

Proposed Lands With Wilderness Characteristics:  
ARAVAIPA SOUTHEAST  
Public Lands in Pinal and Graham Counties, Arizona



A proposal report to the Bureau of Land Management,  
Safford Field Office, Arizona  
February, 2018  
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## ***Table of Contents***

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*PREFACE: This proposal was developed according to BLM Manual 6310* P. 3

### ***Section 1: Overview of the Proposed Lands with Wilderness Characteristics***

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*Unit Introduction: Overview of unit and summary map* P. 5

- *Provides a brief description of unit location, boundaries and general summary*

### ***Section 2: Documentation of Wilderness Characteristics***

---

*The proposed LWC meets the minimum size criteria for roadless lands* P. 6

*The proposed LWC is affected primarily by the forces of nature* P. 6

*The proposed LWC has outstanding opportunities for solitude and/or primitive and unconfined recreation* P. 7

*Supplemental values* P. 8

*Scenic Photos* P. 9

### ***Section 3: Description of the Unit Boundary, Routes, and Impacts***

---

*Reference map of Aravaipa SE proposed LWC, showing placement of inset maps* P. 16

*Inset maps detailing photopoint locations* P. 17

*Narrative description of the proposed LWC boundary and human impacts* P. 18

### ***Section 4: Photopoint Data***

---

*Data tables and geotagged photographs to accompany the detailed boundary & vehicle routes description* P. 20

## *Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC*

### **PREFACE: This Proposal was developed according to BLM Manual 6310**

#### **General Overview**

Instruction Memorandum 2011-154 and Manuals 6310 and 6320 set out the BLM's approach to protecting wilderness characteristics on the public lands. This guidance acknowledges that wilderness is a resource that is part of BLM's multiple use mission, requires the BLM to keep a current inventory of wilderness characteristics, and directs the agency to consider protection of these values in land use planning decisions.<sup>1</sup>

In March 2012, the Bureau of Land Management issued updated manuals for inventorying and managing Lands with Wilderness Characteristics on public lands (hereafter often referred to as LWC's). These manuals provide the agency with direction for implementing its legal obligations to inventory and consider management of Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, including the Federal Land Policy and Management Act's provision that BLM "preserve and protect certain public lands in their natural condition" (43 U.S.C. § 1701(a)(8)).

Manual 6310 (Conducting Wilderness Characteristics Inventory on BLM Lands) guides the BLM on how to meet its obligations to inventory for and identify lands with wilderness characteristics. Manual 6320 (Considering Lands with Wilderness Characteristics in the BLM Land Use Planning Process) guides the BLM on the options available to address lands with wilderness characteristics in land use planning once they have been identified in the required inventory, such as putting management prescriptions in place to protect wilderness characteristics. The purpose of this report is to provide the BLM with recommendations for designation of Lands with Wilderness Characteristics in the Safford Resource Area of southeastern Arizona, based on new, accurate, and up-to-date information according to Manual 6310.<sup>2</sup>

#### **What does Manual 6310 require for the identification of LWC's?**

Minimum standard for LWC proposals are described in Manual 6310 in section .06.B.1. There are three things required in a citizen's wilderness proposal in order to meet the minimum standard for BLM to consider it in an inventory and to consider it as new information:

- Detailed map with specific boundaries;
- Detailed narrative of the wilderness characteristics; and
- Photographic documentation.

Once there is new information that meets these standards, then "as soon as practicable, the BLM shall evaluate the information," including field checking as needed and comparing with existing data to see if previous conclusions remain valid. Further, BLM will document its rationale and make it available to the public. (.06.B.2). This proposal report provides the three necessary criteria listed above.

#### **What does Manual 6310 require for an area to be identified as an LWC?**

Requirements for determining lands have wilderness characteristics are found in section .06.C.2 of Manual 6310. Lands with Wilderness Characteristics must possess the following traits:

- **Size** : Sufficient roadless area to satisfy size requirements (5,000 acres, of sufficient size to make management practicable or "any roadless island of the public lands"; or contiguous with Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, USFWS areas Proposed for Wilderness, Forest Service WSAs or areas of Recommended Wilderness, National Park Service areas Recommended or Proposed for Designation).
- **Naturalness**

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1. Memorandum 2011-154 is available online at:

[http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/regulations/Instruction\\_Memos\\_and\\_Bulletins/national\\_instruction/2011/IM\\_2011-154.html](http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/regulations/Instruction_Memos_and_Bulletins/national_instruction/2011/IM_2011-154.html)

2. Manual 6310 is available online at :

[http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/wo/Information\\_Resources\\_Management/policy/blm\\_manual.Par.38337.File.dat/6310.pdf](http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/wo/Information_Resources_Management/policy/blm_manual.Par.38337.File.dat/6310.pdf)

## *Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC*

Affected primarily by the forces of nature – The criteria is “apparent naturalness” which depends on whether an area looks natural to “the average visitor who is not familiar with the biological composition of natural ecosystems versus human affected ecosystems.” This is an important distinction between ecological integrity and apparent naturalness.

Human impacts – Human impacts must be documented and some are acceptable so long as they are “substantially unnoticeable”; Examples include trails, bridges, fire rings, minor radio repeater sites, air quality monitoring devices, fencing, spring developments, and stock ponds. Outside human impacts – impacts outside the area are generally not considered, but major outside impacts should be noted and evaluated for direct effects on the entire area (the manual explicitly cautions BLM to “avoid an overly strict approach”).

• **Outstanding opportunities for either solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation:**

The area does not have to possess both opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation, nor does the area need to have outstanding opportunities on every acre; BLM cannot compare lands in question with other parcels; BLM cannot use any type of rating system or scale.

• **Supplemental values:** Ecological, geological, scientific, scenic, educational or historical features should be documented where they exist, although they are not required traits.

