

Bureau of Land Management

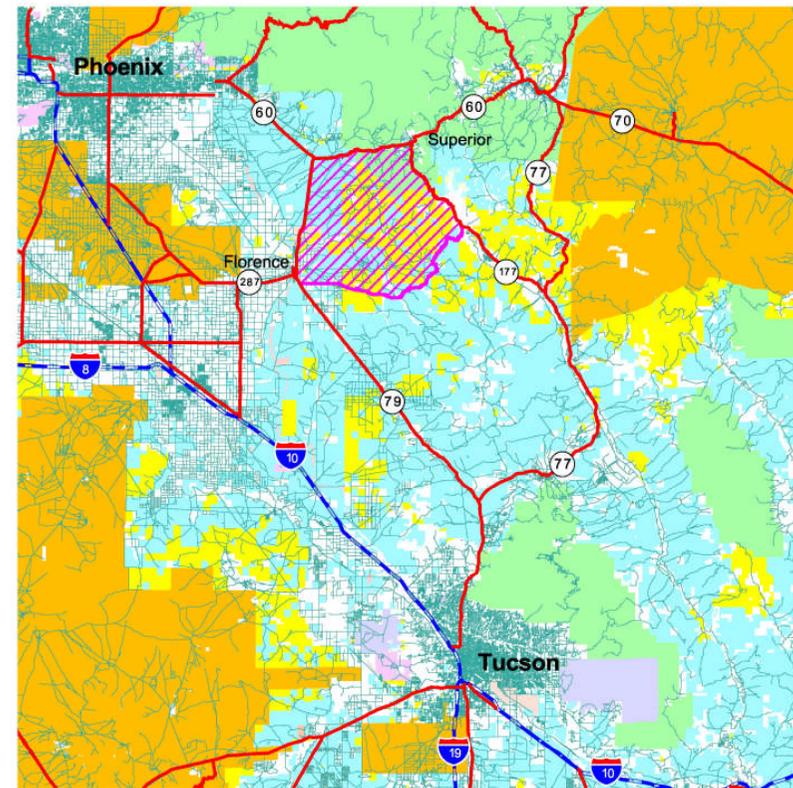
Middle Gila Canyons Area
Travel and Transportation
Management Plan

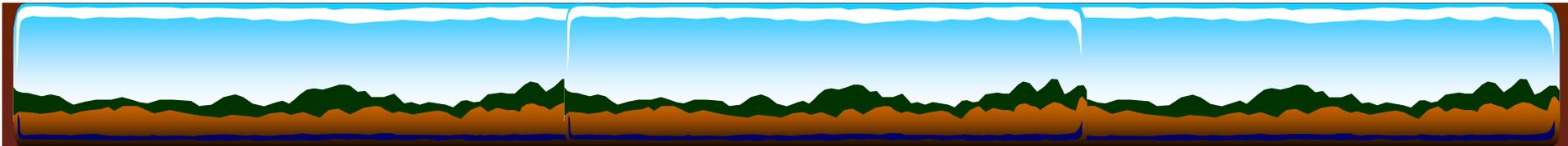
March 2007

Transportation Study Area:

- Bounded by public highway system: Hwy60, 79, 177, Florence Kelvin Hwy.
- Popular destination for day use and overnight outdoor recreation
- Within 1 hr drive of 3M+
- Access via existing travel route network
- Multiple jurisdictions:

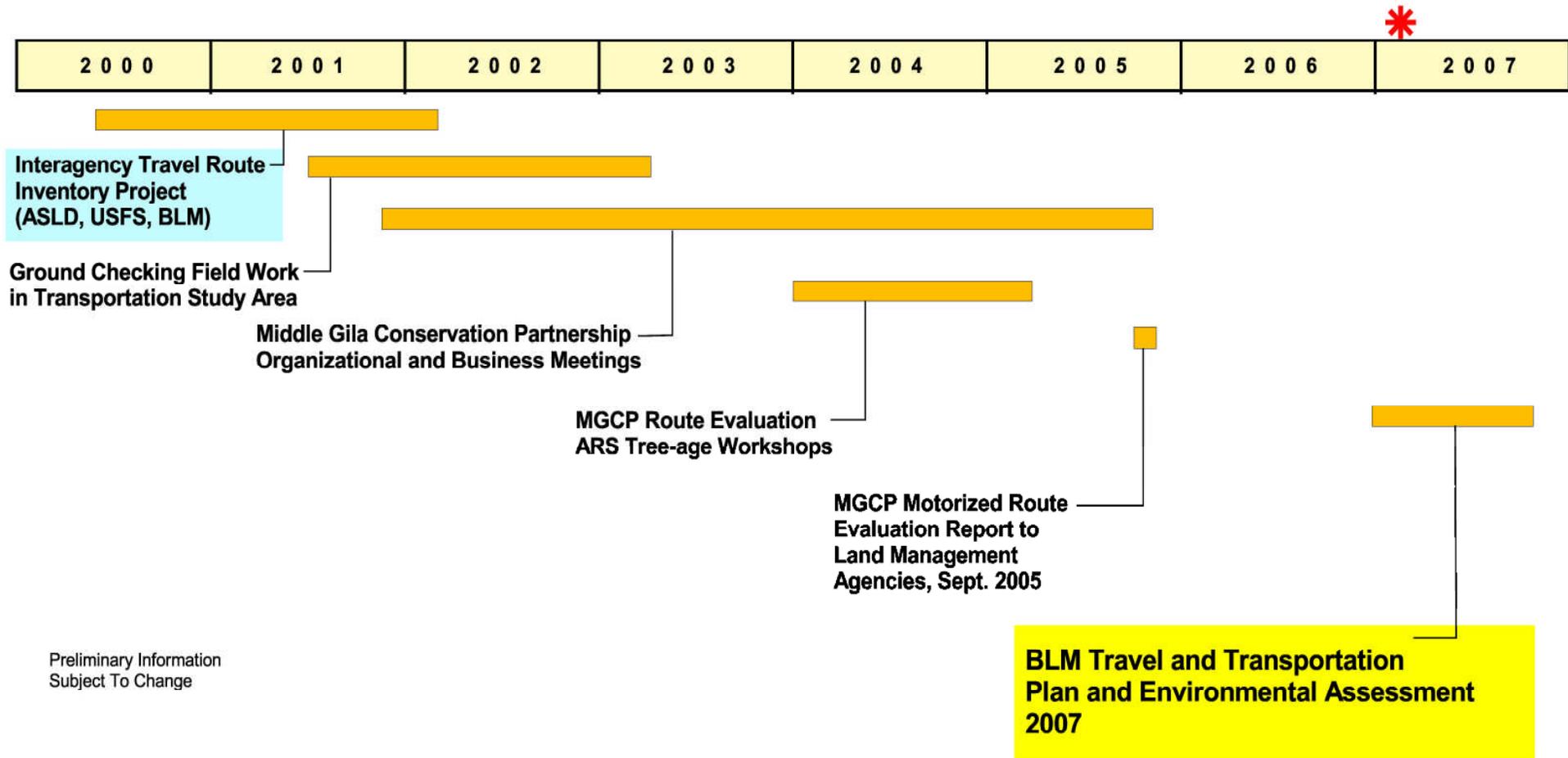
Ownership	Acres
Bureau of Land Management	96,319
Bureau of Reclamation	228
Military Reservation	3,860
Private Lands	21,478
State Lands	84,165
USFS	26,648





