

**Report and Recommendations for  
Redington Pass Area Management Plan**

**Submitted by Friends of Redington Pass**

**on behalf of**

**The Collaborative Area Management Planning Team**

**May 10, 2016**

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## Executive Summary

Friends of Redington Pass convened a Collaborative Area Management Plan (CAMP) process for Redington Pass in 2014. That process brought together a diverse array of people who appreciate the Pass and want to assure it continues to provide multiple beneficial recreational opportunities while maintaining its unique back country environment. A broad range of user groups including hikers and mountain bikers, high clearance highway vehicles and all terrain vehicle riders and motor cyclists, conservationists, horseback riders, hunters and recreational target shooters, the area ranching permittee, and neighborhood associations and adjacent landowners came together to work on four major issue areas that were identified through extensive community scoping: recreational access, recreational target shooting, high use areas, and conflicts among users.

The CAMP recommendations are the result of over a year of study, deliberation, negotiation and consensus building by the CAMP working groups. A synthesis of these recommendations has been organized into five areas:

- Recreational Activities by Location (Western Slope, Central Plateau, Eastern Section);
- Enforcement;
- Services and Facilities;
- Orientation and Education; and
- Monitoring Conditions.

Chief among the recommendations are: the strategy to enhance hiking and mountain biking opportunities along the Western Slope accessible to those with low-clearance vehicles; an adaptive management plan for both designated target shooting areas and dispersed shooting primarily in the Central Plateau of the Pass; maintenance of existing forest service roads and study of some additional connector loops; and improvements for parking, staging areas, signage and other needed services and infrastructure. Where possible, these recommendations come with suggestions for partnering and funding opportunities to assist the Forest Service in carrying out these recommendations.

This report and its attachments are being conveyed to the District Ranger of the Santa Catalina Ranger's District of the Coronado National Forest for their consideration. It is expected that a set of these recommendations will be reviewed through a subsequent National Environmental Policy Act process along with various other alternatives to result in the adoption of a formal area management plan for Redington Pass.

## **Acknowledgements**

We would like to acknowledge the following people who have made substantial contributions to the CAMP process in addition to all the CAMP volunteers: Rachel Glass in particular for her excellent contributions in mapping, analyzing data, facilitating and supporting the working groups; Nick Riele and Pila Martinez who assisted with meeting planning, recording, and facilitation while working as UA graduate students; and Bob Cote, owner of the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch, who has provided the venue for FRP monthly meetings and special CAMP events.

## **Dedication**

We would like to dedicate this report to Herb Trossman, founding member of FRP, and to all those bipeds and quadrupeds who are no longer with us, but are hopefully continuing to enjoy the beauty and delight of Redington Pass.

## I. Introduction

Consistent with the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976, the Coronado National Forest (CNF) has been updating its forest-wide planning document and issued a *Draft Coronado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP)* in October 2013. The CNF forest plan is a programmatic plan, reviewed through an extensive National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, that covers a large geographic area and addresses broad management directions. In the October draft of that plan, CNF calls for the completion of “a management plan for the Redington Pass area in collaboration with the Friends of Redington Pass and others” (p. 165). This report provides CNF with community-based recommendations for a Collaborative Area Management Plan (CAMP) for Redington Pass that was convened by the Friends of Redington Pass (FRP).

In keeping with its public land status as a “land of many uses,” Redington Pass draws a range of visitors who enjoy both motorized and non-motorized forms of recreation, supports active cattle grazing, and provides habitat and connectivity for wildlife between the Santa Catalina and Rincon Mountain ranges. Located on the far east side of Tucson and with access beyond the first few miles limited (practically, not legally) to high-clearance vehicles, it has remained a rugged and relatively remote destination. However, with the continued growth of the Tucson population, there has been an increase in visitors to the Pass accompanied by concerns about safety, user conflicts, and resource damage.

FRP is a non-profit organization that was initiated by local residents in response to these concerns in 2010 (see [www.friendsofredingtonpass.org](http://www.friendsofredingtonpass.org)). It has since grown into an umbrella organization that represents a broad range of user groups including hikers and mountain bikers, high clearance highway vehicles and all terrain vehicle riders and motor cyclists, conservationists, horseback riders, hunters and recreational target shooters, the area ranching permittee, and neighborhood associations and adjacent landowners. FRP seeks to preserve the unique back country environment of Redington Pass and its natural and recreational values. It

works to provide a balanced and open forum to discuss the common and diverse interests within the community of Redington Pass users.

FRP launched the CAMP process in 2014 to develop a community proposal to the USFS Coronado National Forest (CNF) Santa Catalina District for managing the future of Redington Pass. Public engagement in the CAMP process has been provided in many ways, including through:

- ❖ FRP's representative board that meets monthly;
- ❖ Visits to several user group meetings;
- ❖ Publically announced and advertised open community meetings;
- ❖ Open online community surveys;
- ❖ FRP' website and comment page;
- ❖ Four CAMP working groups, each composed of members with different interests; and
- ❖ The CAMP integration working group that met monthly to review and integrate the progress of the four other working groups.

This report is the result of that collaborative endeavor and includes a set of recommendations proposed for inclusion in CNF's 10 year area management plan for Redington Pass.

## II. Redington Pass Setting and Background

This section of the report presents a brief overview and orientation to Redington Pass, its geographic, geology and natural history as well as its human history and current governing jurisdictions. It also provides a summary of current land and recreational uses in the Pass and sets the context of future national, state and forest-wide trends.

### Location and Natural Setting

Redington Pass connects the Tucson and San Pedro valleys and bisects the Santa Catalina and Rincon mountain ranges. Redington Road, County Road 371, winds over 24 miles from the western national forest boundary across the Pass and over to the town of Redington and the intersection with the Cascabel Road. Steep, winding switchbacks cut through the first six miles to the west then give way to a broad plateau of grasslands reaching 4,000' in elevation.<sup>1</sup>

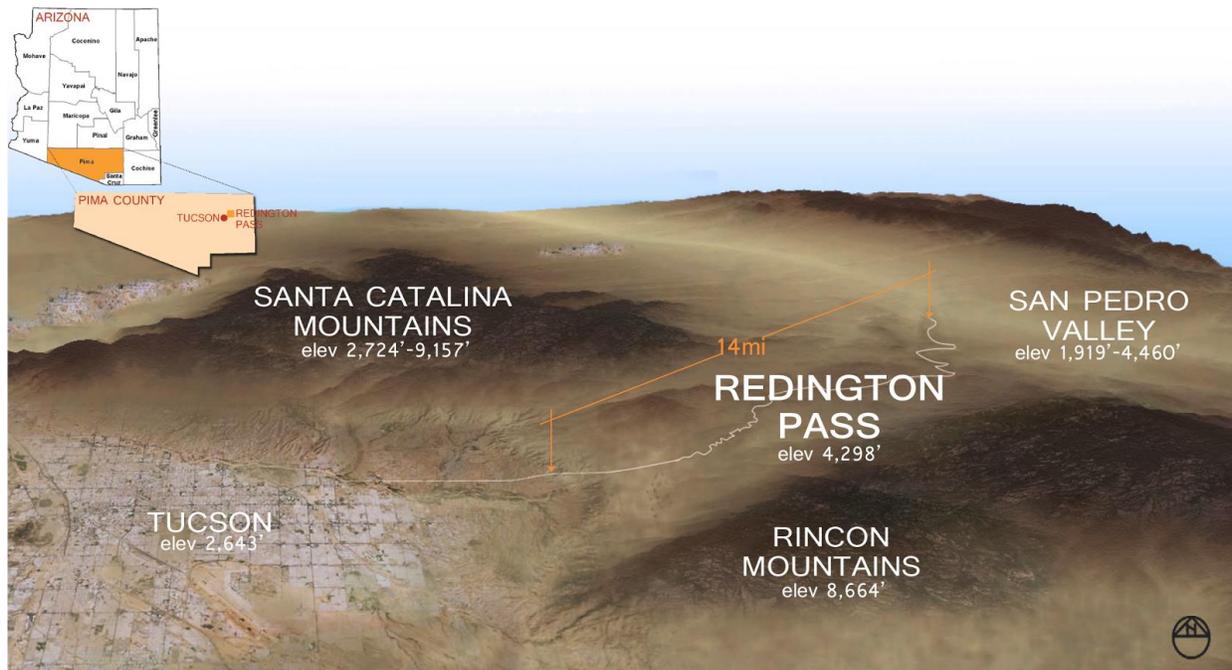


Figure II.1: Redington Pass within Coronado National Forest in context of Tucson and region

<sup>1</sup> Several of the illustrations and background research and text for this report were produced by Rachel Glass and included in her masters thesis “A Collaborative Place-Based Design Process for Landscapes: Redington Pass, Arizona”)

Redington Pass hosts lush riparian areas, natural waterfalls and striking rock formations providing distinctive recreational attractions. Tanque Verde Falls is a popular destination on the western side of the Pass closest to Tucson with two trailheads off Redington Road. Chiva Falls, accessible only by high-clearance vehicles, is located at much higher elevation off Redington Road to the southeast. Chimney Rock is another favorite destination reached via Bellota Ranch Road. These sites and others, including old stock tanks and corrals as well as the Arizona Trail, are reached through a network of unpaved Forest Service roads and trails.

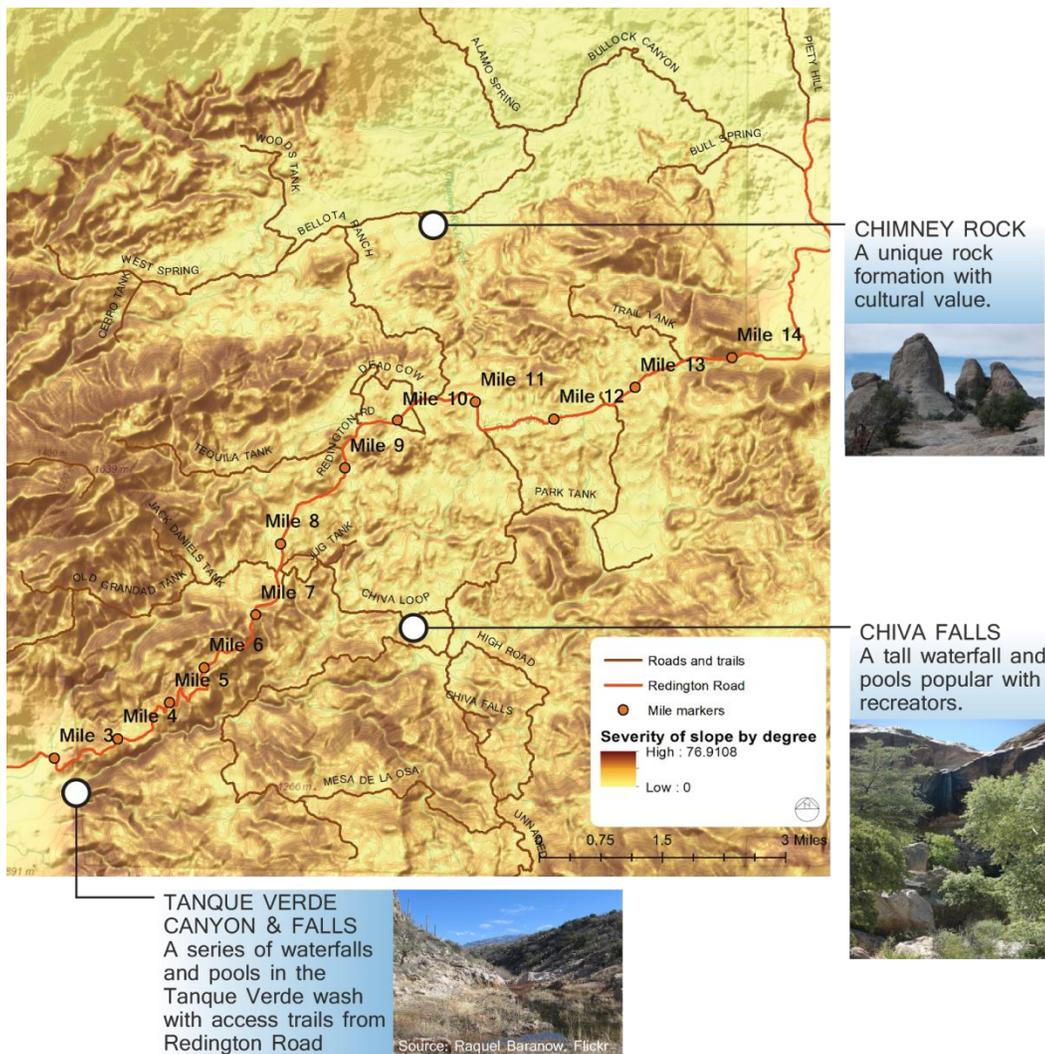
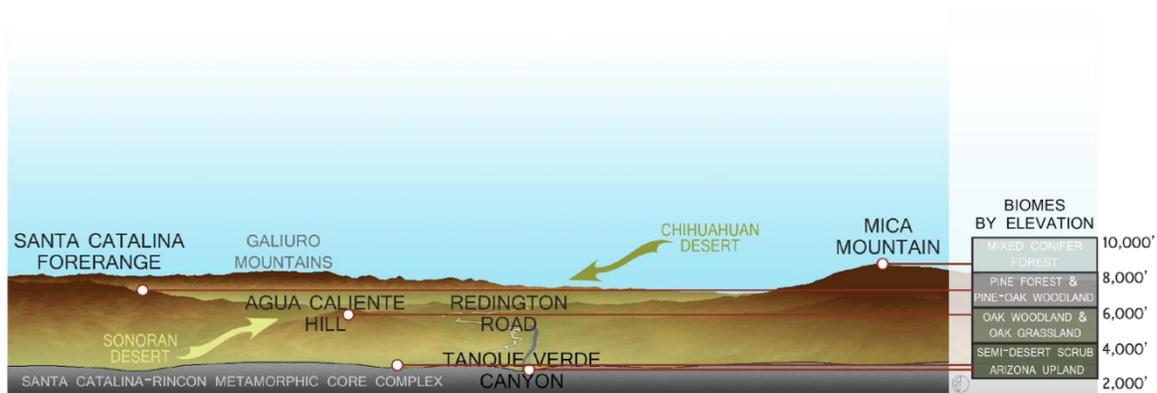


Figure II.2: Popular scenic destinations located on the Pass

The underlying geology of Redington Pass largely consists of a layer called the Santa Catalina-Rincon metamorphic core complex stretching between the Santa Catalina and Rincon Mountains (Mauz et al, 2000). The Sonoran and Chihuahuan deserts overlap in this portion of

Arizona, creating a transition zone for vegetation. “Arizona Upland” is a term used to describe the majority of vegetation found at around 3,000’ which include mesquite and palo verde trees, large shrubs such as creosote, and cacti and succulents like saguaro and ocotillo (Saguaro Juniper Corporation 2015). Oak, juniper and semidesert grassland are also present on Redington Pass (Mauz et al, 2000). The surrounding mountains include more coniferous species at higher elevations (Mauz et al, 2000).

The graphic below shows an exaggerated slope and elevation profile, ecologic section with associated geology, and plant species for three sample biomes present on the Pass.



**THREE SAMPLES OF VEGETATION TYPES THROUGHOUT REDINGTON PASS**

RIPARIAN AREA DEVELOPED AROUND WATERING TANK



COTTONWOOD: *POPULUS FREMONTII*

ARIZONA UPLAND ALONG REDINGTON ROAD



SAGUARO: *CARNAGIEA GIGANTEA*

HIKING THROUGH OAK-WOODLAND



MEXICAN BLUE OAK: *QUERCUS OBLONGIFOLIA*

Figure II.3: Elevation of ecological communities on the Pass and examples of notable tree species

**History**

Redington Pass has historically been a difficult area to develop. The Pass has been used for ranching for over a century and the road network was developed primarily to service watering tanks. The varied terrain makes travel and road construction and maintenance

challenging. Redington Road began as a rough trail over a natural saddle between the Santa Catalina and Rincon Mountains. Hundreds of years ago, the Pass was probably used by the Sabaipari, a tribe of about 2,000 people who farmed the valley raising cotton, maize, wheat, beans, and melons until driven out by Apaches. In later years, it became a road traveled by aspiring miners and farmers, outlaws, and Apaches. At one point, it was a military road and stagecoach route as more farmers and ranchers settled in the valley. The Pass was once called Cebadilla, but eventually took on the name of the town of Redington which was established in 1879. The Pass was often impassable and fell into disuse until 1932 when funds were raised to finance the reconditioning of the road. Nonetheless, because of its challenging terrain and unpaved condition, Redington Road and its access to the Pass has remained undeveloped and consequently attractive to many outdoor enthusiasts who dominate the visitors to the Pass today. For more on the history of Redington Pass, see [http://friendsofredingtonpass.org/about\\_rp.html](http://friendsofredingtonpass.org/about_rp.html).

### **Public Jurisdictions**

The CNF, AZ Game and Fish Department, AZ State Land Department and Pima County hold primary public jurisdiction in Redington Pass as either public land owners or regulators. The US Forest Service is the federal land manager for the Coronado National Forest (CNF) that encompasses the western half of the Redington Pass between Tucson's Tanque Verde Valley and Redington, Arizona in the San Pedro watershed. The CNF's management of Redington Pass is guided by the CNF Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) that provides for multiple uses in the Pass, among them livestock grazing, hunting, motorized access including OHVs, recreational shooting, camping, and hiking.

Redington Pass is in CNF's Santa Catalina Ranger District (SCRD), one of five districts in the CNF. SCR D oversees the entire 265, 142 acre area of the Santa Catalina Ecosystem Management Area (EMA) which includes both the Santa Catalina and the Rincon mountain ranges within the CNF. This district is the most heavily visited district in the CNF given its inclusion of Mt Lemmon and Sabino Canyon. The SCR D also includes one of the eight designated wilderness areas in the CNF, the Rincon Mountain Wilderness which encompasses 36,875 acres. SCR D manages ecological conditions, transportation, and dispersed recreational activities. CNF's trained law enforcement officers are responsible for enforcing USFS laws and regulations.

Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) manages game and non-game species throughout the state and enforces state laws including on federal lands. AZGFD also enforces OHV regulations in the Pass. [needs additional detail on enforcement here]

Redington Road itself is County Road 371 and is maintained by Pima County, which holds an easement on either side of the roadbed regulating signage in the easement. Pima County Sheriff's Rincon Station provides enforcement of civil and criminal laws on the Pass. Deputy sheriffs patrol the Pass periodically, and especially on weekends, in accordance with the station's prioritization of coverage on Tucson's eastside.

Pima County also owns the A7 Ranch to the east of CNF's boundary at Redington Road. It purchased the private ranch holdings (6,258 acres) in 2004 along with the 40,000 acre state grazing permit and 640 additional acres under conservation easement. This purchase was in furtherance of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan's goals to conserve unfragmented landscapes to protect wildlife habitat and sustain cattle ranching. The county's Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department manages the A-7 Ranch.

Arizona State Land Department owns and manages several sections of land east of the CNF boundary as well which is interspersed with private lands that are primarily held for cattle grazing and in agriculture.

Saguaro National Park- East is located to the south of the Pass on the other side of the Tanque Verde Creek and is managed by the National Park Service. Cooperating agreements with CNF enable sharing of personnel on joint projects, training and periodic enforcement.

### **Recreational Uses and Trends**

There has been limited systematic data collection on recreational uses and users on Redington Pass. For frequency of visitation, Pima County Department of Transportation's periodic traffic counts on Redington Road are useful. The average number of vehicles counted in April 2009 was 600-800 per weekend day (a significant increase from 2007 when weekend daily averages were 300-650), while weekdays averaged between 225 and 250.

AZGFD conducts periodic checkpoints on Redington Pass. At the beginning of the hunting season in November 2011, the department recorded 785 vehicles entering the Pass during the two-day weekend. When asked at the checkpoint what they were doing on the Pass,

405 people said they were engaged in recreational target shooting, 235 were out for OHV riding, 180 were hunters, and over 450 were there for other recreational activities. In 2014, during the fall checkpoint on October 22 (one day), AZGFD reported that of 170 recreationists stopped, 87 were target shooters, 50 OHV operators and 46 hunters.

In preparation for this plan, the Friends of Redington Pass conducted research on recreational users who visit the Pass. This research included an online survey that was completed by 307 people in the fall of 2014. The survey was broadly advertised at community and interest group meetings and through public media. While it cannot be claimed that the survey represents all user groups, respondents may well represent the range (though not the proportion) of active users of the Pass. From the survey respondents, a profile of the average visitor to Redington Pass emerges as one who:

- a. likes to visit the Pass monthly on weekends and lives within 20 miles of the area,
- b. drives into destination area within the Pass or parks where convenient, and
- c. when visiting, spends a full day on the Pass (avg 25 miles/7 hours).

Three main types of recreation were identified through the complete data collection effort of FRP (described in more detail in Section IV): motorized travel, non-motorized travel, and recreational place-based use. The distribution of these uses is illustrated in the follow pie chart:

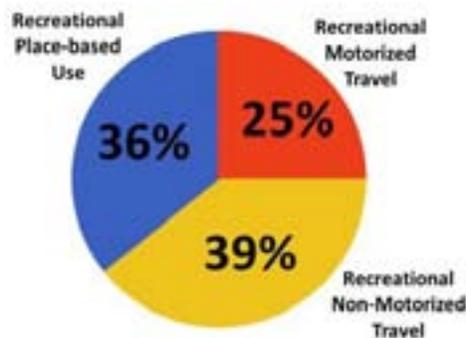


Figure II.4. Distribution of Recreational Use Type (Source: FRP survey 2014)

These three categories are comprised of several activities described in the bar chart below. It is clear from these data, just how diverse recreational activities are on Redington Pass - the quintessential “land of many uses.” Of particular note, is the finding that most visitors to the Pass engage in more than one activity and type of recreation when they visit. The top three favorite

activities, according to the survey respondents (and in contrast to the AZGFD numbers), were mountain biking, jeep riding, and hiking.

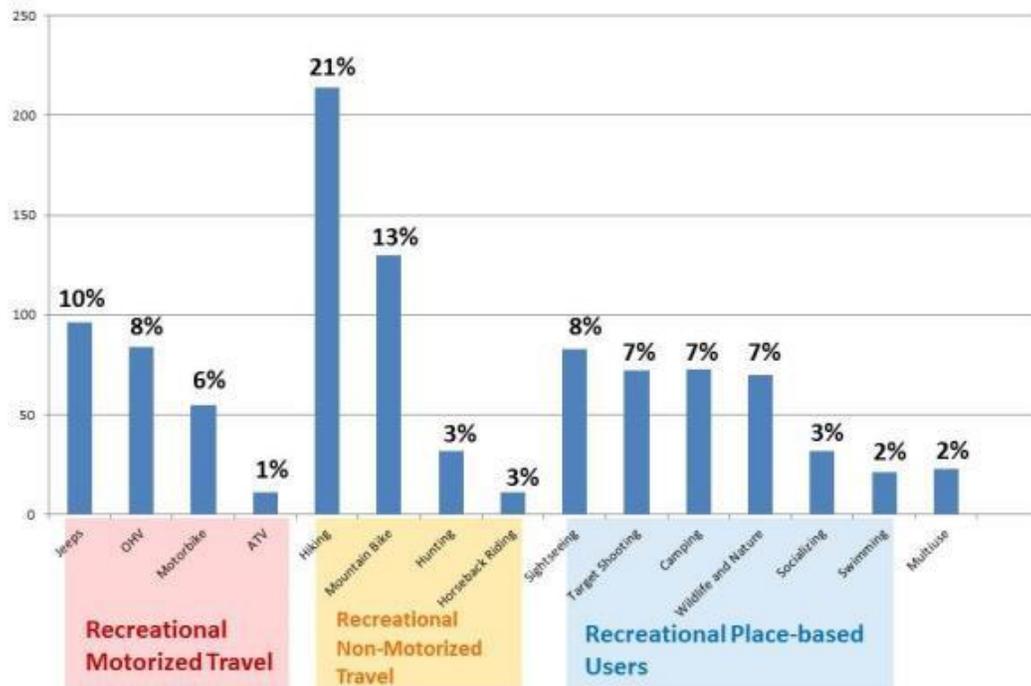


Figure 5.

## Future Trends

The demographic trends for the Tucson area are for continued growth in the decades ahead. Pima Association of Governments prepared growth estimates for Tucson and Pima County that projected a 10 percent population increase in Tucson and a 13 percent increase in Pima County between 2010 and 2010. While the recent recession may have slowed that projection somewhat, there is decidedly more growth ahead and with that, more demand for outdoor recreation. Residential developments on the eastside of Tucson continue being built. Transportation improvements along the Houghton corridor make Redington Pass more accessible to more people now and in the future.

Growth in CNF visitation has been reported. In 2007, CNF estimated that there were approximately 3 million visitors to the forest system, 50 percent of whom were visiting developed areas (such as campgrounds and day use areas).

### III. CNF Planning and Desired Conditions for Redington Pass

In the October 2013 *Draft Coronado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan* (LRMP), CNF calls for the completion of “a management plan for the Redington Pass area in collaboration with the Friends of Redington Pass and others” (p. 165). Several sections of the draft LRMP provide information and guidance for the CAMP process, including the summary of the forest-wide management situation in Chapter 1 Introduction, the Recreation section in Chapter 2 on Forest-wide Management, the Land Use Zones and Arizona Trails sections in Chapter 3 on Management Areas, and the Santa Catalina Ranger District section in Chapter 4 on Geographic Areas.

In the summary of the forest-wide analysis of the management situation, the draft LRMP addresses the importance of five topic areas where changes in program direction were needed: ecosystem restoration and resilience, visitor experiences, access to National Forest System lands, preservation of open space, and communities, collaboration and partnerships. The Redington Pass CAMP addresses the first four of these topics and embodies the last topic that encourages the development of “*approaches that emphasize collaboration.*” (p. 9).

Within the Recreation section on forest-wide management, is the following desired condition that specifically refers to Redington Pass is:

*Places such as Redington Pass that receive heavy dispersed recreation use and are within easy driving distance of urban areas provide opportunities for safe, well-managed recreation. Visitors to these areas can enjoy the outdoors in clean, natural settings without conflicts with unsafe or illegal activities, or exposure to excessive noise and disturbance* (p. 76).

Several additional aspects of the desired conditions for recreation in CNF are pertinent to Redington Pass, including that:

- *loss of remote, undeveloped settings does not occur;*
- *recreation activities are balanced with the ability of the land to support them and create minimal user conflicts;*
- *Visitors use off-highway vehicles responsibly, staying on designated routes and in identified camping areas;*

- *Activities such as paintballing, geocaching, and rock climbing do not detract from the natural character of the forest; do not impact resources such as aesthetics, soils, vegetation, and wildlife; or contribute to user conflicts;*
- *Opportunities exist in appropriate places for motorized recreation where designated, with varying experiences for a variety of vehicle classes. Forest visitors can enjoy semiprimitive motorized recreation and explore the backcountry in off-highway vehicles along designated routes. Noise from motorized vehicles is infrequent in locations away from areas of highroad density. In other areas, the presence and impact of people and machines is unobtrusive...*
- *A system of well-marked and well-maintained nonmotorized trails provides opportunities for visitors to explore the Coronado's wilderness areas and other unroaded places...Roads to trailheads are open and maintained, and trailheads provide adequate parking and vehicle turnaround space. Damage to resources from trailheads and trails is minimal...Unauthorized user-created ("wildcat") trails are rare (pp. 75-76).*

The CAMP working groups sought to assure their recommendations were consistent with objectives, guidelines and management approaches presented in the draft LRMP to achieve these desired conditions for recreation in CNF.

