

**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

CITY CLERK DEPT.
2012 SEP 20 AM 8:32

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.

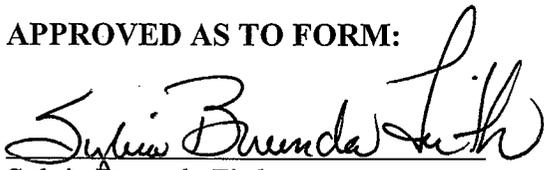
THE CITY OF EL PASO

John F. Cook
Mayor

ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Sylvia Borunda Firth
City Attorney

CITY CLERK DEPT.
2012 SEP 20 AM 8:32



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!

Organ Mountains – Desert Peaks National Monument

October 2, 2012

National Monument Designation

- National Monument
 - President Can Create
 - Executive Order/Proclamation by the President, under the authority of the Antiquities Act of 1906.
 - To protect “historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest”
 - Intended to provide rapid authority by the President
 - Used by almost every President
 - Current monuments range from 1/2 acre designated by President Calvin Coolidge To 80,000,000 designated by President George W. Bush, and many include large areas of natural resources as well.
 - Strong support from multiple states significantly boosts chances for National Monument designation!



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!



ORGAN MOUNTAINS-DESERT PEAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Management Fact Sheet

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Answer</u>	<u>Key Facts</u>
Managing Agency	BLM	The BLM currently manages all federal lands in the proposed monument through the development of a Resource Management Plan. The same process will continue after designation as a national monument.
Hunting	Yes	Hunting exists in every BLM national monument over 10,000 acres in size. "Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the jurisdiction of the state of New Mexico with respect to fish and wildlife management." (Except from existing monument proclamations.)
Motorized Access	Yes	All BLM national monuments over 10,000 acres in size allow motorized access.
Public Input	Yes	All BLM resource management plans incorporate a public input process in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.
Grazing	Yes	Grazing exists in every BLM national monument over 10,000 acres in size. "Laws, regulations, and policies followed by the BLM in issuing and administering grazing permits or leases on all lands under its jurisdiction shall continue to apply with regard to the lands in the monument" (Except from existing monument proclamations.)
Land Disposal	No	Land disposal and new extractive uses are not permitted.
Agriculture	No Impact	No farmland is included in the national monument proposal.
State Land	No Impact	By law, state land is not impacted by a national monument. State and federal lands may be traded by mutual agreement.
Private Land	No Impact	By law, private land is not impacted by a national monument.
Border Security	No Impact	BLM national monuments do not affect law enforcement activities.
Flood Control	No Impact	Flood control management will continue in a BLM national monument.
Economic Impact	Significant	Numerous studies have shown an increase in jobs and economic benefits associated with communities located near national monuments.

For more information, visit www.organmountains.org



April 27, 2012

Dear President Obama,

As people of faith and spiritual leaders of our congregations, we represent people of faith across southern New Mexico. We are writing you today to ask to you to designate the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks Region as a National Monument.

We do not approach this subject on the grounds of policy or politics. Rather, our approach covers higher ground – the ground of what is right and what is just for our land and our people. For many of us, the biblical reference to “the land” signifies the inheritance, and the responsibility, we hold as people of faith to one another and to God.

The Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks Region of Southern New Mexico has been the gateway to the north from Mexico along the Camino Real for hundreds of years. Its majestic, craggy peaks were a signal to travelers and settlers alike that they had entered another land. In addition, the public lands in Doña Ana County contain many sacred sites for Native Americans. The Organ, Potrillos, Robledos, and Uvas Mountains are key fixtures of our entire region and national treasures that must be preserved.

We recognize that we are all responsible for taking care of God's natural gifts and we all have a role to play in serving as stewards of the land. That's why we feel it is important to clearly state our support for permanent protection of the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks Region.

The Organ Mountains and Desert Peaks are a gift from God and should be protected for future generations to enjoy, and we need your bold action to make it happen.

