dominated by the rugged, outcropped peaks. The southern slopes of the range drop gently, cut by numerous washes, many with winding canyons. Several volcanic hills and mesas are typical of the south-central and west half of the unit, with Artillery Peak being the most spectacular. The Santa Maria River flows west through the southern portion of the unit and the Big Sandy River flows south near the west boundary. The confluence of the two rivers is just within the southwest corner of the unit. The vegetation is of both Lower and Upper Sonoran Life Zones. The major plant communities include palo verde-saguaro, desert scrub riparian, cottonwood-willow, mesquite bosque, and chaparral with juniper. The unit represents a transition zone between Sonoran and Mohave Desert plants, so that Joshua tree and other Mohave Desert plants occur within the palo verde-saguaro community.

Summary of Comments

Opinion expressed was mixed in its agreement with BLM's proposal. Intrusions as well as lack of intrusions in specific areas were noted. It was suggested that the outer fringes contained most of the intrusions while the inner area is natural with the exception of an area near Artillery Peak.

Conclusion

This entire unit was subjected to an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. Verified information on intrusions, as all as well other comments, is reflected in the resulting recommendation.

2-60 LOWER BURRO CREEK 21,700 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-60 is dominated by a large butte in the center of the unit, dissected by numerous deeply incised canyons with several overhangs, spires, and ridges. To the north the unit includes a part of a large basalt mesa with small, gentle hills on top, and dropping steeply into the heart of the unit. The east and south portions of the unit are dominated by Burro Creek which meanders 8 miles through the canyon. The canyon is generally wide. Stretches of the river flow through a deep canyon up to 800 feet below the mesa. The vegetation within the unit consists of both Lower and Upper Sonoran Life Zones. Palo verde-saguaro, cottonwood-willow, mesquite bosque, chaparral, mixed broadleaf riparian, arid grassland, and pinyon-juniper communities are represented within the unit.

Summary of Comments

In addition to the large number of conflicting opinions about the BLM's original proposal and the application of wilderness criteria, some specific comment concerning intrusions were received. The majority of the comments regarding rockhound use were of an area generally outside of the unit.

Conclusion

This unit was subjected to an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. Comments were taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-61 KAISER SPRINGS CANYON 10,800 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-61 is characterized by portions of several buttes which rise 1,000 to 1,400 feet above the surrounding open canyons, sandy washes, and rolling hills to the south. A narrow gorge, part of the Kaiser Spring Canyon, runs down the west boundary. The vegetation is primarily of Upper Sonoran Life Zone with the Lower Sonoran Life Zone represented in isolated stands. The major plant communities are arid grassland, open chaparral, and pinyon-juniper mix, with palo verde-saguaro in the warmer southern canyons.

Summary of Comments

Several specific comments on intrusions were received. The remaining comments were conflicting, some stating that the area contains crucial riparian habitat and others stating that the area has no wilderness values.

Conclusion

This unit was subjected to an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. Comments were incorporated into the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-62 UPPER BURRO CREEK 37,000 acres

Description of Environment

The northern portion of unit 2-62 is dominated by Goodwin Mesa, a rolling grassland mesa. The eastern portion is dominated by Burro Creek Canyon which runs the entire length of the eastern boundary. Elevations drop 1,500 feet in 1/2 mile over a series of vertical rock faces from Goodwin Mesa down to Burro Creek. The southwest portion of the unit consists of a series of rugged hills with a small butte rising 800 feet (to 4,975 feet) above the surrounding terrain. The vegetation consists of both lower and upper Sonoran Desert scrub with several riparian habitats. Within the unit palo verde-saguaro, cottonwood-willow, mesquite bosque, open chaparral, mixed broadleaf riparian, arid grassland, and pinyon-juniper mix communities occur. An unusual saguaro-juniper mix also occurs within the unit.

Summary of Comments

Conflicting opinions as to the naturalness of the unit as well as its ability to support opportunities for solitude or unconfined primitive recreation were received. Specific comments concerning boundary locations were received.

Conclusion

This unit was subjected to an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. Comments were taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-63 SANTA MARIA RIVER 11,350 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-63 consists of rugged peaks, rolling hills, and steep canyons. The Santa Maria River weaves in and out of the unit for approximately 5 miles. Elevation ranges from 2,200 feet to 4,100 feet at the highest peak. The southwest portion of the unit is dominated by a steep canyon with several tributary side canyons. Vegetation consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community with desert scrub riparian along the major washes. A cottonwood-willow community occurs along the Santa Maria River.

Summary of Comments

The comments received mostly expressed the opinion that the area lacked wilderness values, but none of the comments addressed specific intrusions.

Conclusion

This unit was examined as part of an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. Comments were taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-64 GOODWIN MESA 7,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-64 consists of a small irregularly-shaped fragment of Goodwin Mesa. The mesa is relatively flat with about 500 feet in elevation change occurring throughout the unit. A one-mile stretch of upper Francis Creek runs a southeastern spur of the unit. Vegetation consists primarily of an arid grassland on the mesa, and includes open chaparral, and a desert scrub riparian community along Francis Creek.

Summary of Comments

No substantive comment was received on this unit.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not raised. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-65 GREENWOOD PEAK 9,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-65 consists of a portion of the northwest extension of the Poachie Mountains with 4,339-foot Greenwood Peak the dominant feature. Small foothills with rocky outcrops, and bajadas flank Greenwood Peak. A portion of Burro Creek winds in and out of the unit to the north. Biologically, the unit is of the Lower Sonoran Life Zone with a transition to Upper Sonoran Life Zone occurring at the higher elevations. The unit supports a palo verde-saguaro community with the beginnings of an open chaparral community on Greenwood Peak.

Summary of Comments

This unit received contradictory comments concerning naturalness and other wilderness values. One substantive comment regarding intrusions was received.

Conclusion

This unit was originally recommended for intensive inventory and was examined under an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. Substantive comment is reflected in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-66 POACHIE PLAIN 6,400 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-66 consists of a small portion of the Poachie Plain north and east of the Poachie Mountains. The bajada slopes to the east and is cut by several shallow, sandy washes. The vegetation is primarily a palo verde-saguaro community with some Mohave Desert influence.

Summary of Comments

Most comments were general opinions. All comment agreed with the BLM proposal to not inventory this unit.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt was not raised about this determination. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-67 PINE CREEK 9,900 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-67 consists of the upper reaches of Burro Creek Canyon with several intricate side canyons. The east end of the unit is a mesa with elevations over 6,000 feet. The vegetation is varied and consists of pinyon-juniper and chaparral communities with cactus stands on the south-facing slopes and ponderosa pine on the north-facing slopes.

Summary of Comments

Although a comment supported BLM's original proposal, the majority of comments received questioned the inappropriateness of BLM's application of wilderness criteria, the lack of documentation, and supported further inventory.

Conclusion

This unit was originally recommended as "clearly and obviously" lacking wilderness values. Valid doubts as to BLM's application of wilderness criteria to this unit were raised. Therefore, this unit needed to be intensively inventoried. The unit was examined as part of an accelerated intensive inventory for the Hualapai-Aquarius Environmental Statement. All comment was taken into account in the resulting recommendation for the unit.

2-68 PEOPLES CANYON 3,520 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is separated from the larger Arrastra Mountain (2-59) unit by the state-owned Burro Springs Canyon. The unit consists of the eastern portion of the Arrastra Mountains. Numerous intricate and colorful canyons are presently fed by perennial spring flow. The perennial water of Peoples Canyon supports a well developed cottonwood-willow riparian community. Outside the stream channel of the canyon vegetation is mixed desert scrub with palo verde, saguaro and cholla.

Summary of Comments

Many comments either were general opinions or were more appropriate to a later phase of the process. Comments concerning wilderness values were contradictory. It was pointed out that the unit is less than 5,000 acres.

Conclusion

The mixed comment on the unit indicates that any absence of wilderness values is not obvious and clear. There appears to be sufficient support for consideration of this unit despite its small size. We conclude that this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-69 BULLARD WASH WEST 27,600 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-69 encloses part of the Butler Valley, a broad, sandy plain. The plain slopes gently, about 700 feet to the southeast, and is traversed by several mesquite and palo verde washes. A small group of hills which rise approximately 800 feet in elevation is located in the southwest portion of the unit. The vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of a creosote-bursage community with very sparse stands of a palo verde-saguaro community.

Summary of Comments

Comments received supported BLM's original proposal. Most of the comments, however are more appropriate to a later phase of the review.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not generated. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-70 CENTRAL BUTLER VALLEY 6,100 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-70 is a small, crescent-shaped unit located in central Butler Valley. The valley is flat and sandy with a few shallow washes. Vegetation is uniformly sparse and consists of a creosote-bursage community.

Summary of Comments

Comments received supported BLM's original proposal. Most of the comments, however are more appropriate to a later phase of the review.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-71 BUCKSKIN MOUNTAINS SOUTH 78,700 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-71 is located approximately 6 miles south of the Bill Williams River in the Buckskin Mountains. The Buckskins traverse generally east-west across the unit. The highest peak in the unit is 3,015-foot Battleship Peak. Within the unit the topography varies from the broad, flat Butler Valley to rolling canyons and peaks. Vegetation includes palo verde-saguaro association, with teddybear cholla and ocotillo.

Summary of Comments

Although most comment received suggested the unit should not be considered further, no location specific comments were received. General opinion expressed was in opposition to further inventory. Comments were received questioning adequacy of documentation for dropping a portion of the unit.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed for intensive inventory. No substantive comments precluding wilderness consideration were received. As a result of documentation criticism, this entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-72 SYCAMORE MESA 5,600 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-72 borders Prescott National Forest just west of Dugas. The unit includes a sycamore mesa approximately 4,000 feet in elevation. Rolling hills and small canyons drop down from the mesa through the perennial Sycamore Creek drainage which empties in the Agua Fria River 4 miles west of the unit. Desert grassland and pinyon-juniper communities can be found on the mesa with scattered cottonwoods in the drainages.

Summary of Comments

Although the presence of wilderness values and naturalness were questioned, support for inventory was also expressed.

Conclusion

Comments concerning roads were not verifiable. Therefore this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-73 CACTUS PLAIN EAST 5,400 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-73 is a small part of the sandy Cactus Plain. A portion of Cunningham Wash runs near the south and west border of the unit. Vegetation is uniformly sparse and is primarily a creosote-bursage community.

Summary of Comments

No substantive comments were received on this unit. General opinions were mixed. Comment consisted of a general statement supporting BLM's original proposal which more appropriately addresses later phases of the review.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. That proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-74 BUTLER VALLEY 17,100 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-74 is a portion of the broad, sandy Butler Valley. The unit is fairly flat, sloping approximately 350 feet in five miles, and is dissected by numerous shallow washes. Vegetation is sparse and consists of a creosote-bursage community with stands of cholla.

Summary of Comments

Comment was received supporting our original proposal and addressing a later phase of the review.

Conclusion

There is agreement that this area "clearly and obviously" lacks wilderness values. Doubt was not raised concerning this proposal. This unit will not be subject to further inventory, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-75 HARCUVAR MOUNTAINS 90,000 acres

Description of Environment

This unit that takes in the eastern range of the Harcuvar Mountains is surrounded on three sides by broad plains: the Aguila, McMullen, and Butler valleys. The Harcuvar Mountains rise some 3,000 feet above the valley floors, the highest point being the 5,242-foot Smith Peak on the eastern edge of the unit. The Harcuvars feature steep rugged peaks, rocky canyons, sheer cliffs and large outcroppings. Vegetation is somewhat sparse with a palo verde-saguaro community. Dense stands of cholla, creosote and ocotillo occur.

Summary of Comments

A fair amount of comments was received for this unit. Comments concerning naturalness and wilderness criteria were conflicting. A small amount of specific intrusions information was presented. Comments were received questioning the adequacy of documentation for dropping a portion of the unit.

Conclusion

Specific comment on intrusions is considered to be insufficient to preclude inventorying the unit. As a result of documentation criticism, this entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-76 HARCUVAR MOUNTAINS EAST 24,060 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-76 consists of a portion of the foothills in the eastern Harcuvar Mountains and portions of Butler Valley to the north and McMullen Valley to the south. These uniform, rocky hills rise about 500 feet to just above 3,500 feet in elevation. The plains are nearly flat, dissected by numerous washes. Vegetation consists of a palo verde-saguaro community in the foothills, with a creosote-bursage community on the plains.

Summary of Comments

Public comment agreed with BLM's initial proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this determination was not raised. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-77 BULLARD WASH EAST 13,300 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-77 consists of a portion of a broad, sandy plain east of the Harcuvar Mountains. This nearly flat plain is dissected by several shallow washes. Vegetation is sparse, consisting primarily of a creosote-bursage community with some saguaro, palo verde, and ironwood along the washes.

Summary of Comments

All public comment received supported BLM's initial proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not raised. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-78 BULLARD WASH - ALAMO 10,800 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-78 is a long crescentic-shaped unit consisting of a low, flat plain with a few volcanic outcrops. The area represents a transition zone between Mohave Desert scrub and Sonoran Desert scrub and is basically a palo verde-saguaro community with Joshua trees.

Summary of Comments

All public comment received supported BLM's initial proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Valid doubt about this proposal was not raised. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-79 BULLARD PASS 9,800 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-79 consists of low volcanic hills surrounded by the Aguila Valley. The hills rise approximately 300 feet to 2,856 feet in elevation out of the nearly flat valley. Several small washes are present within the unit. The vegetation is varied and includes a palo verde-saguaro community with a variety of chollas and Joshua trees.

Summary of Comments

All public comment received supported BLM's initial proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Valid doubt about this proposal was not raised. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-80 WOOD TANK 9,300 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-80 is part of the Aguila Valley with a few small volcanic hills which rise about 1,000 feet to 3,529 feet in elevation. The vegetation consists of a very sparse palo verde-saguaro community near the hills to a creosote-bursage community on the plain.

Summary of Comments

Doubt was raised concerning BLM's application of wilderness criteria to a unit surrounded by other lands in a natural state. Verification revealed that the area was substantially not natural. Roads, ways, and an active mining operation and camp were found present in the unit. Other comment supported BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. An inventory unit must meet wilderness criteria on its own. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-81 SOLS WASH 4,800 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-81 consists of a small portion of the Aguila Valley with small volcanic outcrops and shallow washes. The vegetation consists of a very sparse palo verde-saguaro community near the hills and a creosote-bursage community on the plain.

Summary of Comments

No substantive comment was received.

### Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not raised. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-82                      AGUILA VALLEY                      4,200 acres

### Description of Environment

Unit 2-82 consists of a small portion of the Agulla Valley, and is nearly flat with a few shallow washes. The vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of a creosote-bursage community.

### Summary of Comments

Doubt was raised concerning lack of solitude because of the small size of the unit.

### Conclusion

Public comment was persuasive in deciding that unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-83                      HASSAYAMPA RIVER CANYON                      31,500 acres

### Description of Environment

Unit 2-83 on the Hassayampa River is located three miles north of Wickenburg. This large unit, almost 13 miles in length, features several peaks above the 4,000-foot elevation. The dominant feature of the unit, however, is the river canyon with its broad, sandy floor and intricate side canyons. A well-developed cottonwood-willow riparian habitat is supported by the river, otherwise Sonoran desert scrub predominates.

### Summary of Comments

A very large amount of comment was received for this unit. Many comments offered specific information on roads and other intrusions. Most of the comments received were against further study of this unit.

### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as potentially meeting wilderness criteria. Specific comments on intrusions were field checked. As a result, the southern unit boundary will be adjusted to conform to the road running along the Hassayampa River. All private or patented land or heavily-mined areas are not included in the unit. However, the remainder of the unit north of the river will be intensively inventoried.

2-84                      SOUTH BRADSHAW                      3,500 acres

### Description of Environment

Unit 2-84, approximately 14 miles north of Lake Pleasant in the Bradshaw Mountains, borders U.S. Forest Service Rare II Unit #3-085 proposed for wilderness. The Bradshaws, reaching an elevation of 5,000 feet in the unit, are incised with numerous canyons. Vegetation is of oak-juniper associations, with mountain shrub and mesquite stands.

### Summary of Comments

The comment for this unit was mixed in its evaluation of the wilderness characteristics of the unit. A verifiable comment concerning roadlessness was received.

### Conclusion

The unit requires intensive inventory in order to assess wilderness characteristics and therefore will be intensively inventoried.

2-85                      WILLIAMS MESA                      19,240 acres

### Description of Environment

Williams Mesa just west of Black Canyon City is at the southern end of the Bradshaw Mountains. The unit contains numerous canyons and mesas, the most dominant being Williams Mesa. Elevation change is just under 2,000 feet, the highest point in the unit being Bald Hill (3,801 feet). The Agua Fria River crosses the eastern portion of the unit. Vegetation includes saguaro, cholla, prickly pear, and mesquite.

### Summary of Comments

Although a large number of comments were received, both supporting and opposing further consideration, there were also a substantial amount of comments relaying specific information on roads and other intrusions within or adjacent to the unit.

### Conclusion

This area was originally proposed as possibly having wilderness values. Field verification of specific information from public comments showed that no area of 5,000 acres was in a natural state. Therefore, this unit will not be intensively inventoried.

2-86                      BUCKHORN MOUNTAIN                      7,350 acres

### Description of Environment

This area of volcanic hills and lava flows is just north of the Hieroglyphics, west of Castle Hot Springs. The unit's topography is very irregular featuring rugged peaks, ridges, outcroppings and incised canyons. The Buckhorns is a low mountain range surrounded by higher peaks including White Picacho (4,283 feet), and Garfras Mountain. A desert scrub vegetative community is present in the unit.

### Summary of Comments

Comments were mixed regarding the character of the unit, and support for its inventory. Several specific comments on roads and intrusions were received.

### Conclusion

An aerial field check did not verify the road information that was received. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-87                      BOUSE HILLS                      18,900 acres

### Description of Environment

Unit 2-87 consists of a small portion of the Ranegras Plain west of the Bouse Hills. This relatively flat plain slopes gently to the west and is dissected by several shallow washes. The vegetation is sparse and consists of a palo verde-saguaro community with occasional dense stands of cholla, and a creosote-bursage community.

### Summary of Comments

All comment received supported BLM's proposal.

### Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt about this proposal was expressed. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-88                      GRAHAM WELL                      13,400 acres

### Description of Environment

Unit 2-88 consists of a series of small volcanic hills with portions of the Ranegras Plain to the west and Butler Valley to the east. The hills rise nearly 800 feet to an elevation of 1,924 feet. The plains are relatively flat and are dissected by numerous small washes. Cunningham Wash runs through the southeastern portion of the unit. The vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of a creosote-bursage community with a palo verde-saguaro community supporting dense stands of cholla on the hills.

### Summary of Comments

All comment received supported BLM's proposal.

### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt about this proposal was expressed. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-89                      UTTING                      5,500 acres

### Description of Environment

Unit 2-89 consists of a small portion of the Ranegras Plain with a small linear chain of hills in the northeast corner. Several washes drain west from the Granite Wash Mountains across the unit. The vegetation is sparse and consists of a sparse palo verde-saguaro community with dense cholla stands, and of a creosote-bursage community.

### Summary of Comments

All comment received supported BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-90 GRANITE WASH MOUNTAINS 41,860 acres

Description of Environment

The Granite Wash Mountains, unit 2-90, are 4 miles west of Salome surrounded by McMullen and Butler Valleys and the Ranegras Plain. The highest point in the unit is Salome Peak (3,991 feet), some 2,000 feet above the valley floors. The Granite Wash Mountains are characterized by highly fragmented ridgetops dropping into a series of low rocky foothills and canyons. Creosote-bursage association with saguaro stands on south-facing slopes are found in this unit.