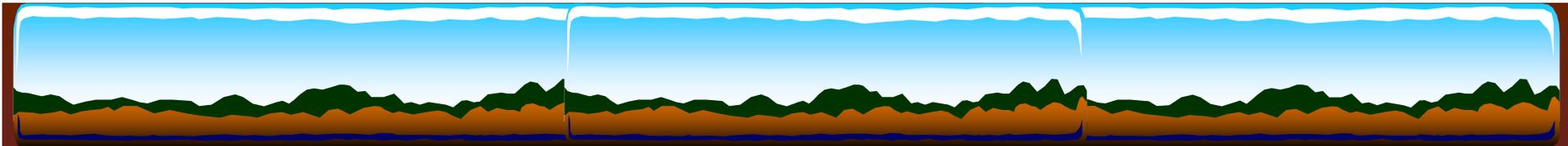
Project History

MIDDLE GILA CANYONS AREA Preliminary Travel and Transportation Management Plan Project Background Timeline



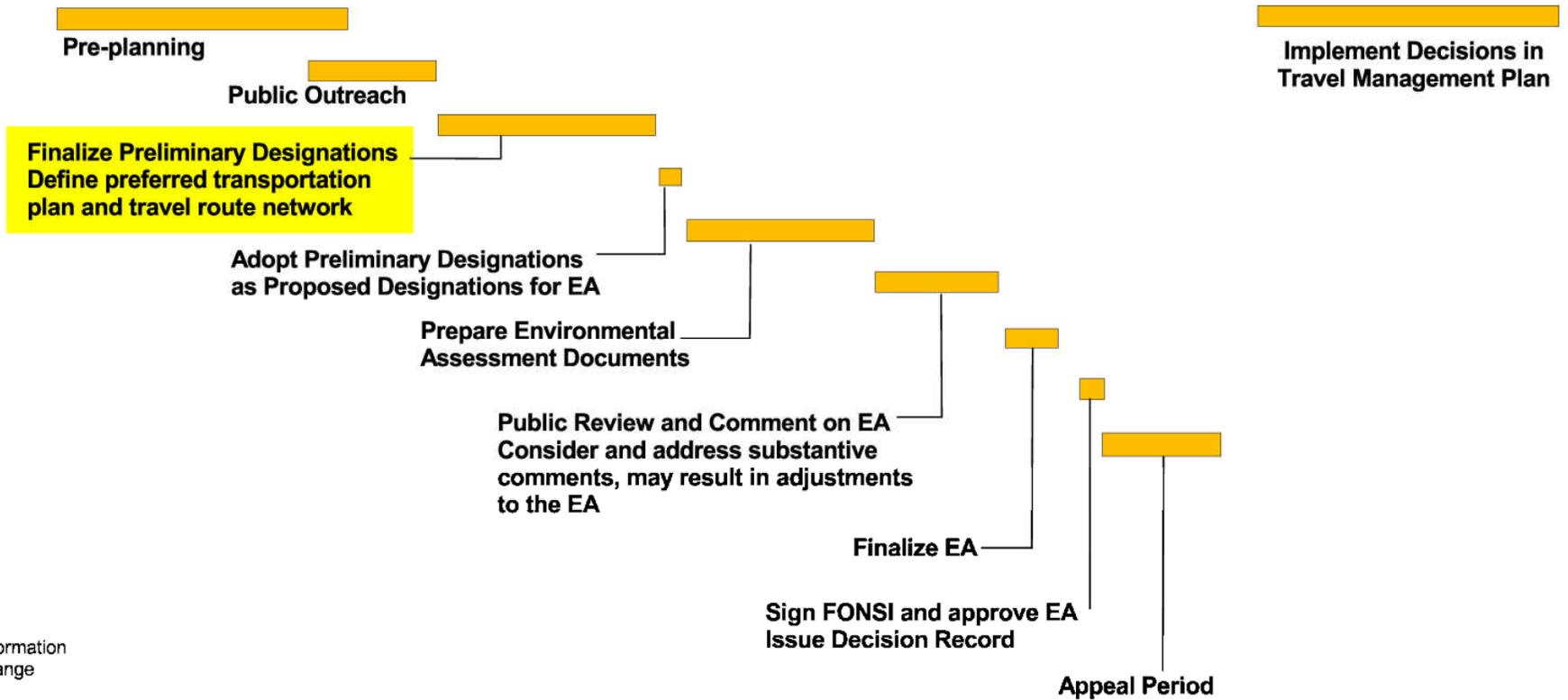
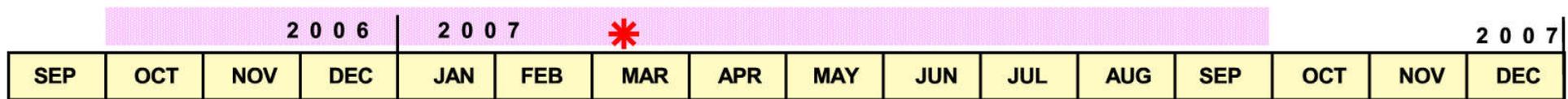
Preliminary Information
Subject To Change

