



APPENDIX C
RECREATION SETTINGS AND
WORKSHEETS

Appendix C

Recreation Settings and Recreation Management Area Worksheets

C.1 RECREATION SETTINGS AND DESCRIPTIONS

Setting prescriptions are a way of describing the desired conditions for recreation resources in an SRMA or ERMA. The SDNM has identified a spectrum of four generalized settings for this planning area, and uses the terms “community interface,” “passage,” “front country,” and “back country” to describe them. These settings are described in **Table C-1**, Description of Recreation Management Settings for SDNM.

Each setting is defined by nine criteria: three condition classes (physical, social and operational) which are further broken down by three components that identify the attributes within the classes. It is the combination of these nine criteria that are determined and prescribed for each RMA to achieve the desired characteristics and outcomes for each area. Proposed management actions and allowable uses identified for each RMA can only be allowed if they remain within the criteria that have been identified for each of the three components within the condition classes. The settings criteria for each class and component are described in **Table C-2**, Recreation Setting Classes Prescriptions for SDNM.

Table C-1
Description of Recreation Management Settings for SDNM

Community Interface	Front Country	Passage	Back Country
Community Interface represents public lands bordering or surrounded by communities and their associated urban infrastructure. This zone will also include lands projected to be influenced by the increasing urbanization of the planning area over the next 15 to 20 years.	Front Country offers the main setting and locations for intensive resource-dependent recreation uses and facilities. Motorized and mechanized vehicles must remain on existing or designated routes.	Passage setting provides a motorized travel corridor traversing the Back Country setting. The passage setting is a very narrow corridor limited to the reasonable use of the shoulder of the route (in accordance with state policy). In most areas, this distance would not exceed 50 feet (25 feet on each side of centerline) thereby limiting infrastructure to small pulloffs and signing.	Back Country areas are large and natural landscapes. Noticeable human-induced modifications are uncommon. Designated motorized and mechanized travel routes entering or crossing Back Country settings are allocated to the Passage setting.
The zone can be natural in appearance, but the landscape is subject to	The lands are generally natural in appearance and may see minor to	The lands are generally natural in appearance and may see minor to	The landscapes are mainly natural in appearance.

Table C-1
Description of Recreation Management Settings for SDNM

Community Interface	Front Country	Passage	Back Country
change from intensive recreation activities and other land use authorizations.	moderate alterations over the life of the LUP due to land use authorizations and BLM management actions.	moderate alterations over the life of the LUP due to land use authorizations and BLM management actions.	

Table C-2
Recreation Setting Classes Prescriptions for SDNM

	Community Interface	Front Country	Passage	Back Country
Setting Prescription Criteria				
<i>Physical Conditions</i>				
Remoteness	Not remote, directly adjacent to urban and rural housing and communities.	Moderately remote, within a one to two hour drive from urban and rural communities.	Remote setting, within a several hour drive from communities to access areas.	Area is remote and primitive.
Naturalness	This zone can be natural in appearance, but the landscape is subject to high evidence of human change.	Mostly natural environment with low to high evidence of human changes at specific attractions.	This zone is mostly natural with low to moderate evidence of human induced change.	Predominantly natural environment of moderate to large size. Human modifications occasionally evident, but not intrusive.
Facilities	Degree of developed user facilities will be moderate to high at recreation sites.	The extent of developed user facilities will be moderate to high at recreation sites.	The degree of developed user facilities will be low to moderate at recreation sites.	The degree of developed user facilities will be low to none.
<i>Social Conditions</i>				
Contacts	N/A	Moderate to high level of interaction (average 25-75 individuals singly or in groups per day). Visitors may encounter	Generally the level of interaction among visitors is low (up to 25 individuals per day) but occasionally up to 75 individuals singly or in groups per day.	The level of interaction among visitors is low. Visitors encounter up to 25 individuals singly or in groups per day on designated trails or near Community Interface, Front Country, or Passage settings and 10 or fewer individuals singly or

