

# San Rafael Desert Travel Management Monitoring During Planning June 2020 Report



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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Price Field Office is currently preparing a travel management plan (TMP) and environmental assessment (EA) for the San Rafael Desert (SRD) Travel Management Area (TMA) as shown in Appendix A. The SRD TMP will be completed in accordance with *Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, et al. v U.S. Department of the Interior, et al* (Settlement Agreement).

Section 20.a of the Settlement Agreement states that the BLM will create a baseline monitoring report that will document visually-apparent unauthorized surface disturbances off routes as well as visually-apparent damage to public lands resources caused by motorized vehicle use within Wilderness Study Areas (WSA), Natural Areas, and/or lands with BLM-inventoried wilderness characteristics. That report was released in June 2019 and generated by adhering to the following procedures:

- An on-the-ground inspection of those portions of routes within the SRD TMA that are within or constitute a boundary to a WSA, Natural area, and/or lands with BLM-inventoried wilderness characteristics.
- Each disturbance and/or damage was documented with site photography and a written narrative, along with the following information:
  - 1. Geospatial coordinate of the site
  - 2. Route number or other identifier
    - Date of the physical inspection
    - Name of TMA
    - Name of the inspector(s)
  - 3. Observed usage intensity (none, light, medium, heavy)
  - 4. Apparent geographic extent of disturbance or damage
  - 5. If possible:
    - Apparent type of motorized vehicle(s) that caused damage or disturbance
    - Apparent purpose of the disturbance
    - Type of public land resource damaged by motorized vehicle use

Section 20.b of the settlement agreement requires that after the BLM completes the baseline monitoring report required by paragraph 20.a, it will, at least one time per year, inspect all sites where BLM's baseline monitoring report previously identified disturbance and damage. It also requires that the BLM inspect any other areas where the BLM has received credible information for new disturbances or damage. The BLM completed the original baseline monitoring report for the San Rafael Desert in

The BLM completed the original baseline monitoring report for the San Rafael Desert in June of 2019. This report was prepared in compliance with section 20. B of the settlement agreement, for the 24 sites that were identified as having a disturbance or



damage from the baseline monitoring report.

### 2. MONITORING/INSPECTIONS

The BLM Price Field Office did not receive any new information about new disturbances or damage. The BLM re-visited and inspected the 24 damage points documented during the baseline monitoring report.

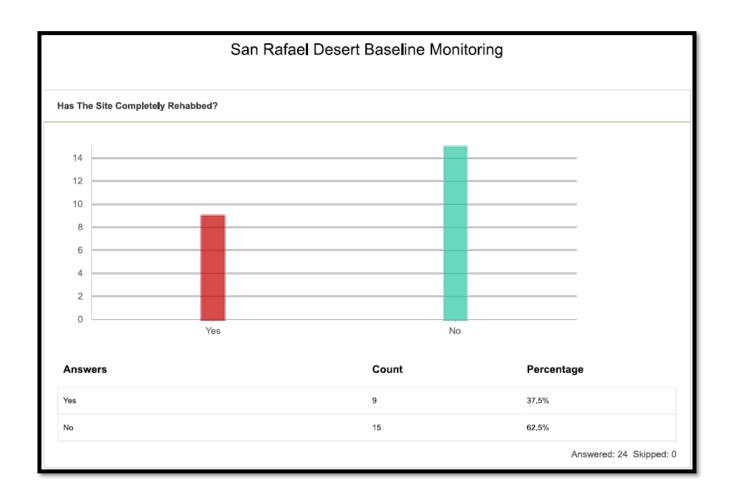
BLM employees followed the same monitoring protocols used for in baseline monitoring. Refer to the original baseline monitoring report from 2019 for details on methodology. In addition to the monitoring protocols, the team had a copy of the original site pictures and reports to facilitate the comparison with the current site conditions. Questions were added to the field survey to help compare and document how those sites look currently as compared to the original reports. The first additional questions that was added was, is this a new site showing visually apparent disturbance or damage. If no, a route number/identifier was required to fill in. If yes, then the new site data was collected. The second additional questions added was, has the site complete rehabbed? If yes, then a picture was taken, and no new disturbance data was collected. If no, then the new disturbance data was collected, following the baseline monitoring protocol. The third additional question added was, is the site improving/recovering from previously document disturbance. This question helped identify which sites were improving, which sites remained the nearly the same, and which sites may have become worse. A team of BLM employees physically inspected and re-visited the 24 sites that were found to have damage or disturbances in the original report. These field inspections surveys were completed from May 6<sup>th</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