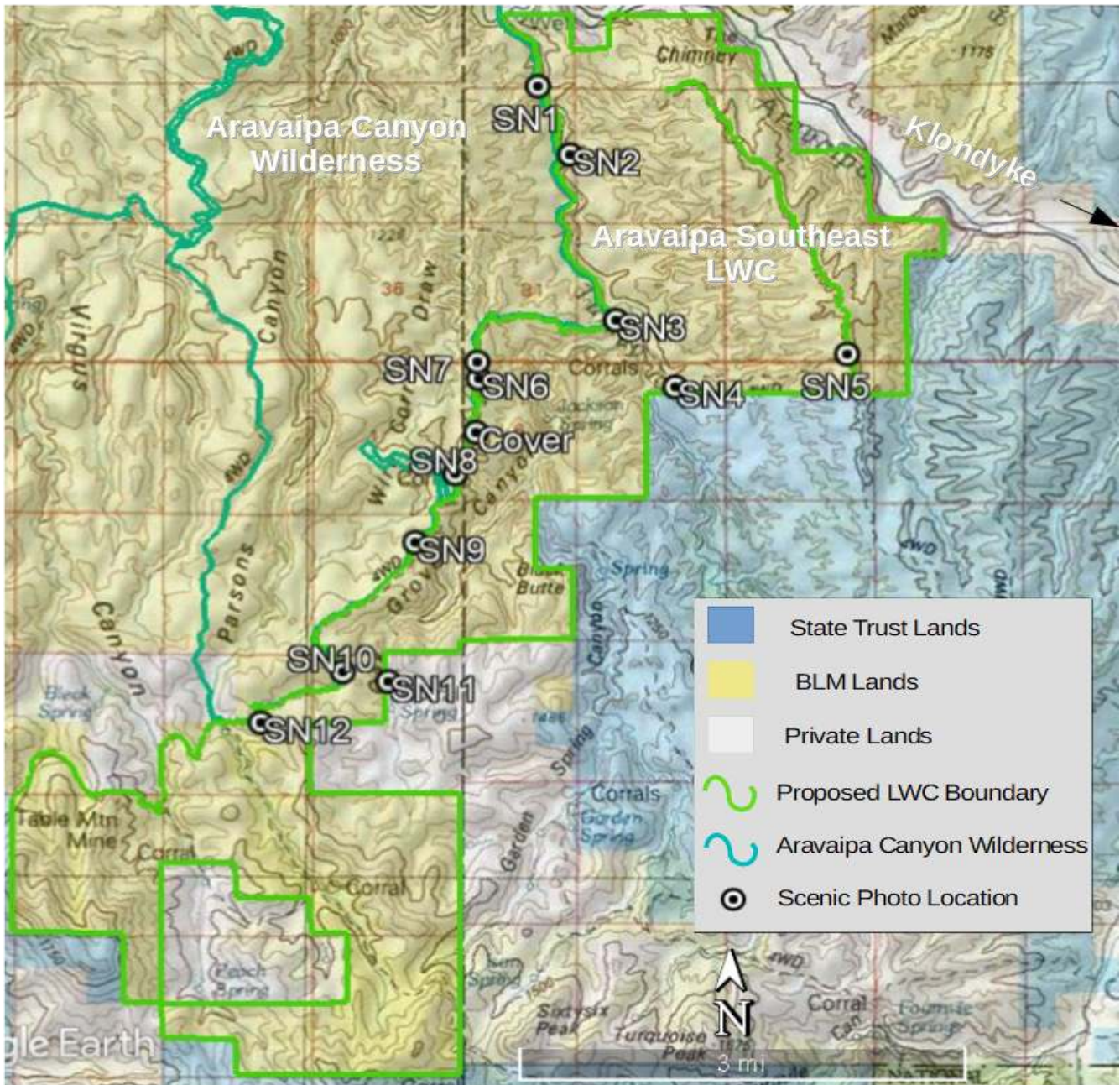
### **What does Manual 6310 require for the identification of the boundaries of an LWC?**

Boundaries should be based on wilderness inventory roads and naturalness rather than opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. For inventorying wilderness characteristics, BLM will use the “road” definition from FLPMA’s legislative history; the term “road” and “wilderness inventory road” are interchangeable in this guidance. The AWC survey team took a very literal, maintenance-driven approach to road/way determination.

- “Wilderness inventory roads” are routes which have been: (1) improved and maintained (when needed), (2) by mechanical means (but not solely by the passage of vehicles), (3) to insure relatively regular and continuous use.
- “Primitive routes” or “ways” are transportation linear features located within areas that have been identified as having wilderness characteristics and not meeting the wilderness inventory road definition.
- Lands between individual human impacts should not be automatically excluded from the area; no setbacks or buffers allowed; boundaries should be drawn to exclude developed rights-of-way; “undeveloped rights-of-way and similar possessory interests (e.g., as mineral leases) are not treated as impacts to wilderness characteristics because these rights may never be developed”; areas can have wilderness characteristics even though every acre within the area may not meet all the criteria.



**Section 1: Overview of the Proposed LWC**



**Aravaipa SE Summary Map** – The proposed LWC spans the southeast rim of Aravaipa Canyon and several of its main tributary canyons. The unit is accessed via Turkey Creek, south of the Aravaipa Canyon Road, about 12 miles west of Klondyke. The western boundary is formed by the Turkey Creek Rd., and then the Rug Rd., a rough OHV route. This road is all that separates the proposed LWC from the existing Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness. The unit is a complex of deep canyons and soaring plateaus, a wild and scenic landscape with an abundance of wildlife. The unit includes the majority of the Turkey Creek and Parson’s Canyon drainages, two of Aravaipa Creeks main tributaries, and a number of perennial springs. This LWC is a crucial component of the Aravaipa Canyon watershed, one of southeast Arizona’s premier wilderness destinations and most important conservation sites.

## **Section 2: Documentation of Wilderness Characteristics**

As presented in this report, the Aravaipa Southeast (SE) Proposed LWC meets the Size, Naturalness and Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive Unconfined Recreation criteria laid out in BLM Manual 6310. This unit is an excellent candidate for LWC designation and management for the protection of wilderness values.

**Size:** The Aravaipa SE Proposed LWC consists of **7,863** contiguous roadless acres, exceeding the minimum criteria required for an LWC designation. Furthermore, the western unit boundary is formed primarily by a rough, lightly used OHV road, the only human impact separating the unit from the 20,000+ acre Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness. The established wilderness and the proposed LWC share over 8 miles of boundary, appearing natural and possessing outstanding wilderness characteristics on both sides. The units are contiguous for most practical purposes, and the wilderness values of both would be enhanced and protected by an LWC designation.

**Naturalness:** The proposed LWC is governed primarily by the forces of nature, free of substantial human impacts, and appearing to be in a natural condition to the average visitor. This a topographically complex landscape of canyons, badlands, buttes, and plateaus. Here a visitor can witness the raw forces of geology and ecology in a pristine wilderness setting. Canyons are filled with lush riparian vegetation, including sycamore, willow, and cottonwood. Rarely seen aquatic vegetation and associated communities thrive around several perennial springs. Sonoran desert scrublands dominate intermediate slopes, including many species of yucca, agave, cacti, mesquite, and acacia. On higher elevation plateaus, juniper woodlands and semi desert grasslands predominate. Throughout these thriving native ecosystems, the landscape appears natural and undisturbed by humans.

The proposed LWC is in the middle of one of Arizona's most remote areas of undeveloped land – over 10 miles from the tiny community of Klondyke and about 40 miles by car to the nearest paved road. Therefore, the sights and sounds of civilization are minimal. Within the unit boundaries, there is a single cherrystem road (see photopoint 024.) This is a lightly used dirt round providing access to a primitive campsite and scenic overlook (photopoint 029). The road is substantially unnoticeable from inside the unit, and minimally impacts naturalness. Included in the unit are eight primitive, unmaintained Ways. Four of these are along the cherrystem road (025-028). All are extremely faint, serve no apparent purpose, and are either reclaimed by nature or kept open solely by the passage of vehicles. They are minimally visible and do not detract from the naturalness of the unit. The remaining four ways branch off of the western boundary road. The Way at 006 has been decommissioned by the BLM, and rapidly becomes overgrown beyond the closure point. The other three Ways (013, 016, and 021), are old stock/horse trails. They show no signs of maintenance or recent vehicle use. These routes minimally impact the unit's naturalness, and provide excellent hiking and equestrian routes in especially scenic parts of the unit.

Aside from these primitive Ways, the only discernible human impacts in the unit are two dilapidated old corrals (008 and 009), and a formerly developed spring at Parson's Grove (019). The spring development consists only of a crumbling concrete dam, screened by vegetation and substantially unnoticeable. Similarly, the corrals are abandoned and overgrown, minimally impacting naturalness.

### **Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive and Unconfined Recreation**

In the Aravaipa SE proposed LWC, rugged topography, dramatic scenic vistas, and a wild, remote character create outstanding opportunities for both solitude *and* primitive and unconfined recreation.

