

## Management Recommendations in Support of the Monument Values

*Where deemed appropriate, notes have been included to clarify the intent of a recommendation. These notes are intended for use during the revise and formalization of this document, and will be removed from the final version. Notes are indented and italicized, similar to this paragraph.*

The following recommendations are essential to protecting the values of the Monument and they must be consistent with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected by the Proclamation.

1. The USFS shall manage the Monument as a component of the Coconino National Forest.
2. The USFS has authority only over federal lands within the Monument boundaries. Expansion or reduction of the Monument will only occur through Congressional or Executive action.
3. Protection of Antiquities shall be an overriding focus of the Management Plan.
4. The USFS will prepare a resource management plan (RMP) for the Monument. To the extent consistent with the monument proclamation, the RMP may incorporate elements of the Red Rock Ranger District Management Plan in effect on the date of the proclamation.

*Currently, all of the federally controlled lands contained within in the proposed National Monument boundaries are managed based on a US Forest Service (USFS) District Management Plan. This District Management Plan is modified periodically by the USFS.*

*As a National Monument, these same federally controlled lands will be managed based on a new Resource Management Plan (RMP). The new RMP will be developed using the National Monument proclamation and these strategic recommendations as guidelines. The new RMP will also look to the Red Rock Ranger District Management Plan for guidance.*

*Private land and State owned land that falls within the perimeter of the National Monument will not be subject to the RMP. The new Resource Management Plan will have no impact on private or State owned land.*

5. The USFS and the stakeholder communities shall work cooperatively in the management of the Monument. USFS shall involve the stakeholder communities in the development, implementation, and periodic evaluation and modification of the RMP on an ongoing basis to the fullest extent possible.

*Stakeholder communities include individuals, organizations, groups and businesses directly impacted by the National Monument.*

*While the USFS will drive the process and actively solicit stakeholder involvement and input, it is the responsibility of stakeholders to step forward and participate in the development, implementation and ongoing maintenance of the Resource Management Plan and in the management of the Monument.*

*Stakeholders who choose not to participate will not be included in the process.*

6. Unauthorized removal, alteration, or destruction of any Monument feature will be prohibited.
7. The RMP shall include a transportation plan that addresses the actions necessary to protect the objectives identified in the Proclamation, including travel restrictions and road closures, as currently managed by the USFS. It shall include a process that allows City, County, and State entities to obtain easements for transportation purposes within the Monument area except in Wilderness Areas.

*Wilderness areas that fall within the boundaries of the proposed National Monument are by law subject to specific regulations and restrictions that control their use. Those regulations and restrictions will not change with National Monument designation.*

*In non-wilderness areas within the National Monument, circumstances may require temporary road closures or travel restrictions. For example, if a fire or a mud slide make a road impassable or dangerous, the USFS (following the requirements of the Resource Management Plan) may close that road until repairs are made.*

*In non-wilderness areas within the National Monument, a City, County or State entity may identify the need for an easement to construct a new road or modify an existing road. The Resource Management Plan will provide a process for proposed easements to be evaluated.*

*As with the entire Resource Management Plan, stakeholders will be invited to participate in the development of any long-term transportation plan. While the USFS will actively solicit stakeholder involvement and input, it is the responsibility of stakeholders to step forward and participate in the development of any long-term transportation plan.*

8. Land within the Monument will not be disposed of through public land laws.

*This item prohibits the NFS from disposing of any portion of the federally owned land within the National Monument. As with all of the Strategic Recommendations, this has no impact on privately held land within the Monument.*

9. The Monument shall not alter the valid water rights of any party, including the federal government.

*To emphasize this point, establishment of the National Monument will not impact water rights.*

10. The Monument will be established subject to valid existing rights, including but not limited to private property, utility and transportation rights of way.



Updated by 8/05 Subcommittee (present were O'Halleran, Swanson, Loewenstein) for Exec Committee discussion 8/06

*Establishment of the National Monument will not impact existing private property rights. This includes but is not limited to issues involving private roads, private wells, zoning, utility rights of way, and existing public roads.*

11. Renewal, upgrade, or further development of existing utility rights of way and the creation of new utility rights of way within the Monument may be permitted.

*This item recognizes that future needs of the community may require alteration or addition to existing utility rights of way. This will not impact private property rights.*

12. The Monument will be withdrawn from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws.

*This item focuses on preventing future mining 'patents' (claims). Valid existing rights for mining claims in the Monument at the time of designation will be determined consistent with existing regulations. Claims found to be valid will be managed under applicable mining laws and regulations. Note that there are no existing mineral leases within the Monument boundaries, and the proposal would prohibit future leasing.*

*This is standard language for proclamations whose intent is to prohibit future exploration and/or mining on the federally managed land within the boundaries of the National Monument.*

13. The Monument will be withdrawn from new mineral and geothermal leasing laws.

14. Access to existing privately-owned subsurface rights (oil, gas and mineral rights) will occur from outside the Monument wherever possible.

