

(H1) Sonoran Desert Restrictions Proposed Plans by BLM in ~region~

Currently, the nearly 500,000-acre Sonoran Desert National Monument is open to target shooting, with the exception of 10,599 acres temporarily closed by a court order in a lawsuit filed against an earlier BLM plan that would have kept the entire SDNM open to shooting. The court order also requires the BLM to complete the management plan by September 2017. The draft plan presents five alternatives as follows:



BLM Alternative A

Alternative A - the "no action" alternative continues the 1988 Lower Gila South Resource Management Plan without change, which means that target shooting would be allowed anywhere within the SDNM.



BLM Alternative B

Alternative B - the court order closure would become permanent, affecting 10,599 acres or 2.1 % of the SDNM.



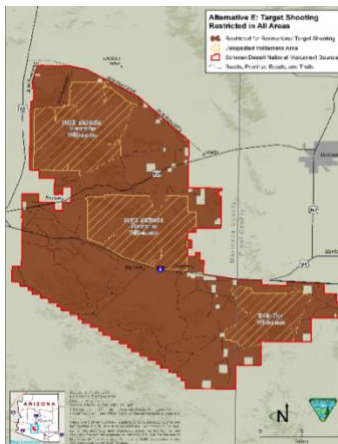
BLM Alternative C

Alternative C – the BLM’s preferred alternative would allow target shooting in the Desert Back Country Recreation Management Zone only and partially lift the court order closure as addressed in Alternative B. The effect is that 54,817 acres or 11% of the SDNM would be closed to target shooting.



BLM Alternative D

Alternative D - target shooting would not be allowed in designated wilderness, lands managed to protect wilderness characteristics, and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Recreation Management Zone, which would close 320,317 acres or 66% of the SDNM to target shooting.



BLM Alternative E

Alternative E – the SDNM would be entirely closed to target shooting.

The plan with its five alternatives can be found at [BLM Website](#)