

## Finding of No Significant Impact

NEPA Number DOI-BLM-AZ-G020-2013-0037-EA

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached environmental assessment (EA), and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, described below, I have determined that the proposed action with the design specifications will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

### Context

The project is a site-specific action directly involving 358 acres of private lands within the Ironwood Forest National Monument.

BLM has been approached by Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Sonoran Solutions LLC to purchase several parcels of land.

### Intensity

The following discussion is organized around the 10 Significance Criteria described at 40 CFR 1508.27. The following have been considered in evaluating intensity for this proposal:

- 1. *Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.*** The EA considered both potential beneficial and adverse effects. None of the effects are beyond the range of effects analyzed in the Ironwood Forest National Monument RMP.
- 2. *The degree to which the proposed action affects public health and safety.*** No aspect of the Proposed Action would have an adverse effect on public health and safety.
- 3. *Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity of historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.*** There are no known historic or cultural resource sites that would be affected by the Proposed Action. There are no parks, prime farmlands, or wild and scenic rivers in the project area. No Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) is within the project area.
- 4. *The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.*** Possible effects on the quality of the human environment are not likely to be controversial.
- 5. *The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.*** The analysis has not shown that there would be any

unique or unknown risks to the human environment not previously considered and analyzed in IFNM RMP/EIS to which this decision is tiered.

**6. *The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.*** This project neither establishes a precedent nor represents a decision in principle about future actions. The Proposed Action is consistent with actions identified in BLM's guidance as to the acquisition of parcels of land.

**7. *Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.*** This action is not related to other actions that would cumulatively cause significant negative actions. This action could be related to other federal land acquisitions in and around the IFNM that would cumulatively cause positive impacts on the monument objects for which the area is managed.

**8. *The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources.*** This action will not adversely affect any district, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Because there will be no ground disturbing activities, the Proposed Action should not cause the loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

**9. *The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.*** No species will be adversely affected.

**10. *Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.*** The Proposed Action does not threaten to violate any law. The Proposed Action is in compliance with the Ironwood Forest National Monument RMP, which provides direction for the protection of the environment on public lands.

**Finding of No Significant Impact:**

I have reviewed the environmental assessment, # DOI-BLM-AZ-G020-2013-0037-EA relating to the purchase of the parcels located on the following lands:

T. 12 S., R. 9 E., Gila & Salt River Meridian, Arizona

Sections 29, S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

30, W $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 10, Lot 8, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

31, E $\frac{1}{4}$  of Lot 5, Lot 6 and 7, N $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 8, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Portion of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of MS 1390;

33, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

T. 11 S., R. 9 E., Gila & Salt River Meridian, Arizona

Section 27, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

from Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Sonoran Solutions, including the explanation and resolution of any potentially significant environmental impacts. I have determined that the proposed action will not have any significant impacts on the human environment and that an EIS is not required. I have determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the Ironwood Forest National Monument Resource Management Plan approved in Record of Decision dated February, 2013.

**Attachments:** DOI-BLM-AZ-G020-2013-0037-EA

/s/ Viola Hillman

06/18/2014

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Viola Hillman, Field Manager, Tucson Field Office

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Date