



April 18, 2022

Raymond Suazo
Arizona State Director
Bureau of Land Management
One North Central Ave., Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4427

RE: Proposed BLM Nomination for LWCF Acquisition of the Enterprise Ranch

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) is a 501c-3 non-profit organization dedicated to wildlife conservation, habitat improvement initiatives, youth recruitment and retention, as well as educating outdoor enthusiasts on issues important to their passions. AZSFWC member, affiliate, and associate groups reach across the spectrum of hunting, angling, shooting, outdoor recreation, and businesses from across Arizona. Our member groups represent more than 16,000 people from Arizona.

AZSFWC has advocated for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) related to conservation on our public lands, wildlife habitat improvement and expanding recreational access on those lands for many years. We understand the BLM is working in partnership with the Trust for Public Land and Archaeology Southwest to acquire 580 acres of private land from a willing seller along the west side of Enterprise Road and the Lower Gila River in the Gillespie Bend area of western Maricopa County.

AZSFWC also understands the primary focus of the project is to protect important archaeological sites associated with the Hohokam culture, but your Lower Sonoran Field Office also views this project as an opportunity to provide recreational access to existing BLM lands including several areas proposed for Wilderness (Woolsey Peak Addition and Red Rock) in the area.

Recreational access into these areas is challenging due to the strip of private lands (including the proposed acquisition) that exist between Enterprise Road and BLM's public lands to the west. Enhanced access created by the proposed acquisition would be a substantial benefit for hunters, hikers, and other outdoor enthusiasts to these public lands.

AZSFWC and 27 of our member organizations (list attached) appreciate the opportunity to lend our support for the proposed BLM LWCF application to acquire the Enterprise Ranch. 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



**AZSFWC Member Organizations Supporting
the Proposed BLM Nomination for LWCF
Acquisition of the Enterprise Ranch**

Anglers United
AZ Antelope Foundation
AZ Big Game Super Raffle
AZ Bowhunters Association
AZ Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
AZ Chapter of Safari Club International
AZ Council of Trout Unlimited
AZ Deer Association
AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
AZ Elk Society
AZ Flycasters Club
AZ Houndsmen's Association
AZ Outdoor Adventures
AZ Outdoor Sports
AZ Predator Callers
AZ State Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation
Ben Avery Clay Busters
Christian Hunters of America
Mogollon Sporting Association
No Excuse Hunting and Outdoors
Outdoor Experience 4 All
Southern AZ Quail Forever
Southwest Wildlife Foundation
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
The Trust for Public Land
Valley of the Sun Quail Forever
Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club