



BLM NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Adam Milnor 520-975-1757 amilnor@blm.gov
David McIntyre 520-258-7259 dmcintyre@blm.gov

BLM Announces Public Meeting to Evaluate San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Roads and Trails

Discussion of travel management plan set for July 14 in Sierra Vista

TUCSON, Ariz. – The public is invited to weigh in on the management of roads and trails within the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (SPRNCA), a 57,000 acre area administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) 60 miles southeast of Tucson.

The BLM Tucson Field Office has concluded an inventory of existing travel routes within the SPRNCA. A process to determine public, recreational and administrative uses called a User Needs Assessment has also been completed. BLM is seeking input on how to apply this information to BLM's planning at a public meeting from 6 to 8 pm on July 14 at the University of Arizona South in Sierra Vista (1140 Colombo Ave, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635).

Management of roads, trails and access within the SPRNCA is part of a BLM process known as travel and transportation management. The travel management plan is an important component of the comprehensive resource management plan (RMP) currently under development that will guide stewardship of the conservation for the 15-20 years.

Information from the route inventory will be released for public review on July 1.

Once complete, the travel management plan will provide detailed guidance on which roads and trails are available for public or administrative access. The decisions will be guided by BLM's mandate to conserve, protect and enhance the conservation values of the SPRNCA.

The planning process was launched in 2013 with several rounds of public and stakeholder engagement. BLM recently completed a round of public and stakeholder outreach that solicited input from nearly 200 individuals and dozens of organizations or government entities. The latest information on the RMP is available online at:

http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/planning/san_pedro.html

Public meeting details:

- Tuesday, July 14 from 6 to 8 pm
- University of Arizona South, Room 203, 1140 North Colombo Ave, Sierra Vista, AZ
- Presentation from project manager David McIntyre and other members of the planning team, followed by breakout discussions

For more information, contact Public Affairs Specialist Adam Milnor 520-975-1757.

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The BLM manages more land – 245 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.