



United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Safford Field Office  
711 S. 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Safford, AZ 85546  
[www.blm.gov/az/](http://www.blm.gov/az/)



September 15, 2015

In Reply Refer To:  
1626 (AZG010)

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Safford Field Office, has approved a final *Aravaipa Ecosystem Management Plan* that guides the stewardship of 69,000 acres of BLM-administered land including the Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness by establishing detailed management guidance for recreation and natural resources.

The planning area includes the Wilderness and surrounding BLM public lands and private lands owned and administered by The Nature Conservancy of Arizona. In total, the planning area includes 69,609 acres of public lands and 7,802 of private land.

The *Aravaipa Ecosystem Management Plan* is the result of a long-term collaborative effort between the BLM, Arizona Game and Fish Department and The Nature Conservancy. The collaborative approach recognizes common management issues between the three organizations and increases opportunities for efficiency and consistency.

As an interested party, you are receiving this notification because (a) you have expressed interest in the BLM's management of the greater Aravaipa Canyon region or (b) you participated in preparation of the plan. All project documents including the Decision Record and final Environmental Assessment (reference number DOI-BLM-AZ-G020-2013-0033-EA) analyzing the proposed action and alternative action are available on the BLM website at [http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/info/nepa/environmental\\_library/wilderness\\_management/acmp.html](http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/info/nepa/environmental_library/wilderness_management/acmp.html).

For more information contact the Safford Field Office Assistant Field Manager, Tom Schnell, at 928-348-4420, or the Gila District Public Affairs Specialist, Adam Milnor, in Tucson at 520-258-7223.

Sincerely,

Scott C. Cooke  
Field Manager