

DECISION MEMORANDUM
DOI-BLM-AZ-G020-2014-0018-DNA

Titan Missile Site #12 Interpretive Site Development

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Ironwood Forest National Monument

Project Description

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to interpret the former Titan II Missile Site 12 for public use on the Ironwood Forest National Monument (IFNM).

In 2012, the United States Air Force (USAF) identified a desire to relinquish the 328 acres back to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), as the USAF no longer had a requirement for the property. The BLM and USAF have been collaborating to develop an interpretive program for the site to relate its significance and role in the Cold War as part of the IFNM's interpretation efforts.

Vision

Adapt and re-use the decommissioned Titan II Missile site and its access road for public use, with self-guided, on-site interpretive exhibits relating the site's significance.

Overall Goals and Objectives

- Manage and interpret the former Titan II Missile site for public use as one of the IFNM public use sites and areas, subject to the management direction in the IFNM Resource Management Plan (2013) and 43CFR8300 regulations.
- Utilize visible remnants of the missile site installation, in conjunction with site maps and other interpretive materials, to interpret the significance of the site.
- Designate on-site pathways, and design for minimal improvements and maintenance to accommodate public use.
- Install four interpretive panels, each developing specific themes related to the site's significance. Three of the panels will stand-alone and relate themes that are applicable to the system of missile sites generally, and to the significance of the project site in relation to the system. One panel will relate the importance of the IFNM and the history of use in the area from prehistoric times.
- Maintain the existing access road for public use, and provide adequate turnaround and parking.
- Install site identification, directional, regulatory, and traffic control signs.

- Develop partnerships for the interpretation and maintenance of the site.
- Complete the site improvements and interpretive signing by the end of April 2016.
- Conduct a commemorative ribbon cutting ceremony with special guests on a date to be determined by the BLM and USAF.

Approval and Decision

Based on a review of the project described in the attached Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) and Ironwood Forest National Monument staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the Ironwood Forest National Monument Resource Management Plan (approved February 2013).

It is my decision to approve the action as proposed.

Administrative Review or Appeal Opportunities

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4 and the attached Form 1842-1. If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed at Tucson Field Office, 3201 E Universal Way, Tucson AZ 85756 within 30 days from receipt of this decision. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

In accordance with 43 CFR 2931.8 (b) this decision remains in effect pending appeal unless a stay is granted. If you wish to file a petition (pursuant to regulation 43 CFR 4.21 (58 FR 4939, January 19, 1993) (request) for a stay (suspension) of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the Interior Board of Land Appeals and to the Office of the Solicitor (Department of the Interior, Office of the Field Solicitor, Sandra Day O'Connor U.S. Court House #404, 401 West Washington Street SPC44, Phoenix, AZ 85003-2151) (see 43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
2. The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
3. The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
4. Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

/s/ Karen Simms
Karen Simms, Acting Field Manager

01/13/2015
Date

Attachment: Form 1842-1