

**Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**  
**U.S. Department of Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**

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**OFFICE:** *Lower Sonoran Field Office (LSFO)*

**NEPA/TRACKING NUMBER:** *DOI-BLM-AZ-P020-2013-0026 DNA*

**CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER:** *AZA-20633A*

**PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE:** *Recreation and Public Purpose (R&PP) Lease*

**LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** *San Tan Mnt. Regional Park / T. 3 S., R. 7 E.,*

**APPLICANT (if any):** *Maricopa County Supervisors*

**A. Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures**

Maricopa County Board of Supervisors (MCPRD) proposes to utilize BLM land as part of the San Tan Mountains Regional Park under an R&PP Lease. Currently, the area is being managed under a Cooperative Management Agreement (CRMA). CRMAs are areas that exhibit significant recreation values and have been identified by county and state governments as important areas for intensive recreation uses. The current CRMA between the BLM and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors has expired (September 8, 2013). The Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) is needed to analyze and determine whether existing NEPA documents would be adequate so that the BLM could issue an R&PP Lease.

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

Land Use Plan (LUP) Name: Lower Sonoran Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan

Date Approved/Amended: **9/14/2012**

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions):

LR-2.1.1: Approximately 36,800 acres (including San Tan Regional Park) will be suitable for disposal via any disposal method, including patent, through the R&PP Act on a case-by-case basis.

LR-2.1.2: Land interests disposed of through the R&PP Act will be evaluated on a case-

by-case basis.

**C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.**

The 43 CFR 2740 and 2912 regulations provide for the guidelines and procedures for transfer of certain public lands under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*), to States or their political subdivisions, and to nonprofit corporations and associations, for recreational and public purposes.

San Tan Mountains Regional Park Master Plan Environmental Assessment Feb. 2004.

1. BLM Desert Tortoise Mitigation – San Tan Mountains Regional Park Master Plan 1990.
2. San Tan Mountains Regional Park Pinal County, Arizona Environmental Assessment No. 1792(024). April 1990 (Revised July 1990, February 1991, June 1991).
3. San Tan Regional Park High Risk Mine Closure Activities Queen Creek, Pinal County, Arizona. December 2001.
4. San Tan Mountains Regional Park Master Plan Environmental Assessment. January 1990.
5. Lower Sonoran and Sonoran Desert National Monument Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement. June 2012. (LSFO PRMP/FEIS)

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

1. **Is the proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?**

Yes. The proposed action is in fact a feature of an alternative analyzed in the San Tan Mountain Regional Park Master Plan EA. The current proposed action objective would remain the same as the one outlined in the existing NEPA document. The only thing changing is the “tool” being used to authorize the proposal. A Cooperative Recreational Management Agreement (CRMA) was utilized to develop the San Tan Mountains Regional Park. A Recreational and Public Purposes Lease is an alternative “tool” with the same intent of what the current agreement is and was analyzed in the LSFO PRMP/FEIS.

2. **Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current**

**environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?**

Yes. The range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document are appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests and resource values. The actions were previously covered and reviewed in the San Tan Mountain Regional Park Master Plan Environmental Assessment Feb. 2004 and the LSFO PRMP/FEIS 2012.

- 3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, and updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?**

Yes. There is no new information or new circumstances that apply to the proposed action. It can be reasonably concluded that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action.

- 4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?**

Yes. The direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action are similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA documents. Nothing is changing with what is occurring at San Tan Mountains Regional Park, just the “tool” used to authorize the park.

- 5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA documents(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

Yes. The public involvement conducted during the development of the San Tan Mountain Regional Park Master Plan EA and the LSFO PRMP/FEIS is sufficient, however, the public will be notified of this change in coordination with Maricopa County.

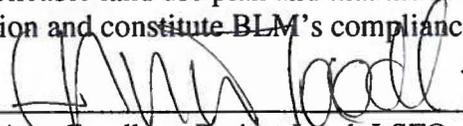
**E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource/Agency Represented</u>
Jo Ann Goodlow	Realty Specialist	Lands and Realty
Ronald Tipton	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife
Jim Andersen	Realty Specialist Lead	Lands and Realty
Cheryl Blanchard	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources/Archaeology

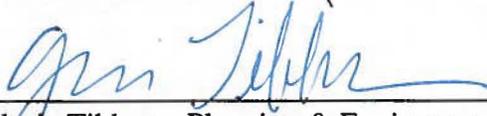
Note: Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents

**CONCLUSION:**

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitute BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

  
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Jo Ann Goodlow, Project Lead, LSFO

6/5/2014  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gloria Tibbetts, Planning & Environmental Coordinator

9/2/2014  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward J. Kender, Field Manager, LSFO

9/3/14  
Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.