There is additional guidance provided in the draft LRMP for each land use zone and the Arizona Trail corridor. The associated objectives, guidelines and management approaches for these land use designations were also drawn on in the development of the Redington Pass CAMP. These are briefly summarized below.

### **Roaded Back Country Desired Conditions**

- Balanced and dispersed motorized and non-motorized
- Areas for quiet recreation
- Natural Settings
- Very few permanent facilities except where needed for homeland security
- Access provided by unpaved roads through zone and to trail heads
- Minimize situations where interactions among different user groups conflicts

### **Motorized Recreation Desired Conditions**

- Safe Conditions for multiple users
- OHV and ATV use is concentrated
- Minimize conflict between OHV and ATV and Single Track vehicles through separate trails for motorized and non-motorized use.
- Eliminate use of non-motorized trails by motorized vehicles

- Recreational Shooting safe and well maintained range
- Adequate, well maintained staging areas

### **AZ Trail Desired Conditions**

- Maintain and improve access to the forest through unpaved roads
- Wild life linkages
- Protection of historical/ cultural resources
- Conservation of wildlife corridors habitats and riparian areas
- Maintain Rural Primitive backcountry settings
- Sufficient parking for horse trailers
- Infrastructure and facilities are adequate and compatible with scenery
- Unobtrusive signage informative (e.g., location for water)
- Avoid new trails within half a mile of AZ trail

### **Wild Backcountry Desired Conditions**

- Dispersed Camping Spots
- Crowds and Urban Elements are not evident
- Access is available through primitive and infrequently maintained roads.
- Opportunities for solitude and quiet recreation
- Vegetation quickly recovers from camping impact
- Remote hunting experience
- Mountain bike and hiking trails

Finally, in the Santa Catalina Ranger District section of the LRMP, the desired conditions most relevant to Redington Pass and the focus of the CAMP working groups are as follows:

- *In Redington Pass, backcountry touring routes are available for visitors who operate off-highway and all-terrain vehicles responsibly.*
- *Visitors to this area can enjoy the outdoors in clean, natural settings without conflicts with unsafe or illegal activities or exposure to excessive noise and disturbance.*
- *Recreation shooting occurs in safe and well-monitored locations.*
- *The Arizona Trail offers opportunities for hiking, cycling, and horseback riding across the ecosystem management area along a continuous north-south trending transect. (p. 163-164).*

## IV. CAMP Community Scoping

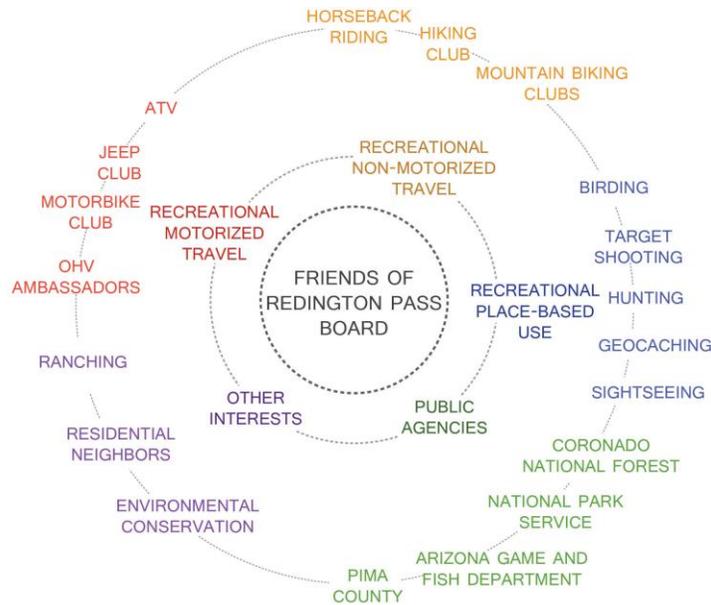
The Friends of Redington Pass (FRP) launched the CAMP process in 2014 to develop a community proposal to the USFS Coronado National Forest (CNF) Santa Catalina District for managing the future of Redington Pass. Public engagement in the CAMP process has been provided in many ways, including through:

1. FRP's representative board that meets monthly;
2. Visits to several user group meetings for rapid assessments;
3. Publically announced and advertised open community meetings;
4. Open online community surveys;
5. FRP's website and comment page;
6. Four CAMP working groups, each composed of members with different interests; and
7. The CAMP integration working group that met monthly to review and integrate the progress of the four other working groups.

Through the initial five processes, FRP identified numerous stakeholder groups and public agencies to reach out to and include in the CAMP process. Figure IV.1 illustrates these groups as they are represented on the FRP board and by type of stakeholder group, including recreational motorized travel, recreational no-motorized travel, place-based recreation, other interests, as well as public agencies.

### A. Friends of Redington Pass Board Meetings

Information about FRP, its history, and the composition of its diverse board can be found in Attachment A. The board has met monthly (summer months excepted) for close to five years at the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch. CNF, Saguaro National Park, AZG&FD, Pima County Parks and Recreation and the Sheriff's Office among other agencies are invited to attend, provide updates, and participate in the meetings. Special invitations have been issued to many recreational groups and proponents of activities on Redington Pass. Through board discussions in 2013-14, the idea of developing a CAMP process unfolded.



**Figure IV.1. Stakeholder Groups for Redington Pass**

## **B. Outreach to Stakeholder Groups and Rapid Assessment**

In 2014, Rachel Glass, a landscape architecture and planning student (accompanied by FRP board members in most cases) conducted a series of 19 rapid assessment interviews and small group meetings with agencies, organizations, and recreational organizations. These discussions occurred before and after the first public meeting in April 2014 and were focused on identifying what attracted people to the Pass, their history with the Pass, and what concerns they had when visiting the Pass. These data were incorporated into the additional data received through other input mechanisms to inform the creation of shared values and issues expressed about the Pass.

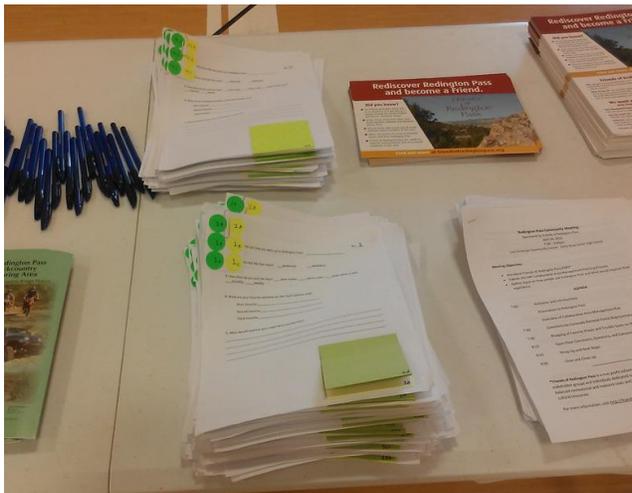
## **C. Community Meetings and Online Survey**

Two open community meetings were held in 2014, April 28 and November 17, both at the Lew Sorensen Community Center at Emily Grey Junior High School. Each meeting was extensively publicized via press releases, on local media community calendars, through email notices to FRP's email list, posters in local business establishments, and A-frame sign boards at major intersections on the east-side of town. Turn-out for both meetings was unexpectedly high: over 160 at the first meeting and over 130 at the second one.

*April 2014 Community Meeting*



The purpose of the April community meeting was to start getting input from the broader public on their experiences with Redington Pass and encourage their overall interest in the Pass. Fifteen volunteer facilitators helped with small group discussions and at map tables. A questionnaire was handed out to each participant as they signed in to gather information about people's use of the Pass, favorite activities, favorite places as well as areas or issues of concern. Six map tables were available for participants to place three favorite (green dots) and three trouble spots (yellow dots) on the maps, which were tagged with unique identification numbers linking the dots to the survey and after compiled into one central digital file. 127 questionnaires were completed and turned in for analysis.





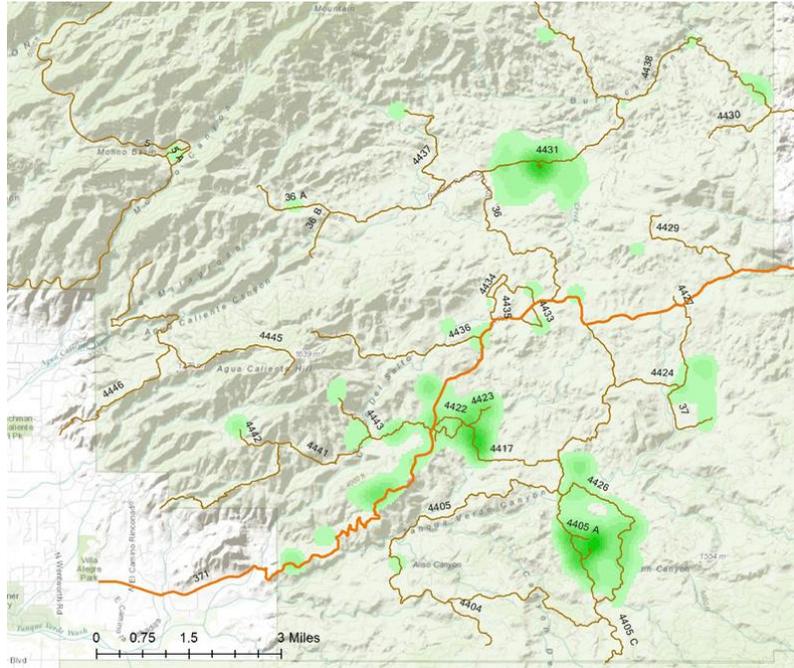
Recreational user categories identified at this first meeting included:

- Jeeps
- OHV
- Motorbike
- ATV
- Hiking
- Mountain biking
- Horseback riding
- Scouting
- Target shooting
- Hunting
- Sightseeing
- Bow-hunting
- Socializing
- Swimming
- Wildlife & nature
- Picking up trash
- Camping

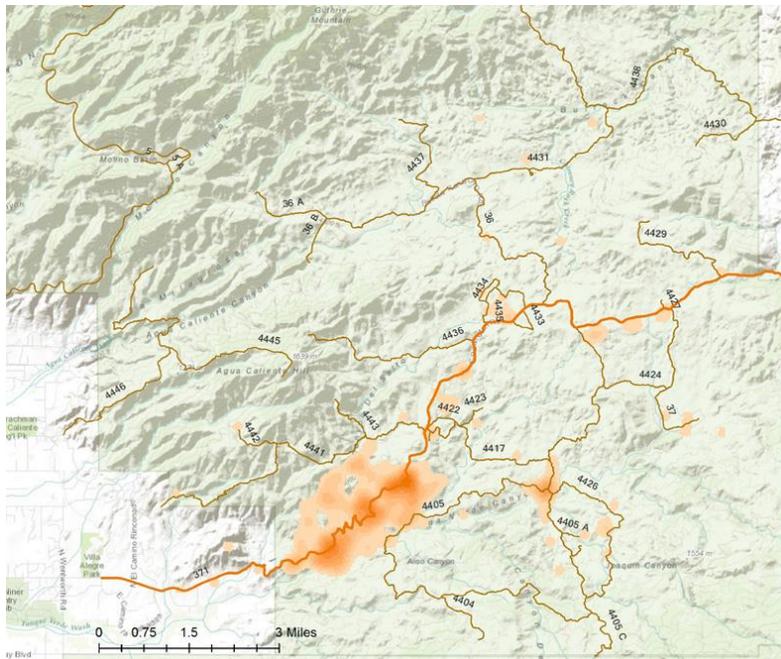
Place-based use was the major type of recreation cited from the questionnaires, followed by motorized and then non-motorized use. The FRP board reviewed the data results and determined more information was needed and developed an online survey to broaden input on use categories and other information about the Pass.

From the mapping exercise, Rachel Glass was able to conduct density analyzes to identify favorite places with high visitation rates on the Pass as well as the location of trouble spots. This analysis contributed to the subsequent studies by the High Use Working Group and the Use Conflicts Group.

**Figure IV.2 Favorite Places Visited in the Pass**  
*ArcGIS Tool: Kernel Density*



**Figure IV.3. Trouble Hotspots in Redington Pass**  
*ArcGIS Tool: Kernel Density*



### *Online Survey Findings*

After reviewing the data results from the first public meeting, the FRP board decided more data was needed for the user analysis and an online survey was developed and user group meetings continued.

A free online surveying tool, Survey Monkey, was used to host the survey. The survey was publicized on the FRP website, through board members to their respective interests and clubs, and to the FRP contact list. The survey was open for two months and the goal of receiving over 300 responses was reached (N= 307). In addition to questions asked on the April meeting questionnaire several new questions were added, including:

- How often do you visit?
- When do you visit?
- Where do you park?
- If you no longer visit the pass, why not?
- Average distance driven to reach the Pass?
- Total time spent on an average visit?

The results of the online survey are presented in Attachment B.

### *November 2014 Community Meeting*



OHV and ATV riders, hikers and environmental advocates, motor cyclists and mountain bikers, among other stakeholders attended the second community meeting on Redington Pass where they were presented with the results from April meeting and the online survey. Participants were randomly assigned to one of 15 discussion tables facilitated by volunteers and FRP board members. After the full group presentations, the small group discussions focused on reviewing the draft list of shared values and compiled issues lists concerning recreational activities on the Pass.



A report back session in plenary was followed by Q & A facilitated by Kirk Emerson. CNF Forest Supervisor, Jim Upchurch spoke at length in response to several questions about the CAMP process and encouraged participants to contribute to the CAMP process. Forms for signing up to volunteer for the CAMP working groups were also distributed.

### C. Redington Pass Visitor Values and Issues

From the community input gathered at FRP board meetings, user group meetings, the first public community meeting in April 2014 and the community survey, we distilled seven community values that visitors to Redington Pass appreciate. This list was further vetted and refined at the November 2014 community meeting and subsequently at the February 2015 meeting of CAMP participants. The completed list of CAMP Values is presented below in Table IV.1.

<b>Table IV.1. CAMP VALUES</b>
<b>What People Appreciate about Redington Pass</b>
<p>➤ <b>Its Rural Backcountry Landscape</b> reveals an open desert mountain pass with scenic panoramas, broad plateaus, and diverse undeveloped landscape features.</p>
<p>➤ <b>Its Crossroads Location</b> links two watersheds east to west and two mountain ranges north to south, providing habitat for diverse plants and animals and multiple access points and corridors for wildlife movement and human recreation.</p>
<p>➤ <b>Its Lasting Quality</b> offers visible reminders of the natural and human history of the Southwest still preserved as public lands in an unfragmented landscape.</p>

- **Its Open Accessibility** makes multiple outdoor recreational opportunities freely available to enjoy by many people in close proximity to Tucson.
- **Its Road and Trail Network** attracts a highly diverse range of motorized and non-motorized uses as well as access to more distant backcountry destinations.
- **Its Rugged Outback Nature** creates opportunities for independent recreational adventures shared with others or experienced on one's own.
- **Its Our Pass** shared with thousands of people over the decades who hold memories and personal connections to their experiences in Redington Pass.

All the public scoping activities generated hundreds of comments about issues of concern about the Pass. When analyzed and sorted, these comments revealed four major issue areas: recreational target shooting, recreational access, high use areas, and conflicts among user groups (see the detailed comments and how they were organized in Attachment C). Within each issue area, several related sub-issues emerged. These lists were further vetted at the second community meeting and revised or added to as necessary. See Table IV.2 below.

**Table IV.2. List of Issues of Concern for Redington Pass**

**Recreational Target Shooting:** pervasive concern about unsafe and unmanaged shooting activity

*Issues:*

1. Unsafe and irresponsible shooting practices
2. Shooting too close to roads and trails
3. Increased dispersal of shooting into other areas
4. Designated shooting areas and managed range (current and future)

**Recreational Access to Pass, Roads, Trails and Trailheads:** interest for more trails and improved amenities coupled with concern about loss of current access while maintaining undeveloped backcountry character of landscape

*Issues:*

1. Attention to OHV, ATV and Single Track Trails (existing and proposed, short and long distance loops)
2. Attention to Hiking, Mountain Biking, and Equestrian Trails (existing and propose)
3. Conditions of road, trails, and trailheads
4. Unfamiliarity with accessible roads, trails and trailheads and related restrictions

**Highly Used Areas:** popular sites that are facing issues of congestion, in some cases, over-use or misuse, as well as resource damage, and insufficient facilities to handle number of visitors

*Issues:*

1. Congestion
2. Litter
3. Impacts on natural resources (e.g. graffiti, resource damage, erosion sedimentation)
4. Inadequate Facilities (e.g., restrooms, staging areas)
5. Parking

**Conflicts with others' behavior:** users voiced concern about others' behaviors impacting their experience or feeling of safety in visiting the Pass

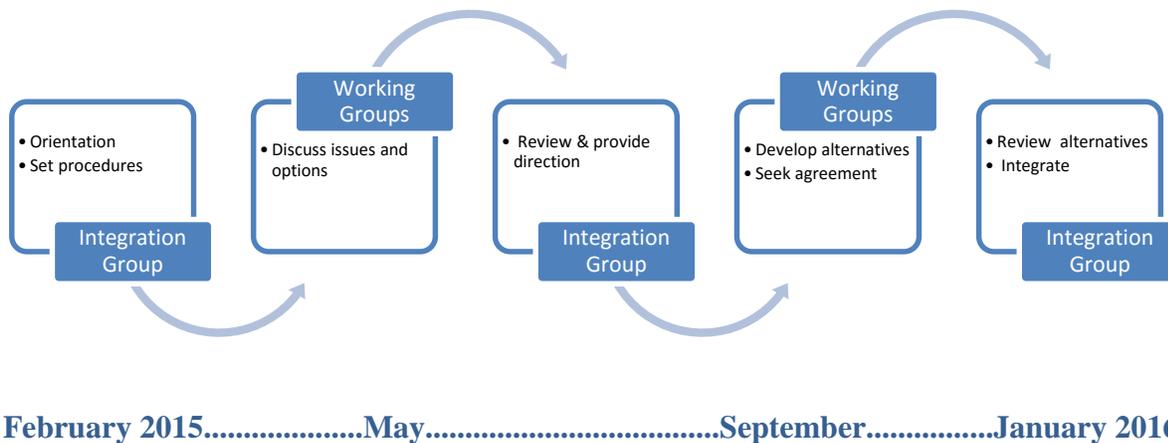
*Issues:*

1. Occurrence of unsafe, irresponsible or illegal activity
2. Perception/reality of no or limited law enforcement on Pass
3. General awareness of "bad" reputation of Redington Pass

These specific issues became the focus for each of the four CAMP working groups. Their assignment was to further discuss and research the nature and source of the issues of concern, consider a variety of approaches for managing them and reach agreement if possible on specific management recommendations.

#### D. CAMP Working Group Formation and Operation

The process flow for the CAMP working group meetings is represented in Figure IV.4.



**Figure IV.4. Process Flow for CAMP Working Group Meetings**

FRP solicited interest in serving on the CAMP working groups at the November community meeting, in follow-up emails to FRP members and user groups, through individual phone calls, and postings on the website. The extended outreach was important to assure that there would be strong representation of all recreational user groups in each working group. Forty-three applicants responded and were vetted based on the announced criteria:

- Familiarity with Redington Pass;
- Primary recreational interests (to assure balance of interests within each group);
- Connection with an organization or network of other recreationists; and
- Willingness to come to monthly night meetings.

In January 2015, thirty-five persons were selected by the FRP board to participate in the four working groups (See Attachment D for the list of the working group members). At least one FRP board member participated in each working group. The following list includes the self-described interests of the four working group members.

Recreational Target Shooting Working Group

Total members: 9

Interest represented:

Hiking  
Wildlife viewing  
Mountain biking  
Camping  
4x4 OHV  
Recreational shooting  
Hunting  
Ranching  
Neighbor

Recreational Access Working Group

Total members: 11

Interest represented:

Mountain biking  
Recreational shooting  
4x4 OHV  
Dirtbiking  
Utility Task Vehicle (UTV)  
Camping  
Hunting  
Nature and sightseeing  
Horseback riding  
Hiking

User Conflicts Issue Working Group

Total members: 7

Interest represented:

Hiking  
Bird watching  
4x4 OHV  
UTV  
Camping  
Horseback riding  
Hunting  
Shooting

Highly Used Areas Issue Working Group

Total members: 9

Interest represented:

- Dirt biking
- 4x4 OHV
- Hiking
- Swimming
- Wildlife viewing
- Mountain biking
- Bird watching
- Neighbors

At the CAMP kick-off meeting on February 21, 2015 held at the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch, the working groups met all together for the first time and reviewed the Redington Pass Values and Interests lists described above.



Together, the CAMP participants established the following ground rules and decision rules that would guide them during their group meetings.

### **Ground Rules for CAMP Working Group Meetings**

- Be respectful of different perspectives
- Listen and be patient when others are talking
- Keep remarks brief to assure time for all to comment
- Be prepared to compromise
- Remember shared values, consider each other's interest, trust
- Ask for input from everyone
- Stay on topic, focused (may need timekeeper, "parking lot" space)
- Be mindful of those non-represented
- Open minded, understanding different invested interests
- Flexibility

### **Decision Making Rules for CAMP (2/21/15)**

- Work toward full agreement (consensus) on procedural issues, information issues, and priority setting.
- On final decisions about recommendations to CNF, consensus defined by 85% at level 3, 4 or 5, and no more than one person at level 1. (Objecting person(s) should strive to offer alternative recommendation that meets others' needs).
- If group remains divided (2 or more people at level 1 or 2), or if there is a strong minority concern, those concerns should be documented in the WG report.

Decision-making Levels: a 5-point scale (1 = hate idea and will try to stop, 2 = disagree, 3 = neutral, 4 = agree, 5 = wholehearted agreement)

These working group volunteers attended up to eight monthly evening meetings between February 2015 and January 2016, in addition to participating in one or more field trips on the Pass. Agency representations from CNF, AZG&F, and Pima County Sheriff's Department were also invited to attend these meetings as non-decision-making resource persons.

The working groups were charged with studying the problems identified in the community outreach conducted by FRP in 2014 (see issue summaries for each working group topic in Attachment C). Each group was facilitated and abided by the ground rules. Each group conducted their own research and field study and were aided during the spring of 2015 by University of Arizona graduate students, Rachel Glass and Pila Martinez. Each group followed a similar sequence of investigation: diagnosing the causes of the identified problems;

brainstorming then exploring possible solutions; researching; developing criteria by which to assess those possible solutions; then applying those criteria in the selection of their recommended actions. The working group members were also responsible for keeping their organization or informal network of recreational users informed about CAMP and reporting back to the working group meetings about any specific preferences and concerns that the groups needed to address in their deliberations.

#### *CAMP Integration Working Group*

At that first kick off meeting, each working group selected two representatives (who were non-FRP board members) to serve on an Integration Working Group. This group met monthly with the FRP Board and public agencies who were invited to attend as well. Their task was to update everyone on the progress of the working groups, clarify any concerns or issues that arose, coordinate field trips and report back to the working groups. When working group recommendations were drafted, the Integration Group reviewed and resolved any potential conflicts or inconsistencies among the recommendations.

Each of the four working groups reached agreement on all their recommendations and approved their final reports before forwarding them on to the Integration Working Group. A compiled draft report was circulated for final comment to all working group members and then presented at an all CAMP participant meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup> 2016.

## V. Working Group Study and Recommendations

In this section, the study, analysis, and recommendations from each of the four working groups are presented.

### 5.1 Recreational Access Working Group Recommendations

At the public meetings, in group interviews and through the online survey, Redington Pass users voiced several concerns about recreational access to the Pass, its roads, trails and trailheads. General concern was expressed about the potential loss of current access. Many visitors are interested in the creation of more trails and improved amenities. Most recreational users of all types want to maintain the undeveloped backcountry character of the landscape. A fuller list of comments on recreational comments is in Attachment C. The major access concerns were grouped into four sets of issues that warranted further study and possible recommendations for management action by CNF and other partners:

1. Attention to OHV, ATV and single track trails (existing and proposed, short and long distance loops);
2. Attention to hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian Trails (existing and propose);
3. Conditions of road, trails, and maintenance; and
4. Unfamiliarity with accessible roads, trails and trailheads and related restrictions.