#### **Solitude**

The topographic relief created by major canyon systems and extensive erosion creates ample opportunities for solitude. This is a canyonlands – a complex system of deep, serpentine drainages, with six named canyons and an unfathomable number of tributaries. The deepest of these, Parson’s, Turkey Creek, and Oak Grove Canyons, are in places more than 500 feet below the surrounding highlands. For a hiker, it is a veritable maze - one could easily spend many days exploring this network without seeing any other people or any signs of civilization. Furthermore, the canyons are densely vegetated due to abundant water. Groves of sycamore, live oak, and cottonwood envelop the visitor in a natural wilderness.

In the highlands, awe-inspiring vistas reveal nothing but wilderness in all directions. The Aravaipa SE unit sits in the middle of one of Arizona’s largest unfragmented tracts of wildlands.<sup>3</sup> Mt. Graham, the Santa Theresa wilderness, the Galiuro wilderness, and Aravaipa Canyon itself are visible from many vantage points. In all directions, the earth has been scoured away by erosion. No paved roads or towns are visible. The scale of the landscape makes a visitor feel tiny, insignificant and alone. It is a place of peace and tranquility – an escape from the human-created environment and a chance to contemplate the raw forces of nature.

#### **Primitive and Unconfined Recreation**

This unit is an outdoorsman’s paradise – virtually any imaginable form of wilderness recreation would be outstanding here. Visitors will experience endless canyons, staggering vistas, steep, challenging terrain, and diverse ecosystems. Old stock trails and the Rug Road provide natural hiking routes, but the entire unit presents outstanding hiking opportunities. Furthermore, wilderness adventurers could easily link hiking routes in this unit with Aravaipa Canyon itself for an epic multi-day backpacking loop. A hike could start by heading south along the boundary road, enjoying endless panoramic views and classic Sonoran desert communities. Terrific backcountry campsites can be found near the springs at the head of Oak Grove Canyon or at Parson’s Grove. They could then follow Parson’s Canyon into the heart of the Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness, hiking out Aravaipa Canyon to complete the loop. Cliffs and canyons will tempt climbers and technical canyoneering enthusiasts. This is an excellent landscape for pioneering new routes into remote canyons.

As a part of the greater Aravaipa Canyon ecosystem, this unit contains some of the best bird and wildlife habitat southeastern Arizona has to offer. Lush vegetation, springs, and secluded canyons attract coatimundi, bighorn sheep, deer, coyote, mountain lion, javelina, turkey, and incredible bird diversity. Birdwatchers, wildlife photographers, and hunters all have the potential for rare sightings in a gorgeous wilderness environment. Aravaipa is well known as a premier bighorn sheep hunting destination, drawing hunters from all over the world. Other game species known to occur in the unit are band-tailed pigeon, gambels quail, mearns quail, mountain lion, mule deer, white-tail deer, javelina, white winged dove.

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3 See AZGF’s habimap tool, online at [www.habimap.org](http://www.habimap.org)

**Supplemental values:**

**Managing the proposed LWC for wilderness values would protect and enhance the existing Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness and entire Aravaipa Creek watershed.**

The entirety of the proposed LWC lies within the Aravaipa Creek basin/watershed. All three recognized perennial tributary streams, Parson's, Turkey, and Virgus Creeks, flow through this proposed LWC<sup>4</sup>. These drainages also include a number of important springs. Any management action or user activity that affects erosion, streamflow, water temperature, or other aspects of the LWC's hydrology will have repercussions for Aravaipa Creek. Aravaipa Creek is one of Arizona's environmental treasures, vital to the survival of a number of sensitive or threatened aquatic species. Seven native fishes occur here, including three (loach minnow, spikedace, and roundtail chub) that have been extirpated from over 80% of their original ranges, and are candidates for Federal Endangered Species listing.<sup>5</sup> Aravaipa Creek has been identified as a top conservation priority as a refuge for Arizona's native fish, one of "the most imperiled faunas in North America."<sup>6</sup> Furthermore, the water quality and quantity in Aravaipa Creek itself was rated as the single most important attribute by visitors to the wilderness<sup>7</sup>. Protecting this unique resource is vital for the long term economic, social, and ecological vitality of this entire region.

**The proposed LWC contains superb bighorn sheep habitat, a species of concern and of recreational/economic importance.**

The deep, rugged, network of canyons surrounding Aravaipa Canyon contain ideal habitat and exceptional water resources for supporting one of southeast Arizona's best desert bighorn sheep populations. Aravaipa canyon is known as a premier bighorn sheep hunting area, with auction permits for bighorn trophy hunts sometimes selling for over \$300,000<sup>8</sup>. The largest ram ever taken in Arizona was from the Aravaipa herd. This resource is of tremendous recreational and economic importance for local guides and communities, as well as AZGF. Managing the Aravaipa SE unit for wilderness values will protect the forage and water resources critical to sustaining this population. This will ensure that the viewing, and hunting of these remarkable animals will continue to draw visitors to this area.

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4 Arizona Water Atlas, Volume 3, Section 3.1: Aravaipa Canyon Basin, available online at [http://www.azwater.gov/azdwr/StatewidePlanning/WaterAtlas/SEArizona/documents/Volume\\_3\\_ARA\\_final.pdf](http://www.azwater.gov/azdwr/StatewidePlanning/WaterAtlas/SEArizona/documents/Volume_3_ARA_final.pdf)

5 Desert Fishes Team "STATUS OF FEDERAL AND STATE LISTED WARM WATER FISHES OF THE GILA RIVER BASIN, WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT" available online at: [https://www.peer.org/assets/docs/az/Gila\\_Fish\\_Status\\_Report.pdf](https://www.peer.org/assets/docs/az/Gila_Fish_Status_Report.pdf)

6 Turner and List, 2007. "Habitat mapping and conservation analysis to identify critical streams for Arizona's native fish." Originally published in *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems*, Vol. 17: 737-748 (2007)

7 Moore et al., 1990. "The Recreational Impact of Reducing the 'Laughing Waters' of Aravaipa Creek, Arizona". University of Arizona, Tucson. Available online at: <http://www.nativefishlab.net/library/textpdf/16581.pdf>

8 Hedrick, 2011. "Rapid Decrease in Horn Size of Bighorn Sheep: Environmental Decline, Inbreeding Depression, or Evolutionary Response to Trophy Hunting". *Journal of Heredity*. Available online at: <https://academic.oup.com/jhered/article/102/6/770/837036>



**Scenic Photos**

The following photos document the naturalness, wilderness characteristics, and potential for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation present in the unit. Photo locations are detailed in the summary map above. All photos taken by the author during the field survey 12/25-12/26/17 and 2/4/18.



***Scenic Photo 1*** – Turkey Creek, along the northwestern unit boundary. This area has many terrific primitive campsites. Side canyons are ripe for exploration, and cliffs of Tuff and Andesite provide outstanding bouldering and climbing opportunities. The rich riparian forest of sycamore and live oak shelters abundant wildlife, including javeline, turkey, fox and coatimundi.



*Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC*



**Scenic Photo 2** – A side canyon feeding into Turkey Creek. Here a visitor is plunged into complete isolation. In places they are only several feet wide, and only a ribbon of sky is visible above. The sheer rock walls are festooned with hanging gardens - agave, sotol, prickly pear, ferns, juniper, mosses, - and patrolled by coati, mountain lion, and bighorn sheep.



**Scenic Photo 3** – An overview of Turkey Creek. The canyon opens into a broad, braided wash, thick with mesquite and sycamore. Solitude is plentiful in the main canyon and in the many side canyons. Hiking, hunting, camping, and birdwatching are all outstanding here. East of the creek (background), the landscape rises steeply to a high ridge with panoramic views.



*Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC*



**Scenic Photo 4** – Dense thickets of mesquite and acacia cover the wash bottoms of upper Turkey Creek. The thickets provide solitude via screening to visitors, while providing outstanding habitat to a wide variety of game animals and birds. Rabbits, deer, javelina, fox, and coyote are all abundant here.



**Scenic Photo 5** – View east from a high ridgetop in the northeastern portion of the unit. The Santa Theresa mountains loom in the background. The slopes of the ridge have been eroded into many small canyons and badlands style topography, offering outstanding solitude and challenging hiking and scrambling. This ridge is used by hunters to scout game in the surrounding terrain.



*Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC*



**Scenic Photo 6** – The western edge of the unit climbs steeply out of Turkey Creek to a high, rugged plateau with staggering views. Hikers, climbers, equestrians and trail runners will all find challenge and excitement here. Photographers will quickly run out of film.



**Scenic Photo 7** – Oak Grove Canyon cuts a deep scar through the high plateau west of Turkey Creek. This is an ideal vantage from which to contemplate the forces of geology. Wilderness dominates the horizon in all directions.



*Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC*



**Scenic Photo 8** – Oak Grove Canyon (foreground), Garden Spring Canyon (midground), and Turkey Creek Canyon converge in the Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC. Black Butte towers over this scenic canyonlands on the right side of the field of view.



**Scenic Photo 9** – The left half of the field of view is the Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness, the right half is the proposed LWC. They are separated only by the Rug Road, a rough, dangerous, and lightly used OHV route. The road is barely visible from many vantages, and minimally impacts the wilderness experience of a visitor to the area. Functionally, this is a contiguous wilderness, much larger than the 7600 acres of the proposed LWC itself.



*Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC*



**Scenic Photo 10** – Grasslands, mesquite thickets, juniper woodlands, and cliffs in the unit’s rolling highlands. Hikers, equestrians, hunters, birders, and photographers will all appreciate this rich and varied landscape.



**Scenic Photo 11** – A hidden, remote spring, in the upper reaches of Oak Grove Canyon. Such springs are a haven for birds and wildlife. They also make excellent backcountry campsites, providing water and shade for weary hikers and equestrians.



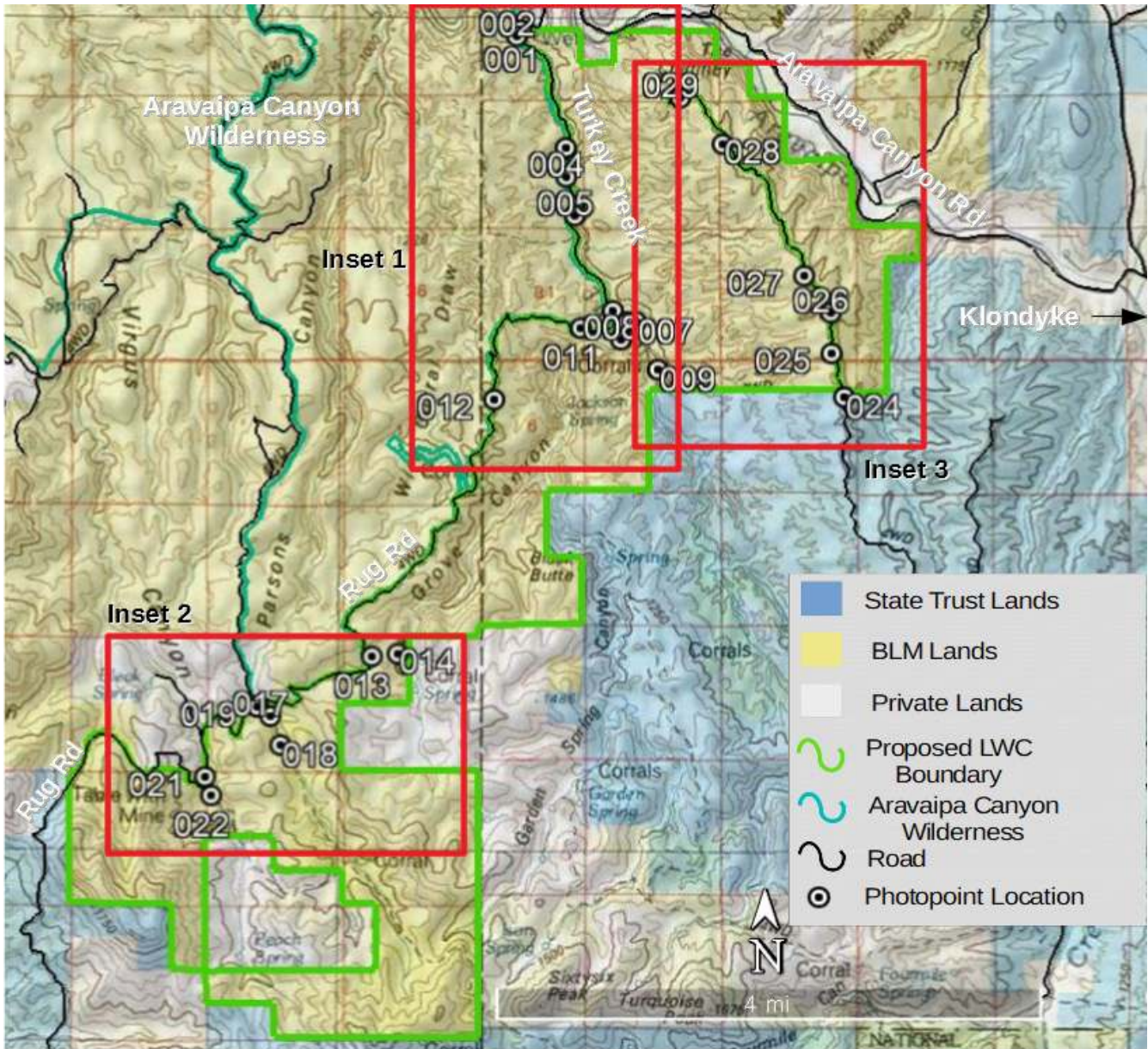
*Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC*



**Scenic Photo 12** – Overview of the unit’s southern highlands. Table Mountain, most of which falls within the unit boundary, dominates the skyline. This high plateau is divided by deep canyons, like Parson’s Canyon in the midground, that flow directly into Aravaipa Canyon. Upper elevations are dotted with juniper and oak, critical food sources for a variety of birds and mammals. Hiking, hunting, and horseback riding are outstanding in this landscape of sweeping vistas, diverse topography, and dense vegetation.