Summary of Comments

Numerous comments were received regarding this unit. The majority of them, though not specifically, implied that the western portion of the unit was no longer in a natural condition. Others, supported the wilderness potential of the unit and suggested that additional documentation is necessary to properly eliminate unnatural portions of the unit.

Conclusion

A portion of this unit was originally recommended as requiring intensive inventory. Valid doubt was expressed concerning the documentation of the portion proposed to be eliminated from further consideration. Therefore, the entire unit will be intensively inventoried. Any portion where the imprint of man is substantially noticeable will be delineated during the inventory process and removed from further review at that time.

2-91 TANK PASS 10,000 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is separated from unit 2-90 to the south by Tank Pass Road. Unit 2-91 is the western continuation of the Harcuvar Mountains, a rocky granitic range lacking much complexity. The north and south portions of the unit are the Butler and McMullen Valleys giving contrast to the 3,000 foot elevations of the Harcuvars within the unit. Vegetation is Lower Sonoran consisting of a creosote-bursage and palo verde-saguaro community.

Summary of Comments

Many comments were also received for this unit. There was little substantive evidence regarding roads or imprints of man. Several comments suggested that more documentation is necessary to properly eliminate unnatural portions of the unit.

Conclusion

A portion of this unit was originally recommended as requiring intensive inventory. Valid doubt was expressed concerning the documentation of the portion proposed to be eliminated from further consideration. Therefore, the entire unit will be intensively inventoried. Any portion where the imprint of man is substantially noticeable will be delineated during the inventory process and removed from further consideration at that time.

2-92 HARCUVAR PEAK 29,400 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-92 is made up of the heart of the Harcuvar Mountains enclosed by Butler Valley and McMullen Valley. Harcuvar Peak rises steeply to 4,618 feet with several rugged ridges and canyons. The range drops into rolling hills and out to the bajadas and plains of the surrounding valleys. Vegetation is sparse and consists of mixed desert scrub and palo verde-saguaro communities.

Summary of Comments

Numerous conflicting comments and opinions were received concerning the wilderness values of the unit. Some gave specific information regarding the unnatural condition of the northeast corner of the unit along Cunningham Pass Road.

Conclusion

Verification of specific intrusions information shows that a small portion of the unit, around the Critic Mine, is no longer in a natural condition and will be eliminated from further consideration at this time. The entire remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-93 McMULLEN VALLEY 12,260 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-93 is a portion of the McMullen Valley south of the Harcuvar Mountains and just north and west of Wenden. The unit is entirely bajada and plain with several shallow washes that drain southeast into Centennial Wash. The vegetation consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community with some creosote-bursage on the plain. Ironwood and mesquite occur as part of a desert scrub riparian community in Centennial Wash.

Summary of Comments

All comment received agreed with BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this conclusion was not expressed. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-94 HARQUAHALA MOUNTAINS WEST 9,180 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-94 consists of small foothills at the west end of the Harquahala Mountains, and the associated bajada. The unit rises from 1,800 feet on the bajada to 3,019-foot Socorro Peak. Several small intricate canyons cut into the granite and gneiss rock within the unit. The vegetation consists of a moderate palo verde-saguaro community with dense cholla stands.

Summary of Comments

Comment received generally stated that the area should not be intensively inventoried.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt concerning this proposal was raised. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-96 HARQUAHALA PLAIN WEST 10,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-96 is a small fragment of the Harquahala Plain southwest of the Harquahala Mountains. It slopes gently to the south and includes a few scattered hills which rise less than 100 feet. The vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of creosote flats and a palo verde-saguaro community.

Summary of Comments

All comment received supported BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt concerning this proposal was raised. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-97 HARQUAHALA PLAIN EAST 3,950 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-97 is a small fragment of the Harquahala Plain west of the Big Horn Mountains. The unit slopes gently to the south and has less than 100 feet in elevation change. Tiger Wash runs through the west portion of the unit. The vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community with some creosote-bursage.

Summary of Comments

Comment received was mixed, some supporting intensive inventory and others supporting dropping the area from further consideration.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Valid doubt was not expressed concerning the rationale behind BLM's proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-98 TIGER WASH 8,260 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-98 is an elongated unit which follows Tiger Wash for 6 miles, and consists mostly of alluvial plain. Two small hills which rise nearly 300 feet are in the east portion of the unit. The vegetation is primarily a palo verde-saguaro community with a desert scrub riparian community in Tiger Wash.



#### Summary of Comments

All comment supported dropping the unit from further review.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt concerning this proposal was not expressed. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-99                                      BIG HORN MOUNTAINS                                      24,980 acres

#### Description of Environment

The Big Horn Mountains unit is approximately 10 miles northwest of Tonopah. The mountains rise from the 1,900 foot bajada of the Harquahala Plain to 3,480-foot crag of Big Horn Peak. A variety of sheer walls, rocky canyons, buttes, and rolling bajadas are present. The unit contains several plant communities ranging from dense palo verde-saguaro associations to mixed desert scrub and creosote flat communities.

#### Summary of Comments

A fair amount of conflicting comments concerning wilderness characteristics was received. Some specific comment on intrusions was also received.

#### Conclusion

Substantive information received concerned the periphery of the unit and was not sufficient to drop any portion of the unit at this time. Therefore this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-100                                      HUMMINGBIRD SPRING                                      67,660 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-100 is adjacent to Big Horn Mountain unit and similar in topography. The unit consists of scattered volcanic hills with a variety of land forms including peaks, sinks, buttes, canyons, and plains. Elevations range from 1,900 feet in the Tonopah Desert to 3,418 feet at Sugarloaf Mountain. Several peaks near 3,000 foot elevation occur throughout the unit. The vegetation varies from dense palo verde-saguaro to cholla flats, creosote flats, and mixed desert scrub.

#### Summary of Comments

A fair amount of comment was received which both supported and disagreed with BLM's proposal that the area is in a natural condition and meets wilderness criteria. Substantive comment was also received regarding roads and intrusions in the unit.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed for intensive inventory. Verified substantive comment on intrusions has justified a boundary change in the southeast corner of the unit. Other specific comment was not sufficient to initiate any changes at this time. We conclude that the remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-101                                      PUMP MINE WASH                                      6,300 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-101 consists of a part of the valley between the Harquahala and Big Horn Mountains. The valley slopes gently to the southwest and has several shallow drainages. Four small hills dot the southern half of the unit, the largest which rises 200 feet to 2,724 feet in elevation. The vegetation is primarily a palo verde-saguaro community.

#### Summary of Comments

All comments agreed with BLM's proposal.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised concerning this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-102                                      PUMP MINE WASH                                      19,420 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-102 is composed of the bajada and northwestern foothills of the Vulture Mountains. These volcanic hills rise to 600 feet above the plain to the north. The western half of the unit, connected by a 1/2 mile neck, consists of a relatively flat plain northwest of Black Butte. The vegetation is primarily a palo verde-saguaro community with a creosote-bursage community to the west.

#### Summary of Comments

All comments agreed with BLM's proposal.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised concerning this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-103                                      BLACK BUTTE                                      16,560 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-103 in the Vulture Mountains is located nearly 8 miles southeast of Aguilá. The prominent feature of the unit is the 3,612-foot Black Butte, a basalt mass rising 1,200 feet above the surrounding plain. Surrounding the butte are volcanic hills, rolling bajada and portions of the Hassayampa Plain. Vegetation includes a dense palo verde-saguaro association, creosote flats, and mixed desert scrub, with mesquite prominent in many washes.

#### Summary of Comments

Some specific comment was generated about intrusions, mostly outside of the unit. There were conflicting opinions expressed about other wilderness values present in the unit.

#### Conclusion

The intrusions information received was not sufficient to justify any changes at this time. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-104                                      DEADHORSE WASH                                      5,800 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-104 is a small unit on the Hassayampa Plain south of Black Butte. Deadhorse Wash, a tributary of Jackrabbit Wash, runs through the northwest corner of the unit. The vegetation is sparse and includes palo verde-saguaro and creosote flat communities.

#### Summary of Comments

All comment agreed with BLM's proposal.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was expressed concerning this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-105                                      HASSAYAMPA PLAIN WEST                                      7,360 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-105 consists of a small fragment of the Hassayampa Plain and includes small, rolling hills which rise less than 50 feet above the surrounding terrain. The vegetation is sparse consisting primarily of creosote flats with a few palo verde, saguaro, and chollas.

#### Summary of Comments

All comments, including some specific information on the presence of roads, verify BLM's original proposal.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was expressed concerning this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-106                                      COYOTE WASH                                      13,800 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-106 is a portion of the Hassayampa Plain with a chain of small volcanic hills. These hills rise up to 200 feet above the plain and support a sparse palo verde-saguaro community. The remainder of the unit, the plain, primarily consists of a creosote-bursage community with an occasional isolated saguaro.

#### Summary of Comments

All comment agreed with BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was expressed concerning this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-107 BELMONT HILLS NORTH 11,500 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is within a low range called the Belmont Mountains, 7 miles north of Tonopah. The unit consists of small, rugged hills and a bajada. Relief in the unit is about 1,000 feet. Vegetation varies from a dense palo verde-saguaro community to mixed desert scrub and creosote flats.

Summary of Comments

No location-specific information about intrusions was generated. Opinions about naturalness and wilderness values were conflicting.

Conclusion

Conflicting opinions suggest that any lack of wilderness values is not "clear and obvious." Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-108 BELMONT HILLS 19,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-108 is essentially the same as unit 2-107, which is separated from it by a dirt road. This unit contains the highest peak of the range, Belmont Peak (3,167 feet). Vegetation is the same as the north unit.

Summary of Comments

No location-specific information about intrusions was generated. Opinions about the naturalness of the area and about the applicability of wilderness values were conflicting. Comment questioned the inadequate documentation of eliminating the north portion of the unit without justification.

Conclusion

A review of the Situation Evaluation shows documentation concerning elimination of the northern portion of the unit to be inadequate. The entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-109 JACKRABBIT WASH 23,540 acres

Description of Environment

The entire unit consists of a low sandy flood plain of Jackrabbit Wash and the Hassayampa River with a few low hills to the west. The river runs the length of the unit from north to south. The vegetation is mostly a creosote-bursage community with some palo verde-saguaro, and desert scrub riparian along the river.

Summary of Comments

All comment agreed with BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-110 WHITE TANK MOUNTAINS 28,360 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-110 consists of a portion of the southern end of the White Tank Mountains, along with the west bajada adjacent to the White Tank Mountains County Regional Park. Elevations rise from 1,500 feet on the plain to 3,074 feet near the southern boundary. The vegetation consists of a palo verde-saguaro community on the bajada and in the hills, which is representative of the Arizona upland region of the Lower Sonoran Life Zone. A creosote-bursage community is found on the plain to the west.

Summary of Comments

No substantive comment was received. Comment was received expressing the opinion that the area was natural. All comments agreed with BLM's proposal that opportunities for solitude or primitive, unconfined recreation were not outstanding.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. The rationale behind this proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-111 WAGNER WASH 9,500 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-111 is a linear unit which includes a portion of the Hassayampa Plain east of the Hassayampa River. The unit slopes gently to the south with less than 100 feet of elevation change. The vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of a creosote-bursage community.

Summary of Comments

All comment agreed with BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-112 HASSAYAMPA PLAIN SOUTH 4,400 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-112 consists of a small fragment of the Hassayampa Plain. The unit is located northeast of the Belmont Mountains between Jackrabbit and Star Washes. The vegetation is uniformly sparse and consists of a creosote-bursage community.

Summary of Comments

All comment agreed with BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-113 HASSAYAMPA PLAIN 10,800 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-113 is composed of a broad, flat, sandy plain which is part of the Hassayampa Plain, and is located south of Vulture Peak. The plain is relatively flat with less than 200 feet in elevation change. The vegetation is primarily a creosote-bursage community with some palo verde-saguaro to the north.

Summary of Comments

All comment agreed with BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-114 VULTURE MOUNTAINS WEST 20,120 acres

Description of Environment

The unit is about 6 miles southwest of Wickenburg in the Vulture Mountains. The Vultures are a low volcanic range with few drainages that rises only 1,000 feet above the Hassayampa Plain. The highest point in the unit is 2,752 feet. Vegetation is palo verde-saguaro with stands of cholla, ocotillo and mesquite.

Summary of Comments

Although there was some general support for further consideration of this unit, a substantial amount of specific information on a large number of roads, trails and mining-related intrusions was received.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as possibly meeting wilderness criteria. However, field-verified information from specific comments has led to the conclusion that this area is in an unnatural condition. Therefore, this unit will not be intensively inventoried but will be dropped from further review.

2-115	VULTURE MOUNTAINS EAST	18,500 acres	2-118	CEDAR BASIN	8,000 acres	2-121	SYENITE	4,600 acres
<u>Description of Environment</u> Unit 2-115 consists of a part of the small, but rugged Vulture Mountains and the bajada and plain to the south. These volcanic hills rise dramatically 1,500 feet to 3,658-foot Vulture Peak, a volcanic neck. The bajadas to the south descend slowly onto the Hassayampa Plain. The vegetation consists of a palo verde-saguaro community with dense cholla stands in the hills and on the bajada, with a creosote-bursage community in the plain to the extreme south of the unit.			<u>Description of Environment</u> This unit in the Hieroglyphic Mountains is just 6 miles west of Lake Pleasant Regional Park. The unit's varied landscape features small canyons and washes with several hidden canyons. The unit possess relatively little relief, but is surrounded by higher peaks of the Hieroglyphics. Vegetation is desert scrub and mountain shrub with abundant prickly pear.			<u>Description of Environment</u> Unit 2-121 consists of a portion of the volcanic Hieroglyphic Mountains. These small, rolling hills, are cut by several small canyons which drain eastwardly to the Agua Fria River. The vegetation consists of a palo verde-saguaro community with occasional dense stands of cholla.		
<u>Summary of Comments</u> While there was some comment on the presence of solitude in the unit, there was agreement with BLM proposal that the unit is not in a natural state.			<u>Summary of Comments</u> Conflicting opinions on naturalness and the applicability of wilderness character were received. Intrusions comments were either not location-specific or dealt with areas outside the unit.			<u>Summary of Comments</u> No specific information was received, but all comments agreed with the initial proposal to drop the unit from further review.		
<u>Conclusion</u> This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. The rationale behind this proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will <u>not</u> be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.			<u>Conclusion</u> Comments on this unit were insufficient to eliminate the necessity for further field work. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.			<u>Conclusion</u> This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt about that proposal was expressed. We conclude that this unit will <u>not</u> be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.		
2-116	WOLF MINE	7,600 acres	2-119	HELL CANYON	8,320 acres	2-122	TWIN BUTTES	8,000 acres
<u>Description of Environment</u> Unit 2-116 is an irregularly-shaped unit south of Wickenburg, and consists of small volcanic hills of the eastern Vulture Mountains. The hills rise gently a few hundred feet above the surrounding flats. Vegetation consists primarily of a palo verde-creosote community with occasional dense stands of cholla and of creosote.			<u>Description of Environment</u> Adjacent to the Cedar Basin unit, Hell Canyon includes Garfias Mountain (3,381 feet). This unit has the same varied topography as 2-118 with the exception of Hell Canyon, a deep, narrow gorge cutting through the unit. Vegetation is scattered desert scrub.			<u>Description of Environment</u> Unit 2-122 is located in the southern Hieroglyphic Mountains and consists of small volcanic hills. Twin Buttes, actually one butte with a low saddle across the center, rises about 500 feet above the surrounding hills. Vegetation is dominated by a palo verde-saguaro community.		
<u>Summary of Comments</u> All specific comment and opinions received supported the BLM proposal.			<u>Summary of Comments</u> Some specific information on intrusions was received. Conflicting opinions on the naturalness of the unit and on the presence of wilderness values were also expressed.			<u>Summary of Comments</u> Nearly all comments received supported BLM's initial proposal. The lone objection to this conclusion was determined to be not valid.		
<u>Conclusion</u> This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude that this unit will <u>not</u> be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.			<u>Conclusion</u> Specifically located intrusions presented insufficient justification to drop any portion of the unit at this time. This unit will be intensively inventoried.			<u>Conclusion</u> This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Valid doubt about this proposal was not received. We conclude that this unit will <u>not</u> be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.		
2-117	HASSAYAMPA PLAIN EAST	4,800 acres	2-120	BALDY MOUNTAIN	11,600 acres	2-124	PETRIFIED FOREST	600 acres
<u>Description of Environment</u> Unit 2-117 is a linear unit west of Wittmann and consists of a portion of the Hassayampa River and flood plain. The vegetation is sparse and consists of a creosote-bursage community with mesquite along the river.			<u>Description of Environment</u> This unit is adjacent to Lake Pleasant Regional Park within the Hieroglyphic Mountains. The unit features 2 peaks, Baldy Mountain and Cholla Mountain, both about 3,000 feet in elevation. Topography consists of small volcanic hills with incised canyons and several lava flows. Perennial springs are present. Vegetation is primarily desert scrub.			<u>Description of Environment</u> This unit is adjacent to the National Park Service's Petrified Forest Wilderness Area. The very small unit is generally flat with about 50 feet elevation change, dissected by a few washes. Vegetation is creosote-bursage.		
<u>Summary of Comments</u> All comment agreed with BLM's proposal.			<u>Summary of Comments</u> Conflicting opinions on wilderness values present in the area were expressed. Some specific comments on intrusions and roads were received.			<u>Summary of Comments</u> Public comment was general and opposed to further review.		
<u>Conclusion</u> This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. No doubt was raised about this proposal. We conclude that this unit will <u>not</u> be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.			<u>Conclusion</u> A field check of the pipeline road in Section 2, T. 6N., R. 2W., and the Morgan City Mine road indicated that they were in a marginal state of repair. Other substantive comment was insufficient to alter any unit boundaries; therefore, this entire unit will be intensively inventoried.			<u>Conclusion</u> This area is adjacent to an existing wilderness and therefore must be intensively inventoried.		

2-125 NEW WATER MOUNTAINS 104,000 acres

Description of Environment

The New Water Mountains unit is adjacent to the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge, 6 miles east of Quartzite. The heart of the unit is Black Mesa which rises 1,200 feet above the La Posa Plain. The southern portion of the unit consists of the lower New Water Mountains. The New Waters are a colorful string of craggy spires. From the mountains the unit drops down into Ranegras Plain and La Posa Plain. Vegetation is sparse, a typical creosote-bursage community with scattered palo verde.

Summary of Comments

Conflicting opinions on wilderness values present in the unit were expressed. Specific comments regarding roads and mining activity were received.

Conclusion

Specific comments on intrusions and information gathered during the Palo Verde-Devers Special Project inventory give sufficient documentation to eliminate areas on the north and west boundaries. The remaining area, however will be intensively inventoried.

2-126 LITTLE HORN MOUNTAINS WEST 23,120 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is adjacent to a proposed U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wilderness area. The Little Horn Mountains are a complex arrangement of steep massive mountains, rising to 1,400 feet above the Ranegras Plain to the east. The area is drained by a complex arrangement of washes fingering down from the ridges and peaks. The unit is also bounded by W2-4, the Little Horn Mountains Wilderness Study Area and unit 2-127 (Red Raven Wash), on the east. Vegetation is varied, consisting of palo verde-saguaro, mixed desert scrub, and creosote-bursage associations.

Summary of Comments

Mixed opinion was expressed on this unit, however no specific comments were received concerning roadlessness or naturalness.

Conclusion

No information was received which would allow for any alteration to the original proposal. We conclude that this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-127 RED RAVEN WASH 21,300 acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a portion of the Palomas Plain, very flat desert pavement cut by numerous washes. And the sparse vegetation is primarily a creosote-bursage community with mesquite and a few saguaros.