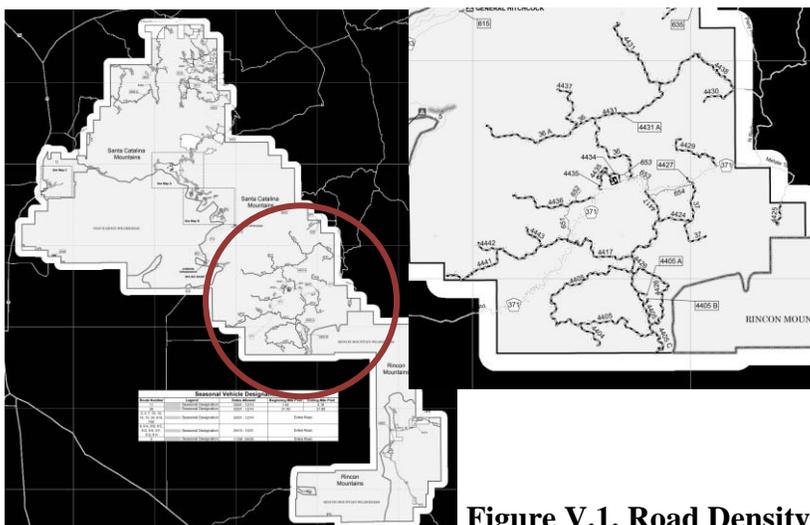


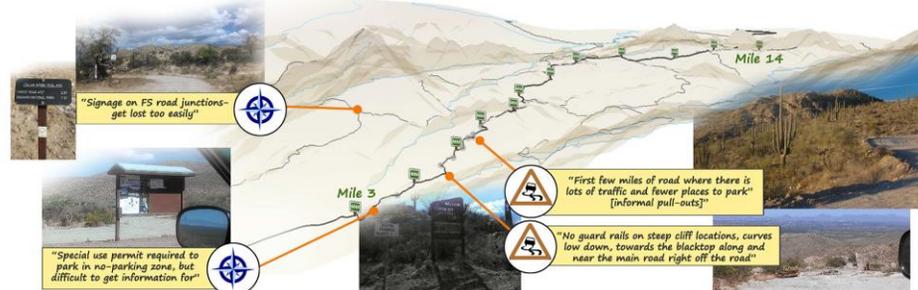
Figure V.1. Road Density in Redington Pass

**RECREATIONAL ACCESS ISSUE WORKING GROUP MAP**  
 Data for map: input from April 2014 public meeting and Fall 2015 online survey (n=95 responses)  
 Prepared by: Rachel Glass, for FRP  
 Date: 1/24/2015 \*photos courtesy and property of Matthew Marine; FRP

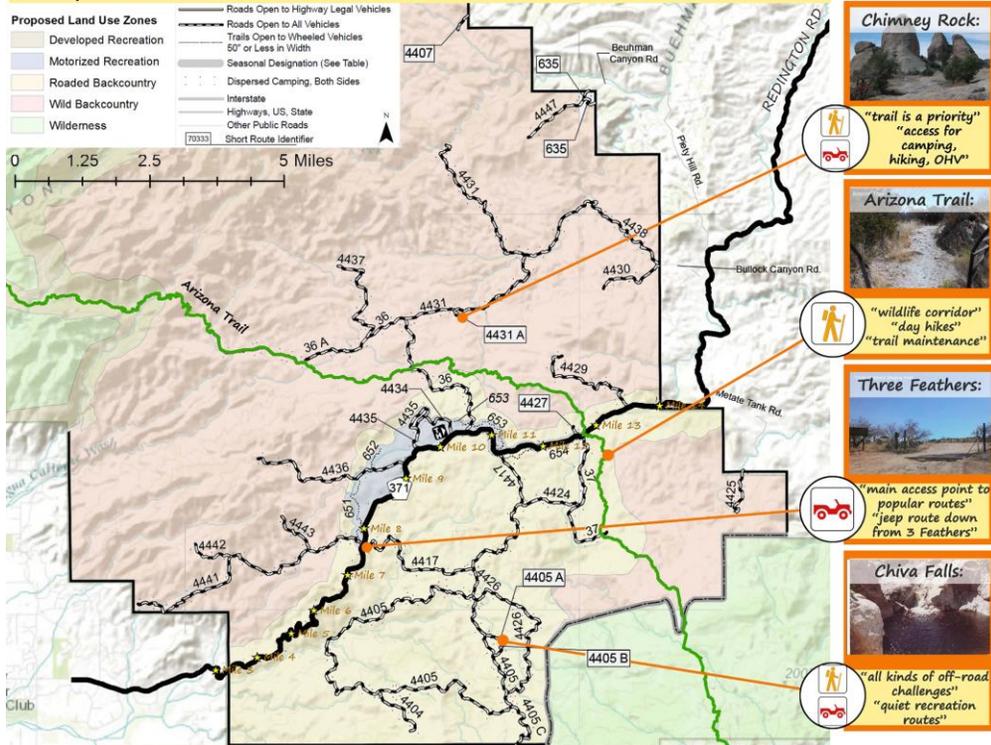
**Recreational Access Issues on the Pass**



**Examples of Issues along Redington Road**

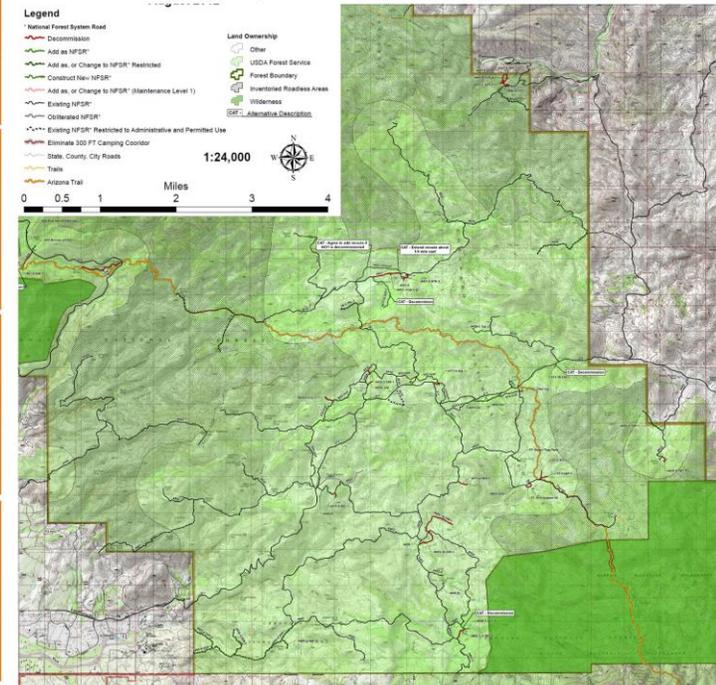


**Examples of Motorized and Non-Motorized Trail Attention**



**CNF Collaborative Alternative Team Proposal, 2012**

For the CNF Travel Management Plan revision, a collaborative team made recommendations for the Santa Catalina Ranger District. The map prepared, "Santa Catalina EMA Map 2 Travel Management Proposed Action & CAT Alternative," included the following recommendations specific to Redington Pass.



The Recreational Access Working Group included members with interests in all types of motorized and non-motorized recreation on the Pass. In forming its management recommendations, the working group developed several criteria with which to assess the numerous proposals for improving recreational access on the Pass. Each recommendation was reviewed by the following criteria:

- Respects existing well-used routes and keep them open;
- Is sensitive to environmental considerations;
- Optimizes benefits for a range of users;
- Decongests current system and enhances safety;
- Lessens conflicts between motorized/non-motorized users;
  - Including conflicts between different classes of vehicle;
- Is considerate of non-represented users per shared values;
- Recognizes our own recreational footprints;
- Is in accordance with USFS policies;
- Places undocumented trails on map; and
- Explores additional trails.

The working group organized its recommendations into four general areas:

A. Trail and Road Recommendations

B. Infrastructure Recommendations

C. Operation and Maintenance Recommendations

D. Future Study Recommendations for Potential Trail and Road Development

These recommendations are detailed below and rated based on the multiple criteria in the related tables. The recommendations are grouped and listed by general attributes and do not reflect access or implementation priorities for the user groups.

### **5.1.A. Trail and Road Recommendations**

This group of recommendations applies to use practices that are “in place” and consistent with proposed area management plan uses. Most trail recommendations focus on providing improved and increased access to non-motorized recreation on the “western slope” of the Pass.

In addition, there is a recommended re-route for the ATV trail behind any proposed Yellowstone Tank designated shooting area. There are also several recommendations for changes in a trails map for the Pass area. See Map for recommendations for existing routes not currently mapped.

*Recommendations:*

1. There should be no new motorized recreational trailheads before the intersection of the Three Feathers Staging area and the Corrals. The western slope of Pass should be targeted for hiking/mountain biking trails and other non-motorized uses/users up to Three Feathers staging areas around MM 7.5. (Existing 4405 & 4431 would be retained, or “grandfathered”, as they loop back on western slope of pass.)
2. Improve signage for trailheads for existing trails including Lower and Upper Tanque Verde Falls and the Blue line Trail and place on a trail map. NB: The Blue Line trail may not be on the existing trail map, although it is a signed, existing trail.
3. The existing hiking trail from Lower Tanque Verde Falls south across the creek and up to connection with FS Rd 4405 loop trail should be signed and placed on the trail map.
4. An existing trail extends from the north/back of the kiosk area and parallel to the north/northeast of Redington Road, splitting (see map) with a spur trail heading up the side a canyon on the north (aka “Bodhi 1 trail”) and continuing trail to the east (aka the “Scorpion trail”). The scorpion trail is steep with some moguls already in place and it ends currently at one of the switch backs. The working group recommends acknowledging this trail and rerouting the upper terminus to the first closed shooting area, where a trailhead for mountain bikers and hikers could be signed and where parking could be available. The downhill portion of trail would need to be signed “one way” or “be aware of mountain bikers” and “be aware of hikers.” Trailhead signage could also be provided at the back entrance at the kiosk area to both the Scorpion and Bodhi 1 trails.
5. If there is to be a designated target shooting area near Yellowstone Tank area, the ATV trail behind it would need to be closed. One suggestion is to replace it with a multi-use single track trail (or perhaps jeep road) that connects Rd 4443 To Rd 4436.
6. Map the Milagrosa Trail and the Agua Caliente trails on the Redington Pass area map for hikers, horseback riders, and mountain bikers.

7. There is a mapping discrepancy on the new TMP map that does not indicate an existing connector route from 652 to 4434 near the Race Track area that should be mapped. This route should be maintained as a single track multi-purpose route including ATV motorized travel.
8. There is an existing (for at least 25 years), but unmapped trail from Chiva Stock Tank to 428 that should be considered for inclusion either in an amendment to the current TMP or in the next TMP as a single track trail for hikers, mountain bikers and motorcycles.
9. There is an unauthorized existing spur from 4429 to the west that is about ½ mile from AZ Trail that the Recreational Access working group recommends be closed to motorized use and revegetated.

### **5.1.B. Infrastructure Recommendations**

Major infrastructure improvements will be needed as recreational use increases and changes over the next 10 years. These recommendations relate to improving access for recreating in the Pass by making trailheads more visible and improving and increasing parking in specific areas. Opportunities may exist for funding support from other public agencies, OHV sources and in-kind support for infrastructure improvements from partner user groups.

#### *Recommendations:*

1. Lower TV Falls parking area should be graded and designed with minimal impact to handle more cars as recreational demand increases. Trailers should not be permitted in this parking area which is used primarily by those hiking to the Lower Falls.
2. The Western Kiosk area should be redesigned to allow for more vehicle parking and provide an area specifically for trailers.
3. Over-night car camping should not be allowed along Redington Road, parking areas or pull-outs on the western slope up to the Three Feathers Staging area. This will increase opportunities for day-use recreation most accessible to the Tucson valley. Numerous other opportunities for overnight camping exist to the east along and off of Redington Road.
4. Parking pull-outs near the Upper Falls and the Blue Line Trails should be redesigned and signed to accommodate more users. This is already a high use area, despite lack of signage and informal parking is encroaching on desert vegetation and steep slopes along sides of Redington Road. This congested situation will continue to degrade if designated parking is not developed.

5. Related to the Scorpion Trail proposal, the first closed shooting area should be designed for parking and picnicking, access to the trailhead, and perhaps with a shaded ramada and tables for group events, and interpretive signage (overlooking the Tucson valley, geographic and geologic information could be provided on signs). This is the first overlook after the series of switch backs with sufficient flat area to accommodate multiple users.

6. Three Feathers staging area needs to be enlarged perhaps with additional parking on the corral side to accommodate more trailers. Several trails intersect here and there is an opportunity here as well for improved signage with maps and interpretative signs (related to the history of ranching in the Pass, the use of tanks for cattle and wildlife, ranch roads).

7. At the trailhead for AZ Trail, better parking needs to be provided for cars and horse trailers by widening and leveling on south side. There might be options for parking on north side between trail to tank and the AZ trail. Working with AZ Trails, signage can be improved including opportunity for interpretation (especially noting crossroads of Catalinas and Rincons and Tucson and San Pedro valleys).

### **5.1.C. Operation and Maintenance Policies**

The working group encourages Pima County and the USFS to seek long term solutions for maintenance and construction of Redington Road to ensure its long term sustainability and continued use by many of Tucson's outdoor enthusiasts. Redington Road's continued erosion and degradation will have long-term consequences for Tucson's outdoor recreators including lack of access as well as many other unforeseen and unintended consequences. The working group recognizes that this is no small task, but it also believes that CNF and Pima County making this a priority for both can mitigate many downstream issues.

Horse riders, in particular, are disadvantaged by the condition of Redington Road which makes it difficult to trailer horses up to the Arizona Trail head and other suitable riding areas. Equestrians must use other access points (e.g., Saguaro National Park, the Milagrosa Trail, and Agua Caliente Trail) where the terrain is extremely difficult and/or access a long ride if they want to ride in the Redington Pass area.

The following specific recommendations for operation and maintenance are provided.

*Recommendations:*

1. Work in partnership with FRP and recreational user groups to conduct comprehensive road and trail monitoring every two years and issue a report on trail maintenance needs and priorities.
2. Enforce “no new wildcat trails” policy and encourage timely reporting by all users and enlist user groups to actively report illegal trails.
3. Maintain existing trails and roads to “stewardship standards” in partnership with user groups.
4. Consider expanding Adopt-a-Trail to all system roads and trails working with FRP and multiple user groups to expand stewardship of the Pass.

#### **5.1.D. Future Study Recommendations for Road/Trail Development**

There was considerable discussion within the working group around adding new trails or roads that would improve circulation for the projected increase in motorized and non-motorized recreational users on the Pass. Four specific recommendations have been made for potential additions or rerouting of trails or roads. See Map 3.1.D for proposed routes to study.

##### *Recommendations:*

1. Study the potential rerouting of the western half of 4429 away from AZ Trail in conjunction with a link north and east back to 4430 to create a multi-use 18” loop trail that would reduce travel on the eastern section of Redington Road.
2. Study the potential connector routes further north between 4421, 4447 and 4438.
3. Study the potential of an 18” non-motorized trail from Redington Road (371), paralleling 4417 and 4424 connecting to southern bend in 37 for access to AZT. The purpose of this trail would be to improve user safety by reducing conflicts by routing hikers and mountain bikers off of the existing roads.
4. Study the potential of additional non-motorized trail from summit of Agua Caliente down to nearby jeep road in Redington Pass area.
5. Study the feasibility of a non-motorized trail that parallels Redington Road (371) and improves safety for both motorized and non motorized users.

**Table V.1. Recreational Access Recommendations and Ratings based on Criteria****NOTE: Change Rec. codes with report outline changes.**

Rec #	Existing routes open	Environmental concerns	Optimize range of users	De-congest rec use	Lessen conflicts	Attend to un-represented	Reduce own footprint	Consistent w/ CNF policies	Undocumented trails on map	Explore additional trails
A-1	+	+	+	~		~	~	+	~	~
A-2	+	+(*)	+	+	+	+	~	+(*)	+	~
A-3	+	+	~	+	~	+	+	+	+	~
A-4	+	+	+	+	+	~	~	+	+	~
A-5	~	~	+	+	+	+	+	+(?)	~	~
A-6	+	+	+	~	+	+	~	+	+	+
A-7	+	+	+	+	+	+	~	+	+	~
A-8	+	~	+	+	+	~	~	+(*)	+	~
A-9	-	+	-	~	+	~	+	+	-	~
B-1	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	~	~
B-2	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	~	~
B-3	~	+	-	+	+	-	+	~	~	~
B-4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	~
B-5	+	~	+	+	+	+	-	~	+	~
B-6	~	+	+	+	+	~	+	+	~	~
B-7	~	+	+	~	~	~	-	+	~	~

NOTE: + = meets criteria; ~ = no effect or not applicable; - = negative effect; \* =check recommendation

**Table III.1. continued**

<b>Rec #</b>	<b>Existing routes open</b>	<b>Environmental concerns</b>	<b>Optimize range of users</b>	<b>De-congest rec use</b>	<b>Lessen conflicts</b>	<b>Attend to un-represented</b>	<b>Reduce own footprint</b>	<b>Consistent w/ CNF policies</b>	<b>Undocumented trails on map</b>	<b>Explore additional trails</b>
<b>C-1</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	~	+
<b>C-2</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	~
<b>C-3</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	~	~
<b>C-4</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	~
<b>D-1</b>	~	~	+	+	+	+	~	+	~	+
<b>D-2</b>	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
<b>D-3</b>	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
<b>D-4</b>	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
<b>D-5</b>	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd

## 5.2. Recreational Target Shooting Working Group Recommendations

This working group focused specifically on recreational target shooting (RTS), and within this context the word "shooting" refers to those shooting legally (legal shooters). Hunting was recognized as an important recreational use on the Pass, one regulated and managed by AZ Game and Fish Department. Few, if any, concerns about hunting were raised through the public information gathering process. There was no assessment conducted around hunting in the Pass nor are there any recommendations. It is assumed that hunting is and will continue to be an ongoing allowable use in Redington Pass.

At the public meetings, in group interviews and through the online survey, Redington Pass users voiced concerns about unmanaged shooting activity on the Pass (see Attachment C). These concerns were grouped into four areas that warranted further study and possible recommendations for management action by CNF and other partners:

### *1. Unsafe and irresponsible shooting practices*

Recreational target shooting is a lawful activity on Redington Pass, and the majority of those who shoot there are responsible and law-abiding.

Unfortunately, there is a persistent minority of shooters who either do not know the federal and state regulations or choose to ignore them. Over time, reported incidences of unsafe or reckless firearm activity from law enforcement officers (LEOs) and in media stories, emails, and the web have earned Redington Pass a bad reputation. (This issue is addressed at length in the High Use Area Conflicts Working Group Recommendations).

### *2. Shooting too close to roads and trails.*

Since the closure of shooting areas 1 through 3 for lead contamination and trash clean up, and the attendant restrictions on shooting and parking along Redington Road through the shooting areas, there has been an increase in people accessing the Forest at the few points available for access, which often results in shooting "too close" to Redington Road or other roads and trails.

Here, the definition of "too close" has a great deal of subjectivity attached to it. What is "too close" say, near the Arizona Trail, is not "too close" near Yellowstone Tank. In some regions of the Forest, reports from lawful shooting can be heard over several miles, creating

conflicts. Reports of such conflicts are more common during periods when utilization peaks – during the holiday season, for example.

### *3. Increased dispersal of shooting into other areas.*

With the closures has come dispersion.

Since the closure orders went into effect, recreational shooters have sought accessible sites that meet their safety concerns. Dispersed shooting is a lawful recreational use on the Pass. Experienced, responsible shooters know the appropriate area, set up targets, and clean up afterwards. Most shooters are responsible stewards, but some are not and their litter and shooting debris when accumulated at specific sites over time can prove hazardous. Under some conditions and circumstances, the rate of debris deposition can exceed capacity of the stewards and volunteers to clean up, as was evidenced in the years before the closures.

In retrospect, it may be said that the closures had a pronounced effect on the overall shooting community within the Pass. Clearly, the large (urban) debris fields have not accumulated during the last three years. Within the social units, consisting, for example, of friends, family and friends, multi-generational families, and father and son, utilizing established shooting sites, environmental stewardship is an established social norm. Within these groups of people, environmental stewardship can be seen as a mechanism of social bonding.

Enforcing shooting laws and cleaning up scattered sites in remote backcountry areas is difficult and time-consuming. Policies which, for example, were effective in promoting social stewardship would, in effect, both promote user experiences and decrease accumulations and associated impacts.

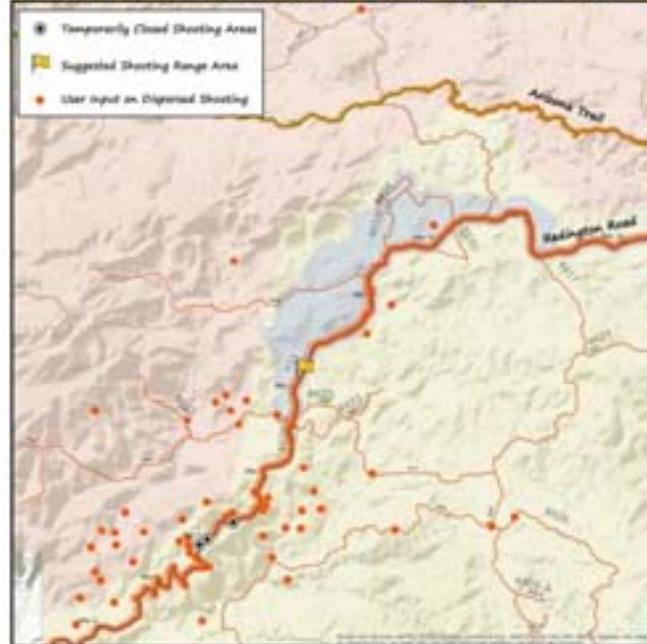
It would seem, then, that the central management challenge is the promotion of environmental stewardship within the recreational target shooting community.

Along these lines, then, "designating" would tend to divert to the designated site those most eager to simply shoot, that is to say, those without the desire to recreate deeper into the Pass: Many like to hike but fewer hike the deeper trails. Many like to shoot, but fewer shoot at the deepest sites. Policies with such an effect would reduce the likelihood of user conflicts, such as those recently reported.

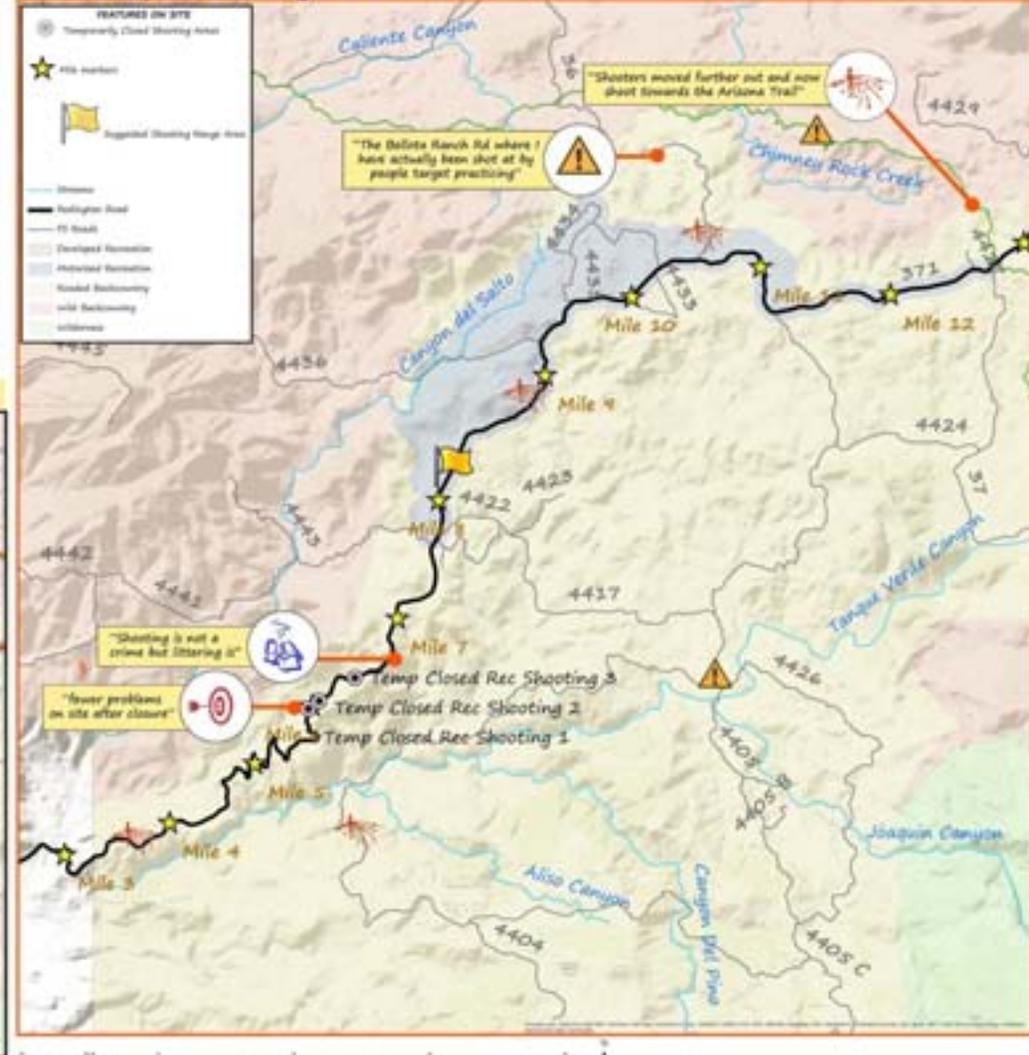
**TARGET SHOOTING ISSUE GROUP WORKING MAP**  
 Data for map: input from April 2014 public meeting and Fall 2015 online survey (w/ 149 responses)  
 Prepared by: Rachel Glass, for FRP  
 Date: 1/21/2015



**Spatial Distribution of Target Shooting Comments**



**Issue Examples, Zooming in on Miles 3-13**



#### *4. Designated shooting areas and managed range (current and future).*

With the cleaning up and restoration of the shooting areas 1 through 3 completed, questions remain as to whether they should be reopened, if and where there should be designated areas for more concentrated shooting activity, or if dispersed shooting will be the only shooting venue for Redington Pass.

Feedback from FRP's community assessment suggests that there is a need for a designated area of some kind and the effects of the temporary closures further confirm that need. A designated shooting area would (presumably) reduce the extent of damage and safety concerns caused by irresponsible dispersed shooting.

In addition to meeting as a group seven times during 2015-2016, members of the RTS working group visited the Pass on two organized field trips. Individual members spent considerably more time on the Pass observing recreational usage and talking with visitors; one member diligently visited the Pass almost every weekend talking with hundreds of shooters during different times of day, in different locations, and different seasons. Most of the members of the working group, many of whom are lifelong shooters or hunters, have been recreating on the Pass for decades. Nearly all visitors who agreed to be spoken with were in social groups, and families voiced their "cultural history" of recreating in the Pass. One individual, in his eighties, said that he had learned to shoot in the Pass with his father, and that he regularly recreates there with his grandson.

The members of the RTS working group developed several criteria to take into consideration when formulating their recommendations:

##### *1. Safety*

- Take into account the overshoot area – ½ mile radius for shooting vector
- Re. 371 – distance from road
- Able to pull vehicle off road way
- High enough back drop
- Proximity to motorized and nonmotorized trail locations
- Impacts on areas used by grazing allotment
- Reduce FS liability (how?)

##### *2. Sensitivity to User Groups*

- Reduce user conflicts
- Minimize noise
- Address concerns of all user groups
- Result in reduced illegal and irresponsible wildcat RTS
- Improve cultural aspects of recreational shooting

### 3. *Economic Impacts*

- Minimize/reduce operating and management costs
- Be economically feasible over the long term – sustainable
- Reduce impacts on other areas
- Be enforceable as reasonably possible

### 4. *Environmental Sensitivity*

- Avoid/minimize impacts on T& E species
- Avoid riparian areas
- Avoid known wildlife corridors
- Effective ways to prevent littering and clean up trash (allow for corrective actions through enforcement)
- Effective ways to periodically clean up lead in concentrated areas (may be expensive)
- Avoid resource damage

### 5. *Access*

- Ability to access for range of shooters (proximity, convenience, low/high clearance) and know where to go
- Understand carrying capacity of shooting on Pass
- Shooter access should not substantially impact other user access

For its study, the RTS working group considered a range of locations where management recommendations might be useful, including:

1. Cty 371 Redington Road (specify by MM segments)
2. Closed Shooting Area #1 (most western @ MM6)
3. Closed Shooting Area #2 (second on south)
4. Closed Shooting Area #3 (most eastern on north)
5. Corrals
6. Three Feathers Staging Area
7. Yellowstone Tank area (proposed by Tucson Rod and Gun Club for actively- managed range)

8. FR 4436 (west of Precopia Springs past MM9)
9. FR 4435 front (off of Cty 371 near entrance to Racetrack complex)
10. Race Track Tank Area (accessed from FR 4435 spur)
11. FR 4435 back (accessed from staging area via FR 4434))
12. FR 36 (Bellota HQ Road)
13. AZ Trail
14. East of AZ Trail to MM 14
15. Tanque Verde Falls (Upper and Lower)
16. Chivo Falls area
17. Chimney Rock area
18. SE areas (accessible by OHV, hiking, biking, etc.)
19. N and NW areas (accessible by OHV, hiking, biking, etc.)

After deliberating for close to a year, the RTS working group reached consensus on all of the following recommendations, meaning all the working group members either wholeheartedly agreed with the recommendations, positively agreed with the recommendations or were neutral about the recommendations. No one registered disagreement or opposition to any of the final recommendations. In reaching agreement, the group considered where concentrated or designated RTS should occur and where RTS was not appropriate, and developed additional management recommendations for dispersed shooting.

It should be noted here that the working group was also unanimous in recognizing the need for some designated shooting area or range on the Pass where a large percentage of casual, experienced and first time shooters could fire and sight their firearms and practice target shooting. Such a designated area could substantially reduce the overall volume of dispersed shooting and reduce the impacts and challenges of enforcing and managing unlawful dispersed shooting activity when it occurs.

It may also create an opportunity for user communities to organize and promote responsible shooting practices, which may also yield long term reductions in user conflicts.