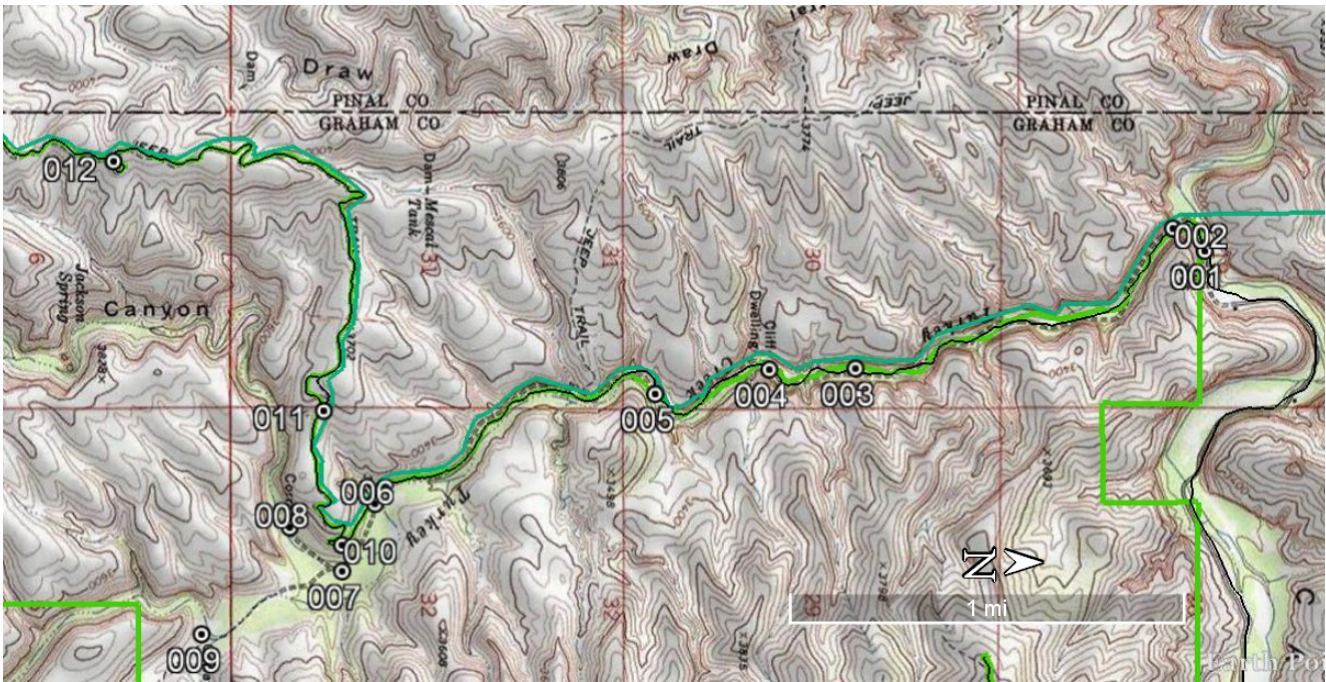
**Section 3: Description of the Unit Boundary, Routes, and Impacts**



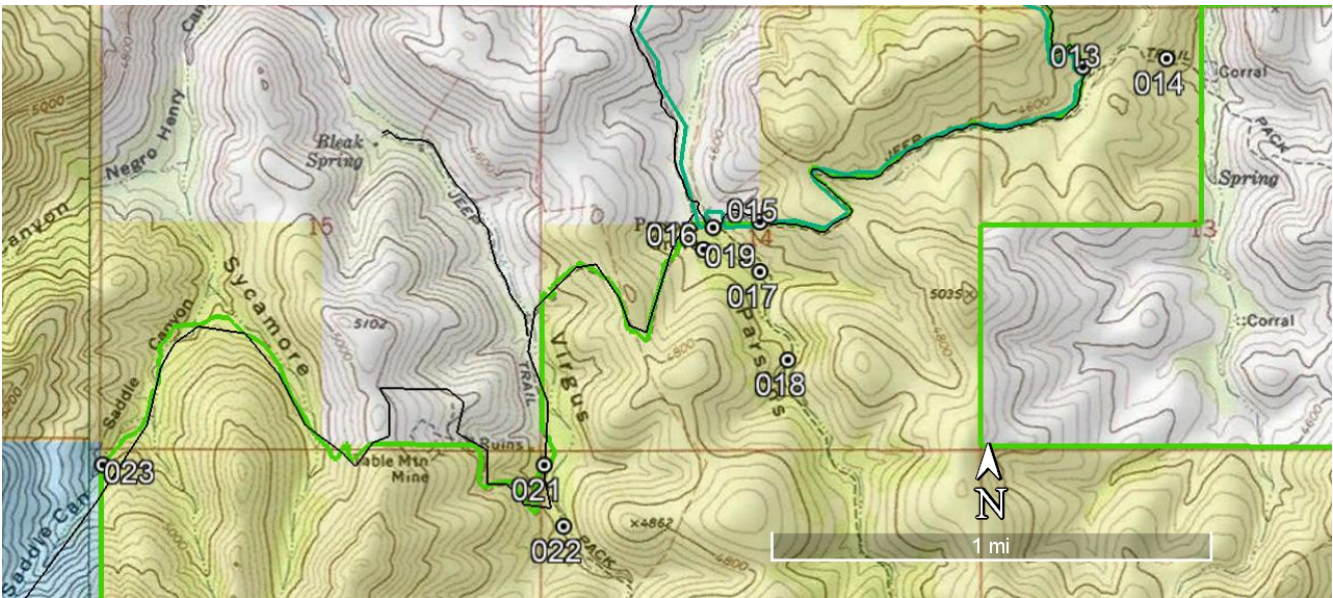
**Aravaipa SE Reference Map** – Showing location of inset maps and photopoints along the unit boundary. The western unit boundary is formed by Turkey Creek and then the Rug Road, a rough OHV trail separating the proposed LWC from the Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness. The remainder of the unit boundary is comprised of a patchwork of State and private land boundaries.



Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC



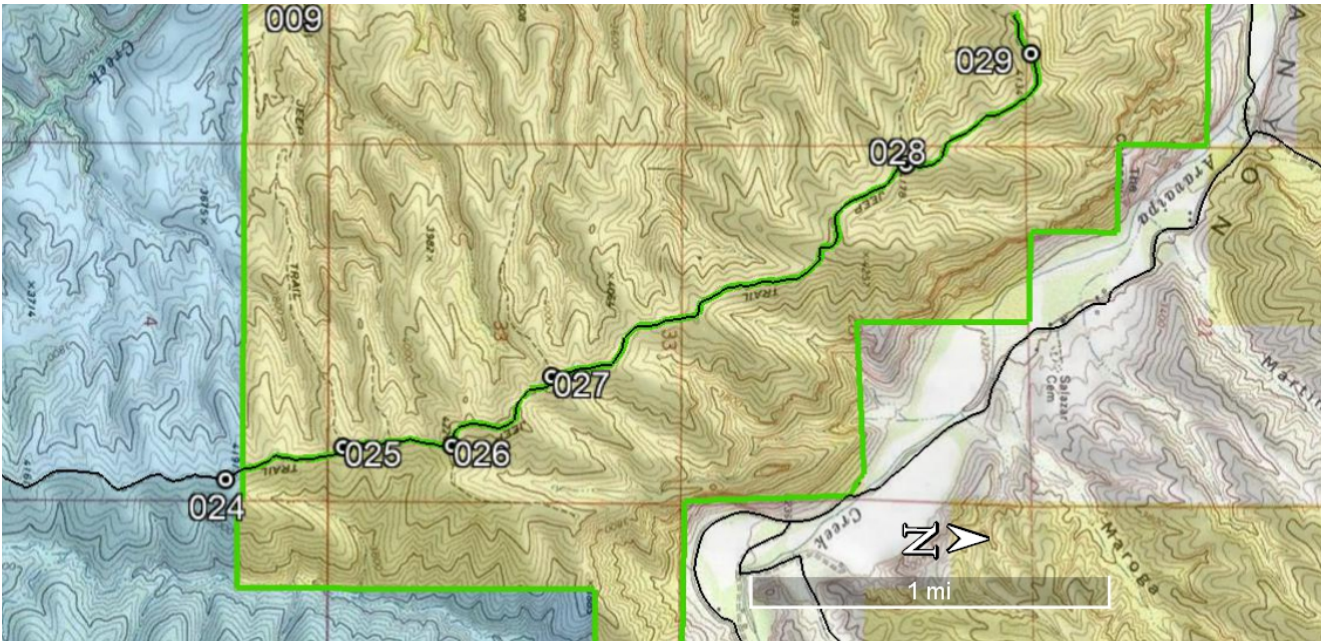
**Inset Map 1** – Photopoints 001-012, along the western unit boundary. Photopoints 001-005 show features along Turkey Creek. 006-010 are impacts associated with a closed primitive route leading to several abandoned corrals. Beyond 010, the unit boundary becomes the Rug Road, a rough OHV trail.