### 3. FINDINGS

Of the 24 sites re-visited, many sites stayed in similar condition or were improving in condition. Nine sites were no longer apparent, and one site had increased disturbance. The detailed monitoring inspection reports from 2020 for each site can be reviewed in Appendix C. For a map showing a point at the location of each damage/disturbance visited, see Appendix B. Each of these points are labeled with a number that connects it to the forms located in Appendix C.

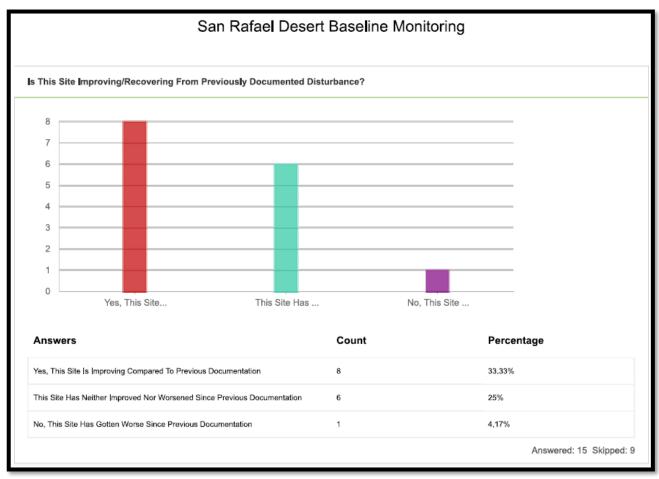


As shown on the chart below, 9 of the 24 sites revisited were identified as having completely rehabilitated. Most of these sites were recorded as having evidence of vehicle tracks in sandy soils, or in dry washes. When these sites were re-visited, those vehicle tracks were no longer apparent.





The 15 remaining sites were identified as still having disturbance/damage, but only one site was identified to have grown or becoming worse. Six sites had remained very similar to the original documentation of disturbance, and eight of the sites were identified as improving, but not complete rehabbed. The chart below shows the determination of how the BLM employees rated these 15 sites, compared to the original documentation form the Baseline Monitoring Report.



The apparent type of vehicle and the apparent purpose to these sites was also recorded by the BLM employees. Most of these sites appear to be impacted by the use of full size vehicles, and 4 of them were caused from smaller OHV's. As for the apparent purpose of these sites of these 15 sites, it was recorded that 6 of them were short spurs, 3 were dispersed camping, 2 were play areas, 3 were cross country travel, and 1 was identified as unknown.