### **5.2.A. Where Concentrated or Designated RTS Should Occur**

The first decision that needed to be made concerned the Tucson Road and Gun Club range proposal. Once the group addressed that proposal, it focused on what became an adaptive

management strategy for providing an appropriate designated shooting area in the Pass over the next several years.

#### ***5.2.A.1. Tucson Rod and Gun Club Proposal***

The RTS working group received written information and site plans for a proposed gun range in Redington Pass to be actively managed by the Tucson Rod and Gun Club (TRGC). TRGC is a non-profit organization of long standing in Tucson focused on shooting safety and training that previously operated a facility near Sabino Canyon on CNF land. The Club's president, Don Saba, presented additional information at a working group meeting and led a field trip to the proposed site around Yellowstone Tank, where particulars of the proposal were discussed in length. TRGC has been working on its proposal for several years and in Fall 2015 submitted a revised proposal to the CNF for a special use permit to develop and manage the range.

The working group agrees that the Yellowstone Tank area is probably the most suitable area on the Pass for designated shooting activities of some kind, whether actively managed or passively managed. It is accessible to shooters, is located sufficiently off the road, and possesses a natural hillside back drop that would contain the shooting activity safely and muffle some of the shooting noise from deeper yet popular areas.

Based on the information provided by Mr. Saba to the RTS working group, the group has the following concerns with the TRGC proposal:

a. *Active management of the range.* Those who shoot on the Pass already have several options for shooting at actively managed ranges in the Tucson valley. Pima County manages three shooting ranges, two archery ranges and one clay target center and is considering a future facility in the northwest:

- i. Southeast Regional Park Shooting Range
- ii. Southeast Archery Range
- iii. Southeast Clay Target Center
- iv. Tucson Mountain Park Rifle and Pistol Range
- v. Tucson Mountain Park Archery Range
- vi. Virgil Ellis Rifle and Pistol Range (Ajo)

Additional area ranges open to the public include: Three Points Public Shooting Range operated by the Tucson Rifle Club; the Pima Pistol Club range facility just north of Tucson; and Ralph C. Herrera Shooting Range managed by the Lions Club in Mammoth, AZ.

The nearest public shooting range to Redington Pass, the Southeast Regional Park Shooting Range, is as close (in distance and time travelled) to the major intersection of Houghton and Tanque Verde Roads as is Redington Pass and is easier to get to with a low-clearance vehicle.

Most who shoot in the Pass choose to shoot there because it is unsupervised: (they are not paying a fee, and being told how, when, and where to shoot). They are free to spend 30 minutes sighting their rifles, set up a target for practice during a family outing, or concentrate for a full day of practicing their sport. The group came to refer to these shooters as “free shooters.” An actively managed range on the Pass will not meet the needs of those free shooters and will likely not divert many shooters away from dispersing elsewhere in the Pass. Worse case, an actively managed range may attract new shooters (since the facility would be designed to promote activities, such as skeet shooting, that current enjoy limited popularity) who will then discover opportunities for “free shooting” in other locations on the Pass, only increasing the level of dispersed shooting.

b. *Range fees.* The TRGC proposal includes a range fee to underwrite the management and clean-up of the site, although volunteer range masters might be used. It is unlikely that free shooters would be disposed to pay a range fee when they can shoot elsewhere on the Pass for free; closing the remainder of the Pass to shooting was not acceptable. The range fees at the county facilities, for example, are already quite low, ranging from \$3.00 a day at the archery range to \$8.00 at the Southeast Regional Park Shooting Range. While a similarly low fee may not prove to be a significant barrier to entry, combined with other necessary restrictions, it is likely to deter free shooters from repeated visits to the range.

c. *Scale and intensity of site use.* The design of the proposed range is substantial: The complex, so to say, not only encompasses the "riparian area" of Yellowstone Tank, but spans Redington Road itself. Some RTS working group members referred to it as akin to a large “industrialized” site in the middle of Redington Pass. The proposed range complex includes a rifle and pistol range, a fire arm safety and long range rifle range, an organized events range and a field shotgun range. The RTS working group was not given the actual dimensions of the

proposed site, but working off of the site plan, it appears that the range would stretch a quarter – mile in length roughly parallel to Redington Road and encompass at least 40 acres, not including the shot gun range to the south or the extent of the closure area around the range that would be needed for a safety buffer and to restrict entry to the site. This level of intense land use and extensive footprint located in the heart of the Pass is concerning and strikes the working group as out of scale and incompatible with the current and future multiple recreational uses of the Pass.

d. *Timeliness.* As dispersed shooting sites are established and their popularity grows, their impact will map deeper into the Forest. The longer the delay in adapting to evolving patterns of utilization, the further recreational target shooters will disperse to other less desirable areas and establish patterns of use that may create conflict with other users and result in safety concerns and other hazardous resource conditions. Moreover, with continued delay, other efforts, such as the proposed relocation of the ATV trail behind Yellowstone (to alleviate user conflict) may falter as well. Timeliness is essential in order to capitalize on accrued goodwill, create a sense of a common future, and stewardship.

e. *Sustainability.* For the TRGC proposed range complex to be successful, it will need to attract a certain level of use and reach a break-even point that enables it to be economically viable over the long term. Documents provided by Mr. Saba showed a business model notionally predicting 500 users per week – roughly commensurate with the flux of shooters passing through check points during hunting season. Nonetheless, the consequences of failure would be increased vandalism; and foregone clean up would damage the environment and leave CNF with clean up costs.

*Recommendation:*

1. At this time, the RTS working group does not recommend an actively-managed range in Redington Pass, particularly of the scale proposed by the TRGC, based on these concerns.

***5.2.A.2. Adaptive Management Recommendation***

The working group recommends an adaptive management approach that incorporates a sequence of experimental management metrics to be monitored over time. The long term intention is to develop an appropriately sized and adequately designed range in the Yellowstone Tank area that will enhance the experience of the majority of recreational shooters that visit the Pass, reduce the extent of dispersed shooting, minimize the environmental impacts, and provide for managed growth.

That said, there is a pressing need to provide recreational shooters with an accessible designated area where they know they can shoot safely and legally. This could reduce some of the increase in dispersed shooting and reduce user conflicts short term. The simplest and most efficient short term solution is to re-open shooting area 3, effectively "designated" as a shooting area, while studying and preparing for development of a more sustainable solution near the Yellowstone Tank area.



The working group is aware of the potential liabilities for CNF of designating a shooting area that it does not actively manage, but there are counterbalancing liabilities as well. The consequences of not taking timely action to provide a shooting area increases the potential for accidents occurring with more dispersed shooting. A designated shooting area is more easily enforceable, littering can be better controlled, and any clean-up of lead shot and other shooting detritus can be more efficiently managed. By designating a shooting area, the CNF could affirmatively direct shooters to the site through maps and signage, shooters would be certain as to where they can shoot, and ad hoc shooting in potentially unsafe areas could be reduced.

This recommended strategy would increase range shooting opportunities incrementally and allow for the demonstration over time of manageability (that is, test the recommended approach to a designated, passively managed range). TRGC can play a valuable partnership role with CNF and other partners in implementing this strategy. Opportunities for expansion and “right-sizing” could be considered if demand for range access increases, as shooting area 3 is phased out. Consideration of an actively-managed component would be kept open, if monitoring reveals a need for such management.

*Recommendation:*

## Phase I.

- Reopen shooting area 3 temporarily after
  - Delineating its boundary,
  - Increasing the length of the available area for shooting positions,
  - Demarcating parking and place buffer (boulders and revegetation) between parking and the road,
  - Putting up signage with safety guidelines and regulations, and
  - Putting up directional signs along Redington Road indicating open shooting area.
- Simultaneously close Western slope to RTS (see closure recommendations in the next section).
- Study impacts of reopening the shooting area 3 on other recreational users and to dispersed shooting activity; develop recommendations for future improvements or closure.
- Relocate the ATV trail behind Yellowstone Tank area to accommodate new RTS shooting area.
- Work with TRGC and other interested parties to design a lower impact designated shooting range in the Yellowstone Tank area that would be open to the public with no fees and not be actively managed.
- Conduct any necessary environmental assessments of the design and mitigate accordingly.

## Phase II (3-5 yr hence)

- Build the first components of the Yellowstone Tank designated shooting area and open it for shooting.
- Close shooting in 1 mile wide corridor along Arizona Trail.
- Review study of impacts of reopening shooting area 3 and depending on results, close, improve or leave as is.
- Study the use and impacts of the Yellowstone Tank shooting area.

## Phase III (5-10 yr hence)

- Review study of both shooting area 3 and the Yellowstone Tank designated area and take adaptive action based on results.

Recommended Phase IV.

- Continue to monitor the impact of recreational shooting within the Pass, and develop metrics characterizing the impacts on the Pass and the Forest experience.

### **5.2.B. Areas in Redington Pass Not Appropriate for Recreational Target Shooting**

Redington Pass is managed for multiple uses. The intensity of current recreational use and its anticipated growth makes unrestricted, dispersed target shooting unsafe and hazardous in certain areas. The RTS working group has identified the following areas where RTS restrictions should be considered and subject to review:

#### ***5.2.B.1. Western Slope.***

Consistent with other CAMP working group recommendations to develop more intensive recreational use for non-motorized activities on the western slope of Redington Pass, the RTS working group recommends closure of RTS activities from the western entrance to the Pass around Mile Marker 3 up to the currently closed shooting area 3 between Mile Marker 6 and 7. Given the current and future intensity of trails and the complex topography of the western slope, the breadth of the closure area would encompass a polygon depicted on the map with a northern boundary running above Cummings Stock Tank and a southern boundary running approximately parallel to and a ¼ mile south of the Tanque Verde Creek. Such closure does not apply to hunting in this area.

*Recommendation:*

1. Close the Western Slope to recreational target shooting per above.
2. Time closure of area with the opening of the closed shooting area 3.

#### ***5.2.B.2. Shooting Areas 1 and 2.***

Consistent with the justification for the above recommendation, this would include the continued closure of shooting areas 1 and 2. In particular, these shooting areas are very close to the road and could be put to other beneficial uses, as recommended by other CAMP working groups.

*Recommendation:*

1. Continue closure of shooting areas 1 and 2 to recreational target shooting.

**5.2.B.3. Arizona Trail Corridor.**

Consistent with the CNF revised land and natural resource management plan, the RTS working group recommends protection of a mile-wide corridor along the Arizona Trail. Within this corridor, RTS would be prohibited.

*Recommendation:*

1. Close a mile-wide corridor along the Arizona Trail to recreational target shooting.
2. Time closure to coincide with opening of designated shooting area near Yellowstone Tank.

**5.2.B. Highlight Sites Already Restricted by Law**

National Forest Service laws (36 CFR 261.10) prohibit “discharging a firearm or other implement capable of taking human life, causing injury or damaging property:

- (1) In or within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site or occupied area, or
- (2) Across or on a National Forest System road or a body of water adjacent thereto, or in any manner or place whereby any person or property is exposed to injury or damage as a result in such discharge.
- (3) Into or within any cave.”

The State of Arizona has additional regulations on hunting that prohibit shooting from a motor vehicle or from, across, or onto a roadway. (A.R.S. 17- 301B)  
(36 CFR 261.10)

These rules and regulations are posted and target shooters should be familiar with them. Nonetheless, it is recommended that new signs be posted at specific well-known and frequently visited features, facilities and destinations in Redington Pass where shooting is already prohibited by law to remind shooters of where such laws apply on the ground in the Pass.

*Recommendation:*

1. Designate, through posted area maps and signs at the following locations, that shooting is prohibited by existing law at:

- Bellota Ranch Headquarters,
- The Corrals,
- Three Feathers and all staging areas,
- Chivo Falls/Chiva Springs, and
- Race Track Tank adjacent to FSR 652 and other prominent tanks, springs, and riparian areas with water adjacent to forest system roads.

### **5.2.C. Additional Management Recommendations**

The RTS working group made several additional management recommendations to address RTS issues on the Pass pertaining to maps and signage, education, enforcement, monitoring, and clean up.

#### ***5.2.C.1. Maps and Signage***

One of the complaints from recreational shooters has been that they do not know where to shoot on the Pass. As the recommendations are put into place, it is very important for CNF to reduced this uncertainty through improved maps and signage.

##### *Recommendations:*

1. Provide clear guidance on maps and signs as to where people may and may not shoot legally on the Pass.
2. Information kiosks should prominently post shooting regulations and the consequences of specific violations.

#### ***5.2.C.2. Education***

As CNF makes decisions on these and other recommendations, it is critical that CNF, working in partnership with other groups, develop a comprehensive education campaign to encourage safe shooting on the Pass

##### *Recommendations:*

1. With partners, CNF should launch a public education campaign including public and social media, to inform shooters and other recreators of the changes on the Pass.
2. Information brochures, wallet cards, windshield hangars and/or posters should be distributed to gun and ammunition stores and other shooting ranges.

3. Information on safe shooting in the Pass should be shared via facebook and web links with all partners.

### ***5.2.C.3 Enforcement***

CNF, AZGFD and Pima County Sheriff's Department have already increased their patrols of the Pass. It is important that as recommendations on RTS are put into effect, CNF coordinate with its enforcement partners. (Additional recommendations for enforcement are provided by the User Conflicts Working Group.)

#### *Recommendations:*

1. Improve coordination among CNF, ASGFD and Pima County Sheriff's Department to strategically increase the law enforcement presence on high volume weekends and with well-timed saturation patrols.
2. All law enforcement officers should have educational materials to hand out at check points and when talking with shooters on the Pass.

### ***5.2.C.4 Monitoring***

Because of the ongoing nature of RTS activity on the Pass and the adaptive management approach being recommended, the RTS working group anticipates the need for external review and monitoring of conditions on the Pass.

#### *Recommendation:*

1. CNF should work with an external community monitoring body such as the RTS working group under the auspices of FRP to provide monitoring of RTS activity and feedback to the CNF.

### ***3.2.C.5. Clean Up***

The need for ongoing clean up of shooting area 3 once it is reopened and dispersed shooting areas throughout the Pass will continue.

#### *Recommendations:*

1. CNF, FRP, TRGC, the RTS working group and other partners should develop and implement a regular clean-up program at shooting area 3 prior to its re-opening to assure that the site will

start and stay clean and clear of shooting debris and litter. This is intended to convey at the outset the standard of RTS shooting stewardship expected at that site. Enforcement of shooting and litter laws should be a priority during the opening months of this site. A periodic clean-up schedule for accumulated lead and other material deposition must also be in place prior to re-opening shooting area 3.

2. The RTS working group or other external monitoring group as part of its ongoing work should coordinate with CNF, FRP, TRGC, and other partners to periodically clean up dispersed shooting areas throughout the Pass.

3. The RTS working group or other external monitoring group in partnership with CNF and TRGC should monitor contamination levels at designated shooting areas and make recommendations for timely clean up.

### **5.3 High Use Areas Working Group Recommendations**

At the public meetings, in group interviews and through the online survey, Redington Pass users voiced several concerns about specific popular areas that were subject to high use, frequently congested especially on weekends and sometimes misused through littering and damage to natural resources (see Attachment C). Given the current and projected recreation levels in the Pass, the nature and extent of staging areas, parking and visitor facilities were frequently raised as well. These concerns were grouped into the following areas for study by the High Use Area Working Group:

1. Litter
2. Congestion
3. Impacts on natural resources
4. Inadequate facilities and infrastructure

In addition, based on the mapping exercise conducted at the April 2014 public meeting, FRP gathered data from over 170 participants who identified areas on the study map that were their favorite recreation spots and areas that warranted concerns, their “hot spots.” These geographic data were digitized and Rachel Glass conducted a density analysis to determine areas

of the highest intensity of use and concern. The “high use areas” that the working group then focused on included:

1. Redington Road itself and certain specific locations along the road
2. Lower Tanque Verde Falls
3. Kiosk Area
4. Upper Tanque Verde Falls
5. Temporarily Closed Shooting Areas
6. The Corrals
7. Three Feathers Staging Area
8. Race Track Tank
9. Chimney Rock
10. Chiva Falls
11. Arizona Trailhead

The working group established five criteria with which to assess the various recommendations they developed for these different concerns and locations. They included:

- Practical
- Effective and timely (short and long term)
- Consider cost
- Meets CNF plan measures
- Consistent with the Redington Pass values
- Sustainable – some measure of over time sustainability of action

The following general recommendations are provided for the four major concerns about high use areas in Redington Pass.

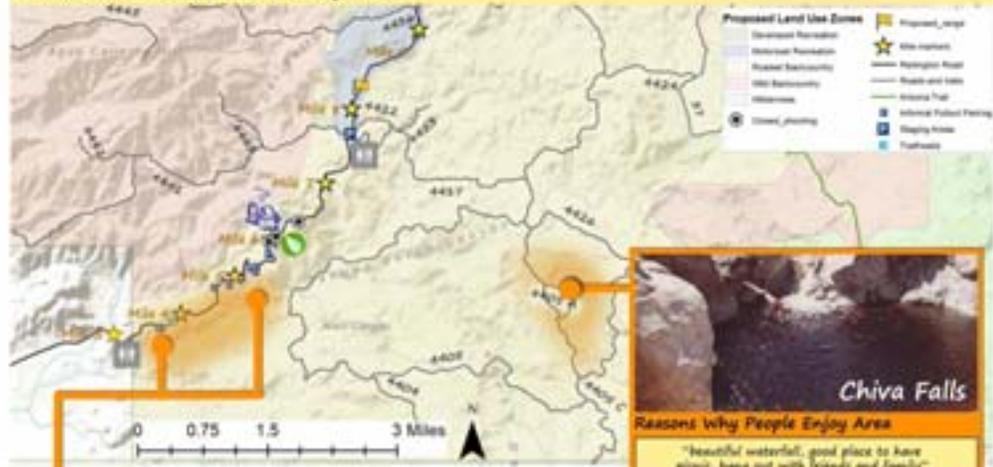
12.

**HIGHLY USED AREAS WORKING GROUP ISSUE MAP**  
 Data for map: input from April 2014 public meeting and Fall 2015 online survey (n= 60 responses)  
 Prepared by: Rachel Glass, for FRP  
 Date: 1/25/2015  
 Photos courtesy of Matthew Marine, <http://www.experience-as.com/>

**Issues in Highly Used Areas on the Pass**

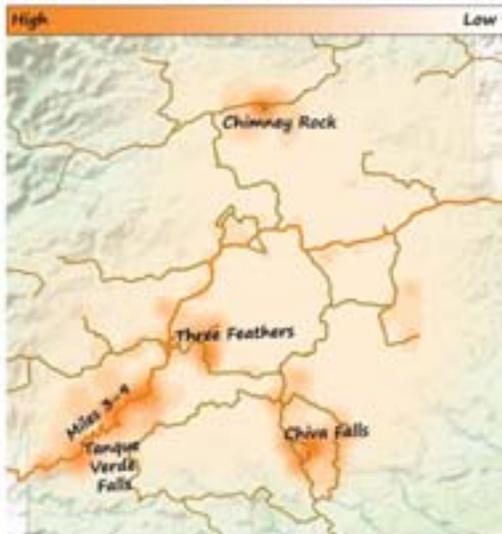


**Issue Focus Areas & Examples**



**Use Hotspots from Spatial Data** (n=480)

In response to identifying favorite and trouble areas, participants in the April 2014 public meeting tagged dots on maps. These dots, along with location-specific responses from the Fall 2015 online survey, were digitized in a GIS software system. An analysis tool, "Kernel Density," was run to determine a density of these points across the study area. The map below shows higher areas of denser use and areas of less use.



**Tanguete Verde Falls (Upper & Lower)**

**Reasons Why People Enjoy Area**

- "The swimming area at Tanguete Verde Falls"
- "I can see the cactuses a short walk from a parking spot"
- "the trail to the falls"

**Issues Noted in Area**

- "Trash left at the parking area near the falls"
- "Upper falls parking/lots of people on weekends acting disrespectful"
- "Parking areas for Tanguete Verde Falls...on road parking"
- "Tanguete Verde falls needs a clean-up"

**Chiva Falls**

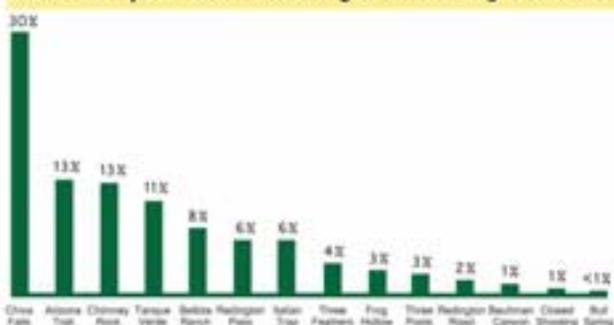
**Reasons Why People Enjoy Area**

- "beautiful waterfall, good place to have picnic, hang out with friends and family"
- "Chilling with friends and family by the waterfall"
- "love the off road trails & views, picnic area, the falls itself"

**Issues Noted in Area**

- "Erosion and sediment in creek from hillside near Chiva Falls"
- "Chiva Falls 'junction'/too many ORVs & ATVs"
- "Chiva Falls/broken glass and garbage"

**Favorite Spots from Meeting and Survey Data** (n=244)



### **5.3.A. Recommendations for managing litter**

The High Use Areas Working Group first identified the underlying problems that resulted in littering on Redington Pass. Several members observed that the extent of littering was considerably less than in past years which was generally ascribed to the temporary closures of the three shooting areas and increased volunteer clean-up activities. Others observed that as shooting had become more dispersed, there were more incidences of littering, just not right on Redington Road. Litter ranged from food and drink packaging, to camping debris to spent shells and improvised shooting targets (e.g., glass bottles, appliances). Litter is not only an aesthetic issue impacting the experience of visitors, it is a natural resource management issue. The three undesignated target shooting areas were temporarily shut down in order to clean up contaminated soil for decades of shooting debris. Litter can be hazardous to wildlife, either through ingesting materials or getting caught or trapped, for example, in plastic wrappings or wire.

The working group concluded that littering generally is due to either the lack of opportunity for proper disposal of waste, uninformed behavior, or irresponsible behavior without sufficient consequences. The group focused on four areas of recommendations to address these problems: waste management, signage, education, and enforcement.

#### ***5.3.A.1. Waste Management***

Currently, the only trash receptacles on Redington Pass are at the Alamo OHV staging area near Mile Marker 10. Unfortunately, this location is farthest from the most populated recreation areas further west. The working group is aware that dumpsters are more than a capital expense and require regular pick up and hauling service. Given the increasing levels of recreation in the Pass, more opportunities for visitors to dispose of waste appropriately are warranted. While a “pack in, pack out” ethic should be encouraged (see below under education), it is unlikely to fully address the litter problem in the Pass on its own.

#### ***Recommendations:***

1. More trash receptacles (bear-proof dumpsters) are needed with regular trash hauling service.

Three locations are recommended:

- a. At the kiosk area between Mile Marker 3 and 4.
- b. At any designated shooting facility or area.

- c. At the Alamo OHV staging area.
2. Consider a partnership with Pima County for waste hauling.
3. Consider state and federal grants to pay for trash receptacles or crowdfunding effort through partners.
4. Seek partnership with Tucson Rod and Gun Club and other shooting clubs, the NRA, and the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation to develop a regular brass pickup/recycling and litter cleanup program at target shooting areas.
5. Actively partner with volunteer clean-up crews (e.g., FRP, Tread Lightly!) and other user groups for frequent and systematic clean-up along Redington Road and all service roads, trails, and recreation destinations.
6. Advance and extend the Adopt-a-Trail program (FRP could serve as coordinating clearinghouse) to encourage specific regular commitments for trail clean ups (and restoration).
7. Partner with user groups to develop or tailor a cell phone application for visitors to phone in observations with GPS coordinates to locate trash, graffiti (see below), resource damage, concerning behavior, etc. See application at <http://en.seeclickfix.com/>

### ***5.3.A.2. Signage***

Signs are one of the few ways to inform visitors about the Pass and how and where to enjoy the area. Too many signs can diminish the outback nature of the Pass. Some people just ignore signs, particularly those we are trying to reach. Damaged, and unrepaired signs can leave the wrong message that the Pass is not cared for and “anything goes.” Nonetheless, the working group offers five specific recommendations.

#### *Recommendations:*

1. At the entrance to the area, place a “Redington Pass RECREATION AREA – Coronado National Forest” sign. Such an official designation would lend credibility to the fact that this area is important, cared for and managed right at the beginning. This sign could be placed it at the pavement/dirt road change. See for example Choctaw Lake sign below



2. At major information areas with sign boards (e.g., kiosk, staging areas) and at well placed locations along Redington Road, place No Littering signs and include the fines for littering and that they are strictly enforced.
3. Develop a routine sign replacement schedule and work with partners to regularly identify damaged signs.
4. Post signs indicating where trash receptacles are located and place on updated maps of Pass.
5. Work with partners to identify additional funding support through grants, active fund raising and crowd funding to maintain an inventory of needed replacement signs.
6. Post at major information areas with sign boards (e.g., kiosk, staging areas), tag lines and posters from organizations like TreadLightly! and other partners organizational logos and signs to convey active stewardship commitment and expected norms for recreating on the Pass.

### ***5.3.A.3. Education***

Many visitors from the Tucson valley are urban recreators and may not be aware of the “pack in, pack out” norm for outdoor recreation and the expense of cleaning up and hauling waste from remote areas like Redington Pass. Opportunities for educating new and young users should be taken whenever possible.

#### *Recommendations:*

1. Work with network of partners to develop a social media campaign, building off of TreadLightly! tag lines and graphics (using websites, Facebook and other web services).
2. Develop education campaign with partners that includes:
  - a. local media contact and coverage of clean up events and partner activities
  - b. engaging nearby schools in sponsoring poster campaigns and clean up events
  - c. creating dashboard tags with litter laws and fines listed along with other rules of the road (see TreadLightly! tags)

#### **5.3.A.4. Enforcement**

As noted above, some littering behavior is simply irresponsible and continues because there are no apparent consequences. The working group is aware that in the past few years, law enforcement officers (LEOs) from CNF, AZGF and the Pima County Sheriff's Department have increased their coverage on Redington Road and that includes enforcement of federal, state and local litter laws. However, the reputation of Redington Pass and the perception of limited law enforcement presence persists and contributes to continued irresponsible behavior on the Pass. It is difficult to catch violators in the act of littering, but this enforcement is appreciated.

##### *Recommendations:*

1. Increase the level of law enforcement for littering and other regulated behavior on the Pass.
2. Conduct saturation patrols or "blitzes" two to three times a year to make visitors more aware of the law enforcement presence.
3. Consider ways to increase fines and education/service requirements for violations.

#### **5.3.B. Recommendations for managing congestion**

Many instances of congestion exist on Redington Pass, particularly on weekends and holidays from September through May. The areas around the trailheads of both Lower and Upper Tanque Verde Falls are especially congested when overflow parking leads to cars lining both sides of the roads or driving up on embankments. Many different vehicles share the same major artery, Redington Road, and the major forest system roads, including mountain bikes, motorcycles (dirt bikes), regular cars, jeeps, FJ cruisers, side-by-sides, ATVs (list the different kinds of ATVs here, UTVs, Side-By-Sides), and cars hauling trailers with recreational vehicles, not to mention hikers and horseback riders (who have generally moved to other areas due to the congestion). Car campers and RVs frequently tie up space in limited parking areas and pullouts on the western slope.

