

DECISION MEMORANDUM
Humane Borders Water Station Permit
DOI-BLM-AZ-G020-2015-0012-CX

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Tucson Field Office and Ironwood Forest National Monument (IFNM)

Project Description

Humane Borders has requested to renew its land use permit to continue to install three water stations on public lands, one station lies within the southeast corner of the IFNM and the other two lie outside of the IFNM in an area referred to as Little Ranch. The water stations serve to provide water to undocumented immigrants migrating through the IFNM and adjacent public lands. The BLM has issued its short term land use permit to the Humane Borders since 2002. The water stations at each site consist of two 60 gallon plastic water barrels with a spring loaded faucet placed on a 2' x 3' metal stand, and a 30' to 40' aluminum flag pole attached with a 2 foot spike at the bottom. A 2' x 3' blue flag is hung from the pole. The flag pole and flag are placed nearby the water tanks a few feet away. The water tanks are placed nearby existing roads and in previously cleared areas. There is minimal ground disturbance occurring with the setup and take down of the tanks, stands and flag poles.

The water stations are placed in an area where there has been historic high foot traffic or future anticipated migration foot traffic. The water tanks are serviced by Humane Borders who deliver water to the tanks by either hand carried containers or by a water hose. No off road travel is permitted to service the water stations.

The permit will authorize 2 service periods, the first being from May 1, 2015 to September 1, 2015, and resuming on May 1, 2016 to September 16, 2016. The permittee is required to maintain liability insurance as described in the attached stipulations.

Approval and Decision

Based on a review of the project described in the attached Categorical Exclusion documentation and field office and IFNM staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the Phoenix Resource Management Plan (approved 1989), and the IFNM Resource Management Plan (approved February 2013) and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed with the attached stipulations.

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.

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