And, as pastors and clergy of congregations that are persevering during these difficult economic times, we recognize the job-creation benefits that a national monument will present for our people. We strongly believe that in addition to protecting God's natural gifts, a national monument in Doña Ana County will create economic activity through tourism, amenity migration and service-industry growth that will lift up our community during these difficult times.

We hope you will act to create the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument and know that people of faith across New Mexico would welcome and applaud this bold action from our President.

Respectfully,



Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

Tribal Council
700 County of El Paso Road • P.O. Box 10000 • El Paso, Texas 79907 • (915) 838-5063 • Fax: (915) 838-4282

March 16, 2012

Dear President Obama,

We are writing on behalf of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, a federally recognized tribe with land near El Paso, TX, and just south of Las Cruces, NM.

We believe strongly that the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region deserves permanent protection. Without such protection, cultural resources and connections to spiritual places can be lost forever for native cultures. These cultures, like our own, depend on areas like the confluence of two desert canyons lined by hundreds of petroglyphs that would be protected by the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.

The past and current use of these lands by native peoples, including members of Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and other Puebloan peoples, attest to its significance as a traditional cultural property. Protecting the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region as a National Monument will protect unique cultural resources, allowing our children and grandchildren to know and appreciate the beauty, bounty, and spiritual significance of these lands. Protection of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument is an issue of great importance, and we call on all to support this needed step in our shared journey.

Sincerely,



Carlos Hisa
Lieutenant Governor

CAPITOL OFFICE
200111119
RD 200111119
A.P.M. TEXAS 75701
EST: 463 6129
2012-09-21 10:42



JOSÉ R. RODRÍGUEZ
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 29

Printed: 09 JUL
100 N. 00106 St. Suite 2
PHOTO: TONY GARDI
19 20 361 3623
2012-09-21 10:42

September 21, 2012

Dear President Obama,

On behalf of Texas Senate District 29, I am writing to urge the establishment of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region as a National Monument.

As you may know, my district encompasses El Paso County. Although the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region does not include my district, we are linked to the region by family ties, commerce, history and culture. I believe strongly that this region deserves permanent protection. Without the monument designation, irreplaceable cultural resources and connections to spiritual places might be lost forever for the indigenous cultures whose cosmologies and history continue to be linked to these magnificent desert canyons and natural landmarks. At multiple sites within these canyons are hundreds of ancient petroglyphs that will be protected if the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument is established.

As the home of the world-class petroglyphs at Hueco Tanks State Park & Historic Site, we understand that El Paso will benefit from this designation which will bring thousands of tourists to study and explore the area. Given that one of my areas of focus as a State Senator is job creation-oriented Cultural Heritage Tourism, I strongly support designation of the site as a national monument. Tourists who explore cultural sites spend more, stay longer, contribute to preservation efforts, and become enthusiastic ambassadors about the places they visit.

Not only is this land considered sacred to the members of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and other tribal communities in District 29, it is also part of the grand Chihuahuan Desert, an eco-system that stretches into Mexico and provides a home for thousands of plant and animal species. It is truly a university of geography and culture for local children and students of archeology, geology, history, sociology and other fields of study. Preserving this land also creates for El Pasoans an additional recreational asset which can be enjoyed by families for years to come.

I applaud the efforts by Las Cruces Councilman Nathan Swall and his allies to seek this designation and have committed our resources to assisting those efforts. I urge your every consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact this office if I may provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

José Rodríguez

JRR:cc

SEN. JOSE RODRIGUEZ CORRESPONDENCE LETTERS OF SUPPORT ORGAN MOUNTAINS-DESERT PEAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT 11/22/12 X

COMMITTEES

EXPERIENCE YOUNG AND NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT - INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION TRADE AND INVESTMENT
VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Brady Robinson
The Access Fund
brady@accessfund.org

July 6, 2012

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500.

Dear Mr. President,

As Executive Director of the Access Fund, the national advocacy group for climbers, we stand with the New Mexico Climbers Resource and Advocacy Group (NM CRAG) in strong support for the proposed Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.