##### *Recommendations:*

1. See Parking section below for improving and increasing parking on the Pass.
2. Limit parking areas and pull outs to day-use only on western slope up to the Three Feathers Staging Area.

3. At major information areas with sign boards (e.g., kiosk, staging areas), provide new map more clearly illustrating trail usage by vehicle type and parking areas (see Moab public lands mapping and signage).
4. Increase hiking and mountain biking trails on western slope to disperse and better segregate from motorized use trails.
5. Improve dirt bike trails further up the main rode to encourage use of the Alamo OHV staging area.

### **5.3.C. Recommendations for managing impacts on natural resources**

Resource damage takes many forms on Redington Pass. Sometimes it is willful harm of plants (e.g., shooting saguaros) or animals (e.g., hunting game illegally without licenses). Sometimes it is for amusement or self-expression (e.g. spray painting boulders in Tanque Verde Creek). Sometimes it is the unintended consequences of driving in a wash, up a stream bank, or down a steep slope (e.g., widening the roadbed down to Chiva Falls) or feeding cattle with once widely- available buffelgrass.

#### ***5.3.C.1. Resource damage***

##### *Recommendations:*

1. The shooting of saguaros and other desert vegetation does not seem to have grown in the past few years on Redington Pass. Nonetheless, law enforcement officers should remain vigilant and enforce federal and state laws.
2. Signs and education efforts with local media outlets and social media should emphasize that damaging, destroying or removing cactus are federal and state offenses, and can carry federal and state prison time (up to four years based on Arizona's Native Plant Law) and stiff fines.
3. Partner with user groups to develop or tailor a cell phone application for visitors to phone in observations with GPS coordinates to locate trash, graffiti, resource damage, concerning behavior, etc. See application at <http://en.seeclickfix.com/> .
4. See Recreational Target Shooting Working Group recommendations to reduce wildcat shooting in Redington Pass.

### **5.3.C.2. Graffiti**

#### *Recommendations:*

1. Spray painting on signs should be addressed by improved law enforcement presence and the timely replacement or restoration of damaged signs.
2. Graffiti removal on rocks and boulders can be labor-intensive and time-consuming. Train and partner with volunteers from such groups as FRP and specifically the Southern Arizona Climbers' Coalition to advance timely graffiti removal.
3. Partner with user groups to develop or tailor a cell phone application for visitors to phone in observations with GPS coordinates to locate trash, graffiti, resource damage, concerning behavior, etc. See application at <http://en.seeclickfix.com/>.

### **5.3.C.3. Erosion**

#### *Recommendations:*

1. Accelerated erosion due to visitor or management actions should be addressed in the specific local situations where it is occurring (e.g., Chiva Falls, widened road; Three Feathers, Chimney Rock, behind the Alamo Staging Area ("Dead Cow, "Racetrack, around mile 11. (See site specific recommendations)
2. When erosion is due to repeated vehicle passage, consider rerouting road, placing natural rock barriers effectively, and adding signs prohibiting passage.
3. Investigate how CNF blades certain system roads. It has been observed that the discharge from the blading can, in effect, lead to widening the roadbeds. Are there alternatives?
4. Investigate whether or not water bars are actually reducing erosion by rerouting runoff.
5. There is a tension between the need to maintain roads for fire, ranch, and recreation access and the observation that grading roads further increases the speed of vehicles, which in turn wears out the roadbed and can enhance erosion. Investigate the tradeoffs as they relate to specific segments of the road system.

### **5.3.C.4. Restoration**

This working group did not spend much time on restoration needs in general on the Pass. It did not address fire management or invasive species or the progress of restoration areas now being managed. Nor did it address lead contamination from shooting areas (see the Recreational

Target Shooting Working Group section). That said, there exists considerable potential to enlist partners in restoring riparian areas, for example, or mapping and helping to eradicate buffelgrass and fountain grass (which has spread extensively along Redington Road and up and down many canyons and riparian areas).

*Recommendation:*

1. At some future date, a focused collaborative effort on restoration planning could be useful to CNF's Catalina District.

### **5.3.D. Recommendations for managing inadequate facilities and infrastructure**

Given the current and likely increased levels of recreation in Redington Pass, the need for additional facilities and infrastructure is apparent. Here, the working group makes recommendations for additional restrooms, information and interpretation, staging areas, and parking.

#### ***5.3.D.1. Restroom facilities***

Only one restroom facility currently exists at the Alamo OHV staging area far from where the majority of recreators spend time in the Pass. While Redington Pass is intended primarily for unimproved, dispersed recreation, the level of use requires such an additional facility.

*Recommendation:*

1. Build a new restroom facility near highest use areas with adequate parking, such as at the kiosk area between Mile Marker 3 and 4.

#### ***5.3.D.2. Information and interpretation***

With increasing high visitation use on the Pass, more public information is needed to orient the visitors about how and where to recreate. Information about safety pertaining to recreation in remote outback areas is important to educate urban and less experienced visitors. Prohibited activities and the consequences of violations needed to be posted. As new visitors are attracted to the area, there will also be more demand for interpretive information about the human and natural history of the Pass to enhance appreciation and respect for the area.

*Recommendations:*

1. Increase and maintain information kiosks for posting information and maps about the Pass. Preferred locations include the new kiosk between Mile Marker 3 and 4, the proposed redesign at the first temporarily closed shooting area, the Three Feathers staging area, and the Alamo OHV staging area.
2. Develop interpretation program with assistance of Redington Pass partners and drawing on experience with Sabino Canyon. This may involve “borrowing” Sabino Canyon naturalists and designing interpretive signage at various points along Redington Pass (mentioned further in other sections of this report).

#### ***5.3.D.3. Staging areas***

The Alamo OHV staging area is not heavily used and the Three Feathers staging area is too small with frequent overflow at the Corrals. Informal staging areas are developing (for example at the kiosk) taking up limited spaces for cars. Cars with trailers are being parked on the sides of roads and even up on embankments. Once people see others parking in certain areas, they follow suit and an improvised parking spot becomes customary.

#### *Recommendations:*

1. Redesign the second closed shooting area as an OHV staging area.
2. Expand the Three Feathers staging area to accommodate more trailers.
3. Create designated area in the Corrals for additional trailers.

#### ***5.3.D.4. Parking***

Competition for parking on the western slope between cars, trailers, and campers needs to be better managed.

#### *Recommendations:*

1. See location specific recommendations below for specific parking recommendations.
2. Generally increase off road parking spaces on the western slope.
3. Separate out and design and sign for car, trailer, and camper parking.
4. For high use areas, such as the western slope, prohibit overnight camping in designated parking slots and pull outs.
5. Use natural rock barriers where possible to prohibit parking in inappropriate locations; fences and railings may be easily destroyed.

6. The carrying capacity for recreation on the western slope may someday be exceeded. Therefore, study and experiment with different parking options and see how they work; like parking only on one side of the road or consider time of week parking restrictions.

### ***5.3.E. Site-specific recommendations***

Specific recommendations for 10 high use areas in Redington Pass are presented below. These recommendations are consistent with and in some cases redundant with the issue-organized recommendations presented above. They were assessed by the working group per the stated criteria.

#### **5.3.E.1. Redington Road itself and certain specific locations along the road**

1. Place large distinctive “Welcome to Redington Pass” sign at entrance and at kiosk area.
2. Along Redington Road, designate with signs where it is lawful to park (for scenic pull outs and overlooks, trailheads, day use/camping, trailers).
3. Prohibit overnight camping before junction with Three Feathers and Corrals.
4. Work to reroute mountain bikers off Redington Road where parallel surface within road area is available on north-side of road.
5. Label scenic overlooks along Redington Road on area map for visitors and also use designation for managing needed clean up and restoration.

#### ***5.3.E.2. Lower Tanque Verde Falls***

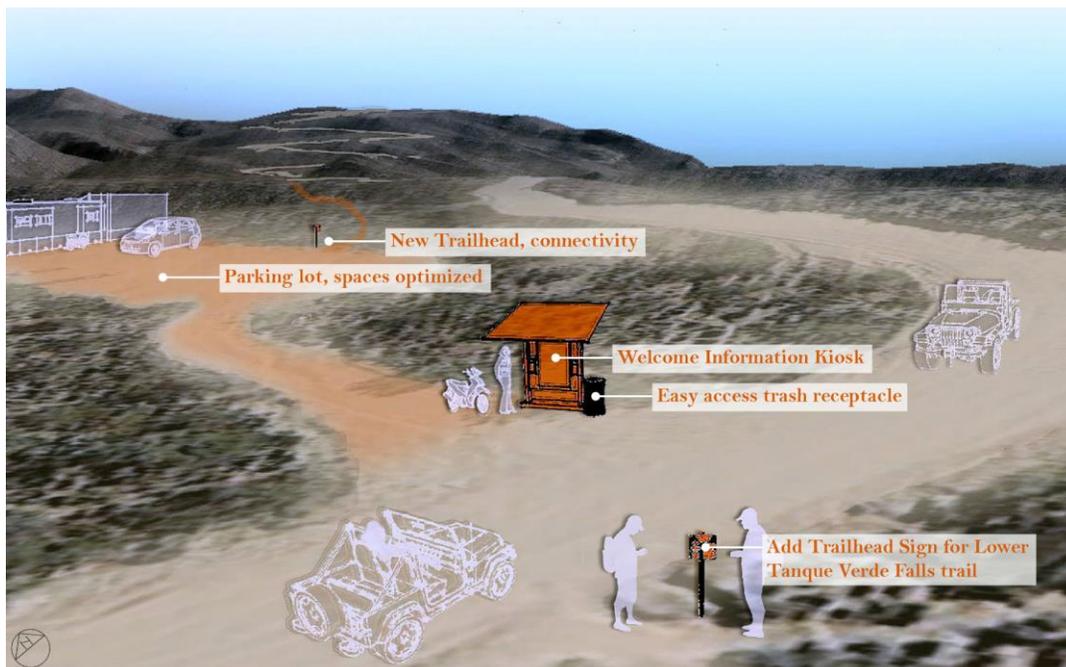
1. Improve car parking area, designating spots with concrete bumpers to maximize car spaces.
2. Reroute drainage to address erosion and bring in fill to make it easier for low- clearance cars to get into parking lot.
3. Prohibit trailers in this parking area.
4. Prohibit overnight camping and campfires in parking lot. Day use only.

#### ***5.3.E.3. Kiosk area:***

Redesign entire area to incorporate the following features:

1. Designate a specific trailer parking area with turnaround loop design.
2. Improve car parking area, designating spots with concrete bumpers to maximize car spaces.
3. Prohibit overnight camping and campfires in parking lot. Day use only.
4. Actively maintain kiosk with information, maps, rules and regulations

5. Create loop in front of sign for temporary parking so visitors can get out and read information on kiosk.
6. Sign trailhead for Scorpion Trail<sup>2</sup> to north and east of area
7. Provide trash receptacles and restroom facilities.
8. Name western area of Redington Pass (e.g. Gateway to the Pass, or Redington Pass Portal, Tanque Verde section, Western Slope) and place on maps. See illustrative image by Rachel Glass below.



#### ***5.3.E.4. Upper Tanque Verde Falls***

1. Make single designated area (cars only) just north and west of Blue Line Trail<sup>3</sup>.
2. Close other wildcat parking near Upper Falls Trail head on right of road.

#### ***5.3.E.5. Temporarily Closed Shooting Areas***

1. Redesign shooting area 1 (further west) to create access for scenic overlook, some car parking, ramada, picnic tables and interpretive signs. Consider rerouting current trail head of

<sup>2</sup> Recreational access working group has added a second trailhead to north (Bodhi 1 Trail)

<sup>3</sup> This conflicts with recommendations of other working groups to provide 2 or 3 additional small parking areas.

Scorpion Trail along ridge to this area. This site is the last of the steep switch backs with final view of Tucson valley before turning north and up to plateau. Rename this site.

2. Redesign closed shooting area 2 for additional staging area for trailers. Add picnic tables and ramadas.

#### **5.3.E.6. *The Corrals***

1. Provide area for overflow trailer parking further away from Redington Road and Corrals.
2. Reroute drainage to check erosion at eastern entrance to Corrals.

#### **5.3.E.7. *Three Feathers Staging Area***

1. Widen parking area toward road so that trailers can park on both sides and drive between.
2. Improve entrance signage and fix drainage to halt erosion ruts.
3. Create additional kiosk, not just for OHVs.

#### **5.3.E.8. *Race Track Tank***

1. Place barrier boulders between roadway and shooting area to separate mountain bikers, hikers, OHV, dirt bike and ATV riders traversing route 651 from target shooters up the hill. Provide for “driveway” for shooters’ vehicles up hill.
2. Post signs near tank noting no shooting near tank and no camping with ¼ mile of water body.
3. Post signs at shooting area re. no littering and need to pick up spent shells.
4. Reroute 651 further away from the shooting area and closer to the tank and reduce with use of boulder barriers the braiding of the trail

#### **5.3.E.9. *Chimney Rock***

1. Fill mud hole area along road to Chimney Rock with riprap; do not reroute road. This project has Arizona State Parks OHV Program mitigation funding potential.
2. Close the two track going southwest from Chimney Rock; also has Arizona State Parks OHV Program mitigation funding potential.
3. Refer to recreational access group, the study of potential for new hiking/mountain bike trail to Chimney Rock from Redington Road.

### **5.3.E.10. Chiva Falls\***

Chivo Falls is one of the most popular and frequently congested destinations in Redington Pass. It is accessed primarily by FSR 4405A a steep spur road that has been lengthened and widened over the years by OHV, ATV, and motorcycle riders. It is not unusual to find on a given weekend 20-25 vehicles parked along the road and up on top of the rocks at the edge of the natural pool. The runoff from the steep slopes and soil erosion has contributed to stream sedimentation. The HUA working group made the following recommendations to reduce traffic and parking on 4405 and increase options for non-motorized access.

1. Create parking at saddle for hikers.
2. Design trail for hikers up to Falls on north/east side.
3. Design alternate parking spots between Saddle and Falls.
4. Design a foot trail from the south near camping at La Mesa de la Osa that could connect to top of falls.

The HUA working group also proposed a shortening of 4405A before the “squeeze” and one-way routing of traffic to reduce direct impacts on Chivo Falls , the pools and stream flows.

As the working group was completing its report, it became aware that several environmental advocates had been seeking the closure of 4405A for some time. In light of this and the understanding that 4405A is to continue at least for now as a designated road in the new TMP, the working group recommends that short-term and long-term management solutions be developed by a small representative task group working directly with CNF.

5. Create an ad hoc task group to work with CNF to develop short-term and long term solutions for access to and protection of Chivo Falls.

### **5.3.E.11. Arizona Trailhead**

1. Improve trailhead parking for cars, trailers ad campers.
2. Consider need for and potential for additional parking on north side of road.
3. Improve signage at road and at trailhead working with Arizona Trail Association.

## 5.4 User Conflicts Working Group Recommendations

At the public meetings, in group interviews and through the online survey, Redington Pass users voiced concerns about the impacts that others' behaviors had on their experience or feeling of safety when they visited the Pass (see Attachment C). These concerns were grouped into three areas of conflicts that warranted further study and possible recommendations for management action by Coronado National Forest (CNF) and other partners:

1. Occurrence of unsafe, irresponsible or illegal activity
2. Perception/reality of no or limited law enforcement on Pass
3. General awareness of "bad" reputation of Redington Pass<sup>4</sup>

The User Conflicts Working Group acknowledged up front that the majority of people visiting the Pass are responsible users who care about both the condition of the Pass as well as the enjoyment and safety of other visitors on the Pass. But a small but persistent percentage of users do create conflicts and diminish the quality of the experience for others. The working group discussed each of the three problem areas and identified several root causes. Behind the **occurrence of unsafe, irresponsible or illegal activity** is thought to be:

1. a lack of awareness and understanding about what behaviors are acceptable on the Pass
2. a missing "internal compass" for some, which makes them less aware of what constitutes unacceptable behavior; and
3. a lack of a sense of ownership of the Pass itself as public lands for all users to enjoy and take responsibility for.

**The perception of no or limited law enforcement** is based partly on historically low visible presence by enforcement agencies. Some visitors have stumbled upon unexpected situations they considered unsafe or inappropriate and felt a sense of not being

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<sup>4</sup> Although recreational shooting has been one of the major sources of user conflict in the Pass, the user conflict working group did not spend much time on it since this subject is the focus of the RTS working group. However, there was some consensus that closure to recreation shooting for the first 4 to 7 miles of road should be considered.

protected on the Pass. Although there have been recent increases to patrols by CNF, Pima County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) and Arizona Game and Fish (AGFD), many people may hold onto impressions formed over the past several decades. Furthermore, patrols are mainly limited to Redington Road, which leaves a vast amount of area in which individuals can behave in reckless and lawless behavior with apparent impunity. Additionally, many people simply are not informed about what activities are allowed and where. So, for example, when some Pass visitors encounter recreational target shooters in an unexpected area, they may assume they are shooting illegally or the activity is not being properly regulated or enforced.

These experiences lead to the third problem of the **“bad” reputation** of the Pass. The public receives news about negative events, such as deaths, arrests and controversy over shooting areas and roadside litter, but they do not necessarily hear about increased patrols or volunteer activity. The public also has a limited understanding of public lands in general, who owns them, how they are managed, and what activities are permitted. Although the Pass will never be as tightly managed as the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area, the working group agreed that all user groups, rugged outdoor adventurers and family picnickers alike, should be able to enjoy their visits and know what to expect in Redington Pass.

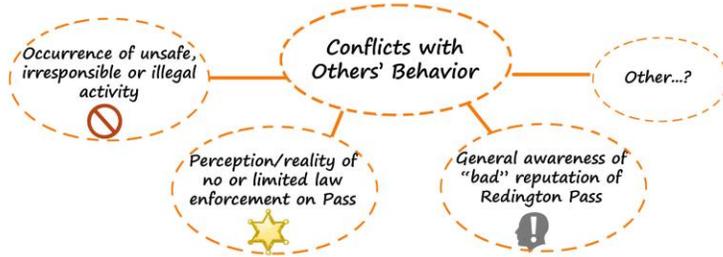
In forming management recommendations, the members of the working group for user conflict concerns considered these criteria:

- Alignment with the FS plan's desired conditions and applicable laws and regulations including county ordinances, state and federal laws and FS regulations
- Consideration of costs and alternative resources
- Extent to which unsafe, dangerous or destructive (resource damage) behaviors affect others

## CONFLICTS WITH OTHERS' BEHAVIOR ISSUE GROUP WORKING MAP

Data for map: input from April 2014 public meeting and Fall 2015 online survey (n= 149 responses)  
 Prepared by: Rachel Glass, for FRP  
 Date: 1/21/2015 \*Photos courtesy of Matthew Marine, <http://www.experience-az.com>; FRP

### Conflicts With Others' Behavior on Pass- Issue Types

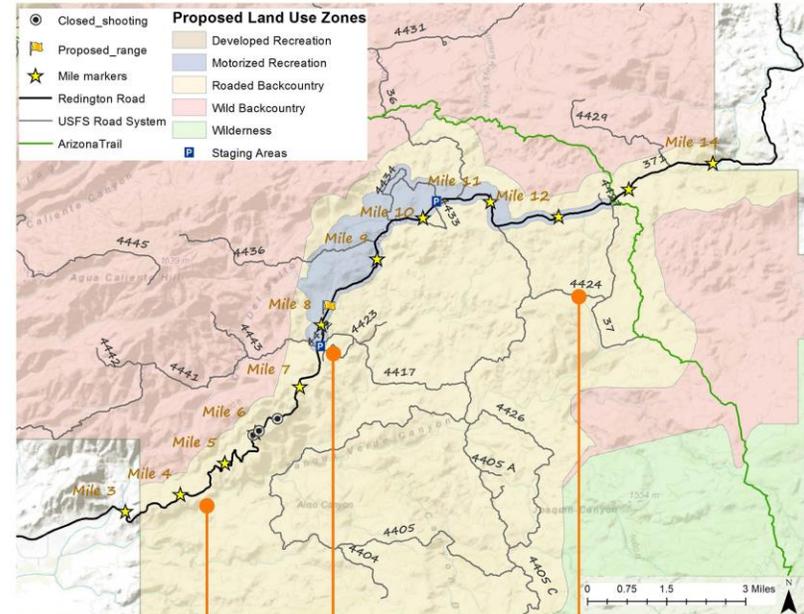


### Example: Redington Road, Miles 3-6



- "The first 7 miles, many users and conflicting activities"
- "No regular sheriff patrols; more weekends"
- "Sounds of guns and shooting disconcerting"

### Issue Examples on Pass



- "TV Falls, drunken, irresponsible behavior"
- "Three Feathers, too many reckless people"
- "Doubletrack roads, high speed vehicles"

### Positive and Negative Associations

"I love the tranquility there."  
 "I think it's great that there are families, hikers, etc using it."  
 "Freedom to choose where I want to go"

"strange stuff going on there"  
 "It's always had a creepy vibe to me"  
 "Beautiful-but even in the late 1970's it was trashed. Can't imagine how bad it is now."

## **5.4.A. Recommendations for managing unsafe, irresponsible or illegal activity:**

### ***5.4.A.1. Education***

While the vast majority of Redington Pass visitors are responsible and law-abiding, unsupervised remote areas will inevitably draw some bad actors who pose a danger to themselves or others. Law enforcement presence is the most important resource for handling bad actors, but some users simply do not know what activities are allowed and what activities are prohibited on public lands and in places like Redington Pass. Education could go a long way toward addressing the problem of uninformed users. The working group had the following recommendations for user education that could become part of an education campaign for Redington Pass.

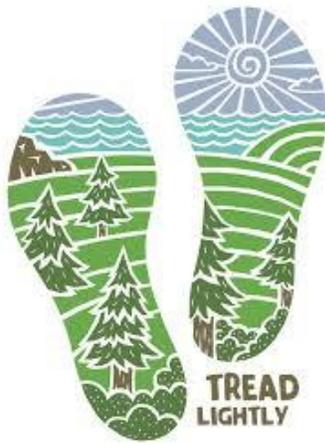
#### *Recommendations:*

1. Reach out to high schools and educate young users about responsible recreation on public lands. Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists does some outreach with elementary school students. They could broaden their geographic reach or at a minimum work with Redington Pass volunteers to develop an education strategy.
2. Consider a public service announcement safety video/webcast about Tanque Verde Falls dangers to be aired during monsoon season.
3. CNF should actively partner with OHV Ambassadors and OHV riders clubs to communicate laws and regulations.
4. FRP could develop informative safety brochures and distribute them in parking lots and at key areas and at checkpoints in partnership with AZGFD, Pima County, and other agencies and user groups.
5. FRP could revise Redington Pass "backcountry touring" brochure and place info on website (and use URL on brochure).

### ***5.4.A.2. Signage***

The working group developed several recommendations that in combination suggest the need for an overhaul of the signage in Redington Pass and the opportunity to commission the design of a new signage system providing a distinctive graphic identity for Redington Pass – one

that emphasizes user ownership and responsibility, public safety, orientation to place, and trail and road etiquette (see Tread Lightly graphics and Las Cienegas signage below).



*Recommendations:*

5.4.A.2.a. Address sign and signboard vandalism

1. Establish timely maintenance schedule for sign repair and replacement based on “broken window” concept.
2. Use cut metal (die cut) signs, which are more difficult to deface and seem to last much longer.

**5.4.A.2.b. Signage system in general**

1. Entry point kiosk displaying rules of the road, trail etiquette, expected behavior and where recreational shooting is permitted and not permitted.
2. If applicable, place signs near shooting ranges or target shooting areas to alert people that they will be hearing gunfire.
3. Concentrate signage effort on first 4-7 miles with information on trails, parking, pullouts
4. Develop a level-of-use designation system with signs for roads and trails. Could use MUTCD - Road signage and road classification book used by FS indicating appropriate vehicles for each type of road, and mentioning that road conditions do change especially after storms or periods of heavy use.
5. Revise and improve safety signage and trail design/access around Tanque Verde Upper Falls.
6. Signage should indicate that Redington Pass is a backcountry area with information about risks and opportunities. Signs should be clear about the conditions and locations for certain

activities and might include maps. Graphics can assist in conveying expectations about permitted and prohibited /acceptable and not acceptable activities in various locations.

#### ***5.4.A.3. Addressing clothing optional users' claim on Blue Line Trail and TV Falls area***

Some users have complained about nudity and sexual activity in the Tanque Verde Falls area. Background research revealed websites noting opportunities for nude hiking in Redington Pass. The area also has a history as a hook up place, primary for gay men. User-created signs declare the area as clothing optional. All of this contributes to the public's impression that "anything goes" in the Pass. The working group felt a primary management concern is that this area is being claimed by one group exclusively for their use through the public exercise of private behaviors many users would prefer not to witness. The working group focused on making Redington Pass accessible for as many users as possible. Allowing a small subset of people to essentially bar others' enjoyment through certain behaviors goes against the very premise of this entire effort.

Most importantly, Tanque Verde Falls is an increasingly popular area for family-friendly activities associated with natural water features. As demand for non-motorized recreation increases, especially among those without high-clearance vehicles, more hiking access to the creek is warranted. With improved signage, the Blue Line Trail and the area around the dam could be reclaimed to help meet some of this demand by the general public.

The working group does not recommend a formal closure on nudity in the Pass at this time in the hopes that acceptable results can be achieved without significant administrative effort. (Such closure does exist in Sabino Canyon Recreation Area). However, state law prohibiting indecent exposure should be strictly enforced until this behavior is extinguished in this area. If public nudity continues to be concentrated on the Blue Line Trail after 2-5 years, consider closure order.

#### ***Recommendations:***

1. Improve trail system and signage for all existing and new trails on western slope, thereby increasing access for non-motorized users.
2. Improve parking for hiking and biking in this western part of the Pass.

3. Consider renaming the first three miles of the pass (e.g. Tanque Verde Falls area) to address reputational concerns.
4. Keep the area free of unauthorized, informal signage encouraging nudity.
5. Create sign near Blue Line Trail stating Arizona Revised Statute prohibiting public indecency.
6. Step up enforcement of public decency laws with periodic enforcement blitzes.
7. Monitor conditions and if these measures are not effective within 1 year, consider formal closure for nudity on Redington Pass.

#### **5.4.B. Addressing management of the perception/reality of limited/no law enforcement**

Discussions with law enforcement officers for CNF, AGFD, and Pima County Sheriff's Office give some indication of the frequency of illegal, destructive and/or dangerous activity in the Pass. Obviously there is a need for law enforcement in the Pass, especially if future visitation is expected to increase. That said, the working group recognizes that all LE agencies are constrained by budgets and must prioritize manpower deployment and enforcement focus. The working group attempted to find some alternatives in addition to traditional enforcement approaches.

A relatively new but potentially valuable law enforcement tool is the cell phone. Cell phones could be used by other recreational users, volunteers and traditional law enforcement to report violations or make inquiries regarding people, vehicles or behaviors observed in the field, especially away from the main road. But lack of adequate cellular coverage throughout much of the pass is a major obstacle, as is incompatibility of radio communication between LE agencies.

##### ***5.4.B.1. Enforcement***

Several suggestions to improve effective enforcement were proposed to improve the effectiveness of enforcement on the Pass.

##### ***Recommendations:***

1. Increase visible enforcement:
  - a. Increase visible enforcement in high-use areas, especially west side.
  - b. Consider using ATVs and horses for use on trails and forest roads away from Redington Road. User observation that enforcement agencies have these flexible

modes of transport should enhance public perceptions that the Pass is not completely unmonitored.

