Bureau of Land Management – Phoenix District

- Two Field Offices

- Lower Sonoran F.O. is 1.4 million acres of public land

- Includes Sonoran Desert National Monument

- Roughly 90,000 acres (or 6%) of public lands managed by the LSFO are in Pinal County

- Other public lands in Pinal County are managed by the Gila District of the BLM
The Lower Sonoran Field Office has several ongoing projects in Pinal County:

- Operation ROAM (“Reclaim Our Arizona Monuments”)
- Sonoran Desert National Monument Target Shooting Planning Amendment
- Repair of Damaged Lands
- Collaboration on Open Space and Parks Planning
• Operation ROAM ("Reclaim Our Arizona Monuments")
  
  ➢ Initiated in 2010 in response to ongoing, worsening impacts from illegal Borderlands activities
  
  ➢ Goals include 1) Improve public and staff safety; 2) Protect public land resources; and 3) Foster partnerships with border partners on safety, security, and environmental protection
  
  ➢ Focus on Sonoran Desert and Ironwood Forest National Monuments
  
  ➢ Has been effective in reducing amount of smuggling related trash and debris, limiting and rehabilitating illegally constructed vehicle routes, and improving working relationships with other agencies, particularly U.S. Border Patrol
Sonoran Desert National Monument Target Shooting Planning Amendment

- U.S. District Court ordered BLM to revisit planning decisions related to recreational target shooting on the monument
- Planning amendment initiated September, 2015 with a completion date of September, 2017
- Does not apply to public lands outside of the Monument
• Repair of Damaged Lands

- Illegal, long-term dump near Florence cleaned February, 2015

- The BLM removed 350 tires, 30 55-gallon drums, 100 5-gallon paint cans, and 100 tons of trash and debris

- The site was subsequently filled and fenced
Bureau of Land Management – Phoenix District

• Collaboration on Open Space and Parks Planning

➢ Pinal County has submitted two applications with the Lower Sonoran Field Office per the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP)

➢ These areas were identified in Pinal County’s “Open Space and Trails Plan”

➢ “Regional Park #4 – Paloverde” is approximately 21,479 acres of public land

➢ “Regional Park #5 – Peralta” is approximately 498 acres, including 160 acres of public land

➢ As with all R&PP Act applications, evaluation of valid existing rights, plans of development, BLM planning status, and environmental analysis with public participation is required before leases can be issued
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