Climbing is a key cog in New Mexico's outdoor recreation economy, and the proposed Monument includes nationally-renowned climbing sites in the Organ Mountains and Rough and Ready Hills. These public lands provide an outstanding recreation and natural experiences for the local community as well as visitors to the region. In New Mexico the outdoor recreation economy supports over 47,000 jobs and generates \$184 million in annual state tax revenue. At the national level, recent data shows that the outdoor recreation economy and grew approximately 5% every year between 2005 and 2011 and now contributes over \$646 billion annually to the American economy. With world class climbing and many other recreational opportunities found in the proposed monument—such as hiking, horseback riding, hunting and mountain biking—the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument will enhance the local recreation economy and create more jobs for New Mexico's second largest city, Las Cruces.

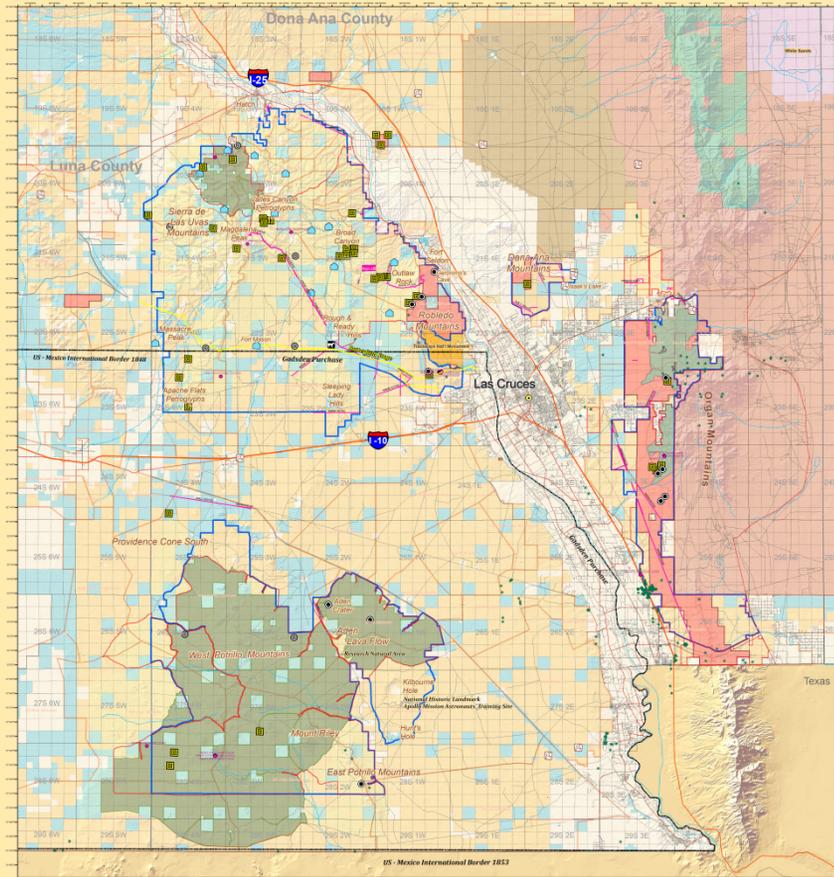
With NM CRAG, we believe that the designation of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument will safeguard and enhance climbing opportunities in the region, and we will work closely with the Bureau of Land Management on climbing policies in future land use plans. On behalf of climbers in New Mexico and nationally, I urge you to exercise your authority under the 1906 Antiquities Act—as 15 Presidents have done before—to designate the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument and bring lasting economic, cultural, and ecological benefits to a truly unique region.