2. Increase dedicated LEOs (FS, G&F, County) in coordinated shifts as budgets permit.
3. Consider developing reserve deputy project to increase LE presence for large events or during seasonal high use especially on weekends.
4. Use Arizona Rangers (volunteer group, usually retired law enforcement).
5. Periodic intense saturation efforts (G&F checkpoints, use of reserve deputies).
6. Investigate the cost and feasibility of expanding cell phone coverage and radio access, as well as agency interoperability for emergencies and to enhance interagency coordination.
7. Provide locked comment kiosks and website drop boxes to get feedback information to agencies and enforcement staff.

#### ***5.4.B.2. Information and Education***

The public needs to be made aware that there has been increased law enforcement on the Pass and that there are consequences for violating laws and regulations on the Pass.

##### *Recommendations:*

1. Expanded signage, information effort to know about reasonable expectations.
2. Explain universal trail etiquette, limits, ex high-clearance vehicle needed, blind corners.
3. Develop Maps, informational video- showing values, range of activities possible.
4. Use app for smartphone for info, maps, what's legal where; pilot available technology.
5. Local media, TV coverage, press releases.
6. Use FRP website as an information portal – have other websites link to FRP and vice versa.
7. Sign at entrance should include the following information:
  - a. “Patrolled by Sheriff’s Department”
  - b. “Citation menu” listing fines for violations
  - c. Signs noting primitive area and need for more high-clearance vehicles
  - d. For more information, see kiosk ahead
  - e. QR code at entrance so users can get more information

#### **5.4.C. Recommendations for managing the general awareness of “bad” reputation**

The working group proposed recommendations in three areas: education and information about public land; informational signs; and an integrated strategy to create community identity and build community.

##### ***5.4.C.1. Education and information about public land***

Educational content is needed in general about who owns and manages public lands; who cares; and what’s allowed/multi-use. This may be beyond the reach of this effort and perhaps pertains more broadly to the whole forest. These issues can be hard for people to understand initially. With turnover in the population and in-migration from outside the Tucson area, many visitors will be from places where national forests either are not prevalent or are managed very differently from here.

*Recommendations:*

1. Provide information on FRP website and other user group sites about different public land owners and responsibilities and how conditions and use of Redington Pass have changed over time.
2. Could connect to suggested education campaign noted above.

##### ***5.4.C.2. Informational signs***

*Recommendations:*

1. Postings of signs at entrance and kiosks should indicate that Redington Pass is a primitive area with information about risks and opportunities, what activities are allowed where and what are not legal or require permits, clear about the conditions and locations for certain activities/maps; setting expectations through graphics, maps, etc.
2. CNF could allow partner organizations to display posters. Would show all the community groups that are sharing stewardship and responsibility for RP.

##### ***5.4.C.3. Integrated strategy to create community identity and build community?***

One way to address the reputational issue is to create a new identity for the Pass that will attract responsible visitors and communicate that the Pass is safe and accessible and amenable to a range of user groups. Such an identity needs to be real, however, and not simply a public

relations campaign. It needs to reflect what is happening and being encouraged by the community of user groups on the Pass.

*Recommendations:*

1. Logos, branding ideas to communicate piece of rugged west, but also communicating the values list for the Pass.
2. Good quality, well-designed signs promoting ownership and pride.  
Promote message that RP is safe, especially in the first 4-7 miles; the western slope; to form initial first impression.
3. Create FAQs about RP history and changes over time for websites, brochures and interpretive signs.

## VI. Synthesis of Recommended Management Actions

This section of the CAMP report organizes the four CAMP working group recommendations into the following areas:

- Recreational Activities by Location (Western Slope, Central Plateau, Eastern Section;)
- Enforcement;
- Services and Facilities;
- Orientation and Education; and
- Monitoring Conditions.

### Recreational Activities by Location

#### Western Slope

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##### *A. Roads and Trails*

5.3.B.4. Increase hiking and mountain biking trails on western slope to disperse and better segregate from motorized use trails.

5.4.A.3.1. Improve trail system and signage for all existing and new trails on western slope, thereby increasing access for non-motorized users.

5.1.A.1. There should be no new motorized recreational trailheads before the intersection of the Three Feathers Staging area and the Corrals. The western slope of Pass should be targeted for hiking/mountain biking trails and other non-motorized uses/users up to Three Feathers staging areas around MM 7.5. (Existing 4405 & 4431 would be retained, or “grandfathered”, as they loop back on western slope of pass.)

5.1.A.3. The existing hiking trail from Lower Tanque Verde Falls south across the creek and up to connection with FS Rd 4405 loop trail should be improved, signed and placed on the trail map.

5.1.A.4. An existing trail extends from the north/back of the kiosk area and parallel to the north/northeast of Redington Road, splitting (see map) with a spur trail heading up the side a

canyon on the north (aka “Bodhi 1 trail”) and continuing trail to the east (aka the “Scorpion trail”). The Scorpion trail is steep with some moguls already in place and it ends currently at one of the switch backs. The working group recommends acknowledging this trail and rerouting the upper terminus to the first closed shooting area, where a trailhead for mountain bikers and hikers could be signed and where parking could be available. The downhill portion of trail would need to be signed “one way” or “be aware of mountain bikers” and “be aware of hikers.” Trailhead signage could also be provided at the back entrance at the kiosk area to both the Scorpion and Bodhi 1 trails.

5.1.B.5. Related to the Scorpion Trail proposal, the first closed shooting area should be designed for parking and picnicking, access to the trailhead, and perhaps with a shaded ramada and tables for group events, and interpretive signage (overlooking the Tucson valley, geographic and geologic information could be provided on signs). This is the first overlook after the series of switch backs with sufficient flat area to accommodate multiple users.

5.1.D.4. Study the potential of additional non-motorized trail from summit of Agua Caliente down to nearby jeep road in Redington Pass area.

### ***B. Recreational Shooting***

5.2.A.2. Continue closure of shooting areas 1 and 2 to recreational shooting.

5.2.A.2. Reopen shooting area 3 temporarily (Phase I, Adaptive Management Strategy)

5.2.A.2. Simultaneously close Western slope to RTS in recommended polygon (Phase I)

5.2.A.2. Review study of impacts of reopening shooting area 3 and depending on results, close, improve or leave as is. (Phase II)

### ***C. Other Activities***

5.1.B.3 (and 5.3.B.2., 5.3.D.4.4. and 5.3.E.1.3.) Over-night car camping should not be allowed along Redington Road, parking areas or pull-outs on the western slope up to the Three Feathers Staging area. This will increase opportunities for day-use recreation most accessible to the Tucson valley. Numerous other opportunities for overnight camping exist to the east along and off of Redington Road.

5.4.A.3.2. (and 5.3.D.4.2.) Improve [and increase] parking for hiking and biking in this western part of the Pass.

5.3.D.4.6. The carrying capacity for recreation on the western slope may someday be exceeded. Therefore, study and experiment with different parking options and see how they work; like parking only on one side of the road or consider time of week parking restrictions.

5.4.A.3.4. Keep the area free of unauthorized, informal signage encouraging nudity.

5.4.A.3.6. If these measures are not effective within 1-2- years, consider formal closure for nudity.

5.4.A.3.5. Create sign near Blue Line Trail stating Arizona Revised Statute prohibiting public indecency.

#### ***D. Redington Road***

5.1.D.5 (and 3.3.E.1.4.). Study the feasibility of a non-motorized trail that parallels Redington Road (371) and improves safety for both motorized and non motorized users.

#### ***E. Lower Tanque Verde Falls Area***

5.3.E.2.1. Improve car parking area, designating spots with concrete bumpers to maximize car spaces.

5.3.E.2.2. Reroute drainage to address erosion and bring in fill to make it easier for low-clearance cars to get into parking lot.

5.3.E.2.3. Prohibit trailers in this parking area.

5.3.E.2.4. Prohibit overnight camping and campfires in parking lot. Day use only.

#### ***F. Western Kiosk Area Redesign***

5.3.E.3.1. Designate a specific trailer parking area with turnaround loop design.

5.3.E.3.2. Improve car parking area, designating spots with concrete bumpers to maximize car spaces.

5.3.E.3.3. Prohibit overnight camping and campfires in parking lot. Day use only.

5.3.E.3.4. Actively maintain kiosk with information, maps, rules and regulations.

5.3.E.3.5. Create loop in front of sign for temporary parking so visitors can get out and read information on kiosk.

5.3.E.3.6 (and 5.1.A.4.). Sign trailhead for Scorpion [and Bodhi 1] Trails to north and east of area.

5.3.E.3.7. Provide trash receptacles and restroom facilities.

### ***G. Upper Tanque Verde Falls Parking Area***

5.3.E.4.1. Make single designated area (cars only) just north and west of Blue Line Trail

5.3.E.4.2. Close other wildcat parking near Upper Falls Trail head on right of road.

### ***H. Temporarily Closed Shooting Areas***

5.2.B.2.1. Continue closure of shooting areas 1 and 2 to recreational target shooting.

5.3.E.5.1. Redesign shooting area 1 (further west) to create access for scenic overlook, some car parking, ramada, picnic tables and interpretive signs. Consider rerouting current trail head of Scorpion Trail along ridge to this area. This site is the last of the steep switch backs with final view of Tucson valley before turning north and up to plateau. Rename this site.

5.3.E.5.2 (and 3.3.D.3.1). Redesign closed shooting area 2 for additional staging area for trailers. Add picnic tables and ramadas.

## **Central Plateau**

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### ***A. Roads and Trails***

5.1.A.8. There is an existing (for at least 25 years), but unmapped trail from Chiva Stock Tank to 428 that should be considered for inclusion either in an amendment to the current TMP or in the next TMP as a single track trail for hikers, mountain bikers and motorcycles.

5.1.D.3. Study the potential of an 18" non-motorized trail from 371, paralleling 4417 and 4424 connecting to southern bend in 37 for access to AZT. The purpose of this trail would be to improve user safety by reducing conflicts by routing hikers and mountain bikers off of the existing roads.

### ***B. Recreational Target Shooting***

5.2.A.1. At this time, the RTS working group does not recommend an actively-managed range, particularly of this scale, in Redington Pass based on these concerns.

5.2.A.2. Work with TRGC and other interested parties to design a lower impact designated shooting range in the Yellowstone Tank area that would be open to the public with no fees and not be actively managed. (Phase I)

5.2.A.2. Conduct any necessary environmental assessments of the design and mitigate accordingly. (Phase I)

5.2.A.2. Build the first components of the Yellowstone Tank shooting area and open it for shooting. (Phase II)

5.1.A.5. (and 5.2.A.2.) If there is to be a designated target shooting area near Yellowstone Tank area, the ATV trail behind it would need to be closed. One suggestion is to replace it with a multi-use single track trail (or perhaps jeep road) that connects Rd 4443 To Rd 4436. NOTE: Check on consistency with CNF land use zones.

### ***C. The Corrals***

5.3.E.6.1 (and 5.3.D.3.3.). Provide area for overflow trailer parking further away from Redington Road and Corrals.

5.3.E.6.2. Reroute drainage to check erosion at eastern entrance to Corrals.

### ***D. Three Feathers Staging Area***

5.3.E.7.1 (and 5.3.D.3.2.). Widen parking area toward road so that trailers can park on both sides and drive between.

5.3.E.7.2. Improve entrance signage and fix drainage to halt erosion ruts.

5.3.E.7.3. Create additional kiosk, not just for OHVs.

### ***E. Race Track Tank***

5.3.E.8.1. Place barrier boulders between roadway and shooting area to separate mountain bikers, hikers, OHV, dirt bike and ATV riders traversing route 651 from target shooters up the hill. Provide for “driveway” for shooters’ vehicles up hill.

5.3.E.8.2. Post signs near tank noting no shooting near tank and no camping with ¼ mile of water body.

5.3.E.8.3. Post signs at shooting area re. no littering and need to pick up spent shells.

5.3.E.8.4. Reroute 651 further away from the shooting area and closer to the tank and reduce with use of boulder barriers the braiding of the trail

### ***F. Chimney Rock***

5.3.E.9.1. Fill mud hole area along road to Chimney Rock with riprap; do not reroute road. This project has Arizona State Parks OHV Program mitigation funding potential.

5.3.E.9.2. Close the two track going southwest from Chimney Rock; also has Arizona State Parks OHV Program mitigation funding potential.

5.3.E.9.3. Refer to recreational access group, the study of potential for new hiking/mountain bike trail to Chimney Rock from Redington Road.

### ***G. Chivo Falls***

5.3.E.10.1. Create parking at saddle for hikers.

5.3.E.10.2. Design trail for hikers up to Falls on north/east side.

5.3.E.10.3. Design alternate parking spots between Saddle and Falls.

5.3.E.10.4. Design a foot trail from the south near camping at La Mesa de la Osa could connect to top of falls.

5.3.E.10.5. Create an ad hoc task group to work with CNF to develop short-term and long term solutions for access to and protection of Chivo Falls.

## **Eastern Section**

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### ***A. Roads and Trails***

5.1.A.9. There is an unauthorized existing spur from 4429 to the west that is about ½ mile from AZ Trail that the Recreational Access working group recommends be closed to motorized use and revegetated.

5.1.D.1. Study the potential rerouting of the western half of 4429 away from AZ Trail in conjunction with a link north and east back to 4430 to create a multi-use 18” loop trail that would reduce travel on the eastern section of Redington Road.

5.1.D.3. Study the potential of an 18” non-motorized trail from Redington Road (371), paralleling 4417 and 4424 connecting to southern bend in 37 for access to AZT. The purpose of this trail would be to improve user safety by reducing conflicts by routing hikers and mountain bikers off of the existing roads.

5.1.D.2. Study the potential connector routes further north and east between 4421, 4447 and 4438.

5.3.B.5. Improve dirt bike trails further up the main rode to encourage use of the Alamo OHV staging area.

***B. Recreational Target Shooting***

5.2.A.2. Close recreational target shooting in 1 mile corridor along Arizona Trail; time closure to coincide with opening of designated shooting area near Yellowstone Tank (Phase II)

***C. Arizona Trailhead***

5.3.E.1.1. Improve trailhead parking for cars, trailers ad campers.

5.3.E.1.2. Consider need for and potential for additional parking on north side of road.

5.3.E.1.3. Improve signage at road and at trailhead working with Arizona Trail Association.

**ENFORCEMENT**

***A. Level of Enforcement***

5.3.A.4.1. Increase the level of law enforcement for littering and other regulated behavior on the Pass.

5.4.B.1.a. Increase visible enforcement in high-use areas, especially west side.

5.4.B.2. Increase dedicated LEOs (FS, G&F, County) in coordinated shifts as budgets permit.

## ***B. Nature of Enforcement***

5.2.C.3.1. Improve coordination among CNF, ASGFD and Pima County Sheriff's Department to strategically increase the law enforcement presence on high volume weekends and with well-timed saturation patrols.

5.3.A.4.2. Conduct saturation patrols or "blitzes" two to three times a year to make visitors more aware of the law enforcement presence.

5.4.B.5. Periodic intense saturation efforts (G&F checkpoints, use of reserve deputies).

5.3.A.4.3. Consider ways to increase fines and education/service requirements for violations.

## ***C. Additional Focus of Enforcement***

5.4.B.1.b. Consider using ATVs and horses for use on trails and forest roads away from Redington Road. User observation that enforcement agencies have these flexible modes of transport should enhance public perceptions that the Pass is not completely unmonitored.

5.3.1.C.2. Enforce "no new wildcat trails" policy and encourage timely reporting by all users and enlist user groups to actively report illegal trails.

5.3.C.1.1. The shooting of saguaros and other desert vegetation does not seem to have grown in the past few years on Redington Pass. Nonetheless, law enforcement officers should remain vigilant and enforce federal and state laws.

5.2.C.3.2. All law enforcement officers should have educational materials to hand out at check points and when talking with shooters on the Pass.

5.4.A.3.6. 6. Step up enforcement of public decency laws with periodic enforcement blitzes.

## ***D. Supplemental Support and Facilities***

5.4.B.3. Consider developing reserve deputy project to increase LE presence for large events or during seasonal high use especially on weekends.

5.4.B.4. Use Arizona Rangers (volunteer group, usually retired law enforcement).

5.3.C.1.3. Partner with user groups to develop or tailor a cell phone application for visitors to phone in observations with GPS coordinates to locate trash, graffiti, resource damage, concerning behavior, etc. See application at <http://en.seeclickfix.com/>.

5.4.B.6. Investigate the cost and feasibility of expanding cell phone coverage and radio access, as well as agency interoperability for emergencies and to enhance interagency coordination.

## **SERVICES AND FACILITIES**

### ***A. Parking and Staging Areas***

#### General

5.3.D.4.3. Separate out and design and sign for car, trailer, and camper parking.

5.3.D.4.5. Use natural rock barriers where possible to prohibit parking in inappropriate locations; fences and railings may be easily destroyed.

#### Western Slope Parking

5.3.D.4.2. Generally increase off road parking spaces on the western slope.

5.3.D.4.4. For high use areas, such as the western slope, prohibit overnight camping in designated parking slots and pull outs.

5.3.D.4.6. The carrying capacity for recreation on the western slope may someday be exceeded. Therefore, study and experiment with different parking options and see how they work; like parking only on one side of the road or consider time of week parking restrictions.

5.1.B.1. Lower TV Falls parking area should be graded and designed with minimal impact to handle more cars as recreational demand increases. Trailers should not be permitted in this parking area which is used primarily by those hiking to the Lower Falls.

5.1.B.2. The Western Kiosk area should be redesigned to allow for more vehicle parking and provide an area specifically for trailers.

5.1.B.4. Parking pull-outs near the Upper Falls and the Blue Line Trails should be redesigned and signed to accommodate more users. This is already a high use area, despite lack of signage and informal parking is encroaching on desert vegetation and steep slopes along sides of Redington Road. This congested situation will continue to degrade if designated parking is not developed.

#### Staging Areas

5.3.D.3.1. Redesign the second shooting area as an OHV staging area.

5.1.B.6 (and 3.3.D.3.2). Three Feathers staging area needs to be enlarged perhaps with additional parking on the corral side to accommodate more trailers. Several trails intersect here and there is an opportunity here as well for improved signage with maps, and interpretative signs (related to the history of ranching in the Pass, the use of tanks for cattle and wildlife, ranch roads, etc).

5.3.D.3.3. Create designated area in the Corrals for additional trailers.

5.1.B.7. At the trailhead for AZ Trail, better parking needs to be provided for cars and horse trailers by widening and leveling on south side. There might be options for parking on north side between trail to tank and the AZ trail. Working with AZ Trails, signage can be improved including opportunity for interpretation (especially noting crossroads of Catalinas and Rincons and Tucson and San Pedro valleys).

### ***B. Restrooms***

5.3.D.1.1. Build a new restroom facility near highest use areas with adequate parking, such as at the kiosk area between Mile Marker 3 and 4.

### ***C. Waste Management***

#### Waste Disposal

5.3.A.1.1. More trash receptacles (bear-proof dumpsters) are needed with regular trash hauling service. Three locations are recommended:

- a. At the kiosk area between Mile Marker 3 and 4.
- b. At any designated shooting facility or area.
- c. At the Alamo OHV staging area.

5.3.A.1.2 Consider a partnership with Pima County for waste hauling.

5.3.A.1.3 Consider state and federal grants to pay for trash receptacles or crowd funding effort through partners.

#### Clean-Up

5.3.A.1.5. Actively partner with volunteer clean-up crews (e.g., FRP, Tread Lightly!) and other user groups for frequent and systematic clean-up along Redington Road and all service roads, trails, and recreation destinations.

5.3.A.1.6. Advance and extend the Adopt-a-Trail program (FRP could serve as coordinating clearinghouse) to encourage specific regular commitments for trail clean ups (and restoration).

#### RTS Clean-Up

5.3.A.1.4. Seek partnership with Tucson Rod and Gun Club and other shooting clubs, the NRA, and the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation to develop a regular brass pickup/recycling and litter cleanup program at target shooting areas.

5.2.C.5.1. CNF, FRP, TRGC, the RTS working group and other partners should develop and implement a regular clean-up program at shooting area 3 prior to its re-opening to assure that the site will start and stay clean and clear of shooting debris and litter. This is intended to convey at the outset the standard of RTS shooting stewardship expected at that site. Enforcement of shooting and litter laws should be a priority during the opening months of this site. A periodic clean-up schedule for accumulated lead and other material deposition must also be in place prior to re-opening shooting area 3.

5.2.C.5.2. The RTS working group or other external monitoring group as part of its ongoing work should coordinate with CNF, FRP, TRGC, and other partners to periodically clean up dispersed shooting areas throughout the Pass.

5.2.C.5.3. The RTS working group or other external monitoring group in partnership with CNF and TRGC should monitor contamination levels at designated shooting areas and make recommendations for timely clean up.

#### ***E. Graffiti Removal***

5.2.C.2.2. removal on rocks and boulders can be labor-intensive and time-consuming. Train and partner with volunteers from such groups as FRP and specifically the Southern Arizona Climbers' Coalition to advance timely graffiti removal.

5.2.C.2.3. Partner with user groups to develop or tailor a cell phone application for visitors to phone in observations with GPS coordinates to locate trash, graffiti, resource damage, concerning behavior, etc. See application at <http://en.seeclickfix.com/>.

#### ***F. Road and Trail Maintenance***

5.1.C.4. Consider expanding Adopt-a-Trail to all system roads and trails working with FRP and multiple user groups to expand stewardship of the Pass.

### ***G. Erosion Control***

5.3.C.3.1. Accelerated erosion due to visitor or management actions should be addressed in the specific local situations where it is occurring (e.g., Chiva Falls, widened road; Three Feathers, Chimney Rock, behind the Alamo Staging Area (“Dead Cow,” Racetrack, around mile 11. (See site specific recommendations).

5.3.C.3.2. Where due to repeated vehicle passage, consider rerouting road, placing natural rock barriers effectively, and adding signs prohibiting passage.

5.3.C.3.3. Investigate how CNF blades certain system roads. It has been observed that the discharge from the blading can, in effect, lead to widening the roadbeds. Are there alternatives?

5.3.C.3.4. Investigate whether or not water bars are reducing erosion by rerouting runoff.

5.3.C.3.5. There is a tension between the need to maintain roads for fire, ranch, and recreation access and the observation that grading roads further increases the speed of vehicles, which in turn wears out the roadbed and can enhance erosion. Investigate the tradeoffs as they relate to specific segments of the road system.

## **ORIENTATION AND EDUCATION**

### ***A. Signs and Signage***

#### Messaging

5.3.A.2.1. (and 5.3.E.1.1.) At the entrance to the area, place a “Redington Pass RECREATION AREA – Coronado National Forest” sign. Such an official designation would lend credibility to the fact that this area is important, cared for and managed right at the beginning. This sign could be placed it at the pavement/dirt road change.

5.4.A.3.3. Consider renaming the first three miles of the pass (e.g. Tanque Verde Falls area) to address reputational concerns.

5.4.C.3.2. Good quality, well-designed signs promoting ownership and pride.

5.4.B.2.1. Expanded signage, information effort to know about reasonable expectations.

5.4.C.2.2. CNF could allow partner organizations to display posters. Would show all the community groups that are sharing stewardship and responsibility for RP.

5.3.A.2.6. Post at major information areas with sign boards (e.g., kiosk, staging areas), tag lines and posters from organizations like TreadLightly! and other partners organizational logos and signs to convey active stewardship commitment and expected norms for recreating on the Pass.

#### Content

5.4.B.2.7. Sign at entrance should include the following information:

- f. “Patrolled by Sheriff’s Department”
- g. “Citation menu” listing fines for violations
- h. Signs noting primitive area and need for more high-clearance vehicles
- i. For more information, see kiosk ahead
- j. QR code at entrance so users can get more information

5.4.C.2.1. Postings of signs at entrance and kiosks should indicate that Redington Pass is a primitive area with information about risks and opportunities, what activities are allowed where and what are not legal or require permits, clear about the conditions and locations for certain activities/maps; setting expectations through graphics, maps, etc.

5.2.A.2.b.6. Signage should indicate that Redington Pass is a backcountry area with information about risks and opportunities. Signs should be clear about the conditions and locations for certain activities and might include maps. Graphics can assist in conveying expectations about permitted and prohibited /acceptable and not acceptable activities in various locations

5.4.B.2.2. Explain universal trail etiquette, limits, ex high-clearance vehicle needed, blind corners.

5.2.C.1. Provide clear guidance on maps and signs as to where people may and may not shoot legally on the Pass.

5.2.C.1.2. Information kiosks should prominently post shooting regulations and the consequences of specific violations.

5.3.E.1.2. Along Redington Road, designate with signs where it is lawful to park (for scenic pull outs and overlooks, trailheads, day use/camping, trailers).

5.3.B.5.3. At major information areas with sign boards (e.g., kiosk, staging areas), provide new map more clearly illustrating trail usage by vehicle type and parking areas (see Moab public lands mapping and signage).

5.3.A.2.2. At major information areas with sign boards (e.g., kiosk, staging areas) and at well placed locations along Redington Road, place No Littering signs and include the fines for littering and that they are strictly enforced.

5.3.A.2.4. Post signs indicating where trash receptacles are located and place on updated maps of Pass.

5.4.A.3.5. Create sign near Blue Line Trail stating Arizona Revised Statute prohibiting public indecency.

5.3.C.1.2. Signs and education efforts with local media outlets and social media should emphasize that damaging, destroying or removing cactus are federal and state offenses, and can carry federal and state prison time (up to four years based on Arizona's Native Plant Law) and stiff fines.

### Location

5.4.A.2.b.1. Entry point kiosk displaying rules of the road, trail etiquette, expected behavior and where recreational shooting is permitted and not permitted.

5.4.A.2.b.3. Concentrate signage effort on first 4-7 miles with information on trails, parking, pullouts.

5.3.D.2.1. Increase and maintain information kiosks for posting information and maps about the Pass. Preferred locations include the new kiosk between Mile Marker 3 and 4, the proposed redesign at the first temporarily closed shooting area, the Three Feathers staging area, and the Alamo OHV staging area.

5.1.A.2. Improve signage for trailheads for existing trails including Lower and Upper Tanque Verde Falls and the Blue line Trail and place on a trail map. NB: The Blue Line trail may not be on the existing trail map, although it is a signed, existing trail.

5.4.A.2.b.5. Revise and improve safety signage and trail design/access around Tanque Verde Upper Falls.

5.4.A.2.b.2. If applicable, place signs near shooting ranges or target shooting areas to alert people that they will be hearing gunfire.

5.2.B.1. Designate, through posted area maps and signs at the following locations, that shooting is prohibited by law at:

- Bellota Ranch Headquarters,
- The Corrals,
- Three Feathers and all staging areas,
- Chivo Falls/Chiva Springs, and
- Around perimeter of Race Track Tank and other prominent tanks, springs, and riparian areas with water.

### Maintenance

5.3.A.2.3. Develop a routine sign replacement schedule and work with partners to regularly identify damaged signs.

5.2.A.2.a.1. Establish timely maintenance schedule for sign repair and replacement based on “broken window” concept.

5.3.C.2.1. Spray painting on signs should be addressed by improved law enforcement presence and the timely replacement or restoration of damaged signs.

5.2.A.2.a.2. Use cut metal (die cut) signs, which are more difficult to deface and seem to last much longer.