**BLM Travel and Transportation
Plan and Environmental Assessment
2007**

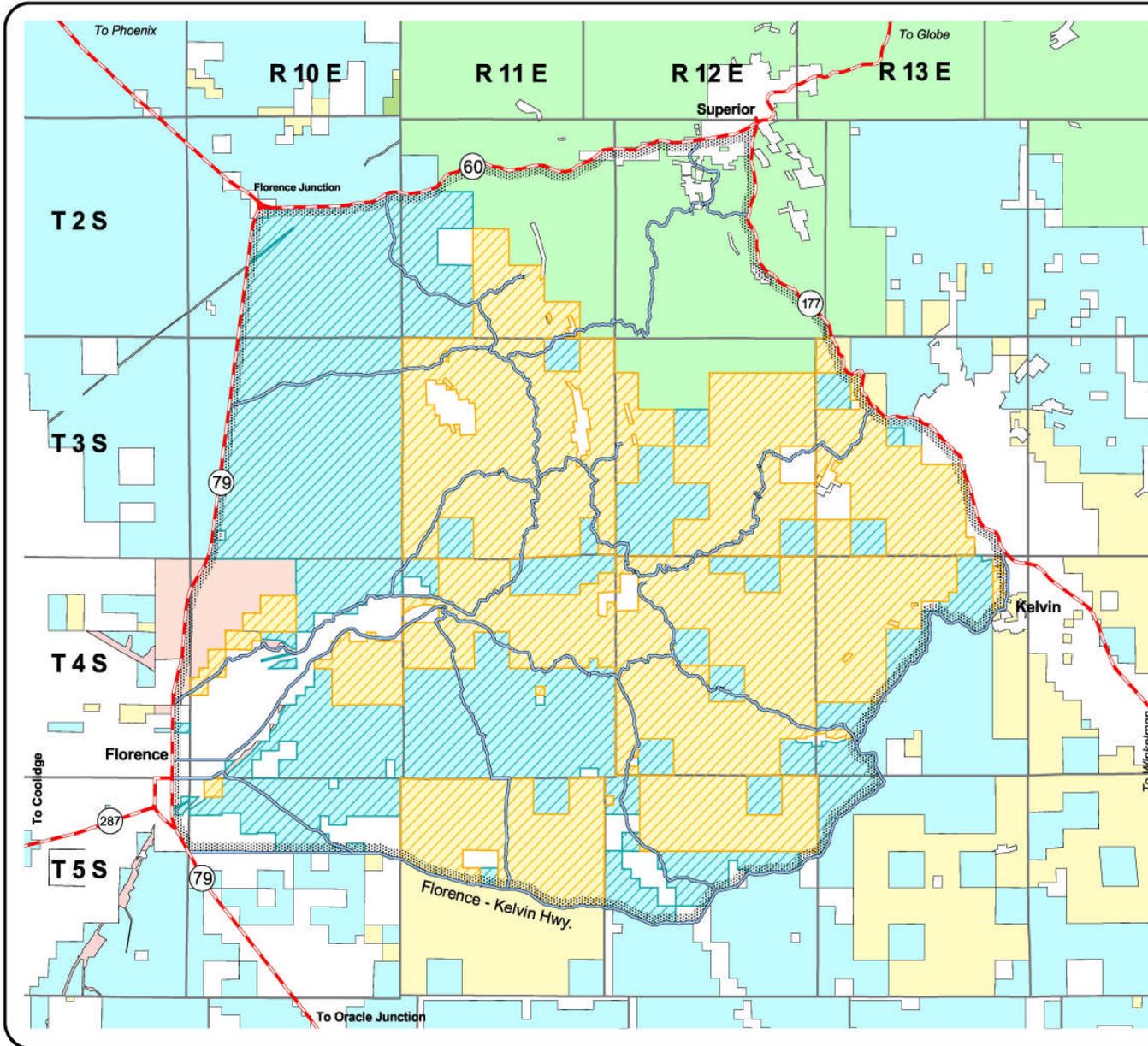
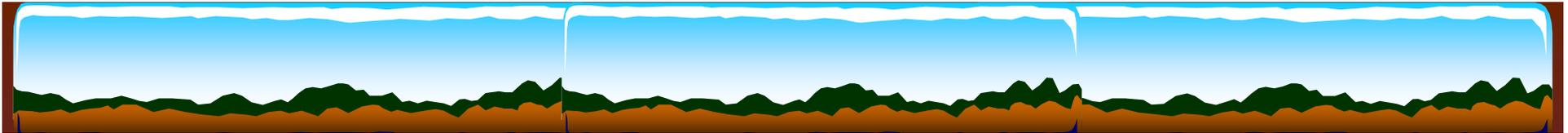


Project Timeline

MIDDLE GILA CANYONS AREA Preliminary Travel and Transportation Management Plan Project Planning Timeline



Preliminary Information
Subject To Change



MIDDLE GILA CANYONS AREA Preliminary Travel and Transportation Management Plan

Planning Area Map

-  Transportation Study Area
-  BLM Transportation Planning Area
-  AG&FD Coordinated Access Study Area
-  Main Local Access Route
-  State/Federal Highway

General Land Ownership

-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Bureau of Reclamation
-  County Lands
-  Military
-  Indian Lands
-  Private Lands
-  State Trust Lands
-  National Forest Land



Universal Transverse Mercator
Zone 12, Units Meters
Clark 1866 Spheroid
NAD27 Datum

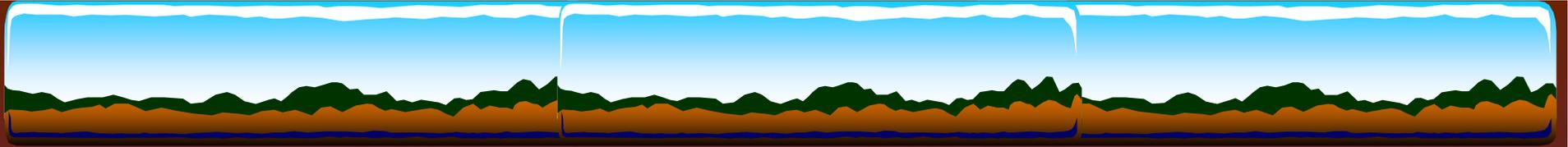


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United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Gila District, Tucson Field Office
12661 E. Broadway Blvd.
Tucson, Arizona 85748

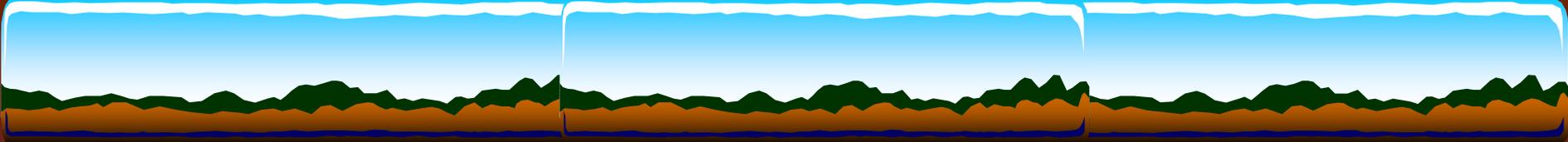
Produced: March 2, 2007



Travel Route Inventory

Interagency Project ASLD, USFS BLM, 2000-2002

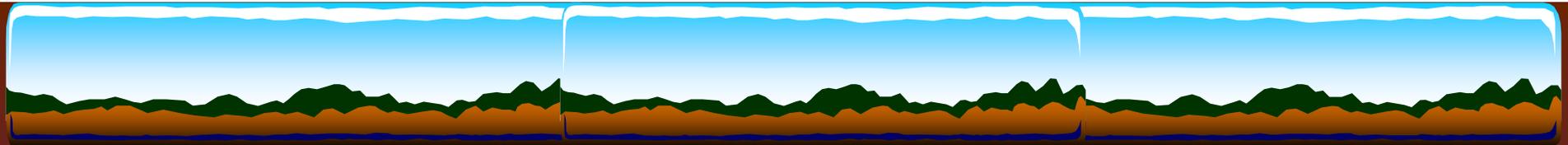
- **Aerial Photography (USGS 1996 imagery):** BLM Denver Service Center, linear feature database
- **GPS Ground Verification Data:** Recreation Solutions 2003, GIS route database
- **BLM Land Records:** Land status, authorizations database
- **General Land Office Records/Surveys:** Historic roads and trails
- **Arizona Land Resource Information System (ALRIS):** Transportation data (updated by ground verification data)