Table C-2
Recreation Setting Classes Prescriptions for SDNM

	Community Interface	Front Country	Passage	Back Country
				in groups per day in more remote off-trail settings.
Group Size	SDNM: n/a	Generally the maximum group size would be up to 75 individuals, but groups of up to 200 may be encountered under permit. On average group size would be 8-20 individuals	Generally up to 25-50 individuals with the occasional group size reaching 75 individuals. On average group size would be 4-10 individuals.	Generally a maximum group size up to 25 individuals with the occasional group size reaching 50 individuals. On average groups size would be 2-8 individuals.
Evidence of Use	In local areas (1-5 acres or less) moderate impacts to soil and vegetation persist from year to year.	In local areas (1 acre or less) minor impacts to soil and vegetation persist from year to year.	In local areas (1 acre or less) minor impacts to soil and vegetation persist from year to year.	Impacts to soil and vegetation recover yearly or are negligible in extent (.1 acre).
<i>Operational Conditions</i>				
Mechanized Use	Motorized and mechanized use on designated routes.	Motorized and mechanized use on designated routes.	Motorized and mechanized on designated routes.	Motorized use is not allowed. Mechanized use is allowed on designated trails.
Management Controls	Potentially high management presence with increased staffing of park rangers, campground hosts and law enforcement. Increase in regulatory restrictions and signing likely.	Moderate to high management presence with increased staffing of park rangers, campground hosts and law enforcement. Increase in regulatory restrictions and signing possible.	Low to moderate management presence. The occasional park ranger and law enforcement may be present. Limited regulatory restrictions and signing.	Low management presence from staffing however regulatory restrictions and signing likely at access points.
Visitor Services	Visitor information provision levels are high. On-site assistance at developed recreation sites likely year round.	Visitor information levels are moderate to high. On-site assistance at developed recreation sites likely during seasonal use periods.	Visitor information levels are low to moderate.	Visitor information levels are low.

C.2 SPECIAL AND EXTENSIVE RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA WORKSHEETS

Recreation Management Area (RMA) worksheets are used to develop and document the objective(s), targeted opportunities and outcomes, prescribed setting character, and activity planning framework for designated RMAs. The worksheets are concise outlines of management direction intended for a particular area, as well as the proposed prescribed management actions and uses necessary to achieve those objective(s). Following are the RMA worksheets for the five Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs) and six Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMAs), along with their associated recreation management zones where applicable, for the Lower Sonoran Decision Area.

C.2.1 SONORAN DESERT NATIONAL MONUMENT DECISION AREA SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA WORKSHEETS

<u>Sonoran Desert National Monument Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA)</u>	
<u>Desert Back Country Recreation Management Zone (RMZ)</u>	
Management Focus (RMZ Objectives)	Through the life of the plan the 433,600 acre Desert Back Country RMZ would be established for visitors seeking an undeveloped, back country experience with resource-dependent activities such as hunting, camping, hiking, sightseeing and four-wheel touring.
PRESCRIBED RECREATION SETTING CHARACTERISTICS	
<i>Recreation Settings</i>	12% Front Country; 88% Back Country; <1% Passage
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS & ALLOWABLE USE DECISIONS	
<i>VRM Class</i>	Mostly Class I and II with some Class III
<i>All Minerals Activities</i>	Closed per Proclamation
<i>Lands Actions</i>	Exclusion area for utility-scale renewable energy development and major linear ROWs; exclusion area for minor linear and non-linear LUAs in the designated wilderness areas, and avoidance area everywhere else.
<i>Travel Management</i>	Limited to designated roads, primitive roads and trails. Both motorized and non-motorized uses. Consists primarily of primitive roads.
<i>Road Maintenance</i>	Maintain at levels 1-3 with up to 5% maintained at level 5 to provide two-wheel-drive passenger car access to public use cultural sites, day use areas and camping facilities.
<i>Camping</i>	Dispersed vehicle-based camping would be allowed on existing or suitable sites.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS & ALLOWABLE USE DECISIONS	
	No restrictions for dispersed primitive camping. Over the life of the plan, designated sites would be established as needed.
<i>Length of Stay</i>	14-day limit within consecutive 28-day period. May change in subsequent planning.
<i>SRPs</i>	Authorized on a case-by-case basis in accordance with 43 CFR 2930 and vendor permits allowed if meets criteria established in the RMP and monument objects are protected. Organized groups over 25 people requires permit. Permits will not be issued for organized groups of more than 200 participants at one site. Certified weed-free feed required for all equestrian and stock animal use authorized under SRPs. Competitive motorized and non-motorized speed events would not be authorized.
<i>Individual SRPs</i>	The Sand Tanks Mountains area of the SDNM commonly known as "Area A" would be designated and managed as a Special Management Area that requires a Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range entry and public safety permit for access.
<i>Target Shooting</i>	Open
<i>Firewood Collection</i>	Reasonable amounts of dead and down wood, except collection of native vegetation as firewood prohibited in Front Country and Passage settings. No collection within ¼ mile of developed recreation sites. Saguaro skeletons and wood pallets prohibited.
<i>Amenities*/Facilities</i>	Visitor and management infrastructure would be constructed and maintained to achieve the management objectives. Facilities would be constructed and maintained to accommodate visitation in balance with protection of Monument objects; would be modest in scope and scale; and would be designed to blend with the dominant features of the landscape. They would be placed on non-Monument lands where possible.
<i>Paintball and Geocache Activities</i>	Paintball activities prohibited
<i>Other</i>	Activities, vehicles, and group sizes would be limited to designated sites and lengths of stay; types and speeds; and numbers as deemed necessary to protect Monument objects.
Administrative Actions	
Coordinate and establish partnerships with communities adjacent to the area, interested agencies, user groups and individuals to produce a collaborative recreation management plan. Potential partners include towns of Gila Bend, Mobile, Maricopa, Buckeye and Goodyear, Maricopa and Pinal Counties, Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the Friends of the Sonoran Desert National Monument along with various OHV and non-motorized recreational organizations.	