Summary of Comments

Information gathered since the Palo Verde Devers inventory shows the existence of a road in the Little Horn Mountains. This road effectively cuts off the southern end of the Wilderness Study Area creating a new roadless unit.

Conclusion

Therefore, as a separated portion of former unit 2-127, this area must be evaluated on its own and will be intensively inventoried.

2-130 PALOMAS PLAIN 29,140 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-130 encompasses a major portion of the Palomas Plain. This broad, sandy plain is crossed by numerous tributary washes of Baragan Wash, among them Red Raven Wash. The plain slopes gently to the south with less than 400 feet elevation change (from 1,100 feet to about 750 feet in elevation). Large areas of the unit are covered with desert pavement. The vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of a creosote-bursage community with some palo verde-saguaro, with mesquite and ironwood in the washes. Summary of Comments

Comments received stated that this area will be reinstated for intensive inventory, on the basis that wilderness criteria were misapplied or that documentation was inadequate. A comment suggested that the area was unnatural.

Conclusion

This unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. However, valid doubt about lack of appropriate documentation requires that this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-131 TANK MOUNTAINS 43,400 acres

Description of Environment

This unit in the low elevation of the Tank Mountains is bounded by the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge on the west. The Tanks are a colorfully-banded range featuring steep faces. The topography is a complex of small canyons, ridges and buttes. Elevation change in the unit is approximately 800 feet. Vegetation varies from dense palo verde-saguaro communities in the foothills and bajadas to sparse creosote-bursage associations on the sandy plains.

Summary of Comments

Mixed comment was received for this unit. None provided specific intrusion information. Documentation for dropping southern portion of unit was questioned.

Conclusion

No information was received which materially affects the original proposal. And because of the comment questioning documentation, this entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-132 PALOMAS MOUNTAINS WEST 8,800 acres

Description of Environment

This unit borders the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge and includes a portion of the Palomas Mountains. The Palomas rise between King Valley and the Palomas Plain, their highest point in the unit being 1,895 feet (Palomas Peak). The mountains are topographically complex though much of the unit consists of rolling foothills and broad, flat valleys. The vegetation consists primarily of palo verde-saguaro and creosote-bursage associations.

Summary of Comments

Mixed comment was received for this unit. None provided specific intrusions information.

Conclusion

No information was received which materially affects the original proposal. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-133 PALOMAS MOUNTAINS EAST 16,300 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-133 is adjacent to Palomas Mountains (West) unit and contains essentially the same topography. The eastern unit is lower and less fragmented as the Palomas Mountains drop down into the Hyder Valley. Vegetation is palo verde-saguaro and creosote-bursage associations.

Summary of Comments

Conflicting opinions were expressed concerning the unit's wilderness suitability. None provided specific information.

Conclusion

No information was received which materially affects the original proposal. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-134 BARAGAN WASH 13,200 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-134 includes portions of the Palomas Plain and the Hyder Valley. Baragan Mountain is located in the north-central part of the unit and rises 500 feet above the surrounding plain. Baragan Wash runs the length of the unit from north to south, along the western boundary. The vegetation is primarily a creosote-bursage community, with palo verde-saguaro community around Baragan Mountain, and mesquite and baccharis or desert broom (a water-loving shrub) in the washes.

Summary of Comments

This unit received only one comment. That comment requested intensive inventory and commented on supplemental values.

Conclusion

Unit was initially proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria, the comment on this unit did not question BLM's rationale or documentation. We conclude this unit will not be intensively inventoried, but dropped from further review.

2-136 FACE MOUNTAIN 39,560 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-136 is part of a larger range, the Gila Bend Mountains. The topographic relief varies from the flat plain of Hyder Valley in the southwestern tip of the unit, to the complex arrangement of hills in the northern portion, to the rugged

Face Mountain which rises 1,400 feet above the valley. The vegetation is varied and includes a dense palo verde-saguaro association as well as cholla thickets and a sparse creosote-bursage association.

#### Summary of Comments

Support for BLM's proposal and opinions as to wilderness values present in the unit were conflicting. Specific information was given concerning intrusions within this unit.

#### Conclusion

Field verification concurred with the intrusions information given, requiring an adjustment of the southwestern and the western boundary. The entire remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-137                      YELLOW MEDICINE BUTTE                      36,000 acres

#### Description of Environment

This unit is separated from the Face Mountain unit by a road traversing Yellow Medicine Wash. The unit is within the central portion of the Gila Bend Mountains, consisting of a number of small, colorful volcanic mesas and ridges rising 1,500 feet above the Dendora Valley plain. The topography effectively encloses a large portion of the flat country around Fourth of July Wash. The unit supports a variety of vegetation consisting of palo verde-saguaro, mixed desert scrub, and creosote-bursage communities.

#### Summary of Comments

This unit received a broad array of comments both supporting intensive inventory and requesting elimination from further consideration. Most of the comments received did not present verifiable information.

#### Conclusion

Those comments providing specific information were reviewed in the field and resulted in adjusting the northeastern boundary to exclude a heavily intruded area. The remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-138                      SIGNAL MOUNTAIN                      29,300 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-138 is adjacent to the Yellow Medicine Butte unit separated by the Southern Pacific Railroad. Unit 2-138 is in the central portions of the Gila Bend Mountains. The highest point in the unit is Signal Mountain which rises 1,200 feet above the surrounding plain. The area is moderately complex with a number of low-lying hills and ridges. The unit takes in a small portion of the Dendora Valley to the south. Vegetation consists of palo verde-saguaro and creosote-bursage communities.

#### Summary of Comments

Many comments were received representing diverse opinion about wilderness values present in the unit. Only a few of these contained specific, verifiable information on intrusions.

#### Conclusion

Those comments providing specific information were reviewed in the field and resulted in changing the unit's boundary on the north and west due to the obvious lack of naturalness in those areas. The remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-139                      WEBB MOUNTAIN                      8,400 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-139 includes a portion of the foothills north of the Gila Bend Mountains and includes Webb Mountain and the surrounding bajadas. Webb Mountain rises 900 feet above the surrounding terrain to about 2,000 feet in elevation. Several small canyons drain the mountain and become shallow washes on the flats. The vegetation is primarily a palo verde-saguaro community with dense stands of cholla. A creosote-bursage community occurs on the flats to the north, and mesquite is common in the washes.

#### Summary of Comments

Comments supporting intensive inventory of the unit addressed supplemental values and roadlessness. Most comments, though generally not specific, supported BLM's proposal.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Our rationale for dropping this unit was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-140                      HYDER VALLEY                      14,300 acres

#### Description of Environment

Sacaton Flats make up a large portion of this unit which lies on the west side of the Face Mountain unit 2-136. Sacaton Flats is fairly uniform with several hills rising about 300 feet above the plain. The vegetation is primarily creosote-bursage with a few saguaro on the rocky slopes.

#### Summary of Comments

Many comments indicated this unit should be dropped from further review and several provided detailed information concerning intrusions. This unit also received significant support for intensive inventory.

#### Conclusion

Field verification of specific information resulted in our recommending the northwest portion of the unit being dropped from further consideration. However, the remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-141                      GILLESPIE DAM                      6,400 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-141 is located west of the Gillespie Dam and includes small rolling foothills and bajadas. The hills are the northeast foothills of the Gila Bend Mountains and rise to about 500 feet at the highest points. The vegetation includes a palo verde-saguaro community in the hills and on the bajada, and a creosote-bursage community on the flats to the north and east.

#### Summary of Comments

Comment generally agreed with BLM's initial proposal that the area lacked wilderness values.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. BLM's rationale for this proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-142                      WOOLSEY PEAK                      44,700 acres

#### Description of Environment

The Woolsey Peak unit is approximately 10 miles north of Gila Bend in the Gila Bend Mountains. The unit is composed of numerous steep sided mesas, the highest of which is Woolsey Peak at 3,170 feet. These volcanic mesas and ridges are arranged in a manner which creates a number of low-lying, gradually-sloping valleys. The unit is very barren and vegetation includes palo verde-saguaro, mixed desert scrub, and creosote-bursage associations.

#### Summary of Comments

This unit received a great number of comments. Most were general and represented considerable difference of opinion concerning presence or lack of wilderness values. Several substantive comments were received concerning intrusions. Comments were received questioning the adequacy of documentation justifying the dropping of the southern portion of the unit.

#### Conclusion

Through brief field work the apparent substantive comments proved to be unverifiable at this time. As a result of the questions raised about the portion proposed to be dropped, the entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-143                      GILA BEND MOUNTAINS                      19,900 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-143 is 6 miles north of Gila Bend, and is bounded by the Gila Bend Indian Reservation to the south. In the eastern portion of the unit, the Gila Bend Mountains rise 1,200 feet above the Gila River. With few exceptions the drainages are nearly as steep as the general slopes, exposing the rugged granites. The vegetation consists of palo verde-saguaro and mixed desert scrub communities.

Summary of Comments

No specific intrusions comments was received on this unit. Opinions which were received were mixed in their views on the presence of any wilderness values. Some comments addressed later phases of the review.

Conclusion

Conflicting comments show that it is not clear and obvious that the unit lacks wilderness values. Therefore, this entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-144 BUNYAN PEAK 37,000 acres

Description of Environment

The southern boundary of this unit in the Gila Bend Mountains is the Painted Rock Reservoir on the Gila River. The unit consists primarily of a number of steep volcanic ridges and peaks centering around Bunyan Peak which is a basaltic mesa. The peaks and ridges which range from 400 to 1,300 feet above the surrounding plain are arranged in such a way as to give a high degree of complexity to the area. The area supports primarily a palo verde-saguaro community.

Summary of Comments

This unit received a great number of comments. Most were general and represented a considerable difference of opinion. Several substantive comments were received concerning intrusions.

Conclusion

Brief field work showed the apparent substantive comments to be unverifiable at this time. Therefore the entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-145 DENDORA VALLEY NORTH 4,900 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-145 is a small portion of the Dendora Valley south of the Gila Bend Mountains. This valley is a flat, sandy plain. The unit is drained to the east by Fourth of July Wash and to the west by Loudermilk Wash, which meet just below the unit's southern boundary. The vegetation is uniformly sparse with a creosote-bursage community. Mesquite and ironwood occur in the major drainages.

Summary of Comments

All comments received on this unit supported BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. This proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-146 DENDORA VALLEY SOUTH 7,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-146 includes a small portion of the Dendora Valley northeast of Oatman Mountain. This plain is cut by several shallow washes. Loudermilk Wash follows the east boundary while the south boundary follows the Gila River. The vegetation consists primarily of a creosote-bursage community, and is uniformly sparse.

Summary of Comments

All comments received on this unit supported BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. This proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-147 OATMAN MOUNTAIN 11,000 acres

Description of Environment

Oatman Mountain is located in the center of unit 2-147, surrounded by Dendora Valley to the east, the Hyder Valley to the south and west, and Montezuma Mountain to the north. Oatman Mountain rises 1,200 feet from 600 feet elevation in the Dendora Valley. The vegetation consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community with a creosote-bursage community in the flatlands.

Summary of Comments

All comments received on this unit supported BLM's proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. This proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-148 GILA RIVER 16,400 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-148 consists of a large volcanic plain (part of the Sentinel Plain), bisected by the Gila River. The river cuts a shallow (50-100 feet deep), broad canyon into the basalt flow, forming prominent bluffs. The plain is flat, but rugged, with basalt cliffs and large boulders scattered throughout. The vegetation is sparse and patchy, consisting of scattered palo verde, saguaro, chollas, bursage and creosote. A large mesquite bosque grows along the river.

Summary of Comments

This unit received numerous comments questioning the lack of proper documentation in dropping this unit. Comments indicated this unit is natural and provides good opportunities for primitive recreation and solitude.

Conclusion

Our initial inventory recommendation was that this unit "clearly and obviously" lacked wilderness characteristics. However, valid doubt was received regarding inadequate information and therefore this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-155 PAINTED ROCK MOUNTAINS 49,300 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-155 is approximately 16 miles west of Gila Bend. The eastern portion consists of the Painted Rock Mountains which are a series of low (500 feet above surrounding plain), but sharp and steep volcanic ridges. The intervening valleys are flat bottomed and well isolated from each other by the ridges. West of the mountains lies the large, volcanic Sentinel Plain, a portion of which comprises the western half of the unit. The vegetation is sparse consisting of creosote-bursage and palo verde-saguaro communities. Due to the geologic nature of the area, the vegetation is patchy and relatively sparse.

Summary of Comments

Although general support was generated for the unit, opinions on wilderness values were generally opposed to further consideration of this unit. The only specific comment received provided photographic documentation of the lack of naturalness of the southern part of the unit.

Conclusion

Specific comment received was field checked and was sufficient to justify a determination that a southern portion of the unit was unnatural in character. However, the remainder of the unit will be inventoried.

2-156 MARGIE'S PEAK 15,840 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-156 consists of the northwest end of the Maricopa Mountains and is dominated by the 2,492 foot Margie's Peak. This peak rises over 1,400 feet above the surrounding bajada. The northern part of the unit consists of a portion of the Rainbow Valley with a few small hills occurring in the northeast. The vegetation is sparse to moderate, consisting of a palo verde-saguaro community with a creosote community in the flats. Mesquite is common along the washes.

Summary of Comments

Only one comment was received concerning supplemental values of this unit.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. The rationale behind this proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-157 NORTH MARICOPA MOUNTAINS 75,140 acres

Description of Environment

The North Maricopa Mountains unit is 6 miles northeast of Gila Bend. The

northern portion of the Maricopa Mountains is not very steep or rugged and rises only a little over 1,000 feet above the surrounding plain. Their arrangement, however, provides a high degree of topographic complexity. The highest peak in the unit is 2,811 feet. The vegetation is varied and consists primarily of a dense palo verde-saguaro community, with numerous cholla stands; mesquite and ironwood are found along the many drainages.

#### Summary of Comments

No specific comment was received for intrusions in this unit. Some comments pointed out the inappropriateness of arbitrarily eliminating peripheral portions of the unit. Although some comments on natural were conflicting, most expressed the opinion that the area did not possess wilderness values.

#### Conclusion

Elimination of peripheral portions of the unit cannot be justified without extensive field checking. Therefore the entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-158 RAINBOW VALLEY NORTH 14,000 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-158 consists of a fragment of the Rainbow Valley approximately 6 miles north of Estrella. Two small hills occur in the northwest corner of the unit. The unit slopes gently to the northeast, with several washes flowing into Waterman Wash. The vegetation is sparse and consists of a creosote-bursage community with mesquite in the wash.

#### Summary of Comments

Although no specific information was generated, all comments received favored BLM's initial proposal.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Doubt about this proposal was not raised. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-160 SIERRA ESTRELLA 21,360 acres

#### Description of Environment

This unit is approximately 15 miles southwest of Phoenix in the Sierra Estrella Mountains. Estrella Mountain Regional Park is the unit's northern boundary. The Sierra Estrellas are an extremely rugged and steep range rising 3,500 feet above the Gila River. Rather large bajadas provide a transition to a plain nestled between the Sierra Estrellas and another steep ridge to the south. The complexity of drainages within the unit is low and the canyons steep and exposed. Vegetation is primarily a palo verde-saguaro community with some mixed desert scrub.

#### Summary of Comments

Comment on this unit was mixed. Some comments mentioned opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation. Others opposed further consideration. Comment on naturalness was mixed and generally not specific.

#### Conclusion

Comments received did not provide specific information sufficient to drop any portion of this unit. The entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-161 RAINBOW VALLEY SOUTH 11,000 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-161 is located about 18 miles east of Gila Bend in the broad valley separating the Sierra Estrellas and Maricopa Mountains. The area takes in a portion of the Maricopas' foothills with a total elevation change of 300 feet. The unit is characterized by the broad, flat plain of Rainbow Valley. Vegetation is primarily creosote-bursage community.

#### Summary of Comments

Comment addressed supplemental values of this unit.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. The rationale behind this proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-163 SOUTH MARICOPA MOUNTAINS 72,100 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-163 is approximately 14 miles east of Gila Bend in the Maricopa Mountains. The southern half of the Maricopa Mountains rises 1,600 feet above the floor of Mobile Valley. The core of the mountain area is quite complex. The valley and canyon floors rise very gradually, remaining at nearly the same level as the surrounding plains for most of their length. The remainder of the unit, especially the western finger of the unit is a flat plain, sloping towards the Gila River. The vegetation is dense, consisting primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community, with some mixed desert scrub.

#### Summary of Comments

Comments on the wilderness characteristics generally expressed opposition to further consideration. A specific comment questioned adequacy documentation for dropping unit from further review.

#### Conclusion

No comments specific enough to justify eliminating any portion of the unit were received. This entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-164 BUTTERFIELD STAGE MEMORIAL 10,000 acres

#### Description of Environment

This unit is nearly 12 miles east of Gila Bend bordered on either side by the larger Maricopa Mountain units. The unit takes in a portion of the Maricopa Mountains that rise approximately 1,000 feet above the Rainbow Valley. Topographically the unit is only moderately complex. Estrella Peak (2,767 feet) is the dominant feature. Vegetation is primarily palo verde-saguaro community.

#### Summary of Comments

Although comments on this unit both opposed and supported BLM's proposal, most comments on wilderness values expressed the lack of such characteristics.

#### Conclusion

Comments were not specific enough to eliminate the necessity of field work for any portion of this unit. This entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-167 SAND TANK MOUNTAINS NORTH 9,900 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-167 is approximately 6 miles east of Gila Bend, at the foot of the Maricopa Mountains. The unit is a large plain with several small hills on its western edge. Topographic relief is about 500 feet. A sparse creosote-bursage community with palo verde-saguaro is present in the unit.

#### Summary of Comments

Doubt was raised about the influence motorcycle races have on the applicability of wilderness values to an area.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. A field evaluation for this unit showed extensive motorcycle tracks on desert areas that were quite noticeable and affect the area's natural characteristics. This unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-168 SAND TANK MOUNTAINS SOUTH 15,600 acres

#### Description of Environment

Sand Tank Mountains unit is about 4 miles southeast of Gila Bend and is bounded on 2 sides by the U.S. Air Force Military Reservation. The unit is within the Sand Tank Mountains but is primarily composed of part of the Gila Bend Plain. The Sand Tanks that pass through the northeastern corner rise to 2,099 feet in the unit. The vegetation is sparse, consisting primarily of a creosote-bursage community with a few saguaros gathered on the hills.

#### Summary of Comments

Several specific comments received indicated roads in the unit. A comment received generally expressed the opinion that the unit did not possess wilderness characteristics. Doubt was raised concerning documentation for elimination of the western portion of the unit.

#### Conclusion

A field check verified that the western part of unit 168 is not in a natural condition and will be dropped from further consideration. This same field check found that the route separating units 168 and 169 is apparently not a road. Therefore, the remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried as part of a larger unit combined with unit 169.

2-169 SQUAW TITS 11,000 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is adjacent to unit 2-168 and is bounded on the south by U.S. Military Reservation. Unit 2-169 consists of several small scattered hills separated by bajada and plains and drained by several washes. The highest point in the unit is Squaw Tite, elevation 2,478 feet. The unit supports a variety of vegetation, including palo verde-saguaro, creosote-bursage communities and ironwood dotting the arroyos.

Summary of Comments

Although comments generally opposed further consideration, only a few gave specific information on roads and intrusions.

Conclusion

Comments on the presence of roads were field checked. The information could not be verified and it was then determined that unit 169 and 168 are not separated by a road. Therefore the entire unit will be intensively inventoried in combination with a portion of unit 168.

