



July 1, 2019

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

**Re: DOI-BLM-AZ-P000-2019-0001-EA
Recreational Shooting Sports Microsites Pilot Project**

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on your proposed Recreational Shooting Sports Microsites Pilot Project (Project). The first sentence of the first paragraph of your Fact Sheet summed up the matter quite well, "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 (BLM) public lands."

The other key follows that sentence, when you indicate, "These activities generate funds that support wildlife conservation, public land restoration projects, and hunter education." AZSFWC supports these efforts, as well as your collaboration with the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) to meet these objectives.

The BLM has asked for comments relative to three broad categories:

1. Relevant issues associated with the proposal:
AZSFWC supports the four proposed sites, as well as the conceptual plans offered at each of the locations. We believe you are addressing the various issues that may impact the individual sites, and any impact the sites may have with other appropriate use of BLM lands.
2. Means to minimize the effects from the proposal:
AZSFWC is not aware of any adverse effects from the proposal as of this writing. We believe your assessment of the sites, with consideration of infrastructure, safety concerns, environmental matters, wildlife issues and

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other recreational uses are all very important and necessary for the project.

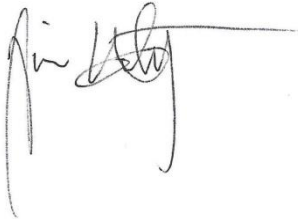
3. Other reasonable action alternatives;

AZSFWC is not aware of any other reasonable actions the BLM is not already considering at the present time.

AZSFWC believes the BLM is on the right track relative to enhancing recreational shooting in Maricopa County while at the same time potentially channeling the desire to shoot into these microsites. The six questions posed within the Key Objectives are all important, but the answers won't come until the microsites are operable.

AZSFWC appreciates the BLM's efforts to enhance recreational shooting access, assure the safety of the public and give proper consideration to the land and resources.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Unmacht", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jim Unmacht
Executive Director

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 consists of 43 member, affiliate, and associate groups that reach across the spectrum of hunting, angling, shooting, outdoor recreation and businesses from all across Arizona. Our member groups represent in excess of 10,000 sportsmen and women from Arizona.