Sincerely,

Brady Robinson
The Access Fund

Community National Monument Proposal

Proposed Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks National Monument



Points of Interest

- Aplomado Falcon Sighting
- Archaeological Site
- Butterfield Stage Stop
- Cave
- Historic Ranch House Ruin
- Petroglyphs
- Wild Turkey
- Special Status Plants
- Butterfield Trail
- Caddisfly Purchase

LCDO Right of Ways

- Line ROW
- Polygon ROW
- Point ROW

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE

SB204 Proposed	300,300
NMWA Proposed	\$53,900

Legend

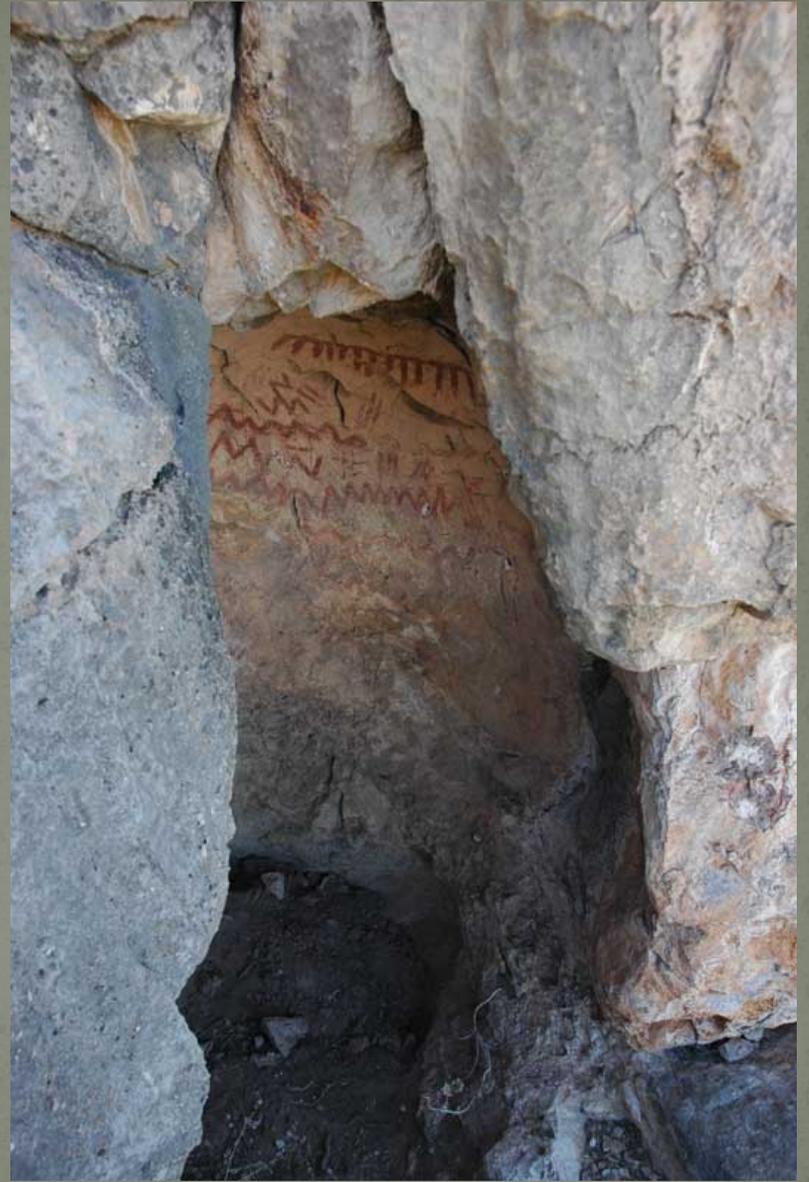
- Rivers and Arroyos
- Interstate Highway
- Road
- SR 143 Wilderness Proposal
- Federal Reserve Boundary 1/1/2012
- BLM Wilderness Study Area
- Area of Critical Environmental Concern
- County Boundary