*This item refers to mineral and gas/oil drilling rights only, and emphasizes that directional drilling from outside the Monument is preferable.*

*The principle behind this item is that while private owners have a right to access their minerals, the NFS has a right to condition access to those minerals so that federal surface interests are not harmed.*

15. Surface-disturbing activities shall be minimized.

*According to the Bureau of Land Management, a surface disturbing activity is an action that alters the vegetation, surface/near surface soil resources, and/or surface geologic features, beyond natural site conditions and on a scale that affects other Public Land values. Examples of surface disturbing activities may include: operation of heavy equipment to construct well pads, roads, pits and reservoirs; installation of pipelines and power lines; and the conduct of several types of vegetation treatments (e.g., prescribed fire, etc.).*

*Surface disturbing activities may be either authorized or prohibited. A process for managing surface disturbing activities will be described in the Resource Management Plan.*

16. Laws, regulations, and policies followed by the agency in issuing and administering grazing permits or leases on all lands under its jurisdiction shall continue to apply to the lands in the Monument.

*Establishment of the National Monument will not impact the administration of grazing permits.*

17. No new land-use leases shall be granted within the Monument.

*Within the National Monument, the NFS will not issue any additional use leases for land controlled by the federal government. Examples of leases and permits that otherwise could be issued include but are not limited to: advertising displays, commercial or noncommercial croplands, apiaries, livestock holding or feeding areas not related to grazing permits and leases, temporary or permanent facilities for commercial purposes (does not include mining claims), residential occupancy, ski resorts, construction equipment storage sites, and oil rig stacking sites.*

*This item will have no impact on private property located within the boundaries of the National Monument.*

18. Commercial energy development will be prohibited within the Monument.

*As with other Strategic Recommendations, this item will not impact individual property rights. For example, establishment of the National Monument will not prohibit a property owner residing within the boundaries of the monument from installing solar panels.*

19. Permits for commercial tour activities will continue to be issued, subject to the guidelines established by the USFS.

*The USFS currently considers the following types of activity to require a priority use permit: rock climbing/canyoneering, hiking/interpretive/educational, short stops, jeep tours, metaphysical uses, mountain biking. Please refer to the following page on the USFS web site for further details: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/coconino/passes-permits/event-commercial/?cid=stelprdb5307972>*

20. Commercial hot air balloon-landing on monument lands outside the wilderness areas may be permitted, subject to guidelines established by USFS.

*Wilderness areas that fall within the boundaries of the proposed National Monument are by law subject to specific regulations and restrictions that control their use. Commercial hot air balloon-landing is not a permitted use in wilderness areas.*

21. Special events may be allowed.

*As with all special uses within the National Monument, prior approval must be granted by the USFS.*

22. Recreation of many types has been a historic value of the proposed Monument and will continue.

*Recreation activities current allowed in the Monument include but are not limited to: hiking, biking, running, wildlife observation, photography, backpacking, rock climbing, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, camping, hunting, fishing, ATVs, dirt bikes, guided tours, hot-air ballooning.*



23. The RMP will include an ongoing process for analyzing prohibited and regulated activities, emphasizing safety concerns, impact on the Monument, compatibility with Monument values, and impact on the overall recreational experience of other Monument users.

*This item recognizes that recreational activities are continually being invented. For example, geocaching began circa 2000, and drones are an even more recent development. The Resource Management Plan will recognize this evolution of recreational activities. The RMP will require a process by which the NFS, with stakeholder input, will determine if new types of activities are permitted, prohibited, or regulated.*

24. Motorized vehicle use will be permitted only on designated roads, except in emergencies or for administratively designated purposes.

25. Non-motorized vehicle use and human-powered activities will be permitted on designated roads and trails, and for cross country travel except where prohibited by the RMP.

*Examples of non-motorized vehicle use include but are not limited to: hiking, walking, running, dog walking, cycling, and horseback riding. Human powered activity includes but is not limited to cycling.*

*Activities that may be prohibited include such things as: recreational target shooting, paintball activities, BASE jumping, hang gliding, and tightrope walking. Regulated activities may include such things as flying model airplanes, drone flying and geocaching. Geocaching activities are prohibited in areas managed for primitive or semi-primitive non-motorized settings. Caches will not be allowed within archaeological sites. The USFS will be responsible for monitoring and enforcement of prohibited and regulated activities.*

26. The Monument's native species and ecosystems will be protected, and restored to the extent possible.

*This does not require restoration to be executed. Rather, it places emphasis on the value of restoration, and encourages such restoration when possible and practical.*

27. Invasive species will be inventoried. Native plant species will be used in Monument planning for projects.

*The USFS currently inventories invasive species as one aspect of managing the National Forest. That activity will continue upon establishment of the National Monument.*

*In managing the federally controlled lands within the National Monument, projects undertaken by the USFS will use native species, not invasive species.*

*The requirement to use native species will have no impact on private or State property lying within the boundaries of the National Monument.*

28. Visitor amenities may be provided.

*Examples of visitor amenities that may be established include but are not limited to: a designated and developed parking area, toilets, trash receptacles, kiosks, signs and trail head information, and picnic tables.*

29. Wildlife management will continue to be the responsibility of the State of Arizona Game and Fish Department.

*The State of Arizona establishes regulations and enforcement concerning fish and wildlife on all lands administered by the NFS. Nothing will be construed as affecting the jurisdiction or associated responsibilities of the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD). Hunting and fishing are allowable activities on these lands.*

30. Light and noise pollution will be addressed and minimized in coordination with local governments.

*This item recognizes the fact that the City of Sedona has have achieved Dark Sky designation, and that the Village of Oak Creek is pursuing such designation. Establishment of the National Monument will not impose additional regulations on light and noise pollution.*

31. Monument resources will be available for scientific study.

*Any scientific research project must obtain the prior approval of the USFS. This item simply allows the possibility of scientific study, subject to approval.*