

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

DECISION NOTICE  
and  
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Bartlett Allotment Management Plan

USDA-Forest Service  
Tonto National Forest  
Cave Creek Ranger District

It is proposed to initiate a low intensity management system on the subject allotment. The need is at least twofold: 1) to address resource needs identified in the "Action Program for Resolution of Livestock -- Riparian Conflicts on the Salt and Verde Rivers "(Blue Book)" and 2) to make it feasible to implement improved grazing management in the near future on an area historically grazed yearlong without such past opportunity.

A no action alternative was analyzed and determined unacceptable in that it would just perpetuate the existing conditions associated with yearlong continuous use over the entire area and would not be responsive in a realistic and opportune manner to correcting obvious resource needs and management concerns.

The management will be made possible by the construction of one interior division fence along the east side of the Verde River and the reconstruction of selected existing water developments (see map attached).

Mitigation that addresses the apparent needs of T&E species, riparian areas, dispersed recreation activities, cultural resources and visual quality will be provided in separate assessments at the time a development is proposed for construction.

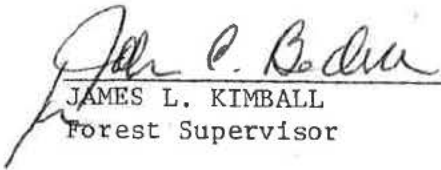
The Maricopa Audubon Society and the Arizona State Game and Fish Department have been consulted in the direction specified in the previously referenced "Blue Book". This proposal is consistent with the goals and objectives therein presented. Additional responses will be solicited at the time a specific development is to be analyzed and assessed.

Based on the viable options presented for implementation on such an allotment, it is my decision to adopt, at this time, the low intensity management proposed. The District Ranger is directed to develop such a plan with significant input from the allotment permittee and submit it for approval.

I have determined that on this allotment this is not a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment; therefore an environmental impact statement is not needed. This determination was made considering the following factors:

- a) Yearlong continuous use by livestock over the entire area of this allotment is an undesirable situation needing change as opportunity permits,
- b) Recent permit adjustment actions related to accountability and management practices have resulted in a stocking level that makes an improved type of grazing system feasible to consider,
- c) The current permittee's ranch manager and foreman has expressed willingness to cooperate, maintain, and construct developments and get on with improved management,
- d) This particular allotment has priority for resolution of stocking and management concerns because it straddles the Verde River and the associated riparian and T&E habitats present,
- e) There will be no irreversible resource commitments or irretrievable losses of range production involved in the plan,
- f) The physical and biological effects are limited to the areas of the allotment planned for development and use,
- g) T&E species present, their habitats and the overall range management should be greatly benefitted by moving ahead on this opportunity, and
- h) The action is feasible and will provide for a more reliable estimate of actual grazing impacts and future management needs than is currently obtainable, because of the unwieldy size, lack of developments and history of uncontrolled use over this allotment.

Plan implementation should take place as soon as it is approved, and the availability of range betterment funds and permittee cooperation allow.

  
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JAMES L. KIMBALL  
Forest Supervisor

4/19/82  
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Date



RANGE ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS MAP  
**BARTLETT ALLOTMENT**  
 Cave Creek Ranger Dist.

Drawn by G. HAZEN, Date 1-11-00, Field Work by G. HAZEN, Date 1-12-00  
 Checked by ALL STAFF OF SWAY, RANGE ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS MAP LEGEND

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Private Land</li> <li>2. National Forest</li> <li>3. State Land</li> <li>4. BLM Land</li> <li>5. Private Land</li> <li>6. Private Land</li> <li>7. Private Land</li> <li>8. Private Land</li> <li>9. Private Land</li> <li>10. Private Land</li> <li>11. Private Land</li> <li>12. Private Land</li> <li>13. Private Land</li> <li>14. Private Land</li> <li>15. Private Land</li> <li>16. Private Land</li> <li>17. Private Land</li> <li>18. Private Land</li> <li>19. Private Land</li> <li>20. Private Land</li> <li>21. Private Land</li> <li>22. Private Land</li> <li>23. Private Land</li> <li>24. Private Land</li> <li>25. Private Land</li> <li>26. Private Land</li> <li>27. Private Land</li> <li>28. Private Land</li> <li>29. Private Land</li> <li>30. Private Land</li> <li>31. Private Land</li> <li>32. Private Land</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Private Land</li> <li>2. Private Land</li> <li>3. Private Land</li> <li>4. Private Land</li> <li>5. Private Land</li> <li>6. Private Land</li> <li>7. Private Land</li> <li>8. Private Land</li> <li>9. Private Land</li> <li>10. Private Land</li> <li>11. Private Land</li> <li>12. Private Land</li> <li>13. Private Land</li> <li>14. Private Land</li> <li>15. Private Land</li> <li>16. Private Land</li> <li>17. Private Land</li> <li>18. Private Land</li> <li>19. Private Land</li> <li>20. Private Land</li> <li>21. Private Land</li> <li>22. Private Land</li> <li>23. Private Land</li> <li>24. Private Land</li> <li>25. Private Land</li> <li>26. Private Land</li> <li>27. Private Land</li> <li>28. Private Land</li> <li>29. Private Land</li> <li>30. Private Land</li> <li>31. Private Land</li> <li>32. Private Land</li> </ul> |
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- VERDE RIVER
- PROPOSED FENCE
- WATER RECONSTRUCT
- EAGLE AREA

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