**Inset Map 2**– Photopoints 013-023, along the western unit boundary. 013-014 are an unmaintained stock route. 015-019 are features associated with Parson's Grove, a historic development near a spring, including an old stock trail. 021-022 are another unmaintained stock route.



## Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC



***Inset Map 3*** – Photopoints 024-029, a cherrystem heading north into the northeastern portion of the unit. The cherrystem has four primitive ways branching off of it (025-028), and ends at a primitive campsite/scenic overlook (029).

### **Narrative Description of Proposed LWC Boundary, Vehicle Routes, and Human Impacts**

The western unit boundary is formed by the Turkey Creek rd., and then by BLM 5019 (also called the Rug Road), an extremely rough OHV/Jeep route.

- At 001, the Aravaipa Canyon road crosses into BLM land from private land, briefly forming the unit boundary.
- At 002, the unit boundary follows the Turkey Creek road south.
- There are several campsites and a corral (003, 004, and 005), between the Turkey Creek road and sheer cliffs to the east. While these impacts individually do not significantly detract from the surrounding unit’s naturalness, they are so close to the boundary road that they have been excluded from the proposed unit.
- 006 is a junction with a reclaimed and abandoned route, closed to vehicles by the BLM. 007 shows the revegetated condition of the route a short distance beyond the closure point. The old route forks to the southwest, leading to an abandoned, overgrown corral, and another BLM closure point (008). These impacts are substantially unnoticeable and minimally impact naturalness.
  - 009 is another abandoned, overgrown corral along the old route to the southeast. Dense vegetation renders this impact substantially unnoticeable.
- At 010 the boundary road leaves turkey creek, climbing steeply and becoming very rough – impassable to most vehicles. Beyond this point the road is known as either BLM 5019 or the Rug Road. It is a dangerous route in very poor condition, but is occasionally used for recreation by offroaders.
- At 011 the road forks, with the boundary following a short spur (BLM 5019b) south, quickly rejoining the main route.

### *Aravaipa Southeast Proposed LWC*

- 012 shows a major vehicle obstacle presented by a 3-4 foot drop. These heavily eroded and dangerous conditions are typical of the route.
- 013 is a junction with a faint, unmaintained way to the east. 014 shows typical condition of the route, which shows recent signs of use only by horses.
- At reference point 015, the boundary road enters private land, and the boundary briefly follows the property line west. BLM 5019 zigzags across the private/BLM property line several times, so the boundary alternates between the road and the property line.
- At 016, there is a junction with a stock trail to the southeast, showing no signs of vehicle use. The route passes a small campsite at 017 that minimally impacts naturalness, and eventually drops into a natural wash at 018. The route shows no signs of construction, maintenance, or recent vehicle use.
- At 019 there is a natural spring, showing some signs of historical development. These features are unmaintained and abandoned, and are hidden by dense riparian vegetation, minimally impacting naturalness.
- At reference point 020, the road again crosses into private land, and the unit boundary follows the property line south a short distance to where it again becomes BLM route 5014/Rug road.
- 021 is a junction, with the unit boundary following BLM 5014 to the southwest. A faint, unmaintained way heads southeast, following and eventually joining the natural wash at 022.
- Beyond this junction, the unit boundary follows the Rug road west to where the road again crosses into private land. The private property boundary becomes the unit boundary west until it again becomes the Rug road. The Rug road hits State Trust land at reference point 023. The State Trust property line becomes the unit boundary to the south.
- A patchwork of State and private lands form the southern and eastern portions of the unit boundary.
- At 024, a cherrystem road enters the unit to the north.
- Four unmaintained, faint, and lightly used Ways branch off the cherrystem (025-028). All are short, overgrown, unmaintained routes serving no apparent purpose. They are kept open solely by the infrequent passage of vehicles, and minimally impact the naturalness of the unit.
- The cherrystem road ends just beyond 029, at a viewpoint and primitive campsite.
- Beyond 024, the unit boundary follows State and then private property lines north and west, back to 001.

*This concludes the boundary description*

## Section 4: Photopoint Data

This section contains the photos and associated data tables for each point displayed on the photopoint maps and described in the boundary description. Data are presented in numbered order as they appear in the boundary description. The table associated with each point includes notes recorded in the field using GeoJot, supporting the rationale for including or excluding the feature in the unit. The associated map shows satellite imagery of the exact location and direction the photo was taken in. Maps, photos, and tables were produced in GeoJot Core.

Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	001
Feature Class	Boundary Element
Feature	Typical Condition of Route
Feature notes	Used and maintained
Route: Determination	Road
Route: name	Aravaipa canyon rd
Route: Construction	Bladed
Route: Use	4-WD Trucks
Route: Maintenance	Very recent - past year
Route: Purpose	Multiple uses
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Unit Boundary



Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	002
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Typical Condition of Route
Feature notes	Boundary road?
Route: Determination	Road
Route: name	Turkey creek rd
Route: Construction	Bladed
Route: Use	4-WD Trucks
Route: Maintenance	Old evidence - 3-5 years ago
Route: Purpose	Multiple uses
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Unit Boundary





# Aravaipa Southeast

## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	003
Feature Class	Impact: Excluded
Feature	Campsite
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	N/A
Route: name	N/A
Route: Construction	N/A
Route: Use	N/A
Route: Maintenance	N/A
Route: Purpose	N/A
Route: Improvements	N/A
Other notes	None

003



## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	004
Feature Class	Impact: Excluded
Feature	Corral
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	N/A
Route: name	N/A
Route: Construction	N/A
Route: Use	N/A
Route: Maintenance	N/A
Route: Purpose	N/A
Route: Improvements	N/A
Other notes	None

004



## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	005
Feature Class	Impact: Excluded
Feature	Campsite
Feature notes	Cumulative impacts
Route: Determination	N/A
Route: name	N/A
Route: Construction	N/A
Route: Use	N/A
Route: Maintenance	N/A
Route: Purpose	N/A
Route: Improvements	N/A
Other notes	Exclude this impact

