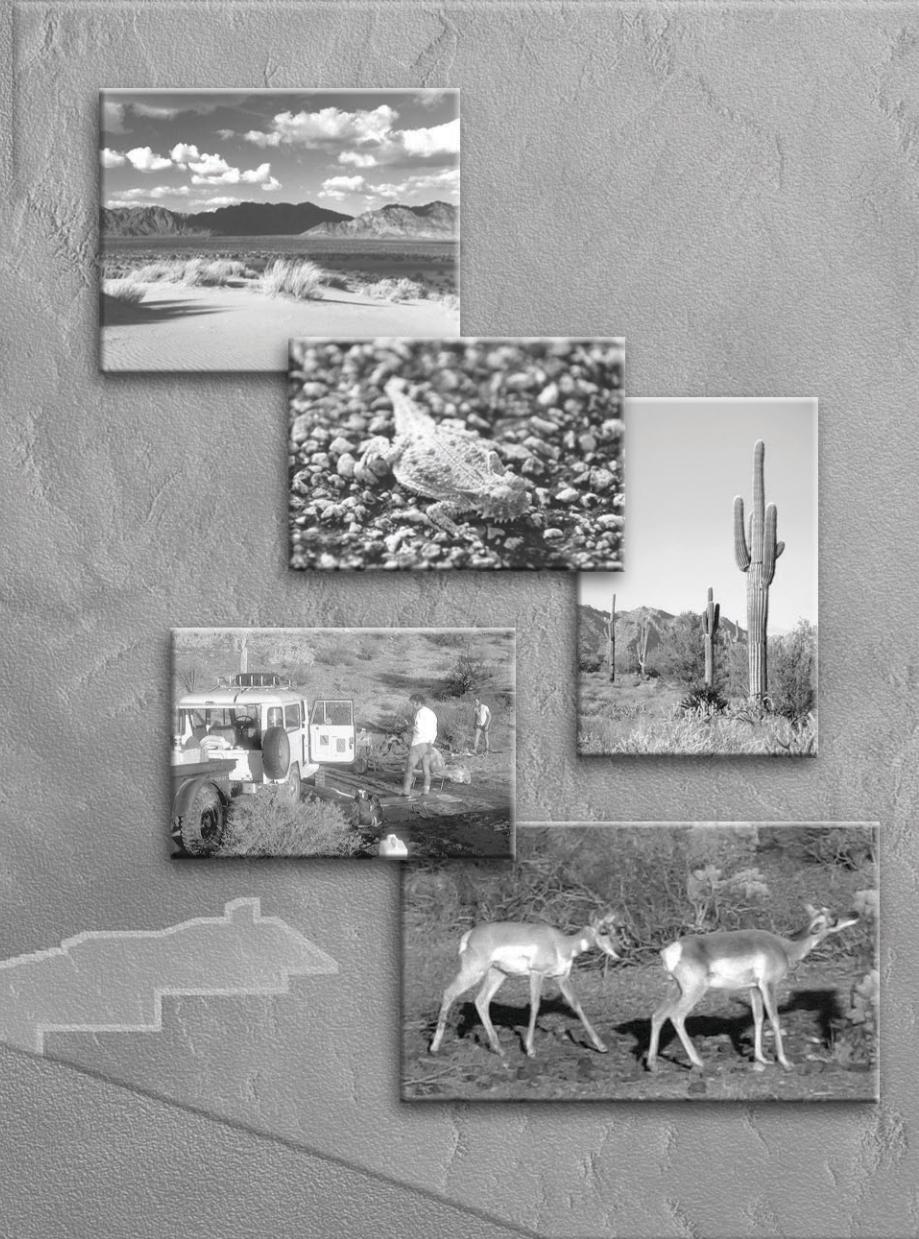


**FINAL
Environmental Impact Statement - Volume 2**

**Barry M. Goldwater Range
Proposed Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan**



Lead Agencies:
Departments of the Air Force, Navy, and Interior

Cooperating Agency:
Arizona Game and Fish Department

MARCH 2006

**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR THE
BARRY M. GOLDWATER RANGE
INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN**

VOLUME II

March 2006

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CHAPTER 5

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the potential environmental consequences of the proposed action, alternative actions, and no-action alternative and the scientific and analytical basis for the predicted impacts. Environmental impacts, or modifications to the environment that are brought about by an outside action, can be beneficial or adverse. Impacts can be described as direct (effects that are caused by the action or occur at the same time and place) or indirect (effects that are caused by the action and occur later in time or are farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable). The significance of the impact is evaluated in consideration of both context and intensity as required by CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1508.27, see the glossary for a definition of significance).

The resources are addressed in the same order as they were presented in Chapter 4. For each resource, the potential impacts of the 17 resource management elements are first individually evaluated for the proposed action, alternative actions, and no-action alternative. The proposed action, alternative actions, and no-action alternative are described in Section 3.4, Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives. Alternative Management Strategies A, B, C, and D, as presented in Table 3-3, represent the alternatives to the proposed action. The proposed action combines elements from each of the four strategies. Under the no-action alternative, the Air Force and Marine Corps would adopt the existing management provisions of the 1990 Goldwater Amendment, 1997 Lechuguilla-Mohawk HMP, 1999 Draft Barry M. Goldwater East HMP, 1997 Flat-tailed Horned Lizard Rangewide Management Strategy, and various compliance decisions, as the INRMP for the BMGR. These provisions would be modified to comply with Sikes Act requirements, as outlined under Alternative Management Strategy A.

For most resources, the assessment is range-wide because the management strategy selected for the proposed action for that resource management element was range-wide. Where unit-specific selections were made from the alternative strategies for the proposed action (as with recreation services and use supervision; rockhounding; and wood cutting, gathering, and firewood use, and collection of native plants), the assessment of alternative actions is unit-specific for those resources where there is a potential effect.

The assessment of the 17 resource management elements is followed by an analysis of the aggregate effects wherein the environmental consequences of all the resource management elements combined are evaluated for each resource. Here, the aggregate impacts of the alternative actions are comparatively analyzed as a range-wide application of Management Strategy A (the no-action alternative), B, C, or D even when a unit-specific selection was made for the proposed action. This provides for a comparative analysis of the proposed action against the full range of alternatives considered. The discussion of potential aggregate effects may be viewed as both a summary of impacts and an identification of the combined additive or interactive effects of the 17 resource management elements. When interactive, aggregate effects may be either countervailing—where the net aggregate effect is less than the sum of the individual effects—or synergistic—where the net aggregate effect is greater than the sum of the