2-170 LOST HORSE TANK 4,700 acres

Description of Environment

This unit, at the southern tip of the Maricopa Mountains south of Interstate 8, consists of a portion of the Vekol Valley. The topography is very flat with less than 100 feet in elevation change. The vegetation is sparse and consists of a creosote-bursage community.

Summary of Comments

Doubt was raised concerning the lack of opportunities for solitude in a small unit surrounded by other remote lands.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Each roadless area must stand on its own merit. In addition, this unit does not meet the size criterion. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-171 ANTELOPE HILLS 13,200 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-171 includes a portion of the Antelope Hills with surrounding bajadas and a portion of the Vekol Plain. The hills are small, rolling volcanic hills which rise from 1,500 feet on the plain to 1,100 feet and 2,664 feet at the highest point. The vegetation consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community with dense stands of cholla.

Summary of Comments

The substantive comment supporting inventory of this unit appears to apply only to unit 2-172.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. It was determined that valid doubt was not raised about this proposal for this unit. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-172 TABLE TOP MOUNTAINS 42,800 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-172 is approximately 15 miles west of Casa Grande in the Table Top Mountains. The mountains are a massive rugged range with several peaks over 3,500 feet, the most notable being the 4,373-foot Table Top Peak. The unit is characterized by steep rising flat-topped mountains with a conglomerate of small surrounding ridges with deep, wide canyons, collectively providing a rich, complex terrain. The vegetation includes sparse mixed desert scrub and a dense palo verde-saguaro community. Table Top Mesa supports a desert grassland.

Summary of Comments

Specific comments on intrusions near the unit boundaries were received. There was a variety of comment on the wilderness character of the unit.

Conclusion

Specific intrusion information was field checked. This information was adequate to delete portions in the northeast, southeast, and southwest corners of the unit from further consideration. The segment of the unit on the west side which was originally proposed as not qualifying was also examined. This proposal was found to be unjustified. Therefore, this area and the remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-173 WHITE HILLS 6,400 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-173 consists of a small portion of the Vekol Valley west of Table Top Mountain. A few small volcanic hills are located in the northwest portion of the unit. The vegetation consists of a sparse palo verde-saguaro community with a creosote-bursage community in the valley.

Summary of Comments

A comment was received on the supplemental values of this unit. No substantive comment on this unit was received.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. The rationale behind this proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-175 BATAMOTE MOUNTAINS 48,200 acres

Description of Environment

The Batamote Mountain unit is 3 miles outside Ajo to the northeast. The Batamote Mountains are a small, hilly, volcanic range of rugged nature. The highest point rises 1,500 feet above the Valley of the Ajo. The unit includes bajadas and a portion of the Valley of the Ajo to the south. Vegetation is primarily palo verde-saguaro, with dense cholla stands. Although sparse, the vegetation contrasts with the rock to create a colorful, scenic area.

Summary of Comments

A considerable amount of sentiment was generated by this unit. Conflicting comments were received about the applicability of wilderness values to this unit. Specific information about intrusions was also received. Fear that the pipeline road would be closed was expressed. (The pipeline road was determined to be a road, thus is the boundary between two inventory units and therefore not included in either one.)

Conclusion

At this stage of the inventory, verified comment was sufficient only to provide justification for dropping a small portion of the southwestern part of the unit from further consideration. The remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-176 SAUCEDA PEAK (formerly COFFEE POT MOUNTAIN) 11,200 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-176 is adjacent to the larger Batamote Mountain unit to the west. This small unit takes in portions of the Saucedo Mountains and the Sikort Chuapo Mountains. The Saucedo's highest peak (4,118 feet) is included in this unit. The Sikort Chuapo Mountains feature rugged, craggy ridges and peaks and is separated from the Saucedo Mountains by a small valley. The vegetation is primarily a palo verde-saguaro association, with several dense cholla stands.

Summary of Comments

A considerable amount of sentiment was generated by this unit. Conflicting opinions were received on the opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive recreation. Specific information on intrusions was also received. In addition, concern was expressed that the people of Ajo were being increasingly cut off and isolated from lands open to motorized recreation, and that any potential wilderness designation would make that situation worse. Fear was also expressed that the pipeline road would be closed. (Since it obviously meets the definition of a road, this route forms the roaded boundary between two units. As such there was never any intent to close it or include it in a "roadless" inventory unit.) Finally, it was pointed out that due to an error on several maps, Coffee Pot Mountain is not in this unit, but rather 2-175.

Conclusion

As a result of the above comment, the unit name will be changed to Saucedo Peak. Substantive information received was field checked and was not found to be sufficient to justify inventorying anything less than the entire unit. The other comments will, of course, be considered, but later in the review when factors such as impacts on local communities will be examined. This unit will be intensively inventoried, in order to determine if there are wilderness values in it.

2-177 POZO REDONDO MOUNTAINS 15,000 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-177, 4 miles east of the town of Ajo, includes a large portion of the Valley of the Ajo and a portion of the Pozo Redondo Mountains. The Pozo Redondo Mountains are volcanic and similar to the Sikort Chuapos to the east. The range rises 1,500 feet above the valley floor. The mountains are quite rugged with several rocky canyons and outcroppings, however the majority of the unit is the broad, flat, plain of the Valley of the Ajo. Vegetation consists of creosote-bursage community in the flats and palo verde-saguaro in the foothills.



Summary of Comments

As with the previous two units, a large amount of comment was generated. A significant amount of substantive information on roads, range improvements, and other intrusions was received.

Conclusion

Specific comments on ways, range improvements, and a dump in the southern half of the unit were field verified. The cumulative effect of these intrusions on the naturalness of the area was determined to be significant and this portion of the unit will be dropped from further consideration. However the remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried to determine if any wilderness values exist.

2-178 VALLEY OF THE AJO NORTH 8,300 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-178 is a portion of the Valley of the Ajo immediately west of Why. This sandy plain is cut by several washes. The vegetation consists of a palo verde-saguaro community with creosote and bursage. The washes support a sometimes dense community with mesquite and ironwood.

Summary of Comments

Opinions received both supported and opposed further consideration of the unit.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. None of the positive comments received questioned BLM's rationale for dropping the unit. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-179 BLACK MOUNTAIN 10,300 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-179 consists of a portion of the Valley of the Ajo south of Ajo, and includes Black Mountain. Black Mountain rises just over 1,000 feet above the surrounding valley to an elevation of 3,008 feet. The vegetation is sparse and consists of a palo verde-saguaro community with some organ pipe cactus, and of a creosote-bursage community in the flats. The several washes that cross the unit are lined with mesquite and ironwood.

Summary of Comments

Opinions received both supported and opposed further consideration of the unit.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. None of the positive comments received questioned BLM's rationale for dropping the unit. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-180 ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 11,660 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-180 consists of a fragement of the Valley of the Ajo with a few scattered volcanic hills. These hills rise only a few hundred feet above the surrounding plain. The vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of creosote flats with sparse palo verde-saguaro community on the hills. Mesquite is common in the numerous washes.

Summary of Comments

Some of the comment validly questioned BLM's proposal for this unit. A great number of comments supported the proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Review of situation evaluation and a field check of the unit has led to the conclusion that our original determination that the area lacks wilderness values and is unnatural, was valid. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-181 ORGAN PIPE WILDERNESS CONTIGUOUS 2,500 acres

Description of Environment

This unit is contiguous to the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument Wilderness. The area consists of small volcanic hills and a portion of the Valley of the Ajo. Vegetation consists of palo verde-saguaro and creosote-bursage association.

Summary of Comments

Specific information was given for this unit concerning roads, mines, and scars.

Conclusion

The initial inventory proposal was that this unit was adjacent to another federal agency's wilderness proposal and may possibly meet wilderness criteria. However field documentation showed this small unit to be heavily scarred by roads dissecting the unit. This area "clearly and obviously" does not meet the naturalness criteria, will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-182 CUERDO DE LENA WASH 10,460 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-182 is a broad, sandy plain dissected by several washes. The area, part of the Valley of the Ajo, has very little topographical relief other than a small chain of hills in the northwest corner of the unit. These hills rise less than 200 feet above the surrounding valley. The vegetation includes creosote

flats, and a sparse palo verde-saguaro community to the north. The Cuerto de Lena Wash supports a dense thicket of mesquite and ironwood.

Summary of Comments

A few comments indicated this unit should be intensively inventoried, however, no valid doubt was raised about the application of the criteria. A great number of comments, many of them containing specific intrusion information, agreed with the proposal. Other comments addressed later phases of the process.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. The rationale behind this proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-183 VALLEY OF THE AJO SOUTH 6,200 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-183 is a small portion of the Valley of the Ajo. It is a flat sandy plain with less than 100 feet of topographical relief. Several washes cross the unit draining to the west. The vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of a creosote flat with some palo verde. The washes support a growth of mesquite and ironwood trees.

Summary of Comments

Several comments indicated this unit should be intensively inventoried and raised doubts about the lack of opportunities for primitive unconfined recreation. The remainder of the comments corroborated BLM's initial proposal.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Although, there is some opportunity for several types of primitive recreation, field verification corroborated our original determination that the opportunity is not outstanding. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-184 GUNSIGHT HILLS 2,400 acres

Description of Environment

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument Wilderness bounds this unit on the south, situated 9 miles southeast of Ajo. The topography is generally small hills and the flat, sandy plain of the Valley of the Ajo. Vegetation is dense, primarily a palo verde-saguaro association.

Summary of Comments

Public comment heavily favored dropping this unit from further consideration. Several specific comments indicated this very small area contained numerous ways and intrusions altering the natural character of the unit.

Conclusion

Field work verified the information received, rendering the unit essentially unnatural and therefore not meeting that criteria. This unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from any further review.

2-185 SANTAN MOUNTAINS 7,500 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-185 consists of a portion of the Santan Mountains, a rugged range with steep, rocky ridges. The Malpais Hills in the southwestern corner are steep with several precipitous faces. The Santans rise steeply out of the plain south of Mesa, with the highest point in the unit being 2,403-foot Goldmine Mountain. The vegetation consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community with dense stands of jojoba and cholla.

Summary of Comments

No specific comment was received.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. The rationale behind this proposal was not questioned. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-186 EAST MINERAL MOUNTAIN 9,420 acres

Description of Environment

This unit approximately 10 miles south of Superior shares its northern boundary with the Tonto National Forest. Topography is intricate, with hills and mountain areas being cut by various steep, fairly deep canyons and valleys. Martinez Canyon is the dominate canyon in the unit, it varies from narrow gorges to broad gentle slopes. The western portion of the unit contains much less relief, primarily rolling hills. Box Canyon is very narrow, with smooth rock walls becoming rugged and broken near the top. Vegetation consists of scattered saguaros, teddy bear cholla and desert scrub.

Summary of Comments

This unit received much comment, opposing further study and describing intrusions.

Conclusion

Comment on intrusions was not location-specific enough to allow immediate verification. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-187 WHITE CANYON 12,460 acres

Description of Environment

White Canyon unit is just east of unit 2-186 and is bounded on the north by Tonto National Forest. The Gila River makes up the southern border of the unit. The unit is in the foothills of the Pinal Mountains with elevations ranging from 3,200 feet to 4,300 feet. White Canyon is the predominate feature, so named for the coloration of the bluffs forming the canyon walls. Several side canyons are quite steep and separated by formidable ridges. Walnut Canyon also traverses the unit and drops 1,500 feet into the creek bed. Vegetation is palo verde-saguaro with a desert riparian community in the canyons and dense mesquite along the Gila River.

Summary of Comments

Support both for and against further consideration of this unit was generated. Much of this comment addressed criteria important in later steps of the review. Specific comments accurately located roads, mine shafts, and range improvements.

Conclusion

As a result of field verification of the given information. The badly intruded southern half of the unit will be dropped from further consideration. The remainder of the unit however, will be intensively inventoried.

2-188 TORTILLA MOUNTAINS 5,760 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-188 is 2 miles west of Kearny, just south of the Gila River. The rounded Tortilla Mountains rise 1,500 feet above the Gila River. The many small drainages create a pattern of small canyons radiating from the ridge tops. Vegetation is mixed desert scrub with prickly pear and cholla stands.

Summary of Comments

Comment was received which stated opposition to further study of this unit. Specific comment on intrusions was also recorded.

Conclusion

Substantive comment on intrusions was field checked but was not found sufficient to justify dropping any portion of the unit in the initial inventory. The entire unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-190 SAWTOOTH MOUNTAINS 9,560 acres

Description of Environment

The Sawtooths are located about 8 miles southwest of Eloy with part of the unit in the Santa Cruz Flats. The Sawtooth Mountains are small, rugged, volcanic mountains with many jagged peaks, giving a saw-toothed appearance. The unit varies from rocky peaks and ridges to bajadas and plains. The range is 1,200 feet above the flats. Palo verde-saguaro association with some mixed desert scrub and creosote-bursage communities make up the vegetation.

Summary of Comments

Conflicting statements concerning the area's naturalness and the opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive recreation were received. No substantive comments on intrusions were received.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried. Intrusions comments were not specific enough to be verified.

2-191 CAT HILLS 9,120 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 191 consists of a small portion of a large valley northeast of the Picacho Mountains. The unit is very flat with two hills (the Cat Hills) rising 75 feet and 50 feet above the plain. The vegetation consists of a sparse palo verde-saguaro community.

Summary of Comments

One comment was received, indicating that "outstanding" solitude could be found

Conclusion

A field check of the area revealed that, aside from a road in the southern portion of the unit, the area is primarily natural. Due to the lack of topographic and vegetative screening, the area was found to lack outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. We therefore conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried and will be dropped from further review.

2-192 BOGARD WASH 17,580 acres

Description of Environment

Unit 2-192 is a portion of a large valley west of the Durham Hills. The unit rises about 400 feet from west to east and is cut by several washes with Durham and Coronado being the most prominent. The vegetation consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community with some mesquite and ironwood in the washes.

Summary of Comments

A substantial number of comments questioning BLM's application of wilderness criteria to this unit were received, suggesting the area was both natural and outstanding.

Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. A field check on this original proposal confirmed that recommendation, although for a different reason than originally stated in the situation evaluation. The area was found to be laced with numerous roads and ways. As a result, the unit was found to be substantially unnatural in character. We conclude that this unit will not be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.

2-193	SUIZO WASH	5,900 acres	<p><u>Summary of Comments</u></p> <p>Comments received was not specific. There was opposition as well as support to intensively inventory of the area.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Although opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation exist in the unit, a review of the Situation Evaluation supports the original proposal that these opportunities are not outstanding. We conclude that this unit will <u>not</u> be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.</p>	2-198	EAST SILVER BELL MOUNTAIN	5,440 acres	<p><u>Description of Environment</u></p> <p>Unit 2-198 consists of the eastern foothills of the Silver Bell Mountains east of Silver Bell Peak, and a portion of the flats. These small volcanic foothills rise nearly 800 feet. The vegetation consists of a palo verde-saguaro community.</p> <p><u>Summary of Comments</u></p> <p>Substantial comment questioned the lack of documentation in dropping this unit and supported intensive inventory.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>A field review of the unit showed that the southwest boundary was a road circling around the tailings pile of the Silver Bell copper mine. The adjacent external intrusions were considered to be sufficiently extraordinary to render the entire unit unnatural and the imprint of man significant. We conclude that this unit will <u>not</u> be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.</p>
			<p><u>Description of Environment</u></p> <p>Unit 2-193 is a small fragment of a large plain west of the Suizo Mountains. The unit slopes gently to the west and is crossed by several shallow washes. The vegetation consists primarily of a palo verde-saguaro community.</p> <p><u>Summary of Comments</u></p> <p>A substantial number of comments questioning BLM's application of wilderness criteria to this unit were received, suggesting the area was both natural and outstanding.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. A field check on this original proposal confirmed that proposal. The area was found to be laced with numerous roads and ways. As a result the unit was found to be substantially unnatural in character. We conclude that this unit will <u>not</u> be intensively inventoried, and is therefore dropped from further review.</p>	2-196	WEST SILVER BELL	10,500 acres	<p><u>Description of Environment</u></p> <p>This unit in the West Silver Bell Mountains is approximately 3 miles northwest of the Silverbell Mine. The Silver Bells rise nearly 1,000 feet above plain of Aguirre Valley. The unit consists of small rolling volcanic hills with well developed bajadas and plains. There are several small washes within the unit. Vegetation is palo verde-saguaro with ironwood in the washes.</p> <p><u>Summary of Comments</u></p> <p>Much comment expressed the opinion that the unit was not outstanding. There was no specific information on intrusions which could be verified.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>Negative comment was not sufficient to eliminate any part of the area. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried.</p>
2-194	PICACHO MOUNTAINS	6,400 acres	<p><u>Description of Environment</u></p> <p>This unit is 5 miles east of the town of Picacho directly north of Picacho Peak. The highest point in the Picacho Mountains is Newman Peak (4508). The Picachos are dramatic mountains uniformly rising 2,500 feet from the valley floor. There are numerous outcrops forming jagged ridges and peaks. Vegetation is dense, consisting of Lower Sonoran, palo verde-saguaro, mixed desert scrub, and creosote-bursage communities.</p> <p><u>Summary of Comments</u></p> <p>Comments received generally stated that the area potentially met wilderness criteria, although several suggested otherwise.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>Negative comment was not specific enough to be verified at this time. This unit will be intensively inventoried.</p>	2-197	RAGGED TOP	7,680 acres	<p><u>Description of Environment</u></p> <p>Adjacent to unit 2-196, Ragged Top Mountains features the 3,907-foot spired peak known as Ragged Top Peak. This peak is 1,800 feet above the desert floor. Numerous ragged ridges and peaks make this a scenic area. The mountains are light colored volcanics and support a dense palo verde-saguaro and mixed desert scrub associations with cactus thickets.</p> <p><u>Summary of Comments</u></p> <p>Comment received for this unit was mixed in its opinion as to the presence of any wilderness values. Specific comment on a road was recorded.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>The substantive comment on intrusions did not provide information sufficient to eliminate any part of the area. Therefore, this <u>entire</u> unit will be intensively inventoried.</p>
2-195	AGUIRRE VALLEY	7,500 acres	<p><u>Description of Environment</u></p> <p>Unit 2-195 consists of a small portion of the Aguirre Valley west of the Silver Bell Mountains. This flat basin is cut by several shallow washes including Aguirre Wash. The vegetation consists of a sparse palo verde-saguaro community with creosote flats and a few mesquite trees.</p>	2-199	PAN QUEMADO	11,680 acres	<p><u>Description of Environment</u></p> <p>Unit 2-199 consists of the Pan Quemado Hills, a complex of red-volcanic hills that rise approximately 800 feet above the surrounding plain. The unit includes a small valley between hills and most of the surrounding bajada. The vegetation consists of a palo verde-saguaro community with dense stands of cholla.</p> <p><u>Summary of Comments</u></p> <p>Numerous comments questioned the lack of documentation in eliminating this unit and further suggested that the area met the naturalness criterion and potentially possessed wilderness values.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Field verification of valid criticism of this conclusion has required us to intensive inventory this unit.</p>
			<p><u>Description of Environment</u></p> <p>Unit 2-194 consists of a small portion of the Aguirre Valley west of the Silver Bell Mountains. This flat basin is cut by several shallow washes including Aguirre Wash. The vegetation consists of a sparse palo verde-saguaro community with creosote flats and a few mesquite trees.</p>	2-200	ROSKRUGE MOUNTAINS	7,360 acres	<p><u>Description of Environment</u></p> <p>Unit 2-200 is an irregularly-shaped unit which consists of the foothills and plains north of the Pescadero Mountain in the Roskruge Range. These low volcanic hills rise about 600 feet within the unit. The vegetation is primarily a palo verde-saguaro community with dense stands of chain-fruit and teddy bear cholla.</p>

#### Summary of Comments

All comment received requested further intensive inventory for this area. A valid doubt was raised concerning the BLM's proposal that the area lacked potential for solitude and that this was undocumented.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as "clearly and obviously" not meeting wilderness criteria. Valid criticism of this conclusion has required us to intensive inventory this unit.

