

# San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Draft RMP

August 31, 2018

SPRNCA RMP Comments  
Bureau of Land Management  
Tucson Field Office  
3201 East Universal Way  
Tucson, AZ 85756

Dear BLM:

The undersigned organizations represent millions of hunters and wildlife conservationists who have a long-standing and vested interest in access and opportunities for sportsmen and women on federal public lands managed by the BLM.

We are signatories to the Federal Lands Hunting, Fishing and Shooting Sports Roundtable Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the BLM. The purpose of the MOU is to build a partnership with the signatory organizations, the BLM, and the other signatory Federal agencies “for planning and implementing mutually beneficial projects and activities related to hunting, fishing, and shooting sports conducted on federal lands.” We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Draft Resource Management Plan (DRMP).

The DRMP presents four planning alternatives. Alternative A, the no-action alternative, would maintain the existing 25,600-acre closure to hunting. Alternatives B and C (the BLM preferred alternative) would open 51,900 acres and close 4,100 acres to hunting. The result would be a net increase of 21,500 acres open to hunting, taking into account the ¼ mile closure around developed facilities. Alternative D would increase closures by 4,000 acres over that of Alternative A.

The undersigned organizations support the expansion of hunting opportunities recommended in both Alternatives B and C. Expanding hunting opportunities in the San Pedro is in compliance with Executive Order 13443 titled *Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation* that calls on federal land management agencies to “facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitat.” Expanding hunting opportunities will also be in compliance with Secretary Zinke’s Secretarial Order 3347 supporting the Executive Order and Secretarial Orders 3356 and 3347 that both call for increasing hunting and other forms of outdoor recreation on public lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DRMP.

Boone and Crockett Club  
Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation  
Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports  
National Rifle Association  
National Shooting Sports Foundation

National Wild Turkey Federation  
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
Ruffed Grouse Society  
Safari Club International  
Wildlife Management Institute

CC: Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke  
Brian Steed, BLM Deputy Director for Programs and Policy