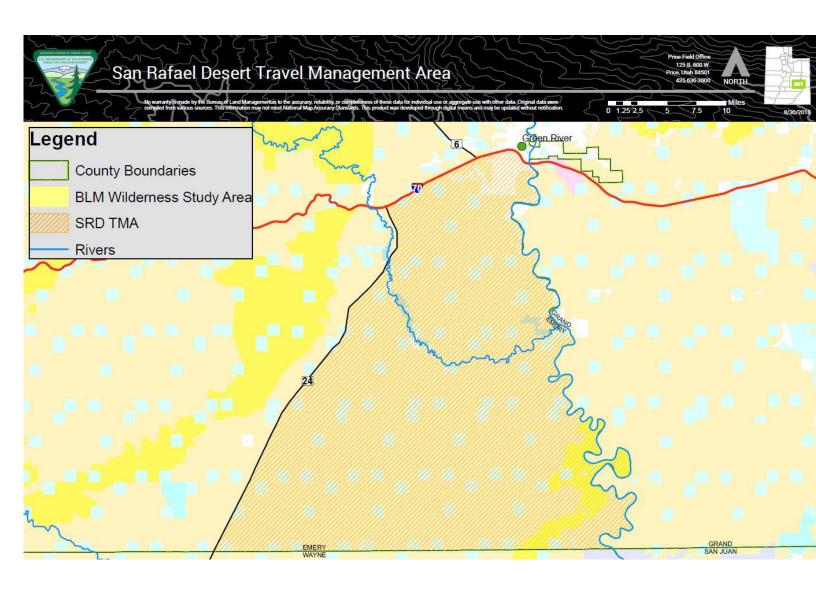


# 4. Conclusion

The 2020 inspections of the previously documented disturbance shows the majority of sites are improving. Annual monitoring will continue either under the method described in this report or under an approved Travel Management Implementation Guide.



# APPENDIX A – SAN RAFAEL DESERT TRAVEL MANAGEMENT AREA MAP





# APPENDIX B - DISTURBANCES AND DAMAGE MAP



# APPENDIX C – BASELINE MONITORING INSPECTION REPORTS FROM 2020

# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

Youth Corps Lucas Farmer N/A Yes

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

15 06/03/2020 9:58 AM San Rafael Desert SD765





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

**Additional Comments** 

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

17 05/06/2020 12:22 PM San Rafael Desert SD838

Disturbance Or Damage Observations:

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or Low Continues beyond LOS N/A N/A

Damage

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

ATV/UTV Cross Country Travel Soil, Vegetation

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

Yes, This Site Is Improving Compared To Previous N/A N/A





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

20 05/06/2020 1:09 PM San Rafael Desert SD 855

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or Medium 50 - 100 ft N/A N/A

Damage

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

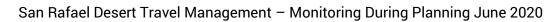
Full Sized Vehicle Dispersed Camping Soil

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

This Site Has Neither Improved Nor Worsened Since Previous N/A Potential camping site within regulations







Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve Yes

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

22 05/06/2020 1:22 PM San Rafael Desert SD796





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve Yes

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

25 05/06/2020 11:38 AM San Rafael Desert SD421





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

26 05/06/2020 11:31 AM San Rafael Desert SD421

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or High N/A <.25 acres N/A

Damage

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

Full Sized Vehicle, Play Area Soil, Wilderness Characteristic

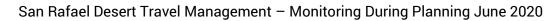
ATV/UTV

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

This Site Has Neither Improved Nor Worsened Since Previous N/A Not really a disturbance, more of a pull off







Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

27 05/06/2020 11:51 AM San Rafael Desert SD819

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

End of Route N/A N/A N/A N/A

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

N/A N/A N/A

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

Yes, This Site Is Improving Compared To Previous N/A N/A







Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

100 - 200 ft

N/A

N/A

**Additional Comments** 

N/A

N/A

Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

**Rehabilitation Comments** 

BLM Employee N/A Steve Petrich No

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

29 05/06/2020 9:33 AM San Rafael Desert SD1305

Disturbance Or Damage Observations:

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or

Damage

Apparent Purpose of Damage:

Apparent Type of Motor Vehicle:

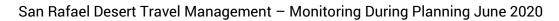
Full Sized Vehicle Other Damage

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously

**Documented Disturbance?** 

Yes, This Site Is Improving Compared To Previous







Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

30 05/06/2020 9:23 AM San Rafael Desert SD1305

Disturbance Or Damage Observations:

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Route not Apparent N/A N/A N/A N/A

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

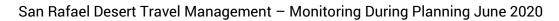
Motor Vehicle:

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

Yes, This Site Is Improving Compared To Previous N/A N/A







Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

41 05/06/2020 9:56 AM San Rafael Desert SD421

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or Medium N/A <.25 acres N/A

Damage

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

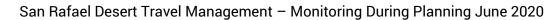
Full Sized Vehicle Play Area Soil

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

This Site Has Neither Improved Nor Worsened Since Previous N/A N/A







Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

42 05/06/2020 9:53 AM San Rafael Desert SD421

Disturbance Or Damage Observations:

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or Low Continues beyond LOS N/A N/A

Damage

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

Full Sized Vehicle Cross Country Travel Soil

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

Yes, This Site Is Improving Compared To Previous N/A N/A





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

Youth Corps Lucas Farmer N/A Yes

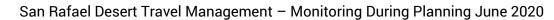
Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

54 06/03/2020 2:36 PM San Rafael Desert SD084

### **Rehabilitation Comments:**

Sand dunes taken over site. Based off previous photo of disturbance, the sand dunes have shifted drastically.







Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

67 05/11/2020 11:43 AM San Rafael Desert SD876

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or Low Continues beyond LOS N/A N/A

Damage

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

Full Sized Vehicle, Short Spur Soil

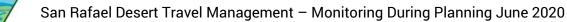
ATV/UTV

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

Yes, This Site Is Improving Compared To Previous N/A N/A







Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

**Additional Comments** 

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

80 05/06/2020 3:02 PM San Rafael Desert SD668

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or High Continues beyond LOS N/A N/A

Damage

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

Full Sized Vehicle Short Spur, Dispersed Camping Soi

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

This Site Has Neither Improved Nor Worsened Since Previous N/A N/A





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve No

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

93 05/06/2020 2:23 PM San Rafael Desert SD682

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or Medium Continues beyond LOS N/A N/A

Damage

Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

Full Sized Vehicle Cross Country Travel Soil, Wilderness Characteristic

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

**Documented Disturbance?** 

This Site Has Neither Improved Nor Worsened Since Previous N/A N/A





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

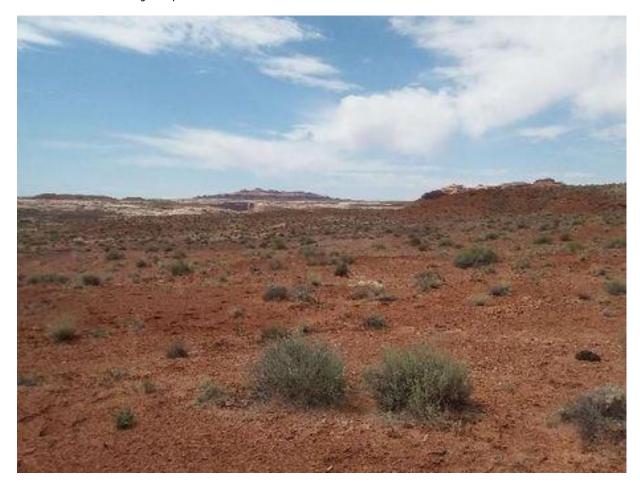
Youth Corps Lucas Farmer N/A Yes

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

94 06/03/2020 11:02 AM San Rafael Desert SD681

### **Rehabilitation Comments:**

Site has been reclaimed. Signs of previous disturbance can't be found.





Route ID:

# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve Yes

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Petrich

Price Field Office TMA:

96 05/06/2020 2:09 PM San Rafael Desert SD681





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

50 - 100 ft

Youth Corps Lucas Farmer N/A No

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

98 06/03/2020 10:27 AM San Rafael Desert SD706

Disturbance Or Damage Observations:

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or High

Damage

Apparent Purpose of Damage:

Apparent Type of Motor Vehicle:

Full Sized Vehicle Short Spur, Dispersed Camping

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously

**Documented Disturbance?** 

No, This Site Has Gotten Worse Since Previous

Documentation

Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Soil, Vegetation
Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

Trendomation comments Traditional commen

N/A

Short spur to campsite

Heavy use does not allow N/A

site to reclaim.