2-201 SAGUARO NATIONAL MONUMENT CONTIGUOUS 940 acres

#### Description of Environment

This unit consists of 4 parcels contiguous to Saguaro National Monument. The parcels are primarily flatlands and low hills with shallow drainages. Vegetation is mainly creosote and palo verde-saguaro.

#### Summary of Comments

Sentiment concerning consideration of these parcels was mixed. A detailed report on wilderness values of this unit was submitted by the National Park Service. It is evident from the text that a substantial portion of the unit is unnatural. The report that these parcels of land do not appear to be a beneficial addition to existing or potential Saguaro National Monument Wilderness.

#### Conclusion

This unit was originally proposed as requiring intensive inventory. Location specific information on intrusions has allowed us to determine that this area "clearly and obviously" lacks wilderness values and will, therefore, be dropped from further review.

2-202 COYOTE MOUNTAINS 5,080 acres

#### Description of Environment

Approximately 30 miles southwest of Tucson, just 3 miles from the Kitt Peak Observatory, the Coyote Mountains rise to an elevation of 6,500 feet. The mountains' granitic structure provides many intricate canyons, some with waterfalls. The unit is a mixture of flats, foothills, and high peaks. The 3,500-foot elevation change allows for a diverse vegetative community. The flats of Altar Valley support creosote-bursage, the foothills palo verde-saguaro grading in mixed desert scrub and juniper-oak brush at the summits.

#### Summary of Comments

Most comments favor intensive inventory of this unit. No specific comments on intrusions were received.

#### Conclusion

Comment sufficient to eliminate any portion of this unit was not received. This unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-203 BABOQUIVARI MOUNTAINS 4,480 acres

#### Description of Environment

Baboquivari Mountains unit is about 18 miles north of the Mexican border, adjacent to the Papago Indian Reservation. Unit 2-203 contains a portion of rugged, Baboquivari Peak, a massive granitic dome which rises 3,700 feet above the valley floor. Vegetation is varied and consists of palo verde-saguaro, mixed desert scrub, and pinyon-juniper communities.

#### Summary of Comments

A substantial amount of agreement that the unit may possess wilderness values was generated. No specific comment on intrusions was received.

#### Conclusion

There appears to be sufficient public support for this area despite the fact that it is slightly less than 5,000 acres. Therefore this unit will be intensively inventoried.

2-204 IVES PEAK - BLACK MOUNTAINS 10,240 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-204 consists of a portion of the Black Mountains. The mountains which rise from 2000 feet in Black Canyon Wash to the 4072-foot Ives Peak, consist of basalt and andesite. These colorful mountains have many precipitous cliff faces and are dissected by several washes. The vegetation consists of a Sonoran and Mohave desert scrub mix and chaparral.

#### Summary of Comments

Considerable comment was received requesting that this area be identified as a roadless unit and be intensively inventoried. The comments outlined the wilderness values present and suggested that the area will be evaluated by current guidelines.

#### Conclusion

Since this area was determined in the Anderson Mine Special Project inventory to not possess wilderness values, public comment was not solicited again. However letters were received questioning the adequacy of the documentation behind that conclusion. For this reason, a Situation Evaluation was prepared and it was determined that this unit may potentially have wilderness values. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried according to the Wilderness Inventory Handbook guidelines.

2-205 TRES ALAMOS 5,620 acres

#### Description of Environment

Unit 2-205 consists of a southern portion of the Black Mountains southeast of where US 93 crosses the Santa Maria River. The mountains rise over 1000 feet above the surrounding Bajada to 3855 feet. Several buff colored and site cliff faces rise precipitiously to a fairly flat mesa top. The vegetation consists of a Sonoran and Mohave desert mix and chaparral.

#### Summary of Comments

Considerable comment was received requesting that this area be identified as a roadless unit and be intensively inventoried. The comments outlined the wilderness values present and suggested that the area will be evaluated by current guidelines.

#### Conclusion

Since this area was determined in the Anderson Mine Special Project inventory to not possess wilderness values, public comment was not solicited again. However letters were received questioning the adequacy of the documentation behind that conclusion. For this reason, a situation evaluation was prepared and it was determined that this unit may potentially have wilderness values. Therefore, this unit will be intensively inventoried according to the Wilderness Inventory Handbook guidelines.

Safford District  
4-1 Mescal Mountains 25,772 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is bounded on the north, south, and east by the San Carlos Indian Reservation, and on the west by State Highway 77. The topography varies from the valley floors of the Gila River and Dripping Springs to the Mescal Mountains. Vegetation types change from desert shrubs at the lower elevations to mountain shrubs and conifers in the upper elevations.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received regarding specific roads and areas lacking naturalness in the southern and western portions of the unit. The roads and lack of naturalness was verified. Comments also mentioned the private property in Section 19. This property is not subject to wilderness review. Numerous general comments were received on the wilderness characteristics of the unit. These will be utilized during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

Portions of the unit, totaling 3,928 acres, are dropped from further review. The remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-2 Dripping Springs Mountains 33,532 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-2 is located southeast of unit 4-1 immediately across Dripping Springs Valley. The unit is mountainous with a desert shrub vegetation type.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received supporting the proposal to drop this unit. Numerous general comments focused on the lack of naturalness.

Conclusion

This unit is dropped from further review, as proposed in April, 1979.

4-3 Ash Creek 6,145 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is approximately three miles south of inventory unit 4-1. The unit is bounded on the east by the San Carlos Indian Reservation and on the north and west by State Highway 77. The unit rises from the Gila River in the west to the mountainous regions in the east. The vegetation type is primarily desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Most comments referred to the absence of wilderness characteristics found in the unit owing to roads and mining scars. Roads that were specifically mentioned were verified. Numerous general comments addressed other wilderness characteristics.

Conclusion

This unit is dropped from further review because it lacks necessary naturalness.

4-4 Zapata Wash 6,360 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is located approximately three miles north of Mammoth, Arizona in the San Pedro Valley. The unit includes the San Pedro Valley in the west and valley slopes in the east. The vegetation type is predominantly desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received regarding outside influences. Other comments addressed range improvements and past mining activity. Numerous general comments addressed various criteria. These will be utilized in the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

Outside influences were not considered overwhelming, nor were range improvements to a degree that would make much of the unit clearly and obviously lack wilderness characteristics. Therefore, the proposal to intensively inventory 6,360 acres and drop 4,480 acres will be carried out.

4-5 Gust James 9,850 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-5 is located in the San Pedro River Valley east of San Manuel. The land gently climbs from the San Pedro Valley to the foothills of the Galiuro Mountains. The vegetation type is desert shrub consisting primarily of creosote, white thorn and palo verde.

Summary of Comments

A comment questioned the impact of outside influences upon the naturalness of the unit. The same commentor said the area is not inviting to recreation and that outside influences were detrimental to man's use of the area for solitude.

Conclusion

This unit lacks outstanding opportunities for unconfined recreation and will be dropped from further review.

4-6 Schoenholzer Canyon 9,420 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is immediately southeast of unit 4-5. Directly to the west is the San Pedro Valley and the town of San Manuel, Arizona. The topography and vegetation types are identical to that of unit 4-5.

Summary of Comments

A comment questioned the impact of outside influences upon the naturalness of the unit. The same commentor said the area is not inviting to recreation and that outside influences were detrimental to man's use of the area for solitude.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review as proposed in April, 1979.

4-7 Horse Mountain 5,330 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is bounded on the north by the San Carlos Indian Reservation and on the east by the Coronado National Forest. Located north of the Aravaipa Valley, the topography consists of low hills and mountainous terrain. Vegetation types vary from desert shrubs and grasslands to mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Many general comments were received concerning the lack of wilderness characteristics in this unit.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review as proposed in April, 1979.

4-8 Black Rock 9,155 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is bounded on the north and east by the San Carlos Indian Reservation, on the south by the Santa Teresa Mountains and on the west by inventory unit 4-82. The topography is rugged mountainous terrain. Jackson Mountains and Black Rock are predominant features of the area. The vegetation type varies from desert shrubs and grasslands to mountainous shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received addressing roads within the unit. Comments also addressed private, state, and Indian land within or adjacent to the unit. Some general comments spoke of the impacts of mining and range improvements on naturalness. Some general comments were received which will be utilized during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The reported roads were determined to be ways or outside of the unit. The private, state, and Indian lands reported in the unit turned out to be outside of it, and in any case, are not subject to wilderness review. Mining and range improvements were not to the degree that the unit's naturalness is compromised. The unit will be intensively inventoried, as proposed in April, 1979.

4-9 Ashurst 11,506 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located south of Fort Thomas, Arizona and the Gila River Valley. The terrain is flat. The vegetation type is primarily desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

Originally it was proposed that this unit lacked outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation. However, comment was received raising doubt about the proposal.

Conclusion

Unit 4-9 will be intensively inventoried to determine its outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreational values.

4-10 Bear Springs Flat 12,398 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located just south of unit 4-9. The topography is generally flat with large washes and mesas. The vegetation type is predominantly desert shrub consisting of creosote on the flats and mesquite in the washes.

Summary of Comments

Originally it was proposed that this unit lacked outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation. However, comment was received raising doubt about that proposal.

Conclusion

Unit 4-10 will be intensively inventoried to determine its outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreational values.

4-11 Bigler 7,437 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is bounded on the north and east by the Gila River Valley and the Tripp Canyon Road. To the south and west is unit 4-10. The topography and vegetation types are the same as those found in inventory unit 4-10.

Summary of Comments

Originally it was proposed that this unit lacked outstanding opportunities for solitude, primitive unconfined recreation and naturalness. A comment raised doubt regarding outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation. However, no comments were received about the lack of naturalness.

Conclusion

Since the unit lacks necessary naturalness, it will be dropped from the review, as proposed in April, 1979.

4-12 Holyoak 5,566 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-12 is located south of Geronimo, Arizona and the Gila River Valley. The topography is generally flat with a vegetation type consisting primarily of desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

General comments provided no new information about the unit. Comments agreed with the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from review.

4-13 Diamond Bar 6,240 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-13 is located within the Gila Mountains north of the Gila River Valley. The topography varies from the valley floor to rugged mountains. Numerous canyons are located within the unit. Vegetation consists of desert shrubs and mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received concerning roads and evidence of past mining activity in the unit. Other comments addressed range improvements. Many general comments discussing wilderness characteristics were received and will be incorporated in the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

No road actually bisects the unit and past mining activity is not evident. The range improvements are not of degree to compromise the unit's naturalness. The unit will be intensively inventoried, as proposed in April, 1979.

4-14 Fishhooks 32,633 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-14 stretches from the Gila River Valley to the Gila Mountains. The topography is hilly, steep terrain climbing to 6,600 feet at Gila Peak. The vegetation varies from desert shrubs and grasslands to mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments regarding roads in this unit were received. Many comments regarding past mining activity were also received. Many comments discussing wilderness characteristics in general terms were received and will be incorporated in the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

No road bisects the unit. Because of the unit's size and the distribution of past mining activity, the unit still appears natural. The unit will be intensively inventoried as proposed in April, 1979.

4-15 Carland Wash 9,147 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-15 is located in the foothills of the Gila Mountains. The slopes are gentle, increasing elevation from 2,800 feet to 3,600 feet. Vegetation consists primarily of desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Numerous general comments were received in support of the recommendations to drop this unit from further wilderness considerations.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review, as proposed.

4-16 Daymine 22,954 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit stretches from the Gila River Valley to the Gila Mountains. The topography slopes gradually from the valley to the rugged mountains. Vegetation varies from desert shrubs and grasslands to mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Several comments were received pointing out roads in this unit. Many comments regarding past mining activity were also received. Many comments discussing wilderness characteristics in general terms were received and will be incorporated in the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

No road was found to bisect the unit, nor did past mining activity compromise the units naturalness owing to its size, topography, and distribution of mining activity.

The preliminary recommendation was to drop the southern portion of this unit due to lack of outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation. The entire unit will undergo intensive inventory in order to determine the exact distribution of wilderness values throughout this unit.

4-17 Oliver Knoll 8,285 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-17 is located within the Gila Mountains. It is bounded on the north by the San Carlos Indian Reservation on the east by Markham Creek. The terrain is steep, climbing to the top of Table Mountain at 5,100 feet. Vegetation varies from desert shrubs and grasslands to mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received addressing roads in the south of the unit which is a portion recommended to be dropped from further wilderness considerations. Past mining activities were mentioned in several comments as detracting from naturalness. General comments addressing wilderness values were received and will be addressed in the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The preliminary recommendations to drop the southern portion of the unit were based on lack of outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Public comment led to the verification of numerous roads in this southern area which eliminates this portion due to impaired naturalness values. Past mining activities were not of sufficient degree or concentration to leave the unit without wilderness values. The northern portion will be intensively inventoried, as proposed in April, 1979.

4-18 Bayce 12,533 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-18 climbs from the Gila River Valley in the south to the Gila Mountains in the north. It is bounded on the west by Markham Creek and on the east by state and private lands. The gentle terrain varies from 3,000 feet to an elevation of 4,400 feet. The vegetation is predominantly desert shrubs and grasslands.

Summary of Comments

The general comments received supported the recommendation to drop this unit from further wilderness consideration.

Conclusion

No change from the preliminary recommendation. The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-19 Talley 11,949 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located north of Safford from the valley floor to the foothills of the Gila Mountains. The terrain gently climbs from the valley floor to the San Juan Mine at 3,600 feet. Vegetation is primarily desert shrub.

Summary of Comment

The general comments received supported the recommendation to drop this unit.

Conclusion

No change from the preliminary recommendation. The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-20 Johnny Spring 8,382 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located entirely on the upper slopes of the Gila Mountains. The topography includes rugged mountains and deep canyons. Vegetation is predominantly mountain shrub.

Summary of Comments

Many comments on roads were received. Comments were also received discussing the impact of mining activity outside the unit. Many comments discussing wilderness characteristics in general terms were received and will be addressed in the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

Reported roads were field checked, and many found to be ways because of obvious lack of use and maintenance, and in some cases, lack of evidence for the reported road itself. One road, however, from Bonita Creek, through Sections 9 and 10, ends at the reservation boundary fence. Another verified road runs from the Bonita Creek Road to the NW ¼ of Section 9. Outside influences were not found to be overwhelming and compromising of wilderness characteristics.

The two roads pointed out in public comment have resulted in a boundary change and deletion of 480 acres. The remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-21 Dry Canyon 5,894 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located in the foothills of the Gila Mountains north of Sanchez. The terrain is fairly steep rising from Sanchez at 3,100 feet to Dry Canyon Tank at an elevation of 4,400 feet. The vegetation is primarily desert shrub and grasslands.

Summary of Comments

General comments supported the recommendations to drop the unit from further wilderness consideration.

Conclusion

The unit will be deleted from further review.

4-22 Turtle Mountain 29,117 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-22 is located between Bonita Creek on the west and Eagle Creek on the east. The unit rises from the Gila River to Turtle Mountain at 6,500 feet. The terrain is steep stretching from the canyonlands of the Gila River to Turtle Mountain. Vegetation types vary from desert shrubs and grasslands to mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments reported a road from Bonita Creek through Bull Gap into the Trujillo watershed. Other comments addressed the outside influence of the Phelps Dodge Morenci operation. Still other comments talked of state and private lands within the unit. Other more general comments will be utilized in the intensive inventory.

### Conclusion

An intensive inventory will be needed to verify whether the reported road is indeed a maintained road or merely a way. At the same time, the affect of the reported outside influences will be assessed. State and private lands, however, are not subject to the wilderness review.

The entire unit will be intensively inventoried. In the initial inventory the Gila River was used as a boundary between this unit and units 4-23 and 4-24. In the intensive inventory all three units will be combined into one, since the river does not qualify as a boundary. The new unit is called unit 4-22/23/24.

4-23 San Francisco 7,274 acres

### Description of Environment

Unit 4-23 is located west of Guthrie Peak. The unit contains many deep canyons of the Gila and San Francisco Rivers and lands above the rivers. The vegetation types consist of the riparian communities along the rivers and desert shrubs on the lands above the rivers.

### Summary of Comments

Comments were received regarding roads. General comments, both pro and con, were received regarding naturalness and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation. These general comments will be used in the intensive inventory.

### Conclusion

The reported roads were field checked and verified. Therefore, much of the southern and northeastern portions of the unit will be dropped from further review. The remaining roadless part of the unit will be intensively inventoried as part of unit 4-22/23/24.

4-24 George Hill 9,781 acres

### Description of Environment

This unit is located between the Gila River and Guthrie Peak, the highest peak in the Black Hills. The topography of this unit is identical to unit 4-23.

### Summary of Comments

Comments reported roads in the southwestern portion of this unit. Other comments discussed range improvements and a transmission line. General comments will be used in the intensive inventory.

### Conclusion

Reported roads were field checked and verified. The southern portion of the unit will be dropped from further review. The impact of the range improvements and transmission line, however, was found to be insufficient to leave the unit clearly and obviously lacking wilderness qualities. The remaining roadless portion of the unit will be intensively inventoried as part of unit 4-22/23/24.

4-25 Wilkerson 9,886 Acres

### Description of Environment

Unit 4-25 is north of Guthrie Peak, in the Black Hills. The topography consists of gentle hills rising towards Guthrie Peak. Vegetation types include desert shrubs and grasslands.

### Summary of Comments

General comments were received which supported the proposal to drop this unit from further wilderness consideration.

### Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-26 Guthrie Peak 11,640 Acres

### Description of Environment

This unit is within the Black Hills south of Guthrie Peak. The topography is steep and mountainous with vegetation types consisting of desert shrubs and grasses.

### Summary of Comments

Comments reported roads in this unit. Other comments questioned the naturalness of the unit. General comments questioned the existence of outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation.

### Conclusion

The reported road in Yellowstone Canyon was field checked and verified. The road bisects the unit into two units of less than 5,000 acres each. This plus the large number of man-made intrusions such as ways and structures impair the naturalness of the unit. The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-27 Brown Jug 7,756 Acres

### Description of Environment

Unit 4-27 is east of the Gila River in the foothills of the Black Hills. Gentle hills are in the southern portion of the unit, with canyon lands along the Gila River in the northwestern portion of the unit. Vegetation types are predominantly desert shrubs and grasses.

### Summary of Comments

A comment was received addressing the unit's riparian area as a supplemental value. Other general comments received supported the proposal to drop this unit.

### Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-28 San Jose 5,649 Acres

### Description of Environment

This unit is in the flatlands south of the Gila River. The terrain is generally flat with the primary vegetation type being desert shrubs.

### Summary of Comments

The general comment on this unit supported the proposal to drop this unit from further consideration.

### Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-29 Junction 5,877 Acres

### Description of Environment

This unit is between the junction of State Highways 70 and 666. The terrain is generally flat but does rise to the gentle foothills of the Black Hills. The vegetation type consists of desert shrubs.

### Summary of Comments

The general comment on this unit supported the proposal to drop the unit from further wilderness consideration.

### Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.



4-30 Thumb Butte 13,383 Acres

Description of Environment

The topography of this unit changes from the gentle foothills in the west to steep mountains in the eastern portion of the unit. Thumb Butte is the prominent feature in this area of the Black Hills. Vegetation consists of desert shrubs and mid grasses.

Summary of Comments

Many general comments were received concerning the wilderness characteristics of this unit. They will be used during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The proposal was to drop the western portion of the unit due to an absence of outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation. This portion will be intensively inventoried to determine its wilderness characteristics. The southern portion of the unit will be deleted due to impaired naturalness values.