Travel Route Inventory...

Aerial Photography: Approx. 1,324 miles of linear features representing possible travel routes identified on 1996 imagery within the TSA:

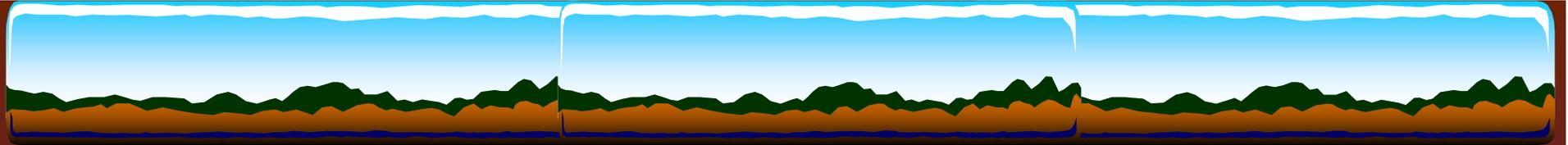
- **BLM Lands:** 561 miles (42%)
- **State Trust Lands:** 434 miles (33%)
- **National Forest Lands:** 102 miles (8%)
- **Private lands:** 186 miles (14%)
- **Military Reservation:** 41 miles (3%)



Travel Route Inventory

Ground Verified: Approx. 932 miles of travel route ground checked in 2003 were found to be serving motorized access purposes in the TSA:

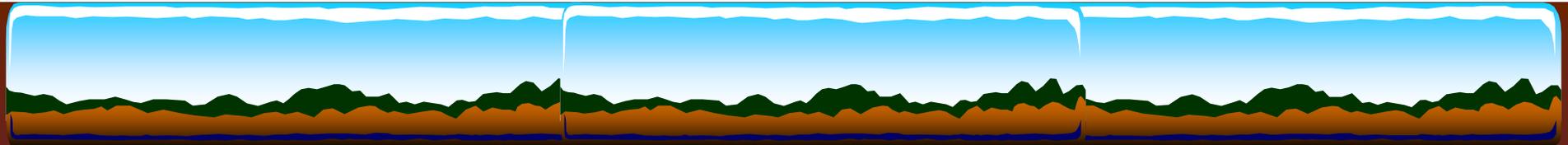
- **BLM Lands:** 395 miles (42%)
- **State Trust Lands:** 392 miles (42%)
- **National Forest Lands:** 75 miles (8%)
- **Private lands:** 67 miles (7%)
- **Military Reservation:** 3 miles (1%)



Travel Route Evaluation

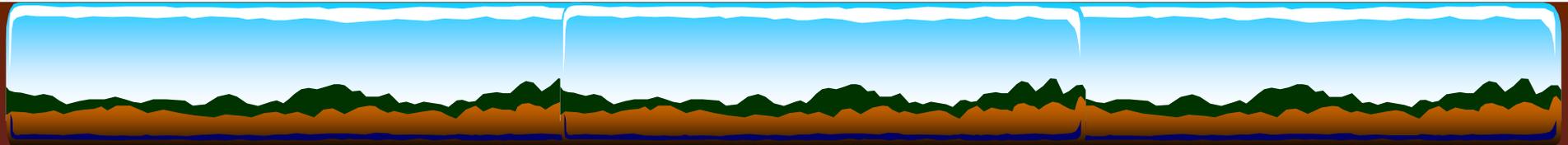
In 2005 the Middle Gila Conservation Partnership (MGCP) conducted a route by route evaluation which resulted in:

- Travel Route GIS Database with management alternatives
- Land Use and Resource Information Database compiled
- ARS Tree-age Route Reports and Database
- Summary MGCP Motorized Route Evaluation Report, 2005



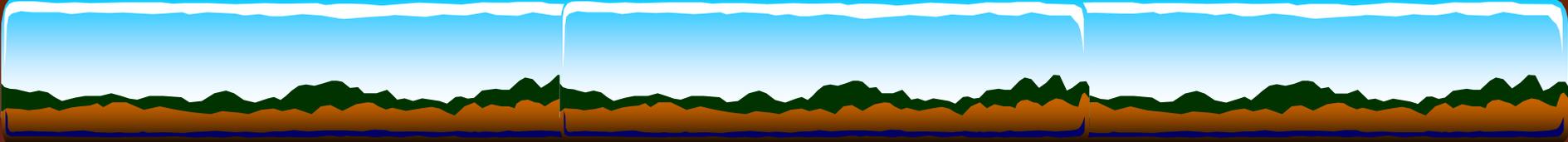
MGCP Motorized Travel Route Evaluation Process

- Focused on motorized access
- Considered 2003 Travel Route Inventory as baseline
- Considered resource information supplied by agencies and users (AGFD, ASLD, FMR, USFS, BLM, others)
- Workgroup Meetings 2003-2005 Diverse group of interests, including AGFD, ASLD, FMR, USFS, BLM, and land users
- Facilitated by ARS Tree-age, route by route assessment protocol



MGCP Evaluation Designations Results

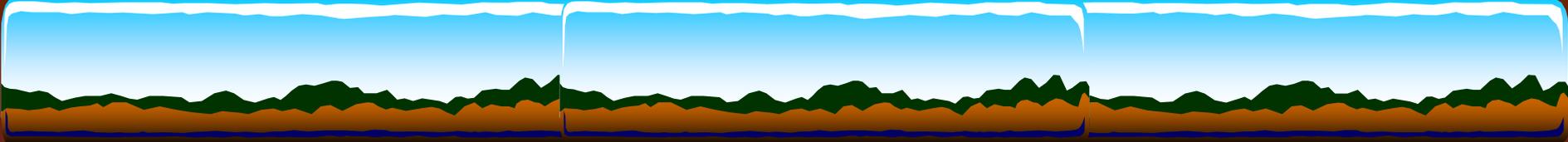
- **C- Close:** Permanently closed to all motorized uses, may include restoring the ground disturbance.
- **ML- Mitigate/Limit:** Available for limited use by certain parties or entities with valid, vested, or implied rights of access, or to certain vehicle types, seasons of use, etc, following mitigation action(s).
- **L- Limit:** Available for limited use by certain parties or entities with valid, vested, or implied rights of access, or to certain vehicle types, seasons of use, etc.
- **MO- Mitigate/Open:** Open for all uses, following mitigation
- **O- Open:** Open for all uses.