**Standard recreation site amenity examples - picnic tables, trash receptacles, toilets, developed parking, interpretive signing, and security*

Expanded amenities examples: services such as hookups, dump stations, special tours, access roads or transportation systems and reservation services

<u>Sonoran Desert National Monument Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA)</u> <u>Juan Bautista de Anza NHT Recreation Management Zone (RMZ)</u>	
Management Focus (RMZ Objectives)	Through the life of the plan the 52,800 acre Juan Bautista de Anza ERMA offers visitors the freedom to participate in a variety of motorized and non-motorized recreation activities, with an emphasis on camping, four-wheel drive sightseeing and hiking to enjoy scenic and cultural heritage educational opportunities relating to the historic Anza, Butterfield and Mormon Battalion trail corridor and foster stewardship of cultural and natural resources.
PRESCRIBED RECREATION SETTING CHARACTERISTICS	
<i>Recreation Settings</i>	45% Front Country; 55% Back Country; <1% Passage
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS & ALLOWABLE USE DECISIONS	
<i>VRM Class</i>	Mostly Class II with some Class III
<i>All Minerals Activities</i>	Closed per Proclamation
<i>Lands Actions</i>	Exclusion area for utility-scale renewable energy development and major linear LUAs; exclusion area for minor linear and non-linear LUAs along the Anza NHT corridor, and avoidance area everywhere else.
<i>Travel Management</i>	Limited to designated roads, primitive roads and trails. Both motorized and non-motorized uses. Consists primarily of primitive roads. In Alternative D, the Anza-Butterfield high potential route segment would be limited to non-motorized uses.
<i>Road Maintenance</i>	Maintain at levels 1-3 with up to 20% maintained at level 5 to provide two-wheel-drive passenger car access to public use cultural sites, day use areas and camping facilities.
<i>Camping</i>	Vehicle-based camping allowed at designated sites only. Up to 100 sites would be designated in the RMZ over life of plan. No restrictions for dispersed primitive camping.
<i>Length of Stay</i>	14-day limit within consecutive 28-day period. May change in subsequent planning.
<i>SRPs</i>	Authorized on a case-by-case basis in accordance with 43 CFR 2930 and vendor permits allowed if meets criteria established in the RMP and monument objects are protected. Organized groups over 25 people requires permit. Permits will not be issued for organized groups of more than 200 participants at one site. Certified weed-free feed required for all equestrian and stock animal use authorized under SRPs. Competitive motorized speed events would not be authorized.
<i>Target Shooting</i>	Open
<i>Firewood Collection</i>	Reasonable amounts of dead and down wood, except collection of native

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS & ALLOWABLE USE DECISIONS	
	vegetation as firewood prohibited in Front Country and Passage settings. No collection within ¼ mile of developed recreation sites. Saguaro skeletons and wood pallets prohibited.
<i>Amenities*/Facilities</i>	Visitor and management infrastructure would be constructed and maintained to achieve the management objectives. Facilities would be constructed and maintained to accommodate visitation in balance with protection of Monument objects; would be modest in scope and scale; and would be designed to blend with the dominant features of the landscape. They would be placed on non-Monument lands where possible.
<i>Paintball and Geocache Activities</i>	Paintball activities prohibited.
<i>Other</i>	Activities, vehicles, and group sizes would be limited to designated sites and lengths of stay; types and speeds; and numbers as deemed necessary to protect Monument objects.
Administrative Actions	
Coordinate and establish partnerships with communities adjacent to the area, interested agencies, user groups and individuals to produce a collaborative recreation management plan. Potential partners include towns of Gila Bend, Mobile, Maricopa, Buckeye and Goodyear, Maricopa and Pinal Counties, Arizona Game and Fish Department, the Friends of the Sonoran Desert National Monument, the Arizona Anza NHT Coalition, Boy Scouts of America-East Valley Stake, Mormon Battalion Association along with various other OHV and non-motorized recreational organizations.	

**Standard recreation site amenity examples - picnic tables, trash receptacles, toilets, developed parking, interpretive signing, and security*

Expanded amenities examples: services such as hookups, dump stations, special tours, access roads or transportation systems and reservation services.

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