5.4.A.3.4. Keep the area free of unauthorized, informal signage encouraging nudity.

5.3.A.2.5. Work with partners to identify additional funding support through grants, active fund raising and crowd funding to maintain an inventory of needed replacement signs.

### ***B. Maps and Mapping***

5.3.E.3.8. Name western area of Redington Pass (e.g. Gateway to the Pass, or Redington Pass Portal, Tanque Verde section, Western Slope) and place on maps.

5.3.E.1.5. Label scenic overlooks along Redington Road on area map for visitors and also use designation for managing needed clean up and restoration.

5.2.A.2.b.4. Develop a level-of-use designation system with signs for roads and trails. Could use MUTCD - Road signage and road classification book used by FS indicating appropriate vehicles for each type of road, and mentioning that road conditions do change especially after storms or periods of heavy use.

5.2.C.1.1. Provide clear guidance on maps and signs as to where people may and may not shoot legally on the Pass.

5.1.A.6. Map the Milagrosa Trail and the Agua Caliente trails on the Redington Pass area map for hikers, horseback riders, and mountain bikers.

5.1.A.7. There is a mapping discrepancy on the new TMP map that does not indicate an existing connector route from 652 to 4434 near the Race Track area that should be mapped. This route should be maintained as a single track multi-purpose route including ATV motorized travel.

### ***C. Interpretation***

5.3.D.2.2. Develop interpretation program with assistance of Redington Pass partners and drawing on experience with Sabino Canyon. This may involve “borrowing” Sabino Canyon naturalists and designing interpretative signage at various points along Redington Pass (mentioned further in other sections of this report).

5.4.C.3.4. Create FAQs about RP history and changes over time for websites, brochures and interpretive signs

### ***D. Educational Strategy/Campaign***

#### **Rediscover Redington Pass Message**

5.4.C.3.1. Logos, branding ideas to communicate piece of rugged west, but also communicating the values list for the Pass.

5.4.C.3.3. Promote message that RP is safe, especially in the first 4-7 miles; the western slope; to form initial first impression.

5.4.C.1.1. Provide information on FRP website and other user group sites about different public land owners and responsibilities and how conditions and use of Redington Pass have changed over time.

5.4.A.1.2. Consider a public service announcement safety video/webcast about Tanque Verde Falls dangers to be aired during monsoon season.

#### Work with Partners

5.3.A.3.1. Work with network of partners to develop a social media campaign, building off of TreadLightly! tag lines and graphics (using websites, Facebook and other web services).

5.4.A.1.3. CNF should actively partner with OHV Ambassadors and OHV riders clubs to communicate laws and regulations.

5.4.A.1.4. FRP could develop informative safety brochures and distribute them in parking lots and at key areas and at checkpoints in partnership with AZGFD, Pima County, and other agencies and user groups.

5.4.A.1.5. FRP could revise Redington Pass "backcountry touring" brochure and place info on website (and use URL on brochure).

5.3.A.3.2. Develop education campaign with partners that includes local media contact and coverage of clean up events and partner activities

5.4.B.2.6. Use FRP website as an information portal – have other websites link to FRP and vice versa.

#### Outreach

5.2.C.2.3. With partners, CNF should launch a public education campaign including public and social media, to inform shooters and other recreators of the changes on the Pass.

5.4.A.1.1. Reach out to high schools and educate young users about responsible recreation on public lands. Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists does some outreach with elementary school students. They could broaden their geographic reach or at a minimum work with Redington Pass volunteers to develop an education strategy.

5.3.A.3.2. Engaging nearby schools in sponsoring poster campaigns and clean up events creating dashboard tags with litter laws and fines listed along with other rules of the road (see TreadLightly! tags)

## Materials and Resources

- 5.4.B.2.3. Develop Maps, informational video- showing values, range of activities possible.
- 5.4.B.2.4. Use app for smartphone for info, maps, what's legal where; pilot available technology.
- 5.4.B.2.5. Local media, TV coverage, press releases.
- 5.2.C.2.4. Information brochures, wallet cards, windshield hangars and/or posters should be distributed to gun and ammunition stores and other shooting ranges.
- 5.2.C.2.5. Information on safe shooting in the Pass should be shared via facebook and web links with all partners.

## **MONITORING CONDITIONS**

- 5.4.B.7. Provide locked comment boxes at kiosks and website drop boxes to get feedback and information to agencies and enforcement staff.
- 5.3.C.1.3. Partner with user groups to develop or tailor a cell phone application for visitors to phone in observations with GPS coordinates to locate trash, graffiti, resource damage, concerning behavior, etc. See application at <http://en.seeclickfix.com/> .

### ***A. Roads and Trails***

- 5.1.C.1. Work in partnership with FRP and recreational user groups to conduct comprehensive road and trail monitoring every two years and issue a report on trail maintenance needs and priorities.
- 5.1.C.2. Enforce “no new wildcat trails” policy and encourage timely reporting by all users and enlist user groups to actively report illegal trails.
- 5.4.A.3.7. Monitor conditions and if these measures are not effective within 1 year, consider formal closure for nudity on Redington Pass.

### ***B. Restoration***

- 5.3.C.1. At some future date, a focused collaborative effort on restoration planning could be useful to CNF's Catalina District.

### ***C. Recreational Shooting***

5.2.D.1.1. CNF should work with an external community monitoring body such as the RTS working group under the auspices of FRP to provide monitoring of RTS activity and feedback to the CNF.

5.2.E.3. The RTS working group or other external monitoring group in partnership with CNF and TRGC should monitor contamination levels at designated shooting areas and make recommendations for timely clean up.

5.2.A.2. Study impacts of reopening the shooting area 3 on other recreational users and to dispersed shooting activity; develop recommendations for future improvements or closure (Phase I).

5.2.A.2. Study the use and impacts of the Yellowstone Tank shooting area. (Phase II)

5.2.A.2. Review study of both shooting area 3 and the Yellowstone Tank area and take adaptive action based on results. (Phase III)

5.2.A.2. Continue to monitor the impact of recreational shooting within the Pass, and develop metrics characterizing the impacts on the Pass and the Forest experience.

## **VII. Conclusion**

This report and its attachments are being conveyed to the District Ranger of the Santa Catalina Ranger's District of the Coronado National Forest. After more than two years of work on the part of people who are committed to the future of Redington Pass, the Friends of Redington Pass are pleased to have completed this major step in the process of achieving an area management plan for the Pass. There are certainly many more steps ahead, but this marks an essential first one. While this document contains the results of significant work on behalf of the CAMP participants, perhaps the most significant and gratifying achievement has been the building of a diverse group of stewards who have chosen to work together rather than against one another. The CAMP members and the extended community of visitors they represent have many different preferences and levels of investments in recreating in the Pass. Often these interests conflict. However, as we have discovered through this CAMP process, we all appreciate a shared set of values that make Redington Pass special and worth working together to manage.

We are looking forward to those next steps that must now be initiated by the Forest Service to begin the review and implementation of these and any other useful recommendations for managing Redington Pass. FRP and its many partners are ready to assist in any way they can to move that process forward.

# ATTACHMENTS

## **Report and Recommendations for Redington Pass Area Management Plan**

**Submitted by Friends of Redington Pass**

**On behalf of**

**The Collaborative Area Management Planning Team**

**May 10, 2016**

- A. FRP Background Information
- B. CAMP Public Meeting and Survey Findings
- C. CAMP Issue Lists for Working Group Topics
- D. CAMP Participant List

## **Attachment A. FRP Background Information**

### **Friends of Redington Pass Mission**

At FRP's November 2013 meeting, the Board expanded its mission as well as its Board membership to create a broad and inclusive network of recreation and conservation groups to work alongside the Coronado National Forest and other public agencies. FRP seeks to serve as an umbrella organization for all friends of Redington Pass and provide a balanced and open forum to discuss our common and diverse interests in the future of Redington Pass.

### **Vision**

Friends of Redington Pass envision protection of the rural backcountry setting of Redington Pass for all recreational and resource users, while providing for public access and management of future diversified recreational growth.

### **Mission Statement**

Friends of Redington Pass (FRP) advocates for the responsible stewardship of the Redington Pass area, balanced recreational and resource uses and the preservation of its ecological, scenic, and cultural resources. FRP seeks to bring together representatives from all user groups in furtherance of its objectives and consistent with the 2013 Coronado National Forest Draft Forest Plan Revision and subsequent plan revisions.

### **FRP advocates for:**

- Conservation and restoration of sensitive riparian areas along the Tanque Verde Creek, its watershed and wildlife corridors throughout the Pass
- Improved opportunities for dispersed recreational activities on the Pass, assuring clean, natural settings and well-managed motorized and non-motorized uses
- Reductions in unsafe or illegal activities and excessive noise and disturbance throughout Redington Pass.

Friends of Redington Pass began as an organization dedicated to improving conditions on Redington Pass. Its early membership included local hikers, dirt bikers, horseback riders, hunters, and nearby residents. Initially FRP focused on safety concerns around the shooting areas near Mile Marker 6 and the interests of non-motorized recreationists. Over the past three years, FRP has reached out to all recreational users in the Pass and learned more about its many highly valued resources and diverse recreation interests as well as the persistent challenges to assuring safe, clean, and enjoyable conditions on the Pass now and in the future.

FRP has also learned that in order to meet those challenges, the Pass needs a strong inclusive network of all user groups to work alongside CNF and other public agencies. We recognize that we cannot achieve our original mission nor a broader more inclusive one unless we also generate a more proactive interest in the Pass and lean forward to anticipate and advocate for a better

future for the Pass. We must work to bring people together for the sake of the Pass and our individual and shared interests.

## **Friends of Redington Pass Board**

**Larry Audsley** Arizona Wildlife Federation

**Maira Alexander** Arizona Trail Association

**Bob Cote** Grazing permittee in Redington Pass and owner of the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch

**Kirk Emerson** Local resident  
(FRP President)

**Bob Erickson** Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists  
(FRP Vice President)

**Bob Evans** Cascabel Working Group

**Arvie Lake** Vice President of the La Cebadilla Estates Homeowners Association; Vice President of Saguaro Horsemen's Association  
(FRP Treasurer)

**Malcolm Leslie** Tucson Rough Riders

**Julie Martin** Southern Arizona Hiking Club

**Doug Nutter** Local resident and adjacent landowner

**Brad Sautter** Trail Riders of Southern Arizona

## Attachment B. CAMP Public Meeting and Survey Results

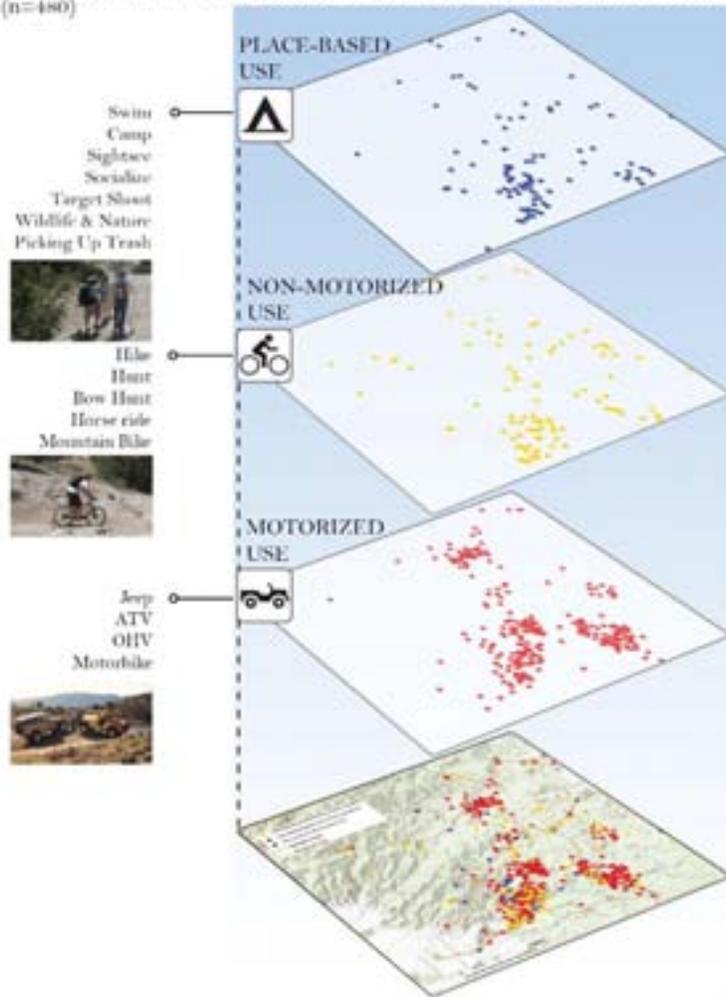
The following material was developed by Rachel Glass for her Masters Thesis: "A Collaborative Place-Based Design Process for Landscapes: Redington Pass, Arizona" 2015.

### Focus Areas

#### Representational Modeling

##### 1. Spatial Distribution of Recreation on Pass

Spatial Distribution of General Recreation Types from 1st Public Meeting (n=480)

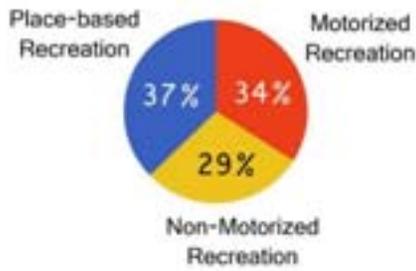


2. Cumulative Data Count by Recreation Type

**1st Iteration Data Results**

\*public meeting data only

Recreation Category Percentages  
(n=282)



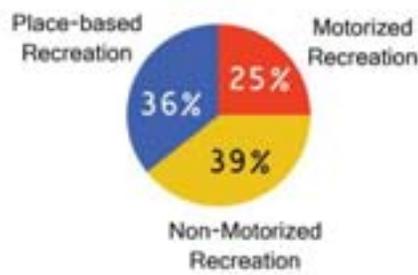
Recreation Type Percentages  
(n=282)



**2nd Iteration Data Results**

\*public meeting and online survey data

Recreation Category Percentages  
(n=984)



Recreation Type Percentages  
(n=984)



### 3. Interest Focus Areas on Site

#### Favorite Hotspots

*ArGIS Tool: Kernel Density*

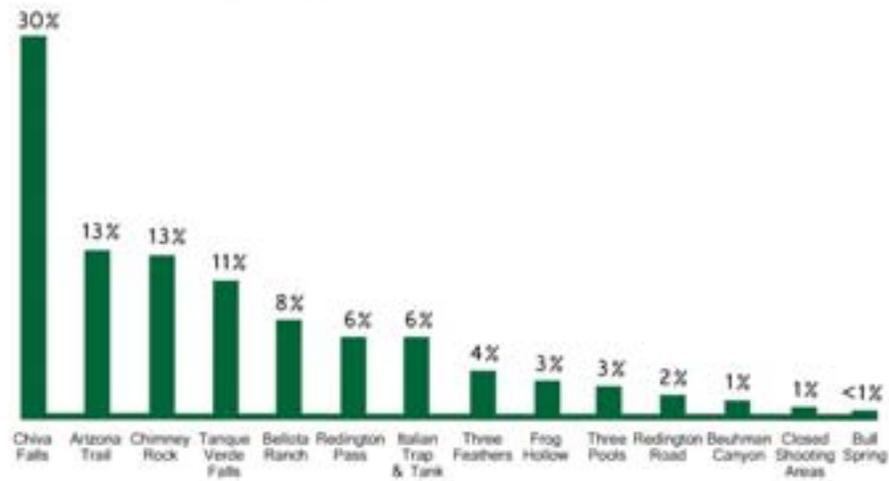


#### Trouble Hotspots

*ArGIS Tool: Kernel Density*



#### Favorite Locations (n=394)



Chiva Falls



Arizona Trail

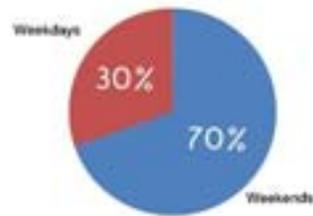


Chimney Rock

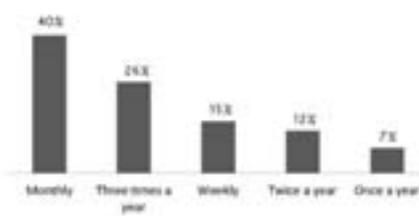
*Process Modeling*

1. How Recreational Visitors Use the Pass

**When Visited (n=408)**



**How Often Visited (n=344)**



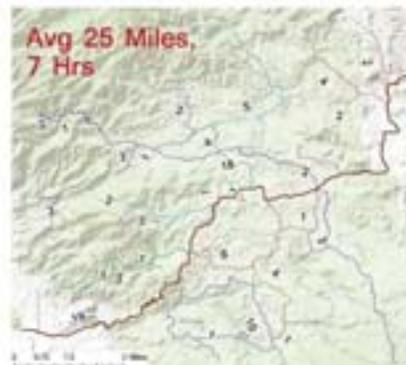
**Distance to Visit (n=259)**

*Average distance driven from surrounding area to reach the Pass*



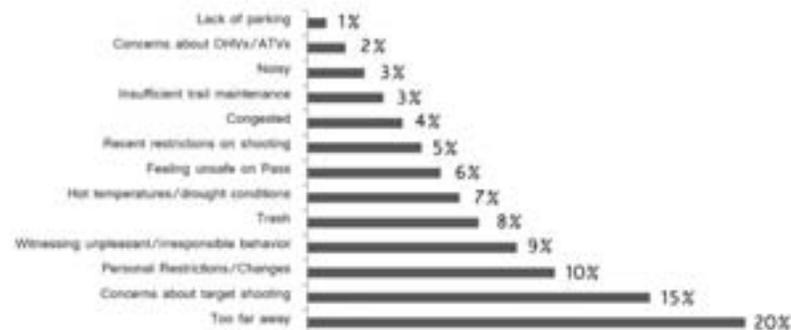
**Length & Distance of Visit (n=259)**

*Average visit length, distance around Pass with mile length of road shown below*



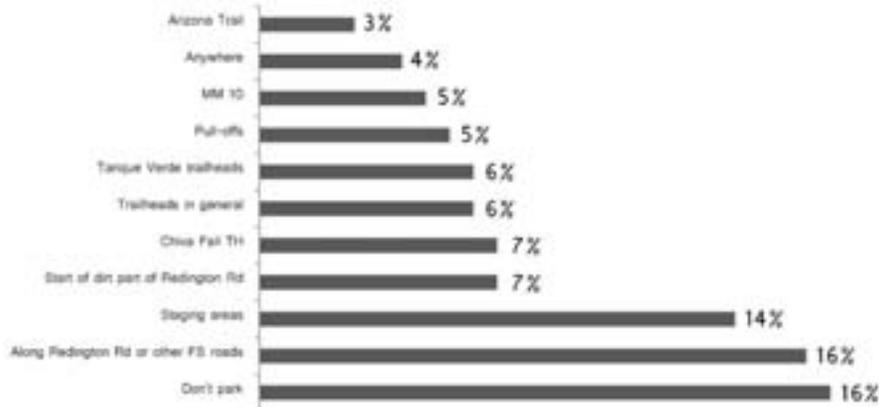
**Reasons for No Longer Visiting (n=117)**

*This question was added after the first round of data collection to better understand comments about no longer visiting the Pass.*



### Parking on the Pass (n=148)

Another question added to the second round of surveying regarded parking on the Pass, after comments from both agency officials and visitors about parking issues.

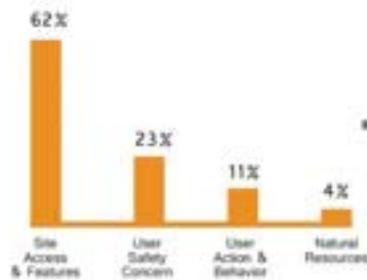


### Summary of Average User

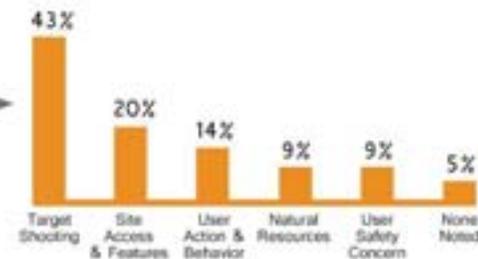


### Evaluation Modeling

#### 1st Iteration Issues (n=99)



#### 2nd Iteration Issues (n=331)



## Attachment C. CAMP Issue Lists for Four Working Group Topics

### Summary List of Issues of Concern for Redington Pass (rev.1.25.15)

**Recreational Target Shooting:** pervasive concern about unsafe and unmanaged shooting activity

*Issues:*

5. Unsafe and irresponsible shooting practices
6. Shooting too close to roads and trails
7. Increased dispersal of shooting into other areas
8. Designated shooting areas and managed range (current and future)

**Recreational Access to Pass, Roads, Trails and Trailheads:** interest for more trails and improved amenities coupled with concern about loss of current access while maintaining undeveloped backcountry character of landscape

*Issues:*

1. Attention to OHV, ATV and Single Track Trails (existing and proposed, short and long distance loops)
2. Attention to Hiking, Mountain Biking, and Equestrian Trails (existing and propose)
3. Conditions of road, trails, and trailheads
4. Unfamiliarity with accessible roads, trails and trailheads and related restrictions

**Highly Used Areas:** popular sites that are facing issues of congestion, in some cases, over-use or misuse, as well as resource damage, and insufficient facilities to handle number of visitors

*Issues:*

1. Congestion
2. Litter
3. Impacts on natural resources (e.g. graffiti, resource damage, erosion sedimentation)
4. Inadequate Facilities (e.g., restrooms, staging areas)
5. Parking

**Conflicts with others' behavior:** users voiced concern about others' behaviors impacting their experience or feeling of safety in visiting the Pass

*Issues:*

1. Occurrence of unsafe, irresponsible or illegal activity
2. Perception/reality of no or limited law enforcement on Pass
3. General awareness of "bad" reputation of Redington Pass

## Detailed Comments on Four Major Issue Areas

**Recreational Access to Pass, Roads, Trails and Trailheads:** interest for more trails and improved amenities coupled with concern about loss of current access while maintaining undeveloped backcountry character of landscape

### *Issues:*

1. Attention to OHV, ATV and Single Track Trails (existing and proposed, short and long distance loops)
2. Attention to Hiking, Mountain Biking, and Equestrian Trails (existing and propose)
3. Conditions of road, trails, and maintenance
4. Unfamiliarity with accessible roads, trails and trailheads and related restrictions

---

### Major Comments on Issues (from meetings, questionnaires and surveys)

#### **1. Attention to OHV, ATV and Single Track Trails (existing and proposed, short and long distance loops)**

##### 1.1 Motorized recreation road access and design comments

- Trails need to be restricted to motorbike, mountain bikers, hikers, horseback riders- larger motorized vehicles need to be kept off trails or else it widens and degrades quality of terrain
- Suggest increasing dispersed recreation by creating other options (ie, single track trails) so people don't congregate in certain areas like Chiva Falls
- #651 is dangerous due to proximity to shooting backstop- talk with FS to reroute
- Provide mitigation to narrow path to the Falls
- [Average motorbike ride] 50 mile capability, but on average more like 40 miles in ½ day (4-6 hrs)
- [Enjoyable experience] Technically challenging terrain; long distance
- [Enjoyable experience] 30-60 miles, 4-5 hrs; loops (not going in and coming back same way); feels like an adventure
- [Enjoyable experience] semi-remote, avoiding contact with other vehicles
- [Would improve experience] 60-100 miles of single track trail
- Multi-use single track trails currently not present in CNF (examples of such trails- Prescott, Tonto forests)
- [Would improve experience] more OHV trails for riding
- Legal 4x4 trails / angry quiet recreationalist trying to get rid of 4x4 trails

##### 1.2 Specific locations commented upon

- Chiva Falls
  - Chiva Falls- beautiful, nice to have 4x4 access
  - Chiva Falls- maintain OHV access in & out
  - Chiva Falls and FJ run about once a quarter, all kinds of off-road challenges there- stay away from closing riparian area

- Keep Chiva Falls open to recreational 4x4 and camping
- Chimney Rock
  - Chimney Rock trail is a priority
  - Chimney Rock- maintain OHV access
  - Chimney Rock keep access for camping & hiking, restore OHV access
- Three Feathers
  - [motorbike] Three Feathers is main access point to popular routes, do have to drive on Redington Road to get back from Chimney Rock loop
  - Jeep route just down from 3 Feathers
- [Would improve experience] Loops, 4426, 4405, 4438, 4431
- Open Italian Springs to OHV & ATV again
- Concerned about still being able to drive down washes

## **2. Attention to Hiking, Mountain Biking, and Equestrian Trails (existing and proposed)**

### 2.1 Non-motorized recreation trail access

- Trails need to be restricted to motor bikers, mountain bikers, hikers, horseback riders- larger motorized vehicles need to be kept off trails or else it widens and degrades quality of terrain
- Need to drive on primitive roads to access further trailheads, bring trail maintenance materials in and out- hikers need driving access on well-maintained and open roads (motorized use for non-motorized activity, interesting point!). big concern with closing roads.
- Maintain public access, ideally improved access
- Distinguish where hikers need access
- Need more trails for mountain bikers to keep them off trails or hiking and horseback riding
- Idea for more hiking trails on westside to optimize these lower places
- Concern about wildlife corridors and riparian areas if we increase access to backcountry
- No more trails needed; open up old ones for hiking

### 2.2 Arizona Trail

- Think about Arizona Trail as a system across the state- one portion affects whole trail, so Redington Pass part matters on that larger scale
- Buffer zone along trail- currently not set anywhere along the AZ trail, but has been set for other national trails (Appalachian example, 1 mi buffer).
- AZ Trail as wildlife corridor- have noticed more large mammal tracks than human ones and buffer zone could help establish more protected wildlife corridor, want to preserve ideal wilderness conditions for habitat as well as human experience
- Concern about motorized use of trail, but have not actually noted many incidents on Pass
- Most visitors to Redington Pass AZ trailhead go for day hikes, north side of trail (north of Redington Rd) is used much more heavily because south side hits wilderness boundary
- Italian Trap TH is an access point to AZ Trail 2.4 miles in from Redington Road. Anyone wanting to hike over the Rincons would want to park here. Also a staging area for trail maintenance of AZT
- AZT route, loop with single track
- AZT access from Molino or Bellota, would like Milli Ridge Trail

- More connections off AZ trail for mountain bikers

### 2.3 Mountain biking

- Legitimizing Las Milagrosa trail
- Propose xc trail for mountain bike
- “Shuttle trails” from mountain biking
- More trails for mountain biking

### 2.4 Mountain biking and hiking

- More single track trails for mountain biking and hiking
- Chiva and Upper Chiva Ave. Important mountain biking, quiet recreation routes w/ areas flower water

### 2.5 Horseback riding

- Need a horseback only area
- Redington Pass part of trail is major horseback riding destination- only place where you can ride horses in southern AZ on a long-distance trail. Very important resource for that reason and would suggest slightly more room for horse trailers at trailhead parking lot, if possible without encouraging motorized parking.