Alternatives Developed in MGCP Travel Route Evaluation...

Alternative B (see Map 1)

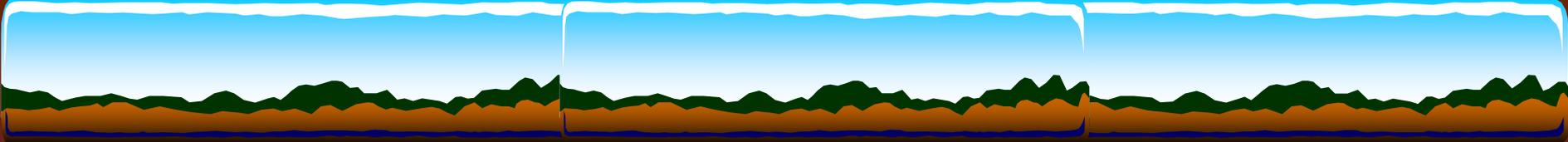
	TSA Miles	%	BLM PA Miles
Closed to MV:	395	42	202
Open with limitations	405	43	140
Open:	42	5	16
Undesignated:	100	10	-



Alternatives Developed in MGCP Travel Route Evaluation...

Alternative C (See Map 2)

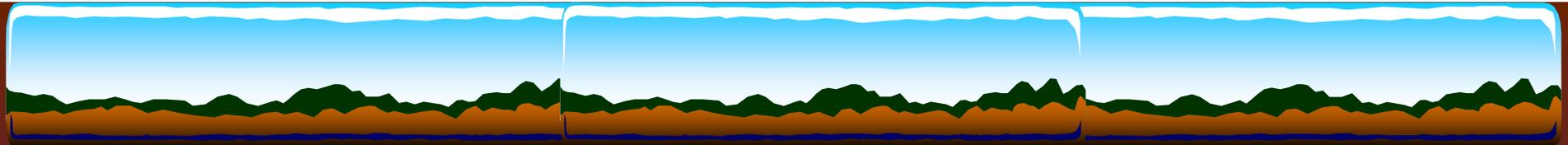
	TSA Miles	%	BLM PA Miles
Closed to MV:	112	12	49
Open with limitations	613	65	269
Open:	115	5	40
Undesignated:	100	10	-



...Alternatives Developed in MGCP Travel Route Evaluation

Alternative D (See Map 3)

	TSA Miles	%	BLM PA Miles
Closed to MV:	8	1	3
Open with limitations	476	51	177
Open:	357	38	178
Undesignated:	100	10	-

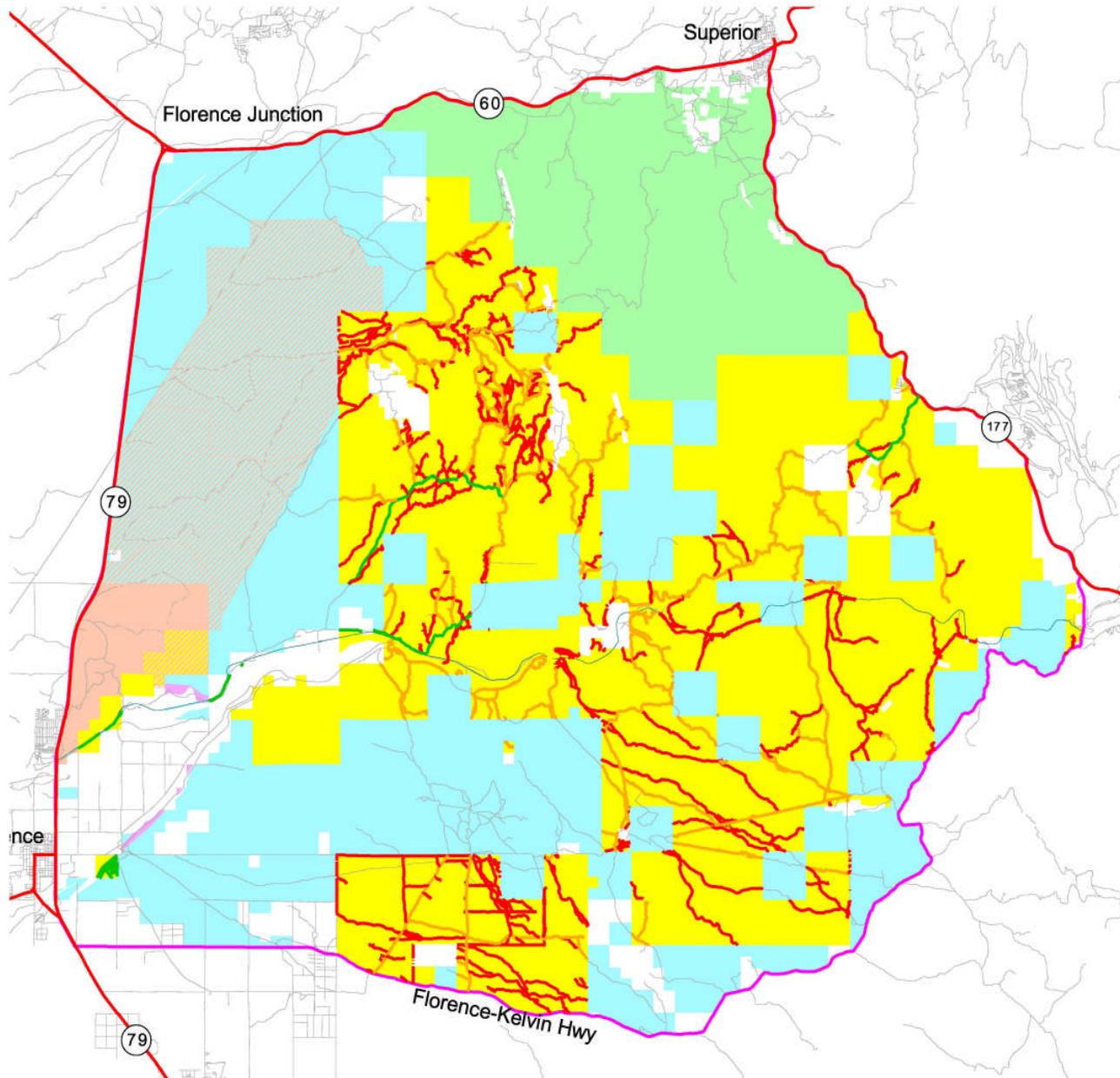
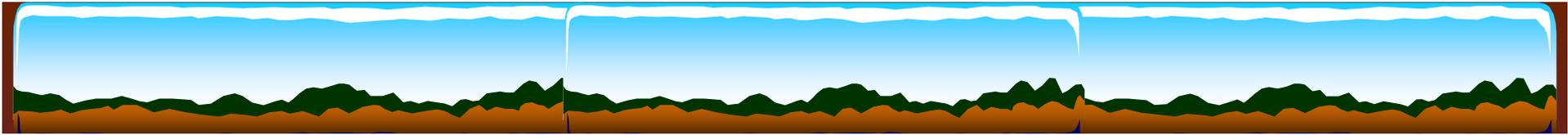