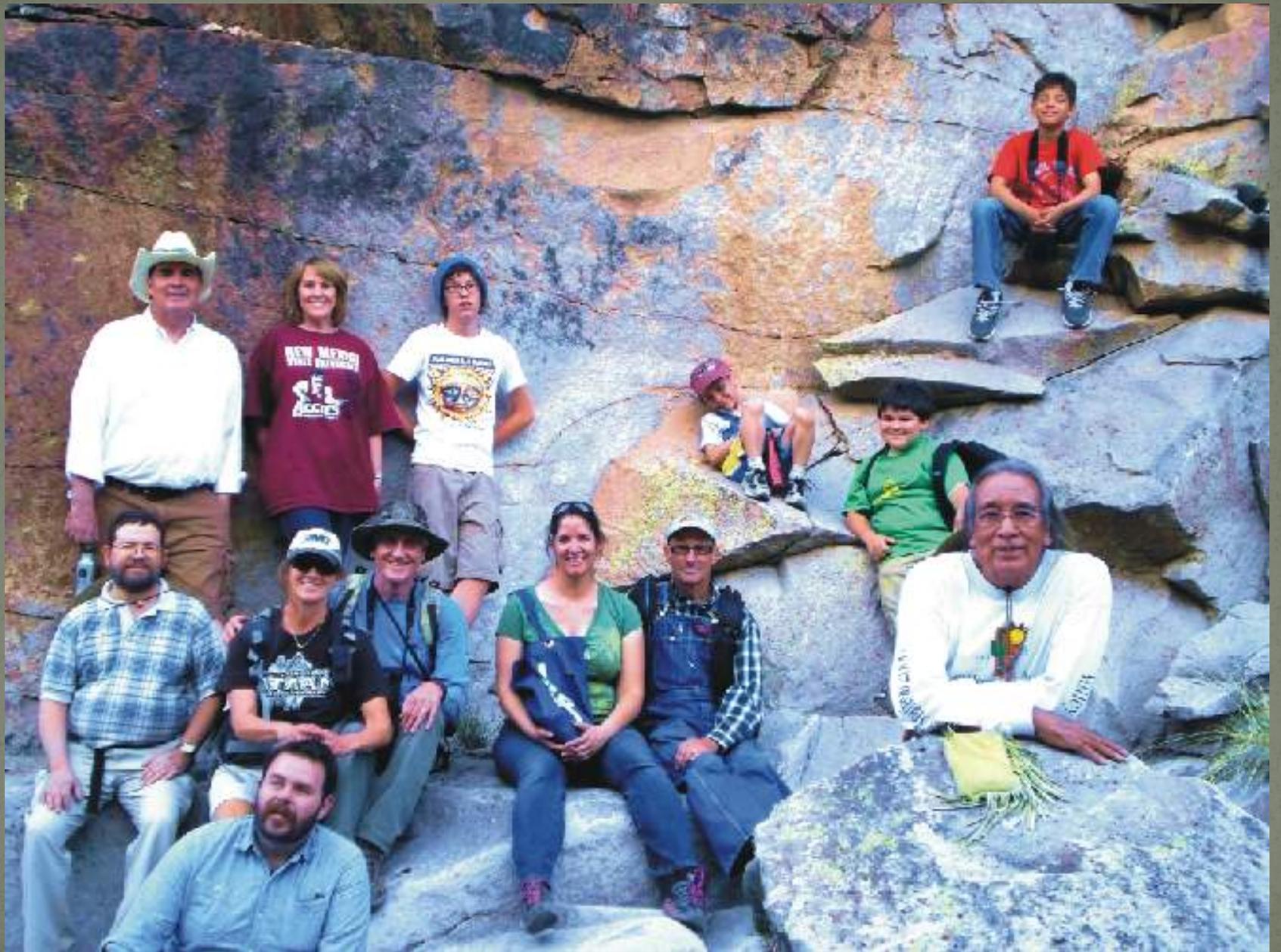
Land Ownership 2011

- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Dept of Agriculture
- Dept of Defense
- Dept of Energy
- Forest Service
- Park & Wildlife
- Mortgage Bank
- Private
- State
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Reclamation

