

**PALO VERDE REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN  
WORKING GROUP MEETING #3  
May 26, 2016, 10:00 AM  
Location: Copper Sky Multi-Purpose Center, Room A**

**Attending:**

Kelly Wolff-Krauter	Arizona Game and Fish
Tyler Raspiller	Arizona Game and Fish
Sean Hammond	Arizona State Parks (via telephone)
Gina D'Abella	Pinal County Open Space and Trails Advisory Commission
Kent Taylor	Pinal County Open Space and Trails
Evan Balmer	Pinal County Planning
Harry Grizzle	Pinal County Sheriff's Office
Barbara Brady	Pinal Partnership Western Regional Open Space and Trails
Paula McNatt	User Group: Equestrian
Patrick Kell	User Group: IMBA (via telephone)
Gary Metivier	User Group: Shooting
Michael Park	EPG
Karen Snodgrass	EPG

**Summary:**

1. Introductions
2. 3/31/16 Public Meeting Recap:
  - a. The public meeting was well attended with 66 people that signed in. Opinions of attendees were mixed in opposition to and in favor of the planning for the proposed regional park.
  - b. There were 35 questionnaires turned in by the end of the meeting. Questionnaires were available to be taken home by attendees and returned later via email or pdf. However, no additional questionnaires were returned. Results from the questionnaires were 25 generally in favor and 10 generally opposed to the park. Kent Taylor will email out the completed questionnaires to the committee.
  - c. The information presented at the meeting has been available on the project website. There have been 29 comments received to date through the response component of the website and through direct emails to Kent Taylor. Results from the website and emails were 12 generally in favor, 11 generally opposed to the park, and 6 neutral, i.e., seeking more information, non-related comments, or similar. The committee received copies of these responses at the meeting.
3. Recreation Matrix Review:
  - a. Michael Park gave an overview of recreation matrix and the draft of the proposed facilities and activities for each of the four alternatives. The draft matrix of options

was developed based on responses from the last public meeting and in discussion between Kent Taylor and Michael Park.

#### 4. Alternatives Review:

- a. There are four alternatives proposed. They range from A: No Action to D: Most Activities/Facilities and Most Protection/Control. Discussion and recommended revision for each follows.
- b. Alternative A: No Action
  - i. Add Existing Authorized Conditions to the title. This alternative is to emphasize that No Action represents authorized and legal activities. It does not mean that existing unauthorized and illegal activities will continue, i.e., cutting of any new trails for any use or travel off the recognized BLM trail network, destruction of the desert setting, shooting of TVs and dangerous items, trigger trash, dumping, and similar. We need to have a BLM FAQ available at the public meeting of what are legal and/or illegal activities on BLM land.
  - ii. Indicate that Trails (Non-Motorized) and Trails (Motorized) means “on designate trails.”
  - iii. Add a text note that activities on this alternative are subject to change and restriction at any time by BLM management.
  - iv. Add a horse silhouette to the Trails (Non-Motorized) icon. There are likely more equestrian users than pedestrian users.
  - v. Change the Trails (Motorized) icon from a dirt bike to a four-wheeled ATV. There are more of these users than dirt bike users.
  - vi. Add dispersed shooting icons to the icon sets in south half of study area (Shooting Sports 1 and 2).
  - vii. Add Trails (Motorized) 1 and 2 icons to the icon set in the southern area where the BLM Tertiary Roads are.
- c. Alternative B: Passive Use/Minimal Development
  - i. Icons with an orange outline indicate activities/facilities that are added in each alternative.
  - ii. Add a 100-yard buffer line north of Vekol Wash. Move the dividing line north to the buffer line. Vekol Wash is to be non-motorized for riparian and resource protection within the study area.

- iii. Add a 100-yard buffer line north of the BLM Tertiary Roads that are south of Dune Shadow. To the left side arrows, add Trails (Motorized) south of this buffer. Trails (Non-motorized) will be from Vekol Wash to the buffer line.
      - iv. Add an OHV staging area south of the alternative camping site.
    - d. Alternative C: Mixed Use/Moderate Development
      - i. To icon set north of 238, delete orange outline.
    - e. Alternative D: Active Use/Most Development
      - i. Delete Trails (Motorized) uses north of the southern buffer line that is south of Dune Shadow.
    - f. Alternative Names
      - i. The alternative will be renamed to B: Minimal Change, C: Moderate Change, D: Extensive Change. Alternative A: No Action isn't changed.
- 5. Other:
  - a. Sean Hammond offered assistance through the OHV Ambassadors program for public education of responsible OHV use on public lands.
- 6. Next Steps:
  - a. Prepare for the next public meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:00, which will be at Central Arizona College.
  - b. EPG to bring four sandwich boards to direct attendees to the correct parking lot and building.