...Alternatives Developed in MGCP Travel Route Evaluation

Preferred Alternative (See Map 4)

	TSA Miles	%	BLM PA Miles
Closed to MV:	-	-	-
Open with limitations	-	-	-
Open:	-	-	-
Undesignated:	-	-	-

Note: the Preferred Alternative will be defined with public stakeholder input in Spring 2007.



Middle Gila Canyons Area Preliminary Transportation Plan

Map Alternative B Route Designations in the Transportation Planning Area from the Middle Gila Conservation Partnership Motorized Route Evaluation

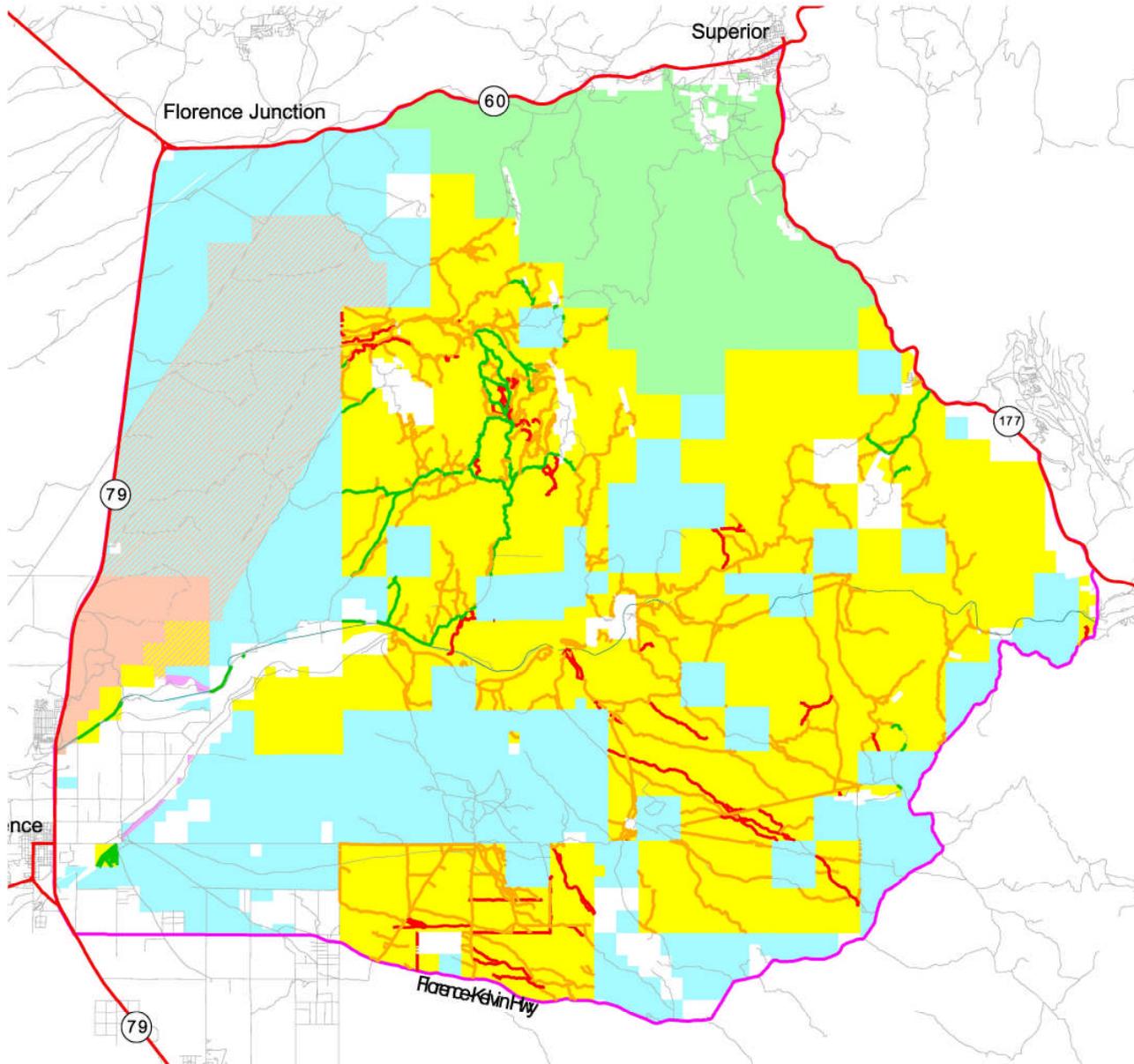
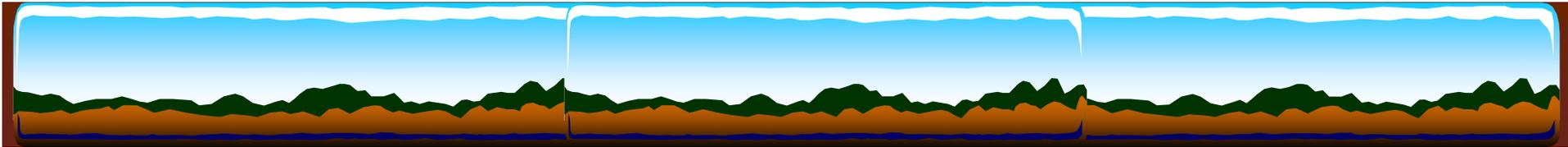
ALT B - MGCP ROUTE DESIGNATIONS

- C-02
- C-08
- C-13
- C-14
- L-08
- ML-02
- ML-06
- ML-09
- MO-01
- MO-03
- MO-05
- O-04
- O-07
- X
- FMR LEASE- TRAINING AREA
- TRANSPORTATION STUDY AREA
- Transportation Route (ALRIS)

