

Appendix F: Special Cultural Resource Management Areas

These eight areas, described below from east to west, are defined as Priority Areas for Cultural Resource Management and are common to all plan alternatives. These areas contain significant resources that, in many cases, are at risk of damage. Management actions within priority areas will be incorporated into annual work planning for the Phoenix Field Office cultural heritage program.

Black Mesa/Bumble Bee

This area, west of the Agua Fria National Monument, contains significant prehistoric and historic sites including pueblos, rock art, an Archaic artifact scatter, and historic mining and ranching camps. Many of the prehistoric sites were used during the period immediately prior to the Perry Mesa Tradition (A.D. 1250-1450), which represents the major occupational period on the monument. The sites are threatened by impacts from looting, livestock grazing, off-highway vehicle use, and recreational activities.

Galena Gulch

This area, adjacent to State Route 69 near Humboldt, contains an unusual variety of significant prehistoric and historic sites including pueblo structures, rock art, mines, cabins, cemeteries, and the remnants of an early transmission line. Many of the sites are known to the public and accessible from the highway. They are vulnerable to damage associated with recreational activities and nearby development.

Black Canyon Corridor

This area incorporates the proposed route of the Black Canyon Hiking and Equestrian Trail, which follows the path of the historic Black Canyon Livestock Driveway and other historic routes. The area features a number of significant prehistoric and historic sites, which offer opportunities for interpretive development and public education along the recreational trail. As this area receives a high level of recreational traffic, the sites also need to be documented and protected. .

Lake Pleasant/Agua Fria

This area in the foothills of the Bradshaw Mountains, directly north of Lake Pleasant, also incorporates a segment of the Agua Fria River. The area contains significant sites including prehistoric hilltop structures, rock art, and Humbug and other sites associated with historic mining. There are documented occurrences of *Agave murpheyi*, a type of agave that was cultivated in prehistoric times and is frequently associated with Hohokam sites. The integrity of these sites is threatened by the high volume of recreational traffic associated with the proximity of Lake Pleasant. Some sites have been publicized in book, magazine, and newspaper articles.

Wickenburg/Vulture

The area surrounding Wickenburg contains a number of historic sites and roads, associated primarily with the history of mining and settlement. The area also incorporates the Vulture source of obsidian, used for stone tools and traded widely by prehistoric people. Urban expansion and development, as well as recreational and mining activities, represent potential threats to cultural resources. Tourism is a local tradition, and residents have expressed an interest in visiting historical sites and incorporating interpreted sites into trail systems.

Weaver/Octave

This area surrounds Rich Hill, one of the most productive gold mining areas in Arizona's history. The historic settlement of Weaver (AZ N:14:3 (BLM)), other historic sites, roads, mines, and cemeteries offer opportunities to interpret selected sites for public use.

Harcuvar Mountains

This mountain range and surrounding areas contain a variety of significant prehistoric sites, including habitation camps, stone tool manufacturing areas, milling areas, rockshelters, and rock art (petroglyphs and pictographs). The area is near a major historic transportation route and may contain sites associated with mining, transportation, commerce, and military activities during the 1800s. The sites are threatened by off-highway travel and recreational activities associated with the growth of seasonal retirement communities.

Harquahala Mountains

This mountain range includes the Harquahala Mountain Observatory Historic District, which encompasses the Harquahala Smithsonian Observatory, the historic Harquahala Pack Trail, Ellison's Camp, and associated historical features. The Harquahala Mountains also contain significant prehistoric sites including habitation camps, milling areas, and rock art. In 2002, the BLM completed a stabilization project at the historic Harquahala Peak Smithsonian Observatory, which was used by solar researchers during the 1920s. This historic building is a mountaintop destination for both the historic pack trail and the Harquahala Mountain Back Country Byway. The remoteness and wilderness character of the range offer some protection for cultural resources, but sites may be vulnerable to impacts from mining and recreational activities.