

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING THE
ORGAN MOUNTAINS-DESERT PEAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT**

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso is directly south of Doña Ana County New Mexico,

WHEREAS, the El Paso – Doña Ana County region is interconnected in many important ways, including ecologically, economically, and culturally,

WHEREAS, Doña Ana County contains a number of areas of exceptional historic and scientific value associated with the Chihuahuan Desert, Southwestern pre American history, life on the American frontier, and emergence of the United States as an international power,

WHEREAS, a diverse coalition of community leaders, citizens, and civic organizations have developed a proposal to protect these important lands as the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument,

WHEREAS, the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument would protect the Organ Mountains, Potrillo volcanic field, Kilbourne Hole, Broad Canyon, and the Doña Ana, Robledo, and Sierra de las Uvas Mountains,

WHEREAS, the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument would also protect important historic sites including stunning petroglyphs and pictographs, the Butterfield Stagecoach Trail, Apollo space mission training sites, World War II aerial targets, Billy the Kid's Outlaw Rock, Geronimo's Cave, and historic ranch houses,

WHEREAS, these lands provide unique local recreational opportunities and quality of life for the citizens of El Paso, Fort Bliss, West Texas,

WHEREAS, New Mexico, El Paso and West Texas all benefit by fostering tourism, strengthening the outdoor recreation economy , and preserving the qualities that make this area a desirable location for families, retirees, and business development,

WHEREAS, the preservation of these lands help provide many natural benefits including watershed, air quality, and ecosystem protection, and

WHEREAS, protection of these rich landscapes and their history will support multicultural traditions within the Mesilla Valley, enhance understanding of New Mexico, Texas, and the American West, and benefit all communities within the region by fostering tourism, strengthening outdoor recreation, and preserving the qualities that make this area a desirable location for retirement and business development.

12-1019-039/133555/Reso
Organ Mtn. Desert Peaks Natl. Monument

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City of El Paso is proud to call for the establishment of the historic Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument in order to preserve areas within our region of historic, scientific, and scenic value for current and future generations, and that the City of El Paso requests that the President of United States use his authority under the 1906 Antiquities Act to establish the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2012.

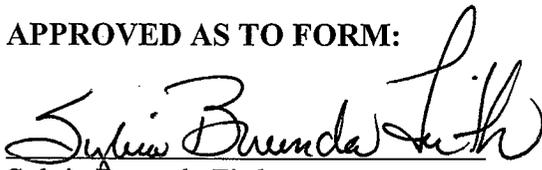
THE CITY OF EL PASO

John F. Cook
Mayor

ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Sylvia Borunda Firth
City Attorney

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ORGAN MOUNTAINS-DESERT PEAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Why Protect Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks as a National Monument?

Cultural, Historical and Natural Values

Doña Ana County is celebrated for its incredible wild lands and history. It is loved for its natural wonders, such as the scenic Organ Mountains and the southwestern Chihuahuan Desert. It is also a cultural destination for its petroglyph-lined canyons of the Sierra de las Uvas Mountains and well-known western historical figures and events including Billy the Kid, Geronimo, the Butterfield Stagecoach route, and even training for the Apollo Space Program and World War II bomber pilots and crews. Doña Ana County is where the Camino Real meets the American West.

What Can You Do in a National Monument?

- Hiking
- Hunting
- Motorized Travel
- Tourism
- Horseback Riding
- Camping
- Mountain Biking
- Sight-Seeing
- Law Enforcement
- Flood Control
- Ranching
- Research

What Is Included In The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument?

Historical and Cultural Features

- Over 22 miles of the Butterfield Stage Trail
- Kilbourne Hole National Historic Landmark
- Billy the Kid's Outlaw Rock
- Geronimo's Cave
- 243 Known Petroglyph and Archeological Sites
- Estimated 5000+ Archeological Sites
- Apollo Mission Astronaut Training Sites
- Original US/Mexico border from Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo (Changed by Gadsden Purchase)
- Historic World War II Aerial Targets
- Fort Mason and Historic Ranch House Ruins

Special Lands

- Organ Mountains
- Potrillo Volcanic Field
- Kilbourne Hole & Aden Lava Flow
- Robledo Mountains
- Sierra de Las Uvas Mountains
- Fragile Chihuahuan Desert Grasslands

Good for Our Economy

Protecting the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks as a National Monument will attract visitors, tourists, new residents and businesses to our area far into the future. Recent research found that National Monuments added millions of dollars to the economies of communities close to them, and added hundreds of new jobs in addition to increasing per capita income. Due to the natural beauty and historical and cultural icons of our region, Las Cruces has already been recognized as one of the "best places" to live, work and retire.

- AARP's 2010 "Best Places to Retire"
- *Hispanic Magazine* "Top 10 Cities for Hispanics to Live"
- *Money Magazine* "Best Small Metro Area for Business"
- Family Digest "Best Places to Live"
- *Inc. Magazine* "2007 Boomtowns"
- AARP 2006 "Dream Town"
- National Bus Association "Top 50 Motorcoach Destinations in the United States"

Learn More - Visit OrganMountains.org to see maps, pictures, historical reports and more!