General Land Ownership

- BLM
- BOR
- County Lands
- F&WS Refuge
- Indian Lands
- Military
- NPS
- Private
- State
- State & County Parks
- State Wildlife Area
- USFS

MAP 1



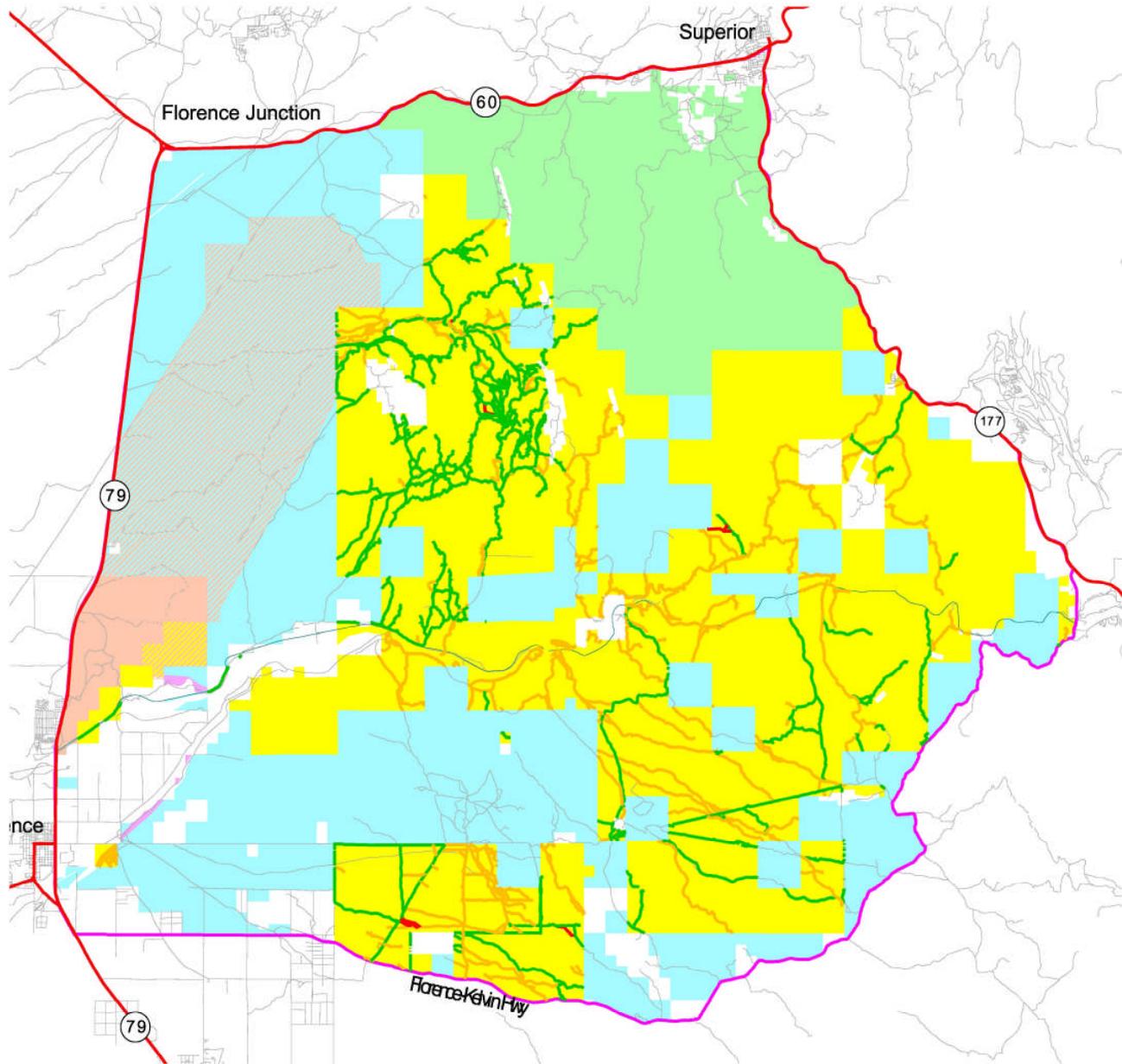
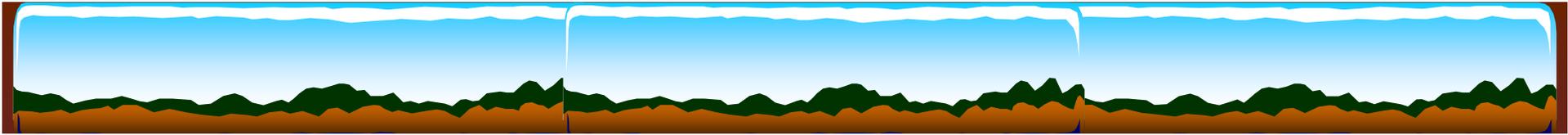
Middle Gila Canyons Area Preliminary Transportation Plan

Map Alternative C Route Designations in the Transportation Planning Area from the Middle Gila Conservation Partnership Motorized Route Evaluation

ALT C - MGCP ROUTE DESIGNATIONS

- C-08
 - C-13
 - C-14
 - L-02
 - L-08
 - L-13
 - ML-02
 - ML-06
 - ML-09
 - MO-01
 - MO-03
 - MO-05
 - O-04
 - O-07
 - X
 - FMR LEASE- TRAINING AREA
 - TRA NSPORTATION STUDY AREA
 - Transportation Route (ALRIS)
- General Land Ownership
- BLM
 - BOR
 - County Lands
 - F&WS Refuge
 - Indian Lands
 - Military
 - NPS
 - Private
 - State
 - State & County Parks
 - State Wildlife Area
 - USFS

MAP 2

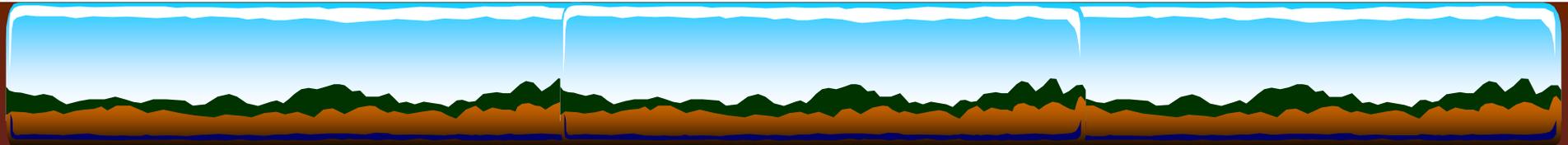


Middle Gila Canyons Area Preliminary Transportation Plan

Map Alternative D Route Designations in the Transportation Planning Area from the Middle Gila Conservation Partnership Motorized Route Evaluation