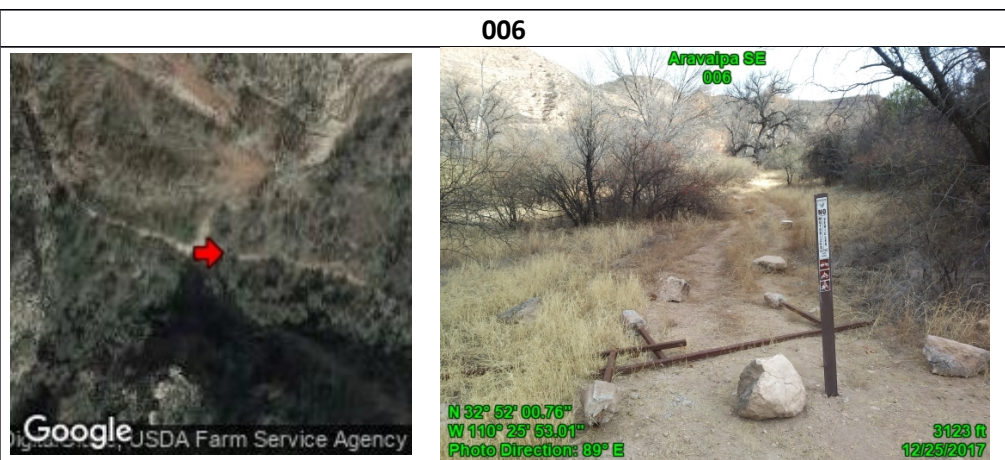
005





# Aravaipa Southeast

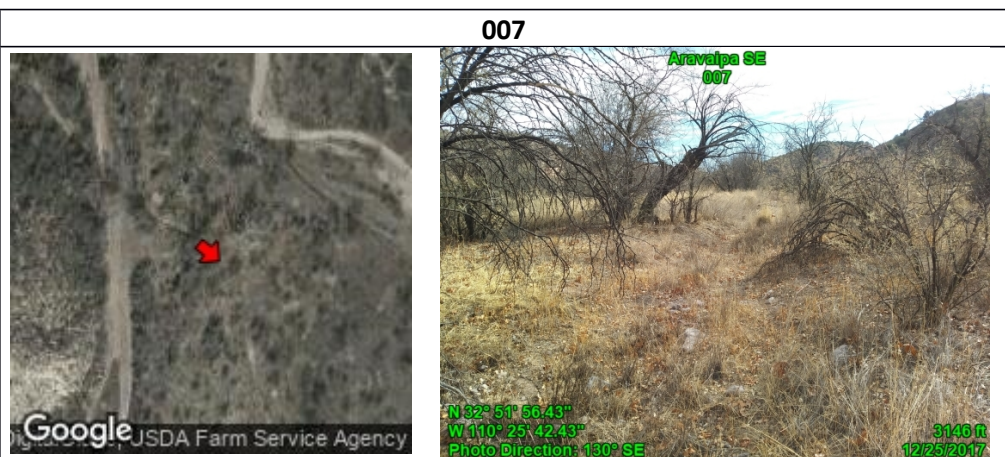
Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	006
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Closure point
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Reclaimed & unused
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	No sign observed
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	No apparent purpose
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	None



Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	008
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Closure point
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	No sign observed
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	No apparent purpose
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	None



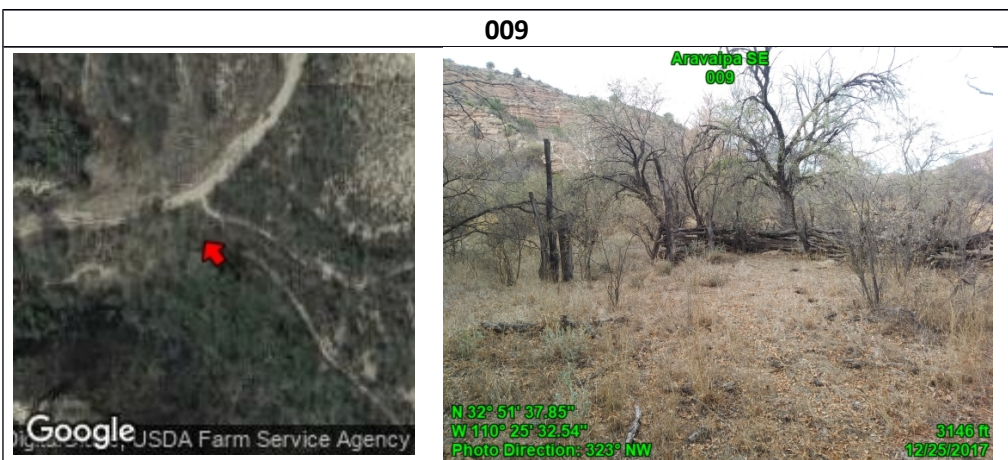
Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	007
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Revegetated/Naturalized
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Reclaimed & unused
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	No sign observed
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	No apparent purpose
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	None



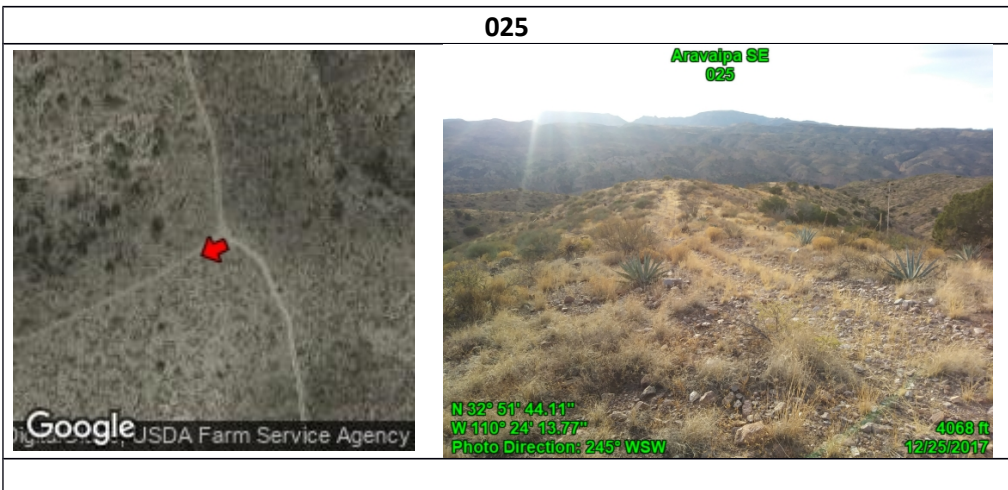


# Aravaipa Southeast

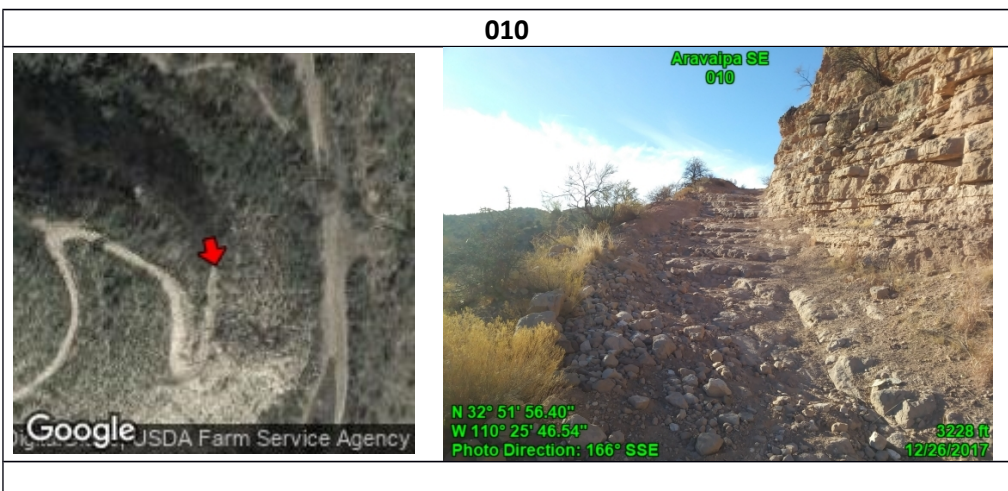
Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	009
Feature Class	Impact: Acceptable
Feature	Corral
Feature notes	Equipment appears to be out of order and abandoned
Route: Determination	N/A
Route: name	N/A
Route: Construction	N/A
Route: Use	N/A
Route: Maintenance	N/A
Route: Purpose	N/A
Route: Improvements	N/A
Other notes	None



Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	025
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Junction of Routes
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	No sign observed
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	No apparent purpose
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	None



Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	010
Feature Class	Boundary Element
Feature	Erosion
Feature notes	Worst section of route
Route: Determination	Road
Route: name	Turkey creek road
Route: Construction	Bladed
Route: Use	Misc. Off Road Vehicles
Route: Maintenance	Old evidence - 3-5 years ago
Route: Purpose	Multiple uses
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Unit Boundary





# Aravaipa Southeast

## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	024
Feature Class	Boundary Element
Feature	Sign
Feature notes	Used and maintained
Route: Determination	Road
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	Bladed
Route: Use	4-WD Trucks
Route: Maintenance	Semi-recent evidence - 1-3 years ago
Route: Purpose	Multiple uses
Route: Improvements	Gate
Other notes	Unit Boundary

024



## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	026
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Junction of Routes
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user- created
Route: Use	4-WD Trucks
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	No apparent purpose
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Kept open solely by passage of vehicles

026



## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	027
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Low use/faint route
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user- created
Route: Use	4-WD Trucks
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	No apparent purpose
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Kept open solely by passage of vehicles

027



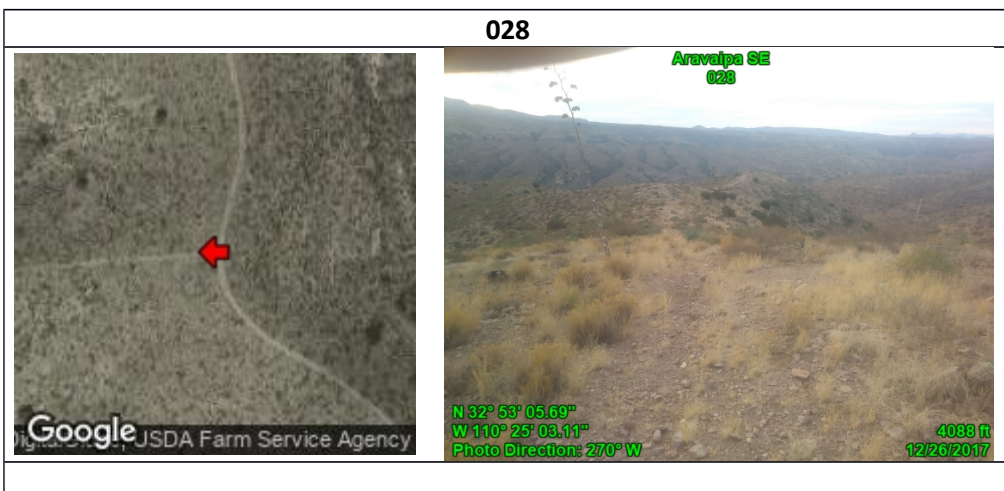


# Aravaipa Southeast

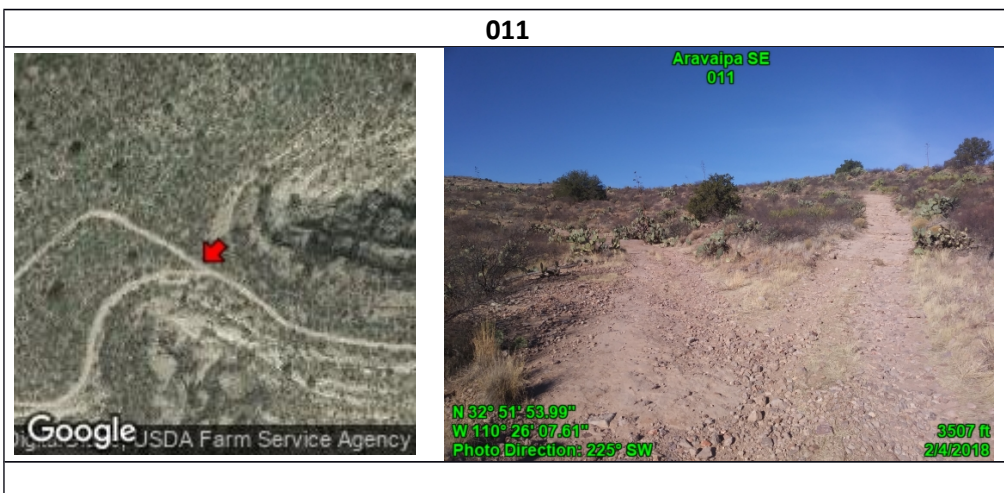
Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	029
Feature Class	Boundary Element
Feature	Campsite
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Road
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	Bladed
Route: Use	4-WD Trucks
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	Camping
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Cherrystem



Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	028
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Low use/faint route
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Reclaimed & unused
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	No sign observed
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	No apparent purpose
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	None



Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	011
Feature Class	Boundary Element
Feature	Junction of Routes
Feature notes	Boundary follows 5019 b to left
Route: Determination	Road
Route: name	BLM Route 5019b
Route: Construction	Bladed
Route: Use	Misc. Off Road Vehicles
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	Recreation
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Unit Boundary





# Aravaipa Southeast

## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	012
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Typical Condition of Route
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Road
Route: name	BLM Route 5019
Route: Construction	Bladed
Route: Use	Misc. Off Road Vehicles
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	Recreation
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Unit Boundary

012



## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	013
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Junction of Routes
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	Equestrian
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	No apparent purpose
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	None

013



## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	014
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Typical Condition of Route
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	Equestrian
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	No apparent purpose
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Horsepack route

014





# Aravaipa Southeast

## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	019
Feature Class	Impact: Acceptable
Feature	Spring at parsons grove
Feature notes	Equipment appears to be out of order and abandoned
Route: Determination	N/A
Route: name	N/A
Route: Construction	N/A
Route: Use	N/A
Route: Maintenance	N/A
Route: Purpose	N/A
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Majestic sycamores



## 019



## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	017
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Campsite
Feature notes	Equipment appears to be out of order and abandoned
Route: Determination	N/A
Route: name	N/A
Route: Construction	N/A
Route: Use	N/A
Route: Maintenance	N/A
Route: Purpose	N/A
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	None



## 017



## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	018
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Low use/faint route
Feature notes	Pack trail
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	Equestrian
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	Recreation
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	No signs of vehicle use



## 018



# Aravaipa Southeast

## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	016
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Junction of Routes
Feature notes	Pack trail
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	Not Named
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	Equestrian
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	Recreation
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	No signs of vehicle use

## 016



## Attributes

Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	021
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Junction of Routes
Feature notes	Blm 5015/rug road to right.
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	N/A
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	Misc. Off Road Vehicles
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	Recreation
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Unit Boundary to right



## 021





# Aravaipa Southeast

Attributes	
Unit name	Aravaipa SE
Point	022
Feature Class	Primitive Route
Feature	Low use/faint route
Feature notes	Feature minimally affects naturalness
Route: Determination	Way
Route: name	N/A
Route: Construction	No evidence/user-created
Route: Use	Misc. Off Road Vehicles
Route: Maintenance	None
Route: Purpose	Recreation
Route: Improvements	None
Other notes	Kept open solely by passage of vehicles

022	
 <p>Google JSDA Farm Service Agency</p>	 <p>Aravaipa SE 022</p> <p>N 32° 48' 51.89" W 110° 28' 55.24" Photo Direction: 125° SE</p> <p>4504 ft 2/3/2018</p>