4-31 Peach Tree 9,250 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located in the north end of the Peloncillo Mountains. The topography changes from gentle rolling hills in the north to steep mountains in the south. Vegetation types include desert shrubs and grasses and mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

The general comments received provided no new information about the unit. Comments agreed with the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-32 Goat Camp 11,672 Acres

Description of Environment

Located above Duncan, Arizona, and east of the Gila River Valley, the terrain of this area is generally flat. Vegetation type is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments received provided no new information about the unit. Comments agreed with the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-33 Hunter Flat 5,059 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-33 is north of Duncan, Arizona, and east of the Gila River Valley. The terrain is generally flat. The vegetation is primarily desert shrub. The eastern portion of this unit is located on public lands in New Mexico, but administered by the Safford District.

Summary of Comments

The general comments received provided no new information about the unit. Comments agreed with the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-34 Round Mountain 20,590 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-34 is on the eastern foothills of the Peloncillo Mountains. The terrain rises from the flat areas in the southeastern portion of the unit to the hilly lands of the northwestern portion of the unit. The vegetation types include desert shrubs and grasses.

Summary of Comments

The general comments received for the most part supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-35 Lost Lake 9,692 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-35 is in the foothills and lowlands east of the Peloncillo Mountains. The terrain is generally flat with some hilly areas. Vegetation includes desert shrubs and grasses.

Summary of Comments

The general comments received provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-36 Little Grayhorse 10,119 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is on the eastern slopes of the Peloncillo Mountains along the Arizona-New Mexico State line. The vegetation consists of desert shrubs and grasses. The terrain rises from the flats in the northern areas to hilly and mountainous in the southern sections. The eastern portion of this unit is on public lands in New Mexico administered by the Safford District.

Summary of Comments

The general comments received provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-37 Slick Rock 12,260 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is north of the Whitlock Mountains between State Highways 70 and 666. The terrain climbs gently from flat washes to the foothills of the Black Hills. The vegetation is predominantly desert shrub and grasses.

Summary of Comments

General comments were received which supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-38 Stockton 5,170 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the northwest portion of the San Simon Valley. Gentle slopes climb from the valley to elevations of 3,200 feet. Vegetation is primarily desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

General comments were received which supported the proposal to drop this unit from further wilderness review.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-39 Olson Well 10,320 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the northern end of the San Simon Valley. The topography consists of gentle slopes with washes draining into the San Simon Valley. Vegetation is predominantly creosote.

Summary of Comments

General comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further consideration. A general comment discussed roads within the unit.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-40 Tanque 14,634 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the northern end of the San Simon Valley. The unit lies within the flood plains of the valley and vegetative coverage consists of desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

A general comment addressed roads within the unit. Other general comments did not provide any new information.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-41 Judy 7,317 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit lies near the northern end of the Whitlock Mountains, south of State Highway 70. The terrain climbs gently from the washes which drain into the San Simon toward the foothills of the Whitlocks. The vegetation of the area is desert shrub.

Summary of Comment

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-42 Rock Well 12,300 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-42 is in the foothills on the northern end of the Whitlock Mountains. The terrain rises from the lower flatland to the foothills of the Whitlocks. The vegetative type includes desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-43 Cove Tank 25,805 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is on the western edge of the Whitlock Mountains and is north of Javalina Peak. The unit contains Dry Mountain and numerous small hills and valleys. A large percentage of the unit is basically flat. The vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments received provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-44 Hot Well 9,497 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is southwest of Duncan. It is located in the Peloncillo Mountains and in the Whitlock Valley. The vegetation type is desert shrub. The topography varies from flat land to rolling hills to mountains.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-45 Argon 9,808 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the San Simon Valley, east of Highway 666 just south of Artesia. The area is basically flat with gentle slopes and an altitude variation of 400 feet. The vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

A general comment addressed roads within the unit. Other general comments did not provide any new information.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-46 Rock House 5,800 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located in the San Simon drainage northwest of Tanque. The topography is gentle slopes and washes and the vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit.

Conclusion

The unit will be dropped from further review.

4-47 Van Gausig 30,320 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the San Simon Valley, southwest of Tanque and is bordered on the west by Highway 666. The area is basically flat and the vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Some general comments addressed roads within the unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-48 Javelina Peak 18,207 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit encompasses the San Simon drainage and portions of the Whitlock Mountains including Javelina Peak. The topography includes flat land, washes and mountains. The vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comment

Many comments were received concerning a transmission line and associated road in the northwestern portion of the unit. Many general comments were received and will be utilized during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The reported transmission line and road were field checked. The road was verified. The affected area, 3,360 acres in the northwest part of the unit, will be dropped from further review. The remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-49 Hidden Tank 9,069 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the southern end of the Whitlock Valley. The topography includes flat land and rolling hills, and the vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-50 Test Well 11,521 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located in the San Simon Valley north of Bowie. The terrain is predominantly flat with numerous washes. The vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-51 Timber Draw 13,895 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-51 is in the San Simon Valley north of Interstate 10. Desert shrubs are dispersed throughout the flat terrain and numerous desert washes.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-52 Charcoal 6,461 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the San Simon Valley north of Bowie, Arizona. Desert shrubs and grasses cover the relatively flat terrain. The elevation varies only 200 feet throughout the entire unit.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-53 Fan 10,586 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is along the San Simon Valley west of the Whitlock Mountains. The unit is in the flood plains of the valley and the flat terrain adjacent to the valley. Vegetation consists predominantly of desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-54 Rabbit 7,083 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is at the south end of the Whitlock Valley. The entire area is basically flat, with a 100 foot variation in elevation over the entire area. Vegetation is primarily desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-55 Little Franics 7,535 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-55 is within the Peloncillo Mountains, northeast of Orange Butte. The terrain climbs from the foothills to the mountains. Vegetation types consist primarily of desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received on roads. Other comments addressed the impact of range improvements. Many general comments were received which will be utilized during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The reported roads were found to not bisect the unit. The range improvements were found to not be of sufficient degree so as to leave the unit without wilderness characteristics. As a result, the unit will be intensively inventoried as proposed in April, 1979.

4-56 Antelope 6,617 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-56 is in the San Simon Valley northeast of Bowie. Desert shrubs and grasses cover the generally flat terrain.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-57 Contest 5,000 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is within the San Simon Valley northeast of Bowie, Arizona. Desert shrubs and grasses cover this relatively flat area.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-58 Yellow Hammer 24,132 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-58 is within the San Simon Valley northwest of San Simon, Arizona and southwest of Orange Butte. The topography climbs from the flood plains of the San Simon to the flat desert washes. Vegetation is primarily desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-59 Orange Butte 7,940 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the lowlands and foothills to the Peloncillo Mountains north of San Simon, Arizona. Topography changes drastically from flat lands in the southern section of the unit to the mountainous areas of the northern sections of the unit. Orange Butte rises to an elevation of 5,300 feet. The vegetation type consists of desert shrubs and grasses.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received regarding range improvements, solitude, and primitive recreation. General comments were also received which will be utilized during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The impact of range improvement was found to not be of sufficient degree to leave the unit without wilderness characteristics. An intensive inventory will be required to determine the presence or absence of solitude and opportunities for primitive, unconfined recreation. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-60 Doubtful Canyon 13,863 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the Peloncillo Mountains east of Orange Butte and west of Steins Peak in New Mexico. The terrain is mountainous with many deep canyons. The vegetation consists of desert shrubs and grasslands. This unit is in both Arizona and New Mexico.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received regarding roads in the unit. Other comments addressed the impacts of range improvements on naturalness. Still other general comments were also received which will be used during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

Reported roads were checked, but none were found bisecting the unit. The impact of range improvements was not of sufficient degree to leave the unit clearly and obviously lacking qualities of naturalness. The unit, therefore, will be intensively inventoried.

4-61 Bowie 7,862 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-61 is in the San Simon Valley east of Bowie, Arizona. This unit is generally flat, varying only 100 feet in elevation. The vegetation types consist of desert shrubs and mid grasses.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-62 Garnet 7,707 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-62 is in the San Simon Valley immediately north of Interstate 10. The topography of this area is generally flat. The vegetation is desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-63 Rooster Comb 5,955 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-63 is in the foothills of the Peloncillo Mountains northeast of San Simon, Arizona. The gentle slopes of this area are covered with desert shrubs. The topography of this unit varies only 400 feet in elevation.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-64 Dos Cabezas 7,434 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the western portion of the Dos Cabezas Mountains, east of Willcox, Arizona. The terrain is mountainous with vegetation types consisting of desert shrubs and mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-65 Government Peak 20,726 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located in the Dos Cabezas Mountains. The unit is mountainous with rolling hills and flat land in the north of the unit. The vegetation is desert and mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Numerous comments were received on mines in the unit. Other comments addressed private and state inholdings. Other general comments were also received and will be utilized during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The Apache Mine and Elma Mine were both found to be outside of the unit and so not subject to wilderness review. State and private land within the unit is likewise not subject to the wilderness review. The acreage of the unit was reduced after acreage of BLM ownership was re-computed. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-66 Helen's Dome 6,900 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the Dos Cabezas Mountains north of Chiricahua National Monument. The topography is mountainous and the vegetation is desert and mountain shrub.

Summary of Comments

Numerous comments were received on Ft. Bowie. Other comments addressed private inholdings. General comments were received which will be utilized during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

Ft. Bowie National Historic Site was inadvertently included within this unit and because of public comment has been removed from the unit. Private property within the unit is not subject to wilderness review. Therefore, the remaining 6,900 acres will be intensively inventoried.

4-67 Black Duck 22,400 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is south of the San Simon Valley and north of Portal. The topography includes gentle slopes, and the vegetation is desert shrub. A portion of the unit extends into New Mexico.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-68 Walnut Gulch 5,098 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is between the San Pedro River and Tombstone. The terrain is basically flat and the vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about this unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-69 Tombstone Wash 5,546 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in Tombstone Wash which is northwest of Bisbee. The terrain varies from the wash itself to mountains in the eastern portion of the unit. The vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

Many comments were received on roads.

Conclusion

Many of the reported roads were found to be ways. Yet, during the field check for roads, one was found along the west side of Section 20, cutting off the east end of the unit. The remaining land is less than 5,000 acres and so the unit will be dropped from further review.

4-70 Baker Canyon 4,827 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the southeast corner of Arizona and is contiguous to both the Forest Service, RARE II "further planning unit", Bunk Robinson, and the New Mexico BLM "instant study area," Guadalupe Canyon, via a segment of public lands. The topography of the unit consists of mountains and Baker Canyon. The vegetation is riparian in the canyons and desert shrub and Chihuahuan semidesert grasslands out of the canyons.

Summary of Comments

Most comments supported the roadlessness and natural condition of the unit. Considerable support for carrying the unit into intensive inventory was received. General comments received will be utilized during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried, as proposed in April, 1979.

4-71 Wampoo 4,760 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is between Apache and Bitler Creeks, southeast of Clifton, and north of Duncan. The topography is washes and small plateaus, and the vegetation is desert and mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Both general comments received supported the proposal to drop this unit from further wilderness consideration.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-72 Rhodes Peak 304 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is contiguous to the Forest Service RARE II Galiuro additions, and is just north of inventory unit 4-6, east of San Manuel. The topography is low hills and mountains, and the vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received on outside influences. General comments on wilderness characteristics were also received and will be addressed during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The extent of outside influences will be determined during the intensive inventory. The unit will be intensively inventoried, as proposed in April, 1979.

4-73 YLE 985 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is contiguous to the Forest Service RARE II "further planning unit," Galiuro Addition. The topography is low hills and mountains and the vegetation is desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received on outside influences. General comments on wilderness characteristics were also received and will be addressed during the intensive inventory.

Conclusions

The extent of outside influences will be determined in the intensive inventory, which will be carried out as proposed in April, 1979.

4-74 Pothole 5,195 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the Gila Mountains, north of Safford. The topography varies from gentle slopes in the southern portion to rugged mountains and valleys in the north. The vegetation varies from desert shrub to pinyon juniper.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received on roads in this unit. Comments addressing impaired naturalness due to range improvements and past mining activity were also received. Other general comments were received which will be used during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The road between Sections 20 and 29 was found to be a way. A reported road through Sections 20 is a spur road and does not bisect the unit. Additionally, the impacts of range improvements and past mining activity were found to not be a degree that would leave the unit clearly and obviously lacking wilderness characteristics. And so, the unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-75 Linden Creek 160 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is east of Clifton and is contiguous to Forest Service RARE II "further planning unit," Hell Hole. The topography varies from foothills to mountains, and the vegetation is mountain shrub.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received concerning the lack of public lands within this unit. Other general comments were received which will be used during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The lands within this unit are in public ownership. And so, the unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-76 Apache Box 968 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in New Mexico and is bordered on the north by the Forest Service RARE II area, Hell Hole. The unit contains a very dramatic canyon and cliffs and Apache Creek, which is a perennial stream. The vegetation is riparian along the creek, and mountain shrub in the remainder of the unit.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received addressing range improvements. Several comments received will be used during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The range improvements were found not to impair the wilderness characteristics of the unit, and so, it will be intensively inventoried.

4-77 Hoverrocker 3,754 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is southeast of Clifton, and is bordered on the east by the Arizona-New Mexico State line. The vegetation is mountain shrub and the topography is mountainous with some very steep cliffs. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service RARE II "further planning area", Hell Hole, in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received addressing roads in the southern portion of the unit. Other general comments were received addressing wilderness characteristics and will be used in the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The reported roads were field checked. The roads were verified and, in addition, associated mining activity was found to detract from the naturalness of one portion of the unit. This southern part, with its roads and mining evidence, has been dropped from the unit. The remainder of the unit will be intensively inventoried since it abutts on a Forest Service RARE II area.

4-78 Ketchum 22 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is east of Clifton. The unit is very small and is located in mountainous topography and is predominantly mountain shrub. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service RARE II "further planning area," Hell Hole, in the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received stating that this unit is not public land and is too small.

Conclusion

The unit is publicly owned, and since it abutts on a forest Service RARE II area, will be intensively inventoried.

4-79 Cherry Peal 63 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is at the south end of the Galiuro Mountains. The unit is in the Galiuro foothills and the vegetation is mountain shrub. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service RARE II "further planning area," Galiuro Additions.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received regarding a bladed road through the unit.

Conclusion

The reported road was field checked and verified. Because of the road, approximately 2,177 acres were dropped from the unit. But, since the remaining 63 acres abutt on a Forest Service RARE II "further planning unit", the remaining acreage will be intensively inventoried.

4-80 Sycamore Canyon 160 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the southern portion of the Galiuro Mountains. The unit is in the Galiuro foothills and the vegetation is mountain shrub. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service RARE II "further planning area", Galiuro Additions.

Summary of Comments

Many general comments were received which will be used during the intensive inventory. No new information was provided by these comments.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-81 Muleshoe 640 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is at the south end of the Galiuro Mountains. The unit is in the Galiuro foothills and the vegetation is mountain shrub. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service RARE II "further planning area," Galiuro Additions.

Summary of Comments

Many general comments were received which will be used during the intensive inventory. No new information was provided by these comments.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-82 Holdout 108 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the eastern side of the Santa Teresa Mountains and is on the western boundary of unit 4-8. The unit follows Fisher Canyon from the forest boundary on the south to the Reservation fence on the north. The topography is mountainous and the vegetation is mountain shrub. This unit is contiguous to Forest Service RARE II proposed wilderness area, the Santa Teresas.

Summary of Comments

Many general comments were received which will be used during the intensive inventory. No new information was provided by these comments.

Conclusion

This unit will be intensively inventoried.

4-83 Steeple Rock 7,765 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-83 is west of Twin Peaks. The entire unit is located within New Mexico on lands administered by the Safford District. The terrain of the unit is mountainous and vegetation types consist of mountain shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments were received regarding roads near the Ontario Mine. Other comments addressed a road up Silverbar Canyon. Past mining activity was pointed out in some comments. General comments were also received and they will be utilized during the intensive inventory.

Conclusion

The reported roads near the Ontario Mine were field checked and verified. As a result, 165 acres were deleted from the unit. The road reported up Silverbar Canyon is a spur road and does not bisect the unit. Past mining activity was found to not be of a degree that left the unit clearly and obviously lacking wilderness characteristics. And so, the remaining 7,765 acres will be intensively inventoried.

4-84 Pearson Mesa 4,700 Acres

Description of Environment

Unit 4-84 is in both Arizona and New Mexico, east of Franklin, Arizona. The terrain is generally flat covered with a desert shrub vegetation type.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about the unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

--NEW UNIT--

4-85 Tule

Description of Environment

This unit is located in the south end of the Whitlock Valley. The entire area is basically flat with a 100-foot variation in elevation over the unit. Vegetation is primarily desert shrub.

This unit was discovered during the 90-day review period by BLM personnel.

Conclusion

The unit will be deleted from the intensive inventory due to a lack of naturalness and an absence of outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive unconfined recreation.

4-86 Summit 10,820 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is east of the Peloncillo Mountains in New Mexico. The topography is flat and the vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

General comments were received which supported the proposal to drop this unit from further wilderness consideration.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

4-87 State Line 6,500 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is located in both Arizona and New Mexico, and is east of the Peloncillo Mountains. The terrain is flat, and the vegetation is desert shrub.

Summary of Comments

General comments were received in support of the proposal to drop this unit from further wilderness consideration.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review, as proposed in April, 1979.

4-88 Gramma 4,980 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is entirely in New Mexico. The topography is flat and the vegetation is desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

The general comments provided no new information about the unit. Comments supported the proposal to drop this unit from review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

--NEW UNIT--

4-89 Dragoon 453 Acres

Description of Environment

This unit is in the northern end of the Dragoon Mountains, southwest of the Willcox Playa. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service RARE II "further planning area" 3201, the Dragoon Mountains. It is in an area of heavy mining activity.

This is a new unit discovered by BLM personnel during the 90-day review period.

Conclusion

This unit is heavily impacted by roads and mining activity which makes the imprint of man's work substantially noticeable. Therefore, the unit will be dropped from further review.

Yuma District

5-3 160 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a small section of the northern end of the Chemehuevi Mountains, contiguous to a Wilderness Study Area in the California Desert Conservation Area on its south and west boundaries. Vegetation consists mostly of creosote and desert scrub.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received.

Conclusion

They were too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. Therefore, this unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-5 12,320 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a portion of the rugged northwestern end of the Mohave Mountains, contiguous to a proposed Wilderness Area within the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge on its west boundary. The terrain is fairly complex and dissected by numerous washes. Vegetation, consisting primarily of palo verde, is mostly confined to the washes.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

Most of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. Minor changes in the unit resulted from the specific public comments. One section of patented land has been excluded from the unit, splitting it in two. The two resulting units (5-5A and 5-5B) will undergo intensive inventory.

5-6 12,640 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a small portion of the northeast shoulder of the Mohave Mountains. The terrain consists mostly of low hills and washes. The vegetation, dominated by creosote and palo verde, is largely confined to the washes.



Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. Comments questioning the rationale in the Preliminary Findings for recommending that the unit be deleted from further wilderness consideration were also received.

Conclusion

Many comments were too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory. The rationale listed on page 21 of the Preliminary Findings was a summary of the reasons that the unit was recommended for deletion from further wilderness consideration. The unit was recommended for deletion because the combination of its small size, attenuated shape and relatively open and simple terrain left most of it exposed to a number of close-by outside influences to the point where outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation anywhere within its boundaries were significantly diminished.

Since we feel that this rationale remains valid, the unit will be dropped from further wilderness review.