0 1 2 4 6 8 Miles





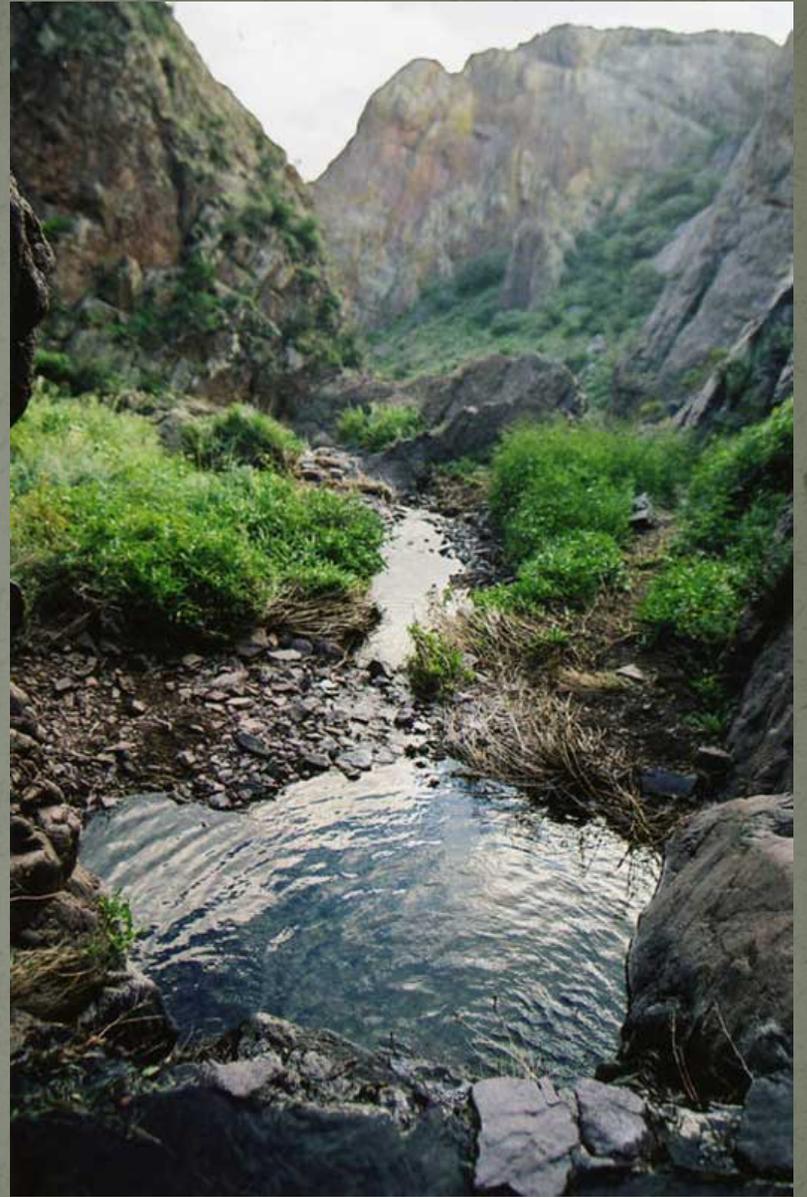












Feel the
History

ORGAN MOUNTAINS DESERT PEAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Where the Camino Real
meets the American West



Experience the *Natural Treasures of Doña Ana County*



America's Next National Monument?

Destination MONUMENT TOUR *Sept 15 & 16*

What: Outdoor Economy Leaders (climbing, mountain biking, horseback riding, hiking, wildlife viewing/birding, Heritage Tourism) show how the outdoor recreation economy and quality of life depend on protecting the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument

Who: YOU! Please contact Nathan at (575) 496-9540 or nathan.e.small@gmail.com for more information.

Where: Las Cruces has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to protect some of our area's most beautiful and significant public lands. These lands possess unique Pre-American, New Mexican, and American history including training sites for the Apollo Space Mission, the Butterfield Stagecoach Trail, Billy the Kid's Outlaw Rock, Geronimo's Cave, World War II Aerial Targets, and thousands of Native American Petroglyph's and Pictographs.

Join us!

FREE

