

October 14, 2020

Tyler Lindsey Phoenix District Office Bureau of Land Management 21605 North 7th Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85027

Re: DOI-BLM-AZ-P000-2020-0002-DNA Recreational Shooting Sports Project – Proposed Long-Term Closures

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) is a 501c-3 non-profit organization dedicated to wildlife conservation, habitat work, youth recruitment and retention, as well as educating sportsmen and women on issues important to their passions. AZSFWC's member, affiliate, and associate groups reach across the spectrum of hunting, angling, shooting, outdoor recreation and businesses from across Arizona. Our member groups represent in excess of 10,000 sportsmen and women from Arizona.

AZSFWC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the BLM's proposed long-term closures around the recreational shooting sites being developed within the Phoenix District. As the BLM has stated before, "Recreational shooting sports are one of our nation's oldest and most popular pastimes and are long-standing and appropriate use of Bureau of Land Management public lands."

The popularity of recreational shooting requires several considerations due to the nature of the endeavor, but none more important than the safety of those participating, as well as those in proximity of that activity. In that context, AZSFWC and 17 of our member organizations (list follows) support your proposed long-term closure around the designated sites as noted in your Recreational Shooting Sports Project documents.

AZSFWC appreciates the BLM's efforts to enhance recreational shooting access and at the same time ensure the public can do so in a safe manner.

Thank you.

Jim Unmacht Executive Director

AZSFWC comment on BLM Recreational Shooting Sports Project's Proposed Closures - 10-14-20

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation PO Box 75731 New River, AZ 85087



AZSFWC Organizations supporting the BLM's Proposed Long-Term Closures Around Recreational Shooting Sites

Anglers United AZ Antelope Foundation AZ Big Game Super Raffle AZ Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation AZ Chapter of Safari Club International **AZ Deer Association** AZ Council of Trout Unlimited AZ Houndsmen's Association **AZ Outdoor Sports** Christian Hunters of America Mohave Sportsman Club **Outdoor Experience 4 All** Southern AZ Quail Forever Southwest Wildlife Foundation Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership Valley of the Sun Quail Forever Yuma Valley Rod & Gun Club

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