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve Yes

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

106 05/06/2020 3:44 PM San Rafael Desert SD771







Name of Inspector (BLM) Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

Continues beyond LOS

**Rehabilitation Comments** 

Soil, Vegetation

N/A

Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

N/A

**Additional Comments** 

N/A

N/A

N/A Steve Petrich **BLM Employee** No

Price Field Office TMA: Site ID Number: **Date Of Physical Inspection** Route ID:

139 05/15/2020 12:10 PM San Rafael Desert SD142

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

**Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent:** Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or

Damage

**Apparent Type of Apparent Purpose of Damage:** 

Motor Vehicle:

Full Sized Vehicle, Short Spur, Unknown

ATV/UTV

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously

**Documented Disturbance?** 

Yes, This Site Is Improving Compared To Previous





# **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve Yes

Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

146 05/11/2020 2:26 PM San Rafael Desert SD050





### **TMA Route Monitoring**

Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

Youth Corps Lucas Farmer N/A No

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

307 05/07/2020 12:55 PM San Rafael Desert SD431

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent: Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or L

Damage Apparent Type of

Apparent Purpose of Damage: Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Motor Vehicle:

Full Sized Vehicle Short Spur

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously

**Documented Disturbance?** 

Yes, This Site Is Improving Compared To Previous

Documentation

Soil, Vegetation

50 - 100 ft

restored.

Rehabilitation Comments Additional Comments

N/A

Very close to being fully

Be aware of condition of road between 308

SD431 route

Tracks around a bad part of

and 307. Consider walking from 308





### **TMA Route Monitoring**

Name of Inspector (BLM) Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

Youth Corps Lucas Farmer N/A No

Price Field Office TMA: Site ID Number: **Date Of Physical Inspection** Route ID:

308 05/07/2020 12:47 PM San Rafael Desert SD431

**Disturbance Or Damage Observations:** 

**Physical Inspection: Observed Usage Intensity: Linear Extent:** Area Extent: Comments:

Disturbance Or

Medium Damage

Continues beyond LOS

**Rehabilitation Comments** 

Type Public Land Resource Damaged:

Soil, Vegetation, Wilderness Characteristic

N/A

**Additional Comments** 

50 to 100 feet beyond LOS

**Apparent Type of** 

**Apparent Purpose of Damage:** 

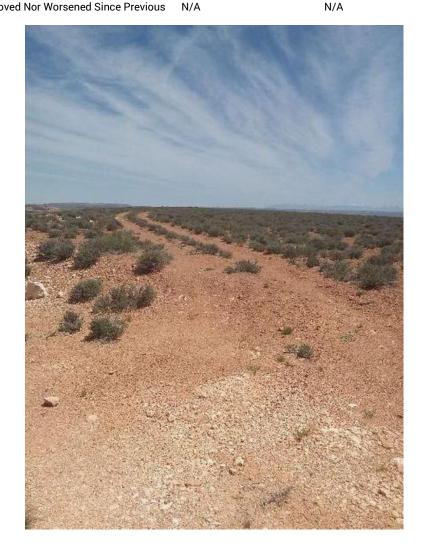
Motor Vehicle:

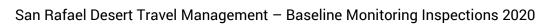
Full Sized Vehicle **Short Spur** 

Is This Site Improving/Recovering From Previously

**Documented Disturbance?** 

This Site Has Neither Improved Nor Worsened Since Previous N/A







Type of Inspector: Name of Inspector (Youth Corp) Name of Inspector (BLM) Has The Site Completely Rehabbed?

BLM Employee N/A Marc Johnson, Steve Yes Petrich

Site ID Number: Date Of Physical Inspection Price Field Office TMA: Route ID:

337 05/06/2020 10:49 AM San Rafael Desert SD817