## **3. Conditions of roads and trails**

### 3.1 Forest Service road conditions

- FS has AZ Trail maintenance road on low-level maintenance, very difficult to drive on to perform volunteer trail maintenance (~5 mi out)
- FR4426 Sign Shot up
- FR 4424 is in poor unsafe condition as an alternate road to Italian Trap TH
- Like ability to use USFS roads which are extensive
- Dirt roads need maintenance

### 3.2 Condition of Redington

- Some of the turns in the road are very tight
- Some of the potholes in the early part of the road along the sides
- No guard rails on steep cliff locations, curves low down, towards the blacktop along and near the main road right off the road
- Redington Road--rough road
- Usually first coming up the mountain
- First 5 miles, washboard dirt roads
- The first 1-2 miles of road
- The road itself/speeding off road vehicles
- All the potholes/bumps on the main road are annoying
- Along road ...run off road by atvers and 4x4 users regularly
- First few miles of road where there is lots of traffic and fewer places to park
- 1 mile up tight areas needs some striping /signage
- [problem] The main road itself. Off roaders fly down and up that road.
- [problem] Sometimes the road

- [problem]Entry point from Tucson (approx up to mp 8) due to ruggedness of road
- Road grading to include FR 37 safe access (vehicular) to Italian Trap TH (an AZ trail) Passage TH
- FR 37 - poor condition
- FR 37 is unsafe to drive. This road needs a higher maintenance level on the CNF travel management plan
- I think the road should continue to be paved to the lower Tanque Verde trailhead

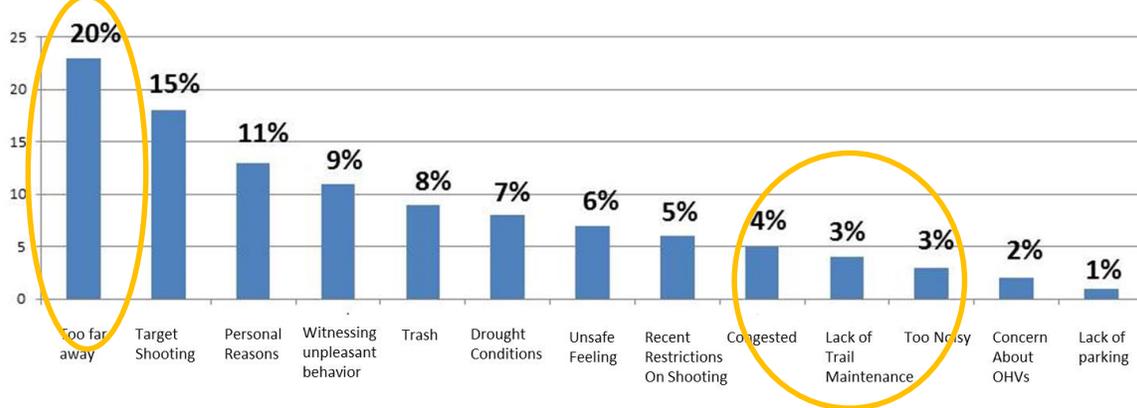
### 3.3 Access to Pass and certain areas

- Maintain public access, ideally improved access
- Italian Trap / trail should be reopened
- Some of the current stretch that is currently closed
- Environmentalist restricted locations accessed only by them.
- Route down to Chivo Falls
- Three ponds- I believe everyone should have access to the ponds and water in the summer
- Keep Chimney Rock open. Traffic is less than that of Chiva Falls trail
- Alamos Spring- needs to stay open
- West Loop- needs to stay open
- Chiva Falls trails: Three Feathers, needs to stay open
- Opening Scorpion Trail and Snake Bite trail
- [USFS] admin too difficult to challenge road closures
- Worried about future closures
- No more roads and trails; just needs more maintenance
- No more paving, just leads to more people coming and more problems

### **4. Unfamiliarity with accessible roads, trails and trailheads and related restrictions**

- Quality of information- trails not on CNF website (map is gone?), volunteers not knowledgeable
- Signage
- Special use permit required to park in no-parking zone, but looks like that permit is for commercial use, not recreational (ex, for loggers)- ambiguous info, difficult to get in touch with a ranger
- There's a lot of information that continues to change without the FS really updating or participating in the updating of the information...
- Info sign deteriorated
- Too many restrictions
- Signage on FS Road junctions- get lost too easily

## Reasons for not coming to the Pass anymore, as related to access issues



**Recreational Target Shooting:** pervasive concern about unsafe and unmanaged shooting activity

### Issues:

9. Unsafe and irresponsible shooting practices
10. Shooting too close to roads and trails
11. Increased dispersal of shooting into other areas
12. Designated shooting areas and managed range (current and future)

---

## Major Comments on Issues (from meetings, questionnaires and surveys)

### 1. Unsafe and irresponsible shooting practices

#### 1.1 General safety concerns

- I am an avid shooter, however many of the others who I meet out there are disrespectful and/or reckless with regards to firearms.
- Too many people shooting guns without regulation or concern for other users
- Wildcat shooting, people not taking the time to verify if where they are shooting is safe
- Unsafe gun shooters
- Yahoos with automatic/semiautomatic weapons who go to drink & shoot
- Shooting/drinking area
- The shooters are a bunch of slobs a disgrace to mankind due to their mess
- Illegal shooting ranges - stray bullets in the air and debris on the ground
- Have been too close to rapidly moving firearms projectiles too often
- Unsafe shooting
- Unsafe shooting/trash, the shooting areas are the only trouble spots I have ran into
- Dislike: need more law enforcement- illegal shooting- shooting after dark- shooting from moving vehicles
- Scary people with guns!
- Cacti and signs shot up
- Rednecks with large caliber weaponry

### 1.2 Shooting-related trash and noise affecting others

- The abundance of gunfire without knowing where it is coming from and where it is going is unsettling at best.
- Shooters and their trash are a problem in several areas
- Shooting is not a crime but littering is
- People not picking up their shells
- Too much shooting noise and residue
- ANYWHERE you can shoot/inconsiderate ----- that leave their trash
- Trash filled shooting sites
- I've cleaned trash at some of the shooting ranges/trash
- Litter and gun casings from shooters
- (trouble spot) anywhere there is gunfire
- Too much dangerous and noisy shooting. It is hard to consider this a multiple use area when most equestrians, single mothers with children, working and middle class families trying to recreate have to put up with the noise and danger of unknown shooters at most of the intersections along Redington Pass Road

### 2. Shooting near roads and trails

- Shooting by roadside
- Along the roads many unnamed spots with irresponsible campers, shooters
- Close to the road parking, heard shots go overhead (really they whizzed!)
- Shooters too close to roads with no backdrop. Multiple areas.
- Near main road, after "no shooting" zone/guns being used near road and in dry brush
- Gun use near road
- At the top of the pass people shooting right off the road. Seems better lately.
- People shooting guns just off the sides of the pass or jeep roads
- Shooting areas right off road
- Roadside shooting
- Between mile marker 5 and 10 road shooting
- Scary having guns so close to road
- Along Redington Pass Rd / shooting

### **3. Increased dispersal of shooting**

#### 3.1 General comments about dispersal

- shooters moved further out and now shoot towards the arizona trail
- Shooting. Lots of places, even way off near the AZT
- Intimidated by the level of wildcat shooting near roads and the AZ trail
- On the way up to the pass -- Lots of men shooting off guns.
- dispersed target shooting along Redington road and on trails
- Next Wildcat Shooting area as it moves farther in
- shooting everywhere
- wildcat camping sites

#### **3.2 Specific locations beyond temporarily closed shooting areas**

- 4417 and 4405, shooting and OHV users
- Just beyond Tanque Verde - a lot of shooting
- Corrals at Milepost 10. Wildcat shooters.
- Target shooting by tank

- When the road first turns to dirt, there seems to be a lot of automatic weapon firing.
- Anywhere people are shooting near the road (usually early on the pass)
- Near main road, after "no shooting" zone/guns being used near road and in dry brush.
- Fr444/ lots of irresponsible shooting back there
- No overnight at Mile 4 Parking: Wildcat Shooting
- Area past the old shooting areas, people shooting
- Gun shooting areas between miles 5 - 10
- Pull outs towards the bottom, guns, etc
- Just past the old shooting area...Too many people shooting and leaving shells/trash.
- Between mile marker 5 and 10 road shooting
- Corral- shooting
- In past cattle pens LOTS of shooting
- Tanks at Milepost 9. Wildcat shooters.
- Between mp 7 and 10/ more irresponsible shooting
- Around mile 9/ shooting
- The Bellota Ranch Rd where I have actually been shot at by people target practicing.
- Most feeder roads onto 371-shooting
- Any pullout where wildcat shooters have shot the infrastructure. (any place with corrals, signage)
- Wildcat camp sites - weirdos & creepy vibe
- FR4426 Sign Shot up

#### **4.Designated shooting areas**

##### 4.1 Comments on temporarily closed areas

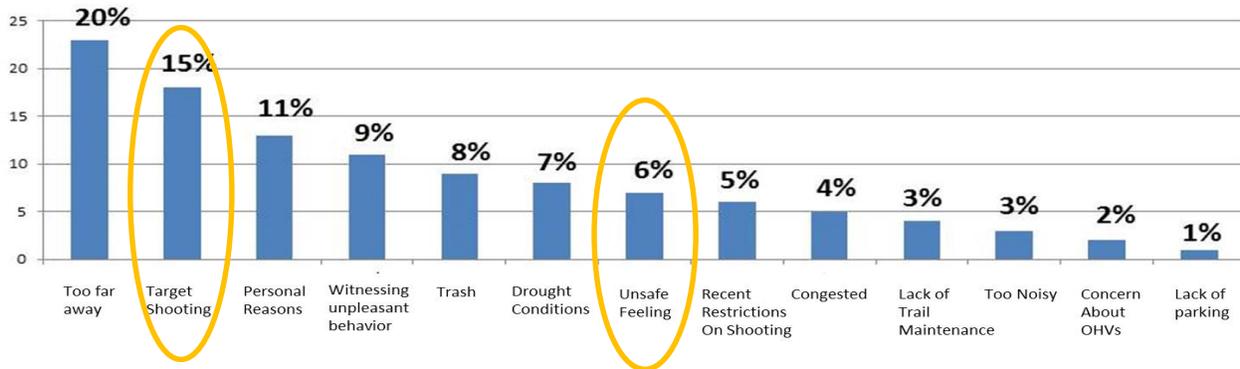
- Thankful the wildcat shooting galleries are out of business!
- Uncontrolled Target Areas (mostly remedied)
- No (problems). now that the shooting areas are gone
- Shooting ranges- prior to closure, trash, irresponsible shooters; after- shooters displaced to other trails and shooting unsafely in high traffic areas/across trails
- The wild shooting before mile 6 but shut down. Thank you
- The now closed target areas were a BIG problem and dangerous
- Liberal influenced restrictions put in place by the Forrest service
- Shooting areas, although much improved now, don't feel safe even driving by them
- Wildcat shoot sites - creeps & creepy vibe
- Shooting areas as currently closed - keep em closed
- Reopen shooting range; Reopen shooting range; reopen shooting range so it does not pour into 4x4 trails
- Areas closed need to reopen for shooting
- Reopen with contained, built dirt backdrop
- Reduce the amount of shooting area

##### 4.2 Need for designated shooting areas and/or range

- Wildcat shooting areas - need designated shooting area
- Nervous about shooting in unauthorized areas
- We need a managed shooting range so people just don't go everywhere to shoot
- ...needed safety officers on site
- Create shooting range. See Mammoth area. Designated trash.
- Shooting area- we need a designated shooting range
- Need shooting area, must be safe
- Closed shooting ranges - I'm not a shooter: however, I believe closing the ranges has only driven people to shoot on trails. There is nowhere else to shoot around.

- Closed shooting area needs alternative
- Restrictions in areas other than shooting areas
- Designated areas need periodic clean up to avoid contamination and future closures
- Redington Pass is about the only place to go to shoot

**Reasons for not coming to the Pass anymore, as related to target shooting issues**



**Highly Used Areas:** popular sites that are facing issues of congestion, in some cases, over-use or misuse, as well as resource damage, and insufficient facilities to handle number of visitors

*Issues:*

1. Congestion
2. Litter
3. Impacts on natural resources (e.g. graffiti, resource damage, erosion sedimentation)
4. Inadequate Facilities (e.g., restrooms, staging areas)
5. Parking

**Major Comments on Issues (from meetings, questionnaires and surveys)**

**1. Congestion (Note: related speeding issues are listed in User Conflicts issue list)**

- [Don't visit because] It's too busy now at tq falls , and lacking of good parking spots
- Rarely if ever visit on weekends due to crowds and motor vehicles off road
- All over! Too many inconsiderate people with vehicles
- 4x4 congestion
- Doubletrack roads with high speed atv/motorcycle

**2. Litter**

- Start of pass. trash left by hikers

- Anywhere trash accumulates
- Excessive trash in some parking areas.
- Everywhere there is broken glass
- Close to roads, garbage, litter not taken out
- Trash in various areas
- Seems as many under-age youth go back there to drink, leaving much trash behind and on roads.
- ATV staging area Trash full
- [Doesn't visit any more because] it had been because of litter and debris along the road
- A lot of trash/irresponsible, unsafe people. Plus I've been all over that mountain many times....
- Too much shooting and litter

### **3. Natural resource damage**

- The entire place was mayhem and horrible devastation.
- Erosion- all areas
- Erosion and sediment in creek from hillside near Chiva Falls
- Several areas observed as having been trashed
- Erosion
- Destruction of plants-all areas
- Graffiti in the wash!!!!
- Further up, too many people disrespectful of nature
- Bees seem to like the entire area
- OHV and ATV tracks in TV Wash

### **4. Inadequate Facilities**

- Another set of bathrooms further down the Pass
- More strategically placed bathrooms
- Formal staging areas not used
- At new kiosk, area has turned into staging area for motorcycles and ATVs

### **5. Parking**

- [Don't visit because] it's too busy now at tq falls, and lacking of good parking spots
- Some of the pull outs--people camping there
- No parking area in closed shooting areas
- TV Creek parking
- The 3rd mile up / parking on both sides makes narrow passing area/ shady vehicles parking
- Pull outs towards the bottom, guns, etc
- Parking areas for Tanque Verde Falls - congestion/ on road parking
- More parking around AZ Trail – specifically horse trailers only placfe to park near trail; reduces horse riding
- Accessing the first major parking area on the left
- Not enough parking early on the trail
- First few miles of road where there is lots of traffic and fewer places to park

### **Specific Comments on most highly used areas**

#### Redington Road/FS roads

- The first main pull offs you get to, so much trash and jackassery
- trash on the main road.
- 4417 and 4405, shootin and ohv users

Tanque Verde Falls

- Tanque verde falls needs a cleanup
- Upper Tanque Verde Falls Parking Area / lots of people on the weekends acting obnoxious
- Yes, small "flocks" of bird watchers parking on FR 371
- TV Falls - creeps & flash flood danger
- Jumping pools, also have trash
- Yes, the trash left at the parking areas near the falls
- Parking areas for Tanque Verde Falls - congestion/ on road parking

Chiva Falls

- Chivo Falls "junction"/too many ORVs & ATVs
- Chiva Falls/Four Wheel intrusion
- Chiva falls (and other popular stopping locations)/broken glass and garbage
- Trail to Chivo Falls - motorized vehicle traffic
- Erosion and sediment in creek from hillside near Chiva Falls

Chimney Rock

- Trash at Chimney rock

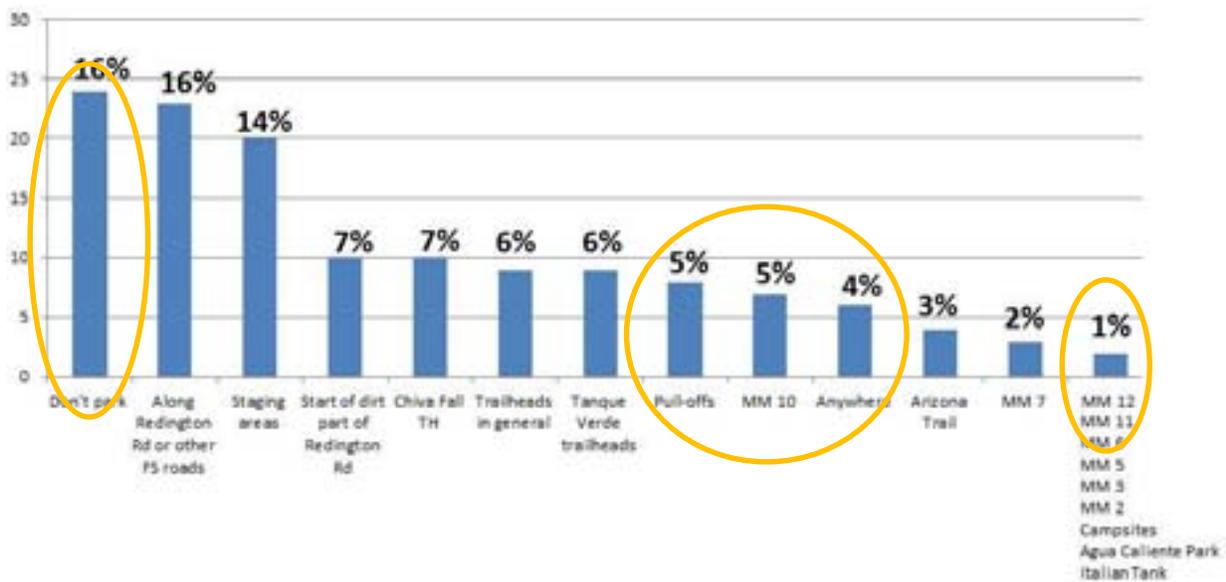
Arizona Trail

- AZ Trail - motorized traffic
- Target shooting near AZ Trail

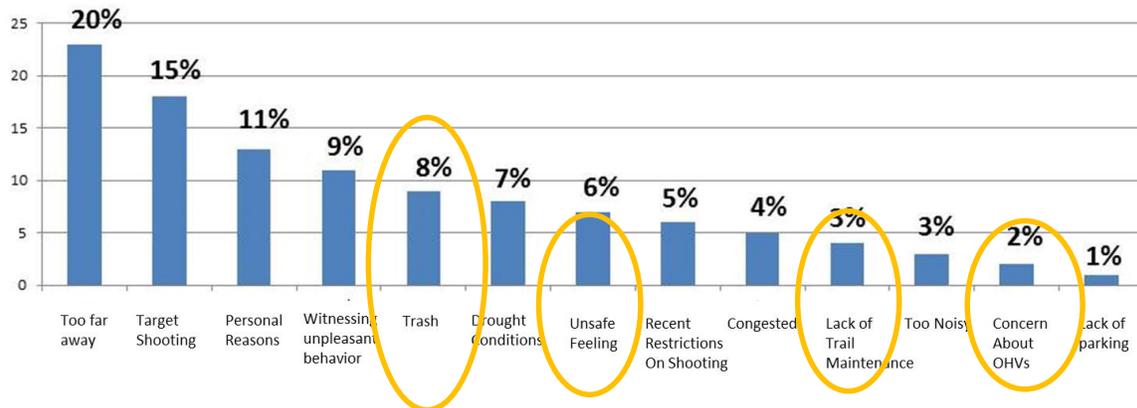
Bellota Ranch Road

- Bellota Ranch is the most environmentally destructive influence
- Bellota Ranch sign stolen

*Parking on Pass (n=148, from survey)*



## Reasons for not coming to the Pass anymore, as related to misuse issues



**Conflicts with others' behavior:** users voiced concern about others' behaviors impacting their experience or feeling of safety in visiting the Pass

### Issues:

1. Occurrence of unsafe, irresponsible or illegal activity
2. Perception/reality of no or limited law enforcement on Pass
3. General awareness of "bad" reputation of Redington Pass

---

## Major Comments on Issues (from meetings, questionnaires and surveys)

### 1. Occurrence of unsafe, irresponsible or illegal activity

#### 1.1 General concerns (note: most shooting related safety issues are listed in that issue group)

- Too many people shooting guns, drinking while driving, lots of litter; It felt dangerous for law-abiding Tucsonans.
- Drug use by teenagers and hippies
- Seems as many under-age youth go back there to drink, leaving much trash behind and on roads.
- The first main pull offs you get to, so much trash and jackassery
- After mile 5 lots of pot smokers
- Drug use and dealing
- There are rough ATV riders that seem to "own" the trail.
- 4x4's/loud noise/rude people
- Legal OHV trails / angry quiet recreationalists trying to get rid of OHV use
- ... unleashed dogs
- Drinking parties
- Stolen cars ditched there
- Throwing cars off road
- Graffiti on rocks
- Many road signs shot through or covered with graffiti along Redington Road and trails
- Fences to keep visitors off restoration areas sometimes cut or pulled down

- Setting fires

### 1.2 Speeding and unsafe driving

- Too much dangerous traffic, people drinking and driving off road vehicles too fast. Fear of people shooting guns.
- People speeding on Redington Rd
- Very dangerous traffic speeding
- Too much dangerous traffic, people drinking and driving off road vehicles too fast. Fear of people shooting guns.
- Many drivers use the road at dangerously high speed
- Speeders
- 90 mph near MM 3
- The road itself/speeding off road vehicles
- Initial 5 miles up and down cars got to fast, dust
- Lots of OHV activities over the weekend with intrusive noise and dangerous driving behavior
- Pretty much up and down the road - off road vehicles and motocross motorcycles
- Anywhere along road where ATVS and cars/trucks going too fast and unsafe on the road.
- Whole road/ crazy drivers
- Main road - speed of "off-road" trucks/jeeps/etc.
- Doubletrack rds with high speed atv/motorcycle
- The first 7 miles / many users and conflicting activities
- along road ...run off road by atvers and 4x4 users regularly
- The main road itself. Off roaders fly down and up that road

### 1.3 Concerns at specific locations

- Three Feathers
  - three feathers, too many reckless people
  - Area NW of 3-Feathers turn off, trashy, drinking
- Tanque Verde Falls
  - TV Falls, drunken, irresponsible behavior
  - TV Falls - creeps & flash flood danger
  - Tanque Verde Falls access - unruly crowds at times
  - Tanque Verde Falls, illegal activities
  - Upper Tanque Verde Falls (drunk, surly and dangerous people)
  - Drunks and idiots at TV Falls, irresponsible shooters, irresponsible 4x4/quads

### 1.4 Discomfort with specific user group

- The aggressive male nude population that hangs out near the damn
- Nudists make some areas not family friendly
- People without clothes in initial trails, that's why I never go down there unfortunately
- Upper falls/my children get uncomfortable around the nudists
- Nudist at Tanque Verde Falls

## **2. Perception/reality of no or limited law enforcement on Pass**

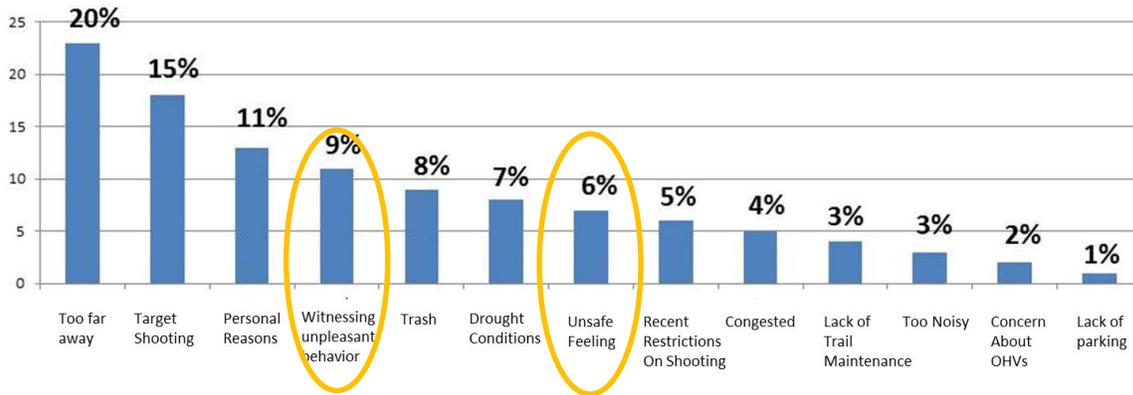
- Generally Law enforcement could deter some illegal activities like drinking/driving drinking/shooting
- Need more self-policing
- Lack of knowledge about whom to contact to report an incident or seek help

- No regular sheriff patrols; maybe more on weekends
- Enforce blatant problems
- Enforce existing laws

**3. General awareness of “bad” reputation of Redington Pass**

- Need to cultivate culture of “giving back” and “this is our pass”
- Common sense says I will never take kids to the pass – strange stuff going on there
- Concern for young children and women
- Sounds of guns and shooting disconcerting
- It is hard to consider this a multiple use area when most equestrians, single mothers with children, working and middle class families trying to recreate have to put up with the noise and danger of unknown shooters at most of the intersections along Redington Pass Road

**Reasons for not coming to the Pass anymore, as related to user conflict issues**



## Attachment D. CAMP Participant List

### Recreational Shooting Group

Name	Interest(s)	Organizations/Networks
Ken Langton*	Hiking/Wildlife viewing/Quiet recreation	Sierra Club & other conservation groups
Cyndi Tuell*	Hiking/Wildlife viewing/Mountain biking	Active in conservation groups
Jim Link	Hiking/Mountain bike/Camping	Previous VP Cochise County Range Riders
Eric Jouse*	4x4/Shooting/Hiking/Biking	Recreation community
Rudy Mamula	Hunting and shooting	Arizona hunters and shooters
Doug Dalby	Hunting/Hiking/Biking/4x4	Long term RP deer hunter
Bob Cote	Ranching	CNF grazing lease/FRP
Doug Nutter	Neighbor/Shooting/Hiking/Wildlife	Lives Adjacent to CNF/FRP

### Recreational Access Group

Name	Interest(s)	Comments
Art Alcantara	Mt bike/Shooting/Hiking	TORCA
Jeremy Sunshine	Mt bike/Camping/Hiking	TORCA
Malcolm Leslie	4x4	FRP/Tucson Rough Riders
Brad Sautter	Dirt Bike	FRP/TRS
Rick Ogas/Jim Schoon	Dirt Bike/Hiking	TRS
Leslie Willingham*	UTV/Camping	So. Az Side by Sides/ UTV
Bill Phillips	Hunter	retired Sheriff Deputy
Katherine Davis*	Hiking/Camping/Nature	Ctr for Biological Diversity
Moira Alexander	Hiking/Sightseeing	Az Trail Association
Pamela Deters	Horseback	Tucson Saddle Club
Bob Erickson	Mt Bike/ Hiking/4x4	FRP/Mt Bike

### Highly Used Areas Group

Name	Interest(s)	Comments
George Wysopal	Dirt Bike	TRS
Larry Narcus	4x4/Hiking	Tucson Rough Riders
Tom Parcenue	4x4/Hiking/Scenery	Cochise County OHV Club
Jim Long	4x4/Camping/Hiking	AZFJ
Julie Martin	Hiking/Swimming	FRP/So. Az Hiking Club
Matthew Marine*	Hiking/Mt Bike/4x4	Experience Az
Vernie Aikins*	Mt bike/Bird watching	TORCA

### Conflicts Among Users Working Group

Name	Interest(s)	Comments
Bob Sawvelle*	Hiking/Bird Watching/ATV/Recreational shooting	Outdoor recreation
Ira Getraer*	Mt bike/Camping	TORCA
Kevin Fitzgerald	4x4	Tucson Rough Riders
Betty Strunk	UTV/Camping	UTV Community
Arvie Lake	Horseback	FRP/Saguaro Horseman
Larry Audsley	Hunting/Shooting	hunting community/FRP
Bill Phillips	Hunter	retired Sheriff Deputy

\*Participants who also served on the Integration Working Group