5-7 (A, C, D, E) Mohave Mountains ("The Amoeba") 89,240 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces portions of three mountain ranges (Buck Mountains, Mohave Mountains, and the northern portion of the Bill Williams Mountains), the Mohave Springs Mesa and other outlying areas. As might be expected, the topography it covers is extremely diverse, ranging from steep mountains to flats. This topography accommodates a great diversity in vegetation, and includes several distinct vegetational zones.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness were incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

Most of the comments could not be incorporated into the initial inventory and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. The northern portion of the original 5-7B subunit within this inventory unit has been intensive inventoried in the Crossman Peak Special Wilderness Inventory Project and subsequently recommended as a Wilderness Study Area (W5-1). All public comments addressing the wilderness characteristics of this unit have been incorporated into its intensive inventory evaluation. Boundary roads identified in the special intensive inventory have divided the remainder of the unit into several smaller units: The original 5-7A subunit and interconnecting areas proposed for deletion from further wilderness consideration now form a distinct unit (5-7A) while the remainder of the original 5-7B subunit has been split into two separate units (5-7C and 5-7D).

Areas within the original 5-7A subunit will undergo intensive wilderness inventory, while the rest of the resulting inventory unit 5-7A will be deleted from further wilderness consideration. The resulting inventory units 5-7C and 5-7D will undergo intensive wilderness inventory as well.

Specific public comments on the unit's roadlessness resulted in the following change: A county-maintained road now forms the western boundary of unit 5-7A and splits off yet another unit (5-7E). This new unit will not undergo intensive inventory, as its small size and simple terrain combine with the presence of man-made features such as fences to effectively preclude outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

5-11 The Mesa 14,880 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a large portion of the Buckskin Mesa, a broad and flat area elevated considerably from the adjacent Colorado River and Bill Williams River areas. The vegetative covering is, for the most part, sparse.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received.

Conclusion

All of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory and were deferred to the intensive inventory. Therefore, the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-12 38,080 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a portion of the western end of the Buckskin Mountains. The terrain is rugged, and dissected by numerous drainages. The vegetation is sparse over most of the area, and is concentrated only in the wash areas.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received.

Conclusion

Most of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. A field check to verify comments questioning the wilderness character of that portion of the unit adjacent to the Parker Strip disclosed an extensive area that was clearly and obviously no longer in essentially natural condition due to the presence of man's work in the form of mining operations, a dump site, and networks of vehicle tracks. The area, which extends from State Highway 95 eastward to an area of mining activity in Section 16, T.10 N., R.18 W. will be dropped from further review.

The rest of the unit, excluding those portions originally recommended for deletion from further wilderness consideration, will undergo intensive wilderness inventory.

5-13 Planet Peak 17,440 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces the portion of the Buckskin Mountains that includes Planet Peak. The terrain may be characterized as both rugged and complex, and is dissected by a number of drainages. The vegetative covering is characteristically sparse, including primarily creosote and other desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were received.

Conclusion

Most of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. As a result of information received from the specific public comments, a maintenance road for a gas transmission line now forms the unit's southeastern boundary. The unit will be intensively inventoried.

5-14 Cactus Plain 75,840 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces the western half of the Cactus Plain, an extensive area of stabilized sand dunes. The terrain is essentially flat, with very little variation. The vegetative cover is dominated by creosote, with saguaro becoming dense in the eastern reaches.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Comments expressing support for the intensive inventory of the unit on the basis of its potential roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, as well as the presence of other values, were also received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

Most of the comments could not be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking, and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. As a result of information received from the specific public comments, a one-half square mile area in the southeast corner of the unit embracing several open cut and shaft mining operations, many prospect pits and a maintained access road, will be deleted from further wilderness consideration as it is clearly and obviously no longer in essentially natural condition. The rest of the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-15

52,000 Acres

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received.

Conclusion

All of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Therefore, this unit will undergo intensive wilderness inventory.

Conclusion

A field check of the unit to verify the comments received indicated that the overall impact of vehicle tracks was not as clear and obvious as first believed, and rehabilitation measures could possibly be employed to return the unit to an essentially natural condition. Consequently, the proposal to drop the unit from further consideration was reversed. The unit will undergo intensive inventory.

Description of Environment

The unit embraces portions of the Buckskin Mountains, the Rawhide Mountains and Black Mesa. It is also bisected by the Bill Williams River. The topography is highly varied. Vegetation is sparse for the most part, except for dense riparian growth along the Bill Williams River.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

Most of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory. As a result of information received from the specific public comments, maintenance roads for a gas transmission line now split the unit diagonally in two. The two resulting units (15A and 15B) will each undergo intensive inventory.

5-22

3,680 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit is a narrow section of an extensive bajada sloping eastward from the Big Maria and Riverside Mountains to the Colorado River contiguous to a Wilderness Study Area in the California Desert Conservation Area on its north boundary. The slopes are mostly covered with desert pavement and dissected by numerous washes. The ironwood tree dominates the scenery here, although palo verde, acacia, creosote and mixed desert shrubs co-exist.

Summary of Comments

Comments indicating that the unit may indeed have wilderness characteristics were received. Specifically comments questioned the proposal to drop the unit from further consideration because of an unnatural character caused by the presence of vehicle tracks. The comments asked that the feasibility of rehabilitation be considered.

Conclusion

The unit is largely contiguous to an area in the California Desert Conservation Area that was intensively inventoried and found not to be in essentially natural condition due to the presence of a network of unimproved ways leading to abandoned mining operations to the west and numerous vehicle tracks that heavily scar that area's desert pavement surface. These same disturbances extend into the unit over its entire length, leaving its natural condition similar to that of the contiguous area. Feasible rehabilitation measures appear unlikely to return the area to an essentially natural condition. The unit will be dropped from further review.

5-16

8,160 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces the eastern half of Black Peak and a narrow section of the Cactus Plain. With the exception of Black Peak itself, the area is essentially flat. The vegetative covering is sparse, and consists mainly of creosote.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. They generally agreed with the rationale given for recommending that the area be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further review.

5-20

54,560 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a sizeable portion of the La Posa Plain, an extensive area of stabilized sand dunes. The terrain is essentially flat, with very little variation. The vegetative cover is dominated by saguaro and mixed desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Comments expressing support for the intensive inventory of the unit on the basis of its potential roadlessness and natural condition were also received.

Conclusion

All of these proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory. Therefore, this unit will undergo intensive wilderness inventory.

5-21

15,200 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a portion of the Great Colorado Valley immediately adjacent to the Colorado River. The terrain is gently sloping, covered by desert pavement, and dissected by numerous washes. The vegetation is characteristically sparse, and dominated by ocotillo and suguaro.

Summary of Comments

Comments indicating that the unit may indeed have wilderness characteristics were received. Specifically, comments questioned the proposal to drop the unit from further consideration because of unnatural character caused by the presence of vehicle tracks. The comments asked that the feasibility of rehabilitation be considered.

5-23

Trigo Mountains

70,240 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces the southwestern end of the Trigo Mountains and a portion of an extensive bajada sloping westward from other parts of the range toward the Colorado River. The terrain is highly diversified. The vegetative cover is largely concentrated in the wash areas, and is dominated by smoke tree, ironwood and palo verde.

5-17

13,600 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a portion of the Cactus Plain, an extensive area of stabilized sand dunes. The terrain is essentially flat, with very little variation. The vegetative cover is dominated by saguaro, galleta grass and creosote.

#### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Comments expressing support for the intensive inventory of the unit on the basis of its potential roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were also received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were incorporated into the initial inventory.

#### Conclusion

Most of the comments could not be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. A number of changes in the unit resulted from the specific public comments. Two Bureau of Reclamation quarry sites and the access roads that reach them have been excluded from the unit. A network of maintained access roads to test holes now cuts out a portion of the southeast corner of the unit. A maintained loop road now forms a small portion of the unit's west boundary. Finally, a maintained road down Red Cloud Wash now splits the unit diagonally in two. The two resulting units (23A and 23B) will undergo intensive inventory.

5-27

17,760 Acres

#### Description of Environment

The unit embraces a narrow section of the La Posa Plain, including part of Tyson Wash. The terrain is essentially flat and sandy. The vegetation is dominated for the most part by saguaro and mixed desert shrubs.

#### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were received. Comments questioning the proposal to delete the unit from further wilderness consideration because of unnatural character caused by the presence of vehicle tracks, without consideration of the feasibility of rehabilitation, were also received.

#### Conclusion

The comments questioning the unit's naturalness and roadlessness were too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. The unit was not recommended for deletion from further consideration solely on the basis of the presence of vehicle tracks, but rather because the combination of its flat, open terrain and attenuated shape left it open to the effects of intrusions from both within and without to the point where outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation anywhere within its boundaries were significantly diminished. Consequently, the unit will be dropped from further review.

5-28

2,880 Acres

#### Description of Environment

The unit embraces a portion of an extensive bajada sloping westward from the Livingston Hills into the La Posa Plain, contiguous to a proposed

Wilderness Area within the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge on its east boundary. The topography is simple, open and gently sloping. The vegetation probably consists mostly of mixed desert shrubs and saguaro.

#### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's size, roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Comments expressing support for the intensive inventory on the basis of its potential natural condition were also received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness were incorporated into the initial inventory.

#### Conclusion

Most comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking, and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. As a result of information received from the specific public comments, a gas pipeline service road now forms the unit's north boundary. The unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-29

5,020 Acres

#### Description of Environment

The unit embraces a sliver of the La Posa Plain. Its terrain is uniformly flat and sandy. The vegetation is dominated for the most part by saguaro and mixed desert shrubs.

#### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were received.

#### Conclusion

The comments were too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory and so, this unit will be dropped from further review.

5-30

8,640 Acres

#### Description of Environment

The unit embraces a portion of an extensive bajada sloping westward from the Kofa Mountains into the La Posa Plain, contiguous to a proposed Wilderness Area within the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge on its east boundary. The topography is simple, open and gently sloping. The vegetative cover probably consists mostly of mixed desert shrubs and saguaro.

#### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Comments expressing support for the intensive inventory of the unit on the basis of its potential natural condition were also received.

#### Conclusion

All of the comments questioning the unit's wilderness quality proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking, so, this unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-31

10,240 Acres

#### Description of Environment

The unit embraces the northwest shoulder of the Castle Dome Mountains and a portion of an extensive bajada sloping westward into the La Posa Plain, contiguous to a proposed Wilderness Study Area within the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge on its east boundary. The terrain includes a series of low-lying desert hills along with the open, gently sloping bajada. The vegetative cover probably consist mostly of mixed desert shrubs and saguaro.

#### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Comments expressing support for the intensive inventory of the unit on the basis of its potential natural condition were also received.

#### Conclusion

All of the comments questioning the unit's wilderness qualities proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking and so, this unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-32

12,320 Acres

#### Description of Environment

The unit embraces a portion of the upper end of the La Posa Plain and the northeast edge of the Chocolate Mountains. The terrain includes a series of low-lying desert hills and a portion of an open, north sloping bajada extending into a plain. The vegetative covering over all of the landforms is characteristically sparse.

#### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were received. Comments questioning the proposal to drop the unit from further consideration because of the presence of unexploded ammunition on a portion of its area were also received.

### Conclusion

Comments questioning the unit's wilderness qualities were too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. The unit was not recommended for deletion from further review on the basis of the presence of unexploded ammunition, but rather because the combination of the area's attenuated shape and lack of complex terrain left most of it exposed to a number of close-by outside influences to the point where outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation were significantly diminished. Consequently, the unit will be dropped from further review.

5-33

2,040 Acres

### Description of Environment

The unit is in the extreme northwest end of the Castle Dome Mountains and portions of adjacent bajadas, contiguous to a proposed Wilderness Area within the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge on its east boundary. The terrain is generally steep and complex in nature. The vegetative cover is characteristically sparse, except in the washes.

### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received.

Comments expressing support for the intensive inventory of the unit on the basis of its potential natural condition were also received. Some specific comments on the unit's land status were incorporated into the initial inventory.

### Recommendations

Most of the comments questioning the unit's wilderness qualities proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking, and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. As a result of information received from the specific public comments, a small tract of State trust land has been excluded from the unit. The rest of the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-34

10,240 Acres

### Description of Environment

The unit embraces a small portion of the Castle Dome Plain, an extensive bajada sloping southwest from the Castle Dome Mountains, contiguous to a proposed Wilderness Area within the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge on its east boundary. The vegetative cover consists largely of creosote and ocotillo.

### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Comments expressing support for the intensive inventory of the unit on the basis of its potential natural condition were also received.

### Conclusion

Many of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking and were subsequently deferred to the intensive inventory. This unit will undergo intensive wilderness inventory.

5-36

4,640 Acres

### Description of Environment

The unit embraces a rugged section of the southeastern end of the Chocolate Mountains. The topography is complex in nature, and dissected by a number of washes. Vegetation consists primarily of scattered creosote and ocotillo on the slopes, and ironwood and related vegetation in the washes. Dense riparian vegetation occurs along the Colorado River.

### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received.

### Conclusion

All of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking, so, this unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-37

7,840 Acres

### Description of Environment

The unit embraces a rugged section of breaks fronting the Colorado River. The topography is complex and dissected by a system of washes. Vegetation consists primarily of creosote and beavertail cactus on the plain areas, and ironwood, mesquite and palo verde in the washes. Some riparian vegetation occurs along the Colorado River.

### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation were received.

### Conclusion

All of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking and so, the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-38

Laguna Mountain

9,640 Acres

### Description of Environment

The unit embraces the western half of the Laguna Mountains, a small, low-lying range of gently rolling hills. The vegetation is believed to consist primarily of a sparse cover of creosote.

### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were incorporated into the initial inventory.

### Conclusion

Many of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. As a result of information received from the specific public comments, a maintenance road for an overhead transmission line now forms the unit's western boundary. The unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-39

Northern Gila Mountains

13,120 Acres

### Description of Environment

The unit embraces the rugged northern end of the Gila Mountains. Its terrain is steep and complex. The vegetation consists primarily of a sparse cover of creosote.

### Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Some specific comments on the unit's land ownership, roadlessness and natural condition were incorporated into the initial inventory.

### Conclusion

Most of the comments could not be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Minor changes in the unit resulted from the specific public comments. One section of state trust land and a tract of patented land have been excluded from the unit. Also, an area of about one square mile at the northern end of the unit embracing active mining operations and maintained access roads will be deleted from further wilderness consideration as it is clearly and obviously no longer in essentially natural condition. The rest of the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-40 Gila Mountains 13,120 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a small section of the Gila Mountains, as well as a portion of the extensive bajada sloping eastward from the range into Mohawk Valley. The mountain area is rugged and complex, while the bajada area is simple and open. Little is known about the area's vegetative cover.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Some specific comments on the unit's land ownership, roadlessness and natural condition were incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

Most of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Minor changes in the unit resulted from the specific public comments. One-half of a section of state trust land has been excluded from the unit. Also, a maintenance road for an overhead transmission line now forms a portion of the unit's northwest boundary. The unit, excluding those portions originally recommended for deletion from further consideration, will undergo intensive wilderness inventory.

5-42 Northern Mohawk Mountains 4,800 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces the rugged northern end of the Mohawk Mountains. Vegetation is primarily a sparse cover of creosote.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. Some specific comments on the unit's land ownership, roadlessness and natural condition have been incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

Many of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the intensive inventory without intensive field checking. Minor changes in the unit resulted from the specific public comments. Two small tracts of patented land have been excluded from the unit. Also, a small area at the south end of the unit, embracing two borrow pits and an access road, will be deleted from further review as it is no longer in its natural condition. Despite its marginal size, the rest of the unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-43 11,040 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a flat, sandy area on the western edge of the Yuma Desert. Vegetation consists primarily of a sparse cover of creosote.

Summary of Comments

Comments indicating that the unit may indeed have wilderness characteristics were received.

Conclusion

A field check of the unit to verify the public comments disclosed a good network of county-maintained roads dividing it into areas substantially less than 5,000 acres in size. The unit therefore, will be dropped from further review.

5-44 4,960 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a small portion of an extensive bajada sloping northward from the northwest end of the Mohave Mountains. The terrain is essentially flat over the entire area. Vegetation consists mostly of creosote.

Summary of Comments

Specific comments questioning the unit's roadlessness were received, and have been incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

As a result of information received from the specific public comments, a county-maintained road now divides the unit into two areas less than 5,000 acres in size. These resulting areas will be dropped from further review.

5-45 6,560 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a foothill section of the northwest end of the Mohave Mountains. The terrain is rugged and dissected by numerous washes. The vegetation, consisting primarily of palo verde, is confined to the washes for the most part.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. Some specific comments questioning the unit's roadlessness have been incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

Most comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. As a result of information received from the specific public comments, a maintained mining access road now forms the unit's southern boundary. The unit will be dropped from further wilderness review.

5-46 13,760 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces a small foothill section of the Buckskin Mountains. The terrain consists mainly of rolling hills and bajadas. The vegetative covering is characteristically sparse.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's natural condition, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. They generally agreed with the rationale given for recommending that this area be dropped from further review.

Conclusion

This unit will be dropped from further reviews.

5-47 13,360 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces an eastern portion of the Cactus Plain, as well as portions of the adjoining Buckskin Mountains and Bouse Hills. The terrain is for the most part flat, with some variation near the mountain areas. The vegetation consists largely of saguaro and galleta grass, and is concentrated in the washes.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's roadlessness, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received.

Conclusion

All of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. This unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-48

Bill Williams Mountains

32,800 Acres

Description of Environment

The unit embraces the southern portion of the Bill Williams Mountains. Its terrain may be characterized as rugged and complex in nature. The vegetation, confined mostly to the wash areas, includes primarily palo verde, burro bush and brittle bush.

Summary of Comments

Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude were received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness and natural condition were incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

Most of the comments proved too general to be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Minor changes in the unit resulted from the specific public comments. Active mining operations and mining camps, along with the interconnecting system of maintained access roads that reach them, have been excluded from the central portion of the unit. Also, portions of a county-maintained highway now form the unit's northwest boundary. The unit will undergo intensive inventory.

5-49

75,360 Acres

Description of Environment

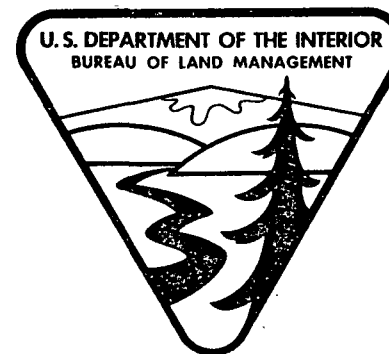
The unit embraces the northern end of the Plomosa Mountains, as well as a sizeable section of the adjacent La Posa Plain. The topography varies accordingly, including the rugged, low-lying peaks that characterize the mountains and an open west sloping bajada that extends into the stabilized sand dunes that form the plain. The vegetative cover probably consists largely of saguaro and mixed desert shrubs.

Summary of Comments

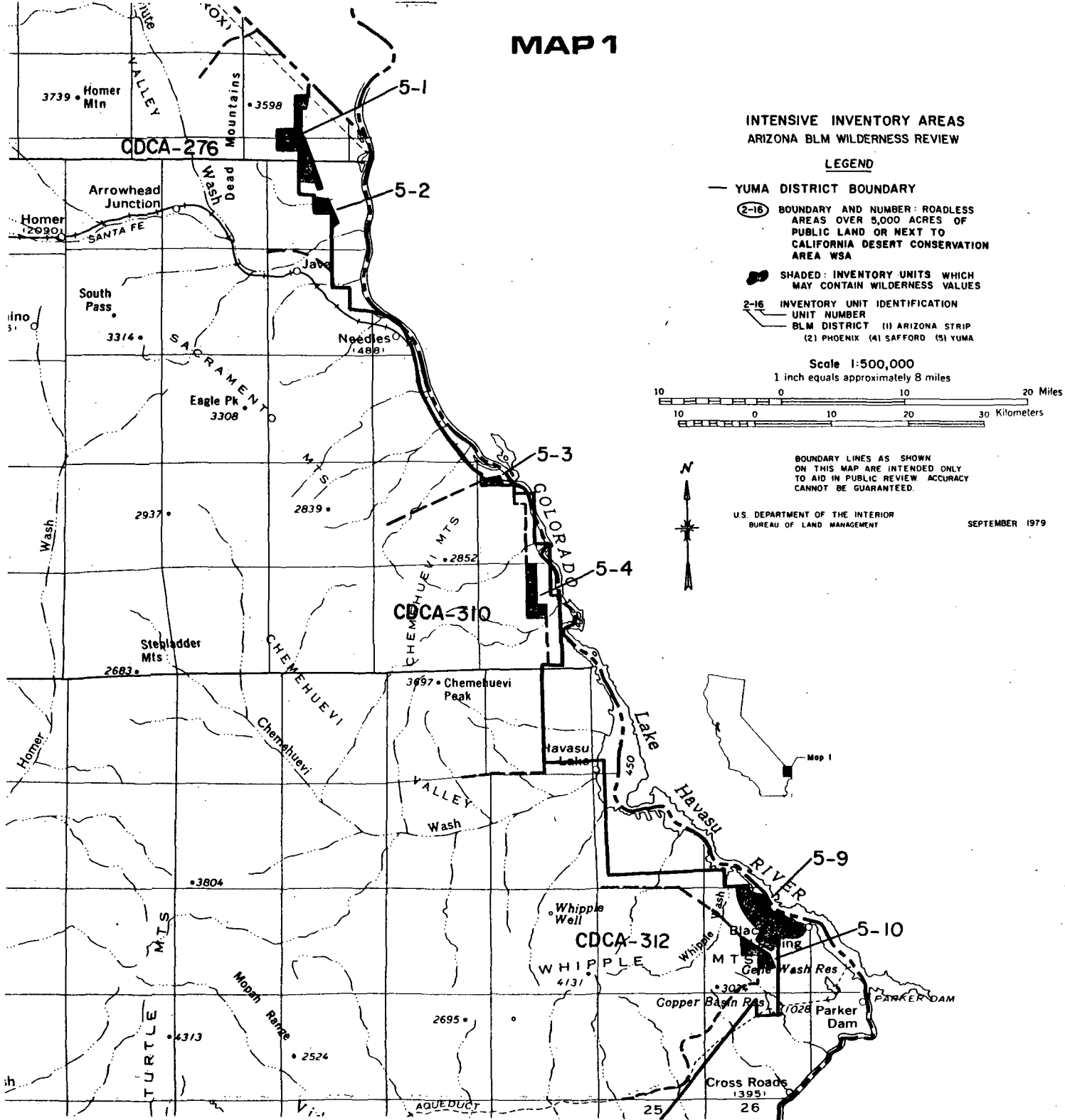
Comments questioning the unit's land ownership, roadlessness, natural condition and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation were received. Some specific comments on the unit's roadlessness and natural condition have been incorporated into the initial inventory.

Conclusion

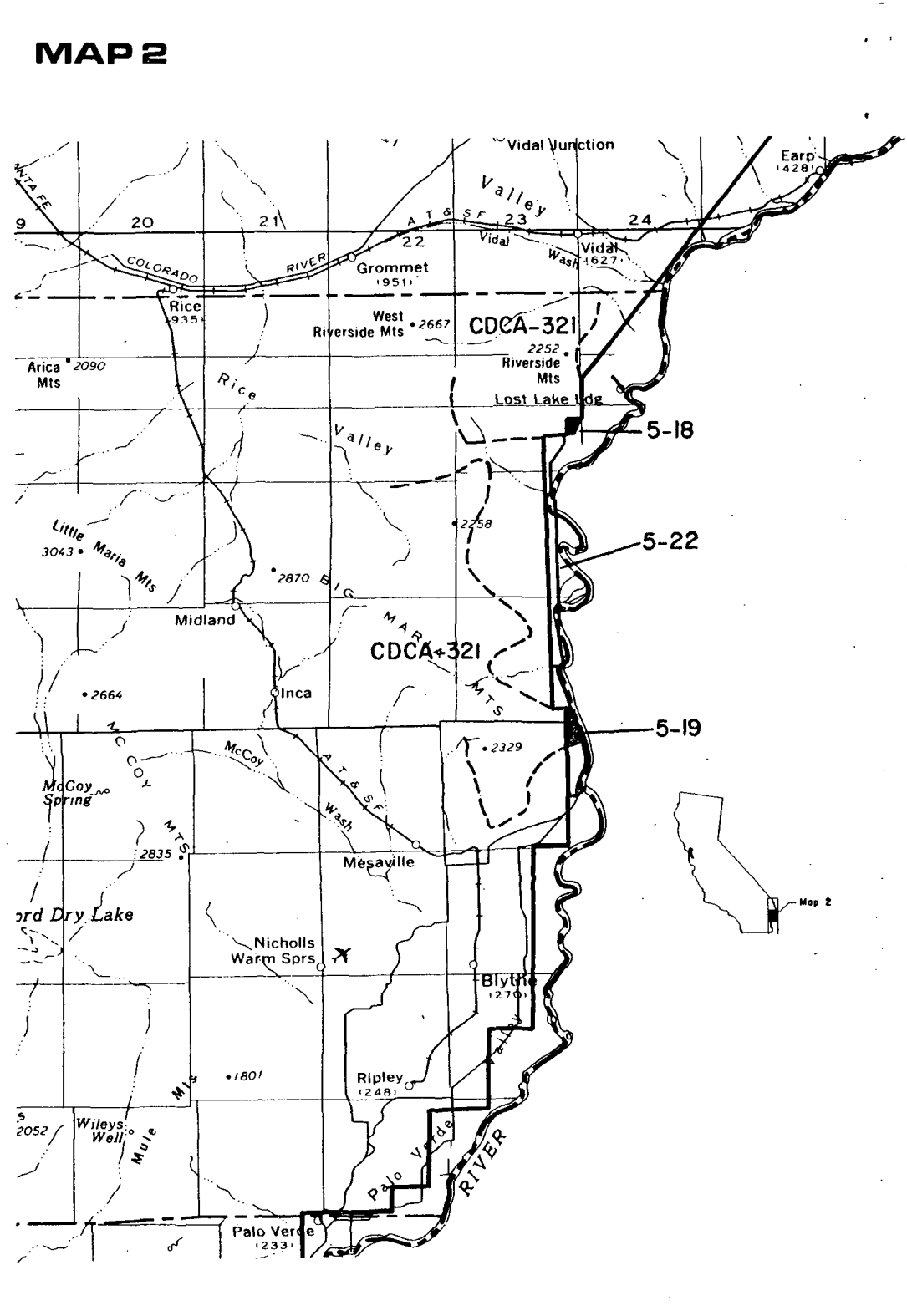
Most of the comments could not be incorporated into the initial inventory without intensive field checking. Minor changes in the unit resulted from the specific public comments. One section of state trust land, which contains a jet engine test facility, and the access road reaching that facility have been excluded from the unit. A maintained dirt road now forms the unit's southeast boundary. Finally, two small areas, within the unit one including a test well site and the other a highway materials site, will be deleted from the unit. Since they are no longer in essentially natural condition.



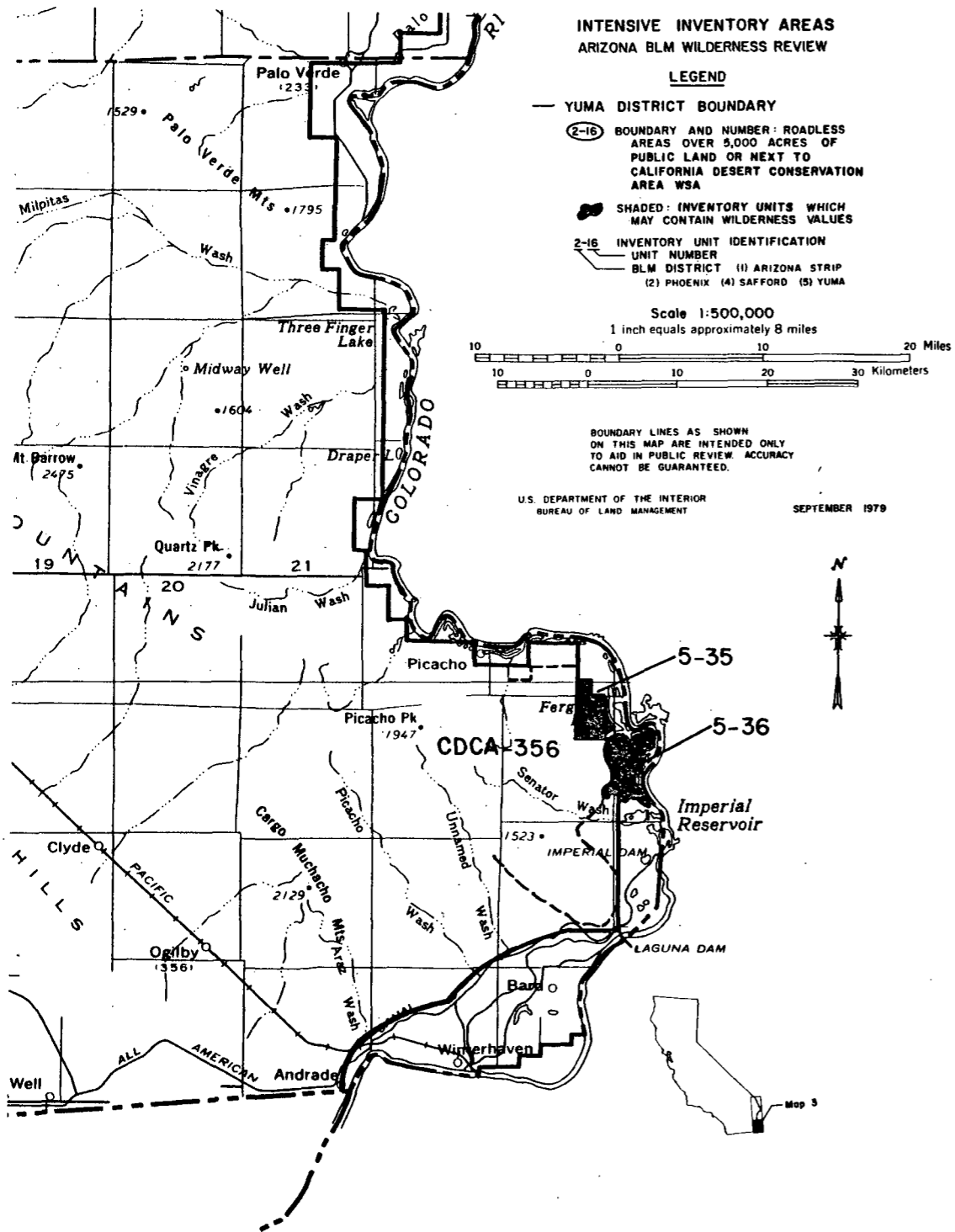
# MAP 1



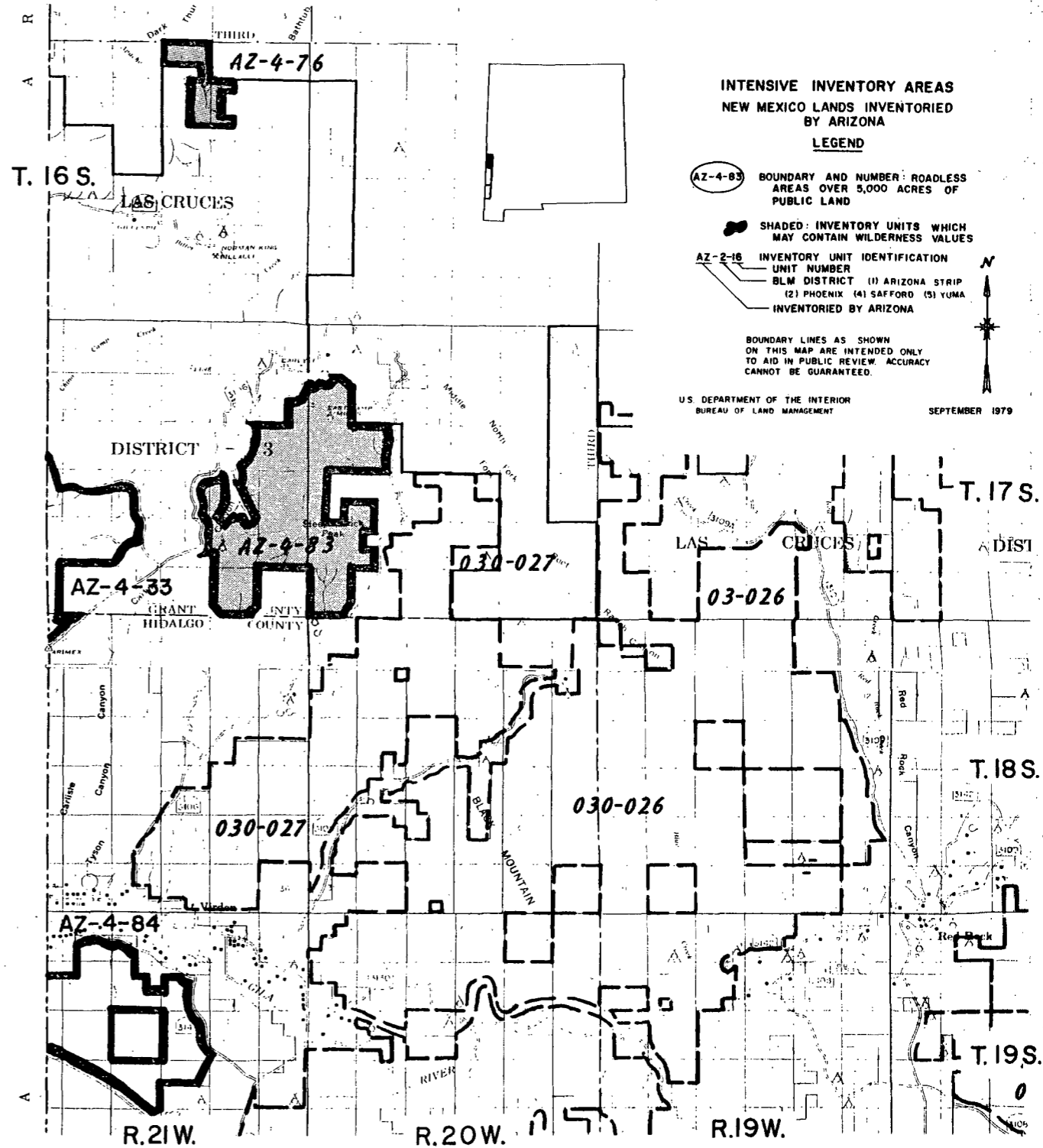
# MAP 2



# MAP 3

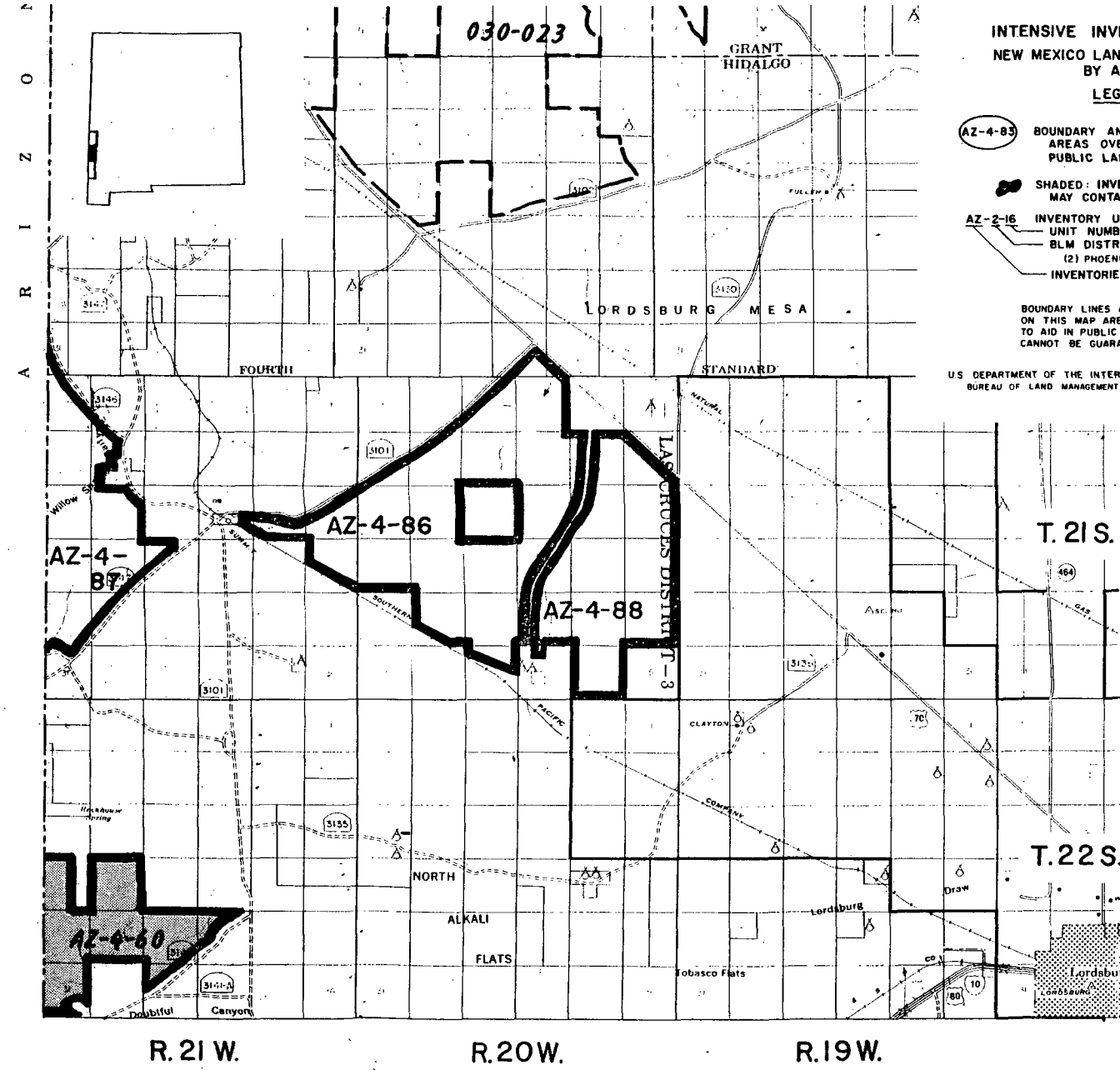


# MAP 4





# MAP 5



**INTENSIVE INVENTORY AREAS**  
**NEW MEXICO LANDS INVENTORIED**  
**BY ARIZONA**  
**LEGEND**

- AZ-4-83** BOUNDARY AND NUMBER: ROADLESS AREAS OVER 5,000 ACRES OF PUBLIC LAND
- SHADED**: INVENTORY UNITS WHICH MAY CONTAIN WILDERNESS VALUES
- AZ-2-16** INVENTORY UNIT IDENTIFICATION UNIT NUMBER
- BLM DISTRICT (1) ARIZONA STRIP (2) PHOENIX (4) SAFFORD (5) YUMA
- INVENTORIED BY ARIZONA

BOUNDARY LINES AS SHOWN ON THIS MAP ARE INTENDED ONLY TO AID IN PUBLIC REVIEW. ACCURACY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SEPTEMBER 1979

# MAP 6