- ALT D - MGCP ROUTE DESIGNATIONS**
- C-08
 - C-13
 - C-14
 - L-02
 - L-08
 - L-13
 - ML-06
 - ML-09
 - MO-01
 - MO-03
 - MO-05
 - O-04
 - O-07
 - X
- FMR LEASE- TRAINING AREA
- TRANSPORTATION STUDY AREA
- Transportation Route (ALRIS)
- General Land Ownership**
- BLM
 - BOR
 - County Lands
 - F&WS Refuge
 - Indian Lands
 - Military
 - NPS
 - Private
 - State
 - State & County Parks
 - State Wildlife Area
 - USFS

MAP 3



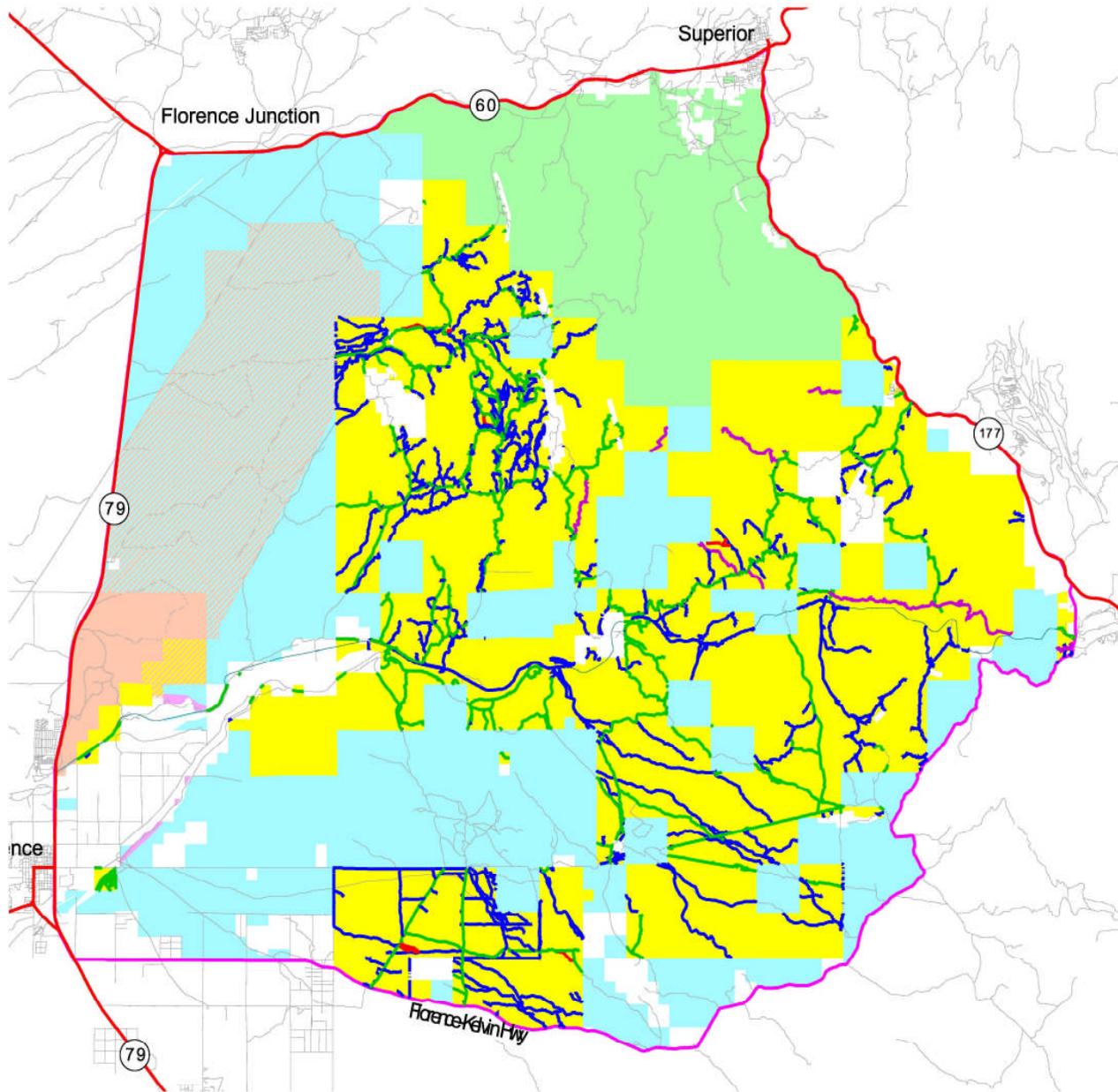
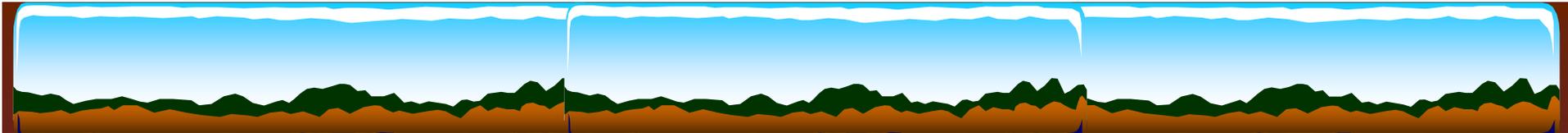
MGCP Evaluation Designations

MGCP Designations

- C- Close:
- ML- Mitigate/Limit:
- L- Limit:
- MO- Mitigate/Open:
- O- Open:

Allowable Use Designation

Closed
Motorized
Motorized
Motorized
Motorized



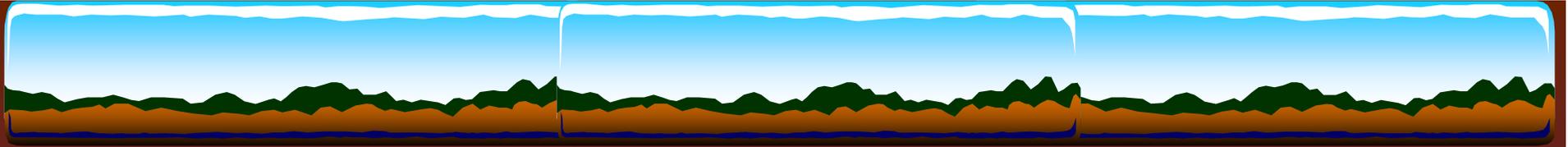
Middle Gila Canyons Area Preliminary Transportation Plan

**Map
Preliminary Route Designations for
defining the Preferred Alternative for
the Transportation Planning Area**

PRELIMINARY ROUTE DESIGNATIONS- ALLOWABLE USE

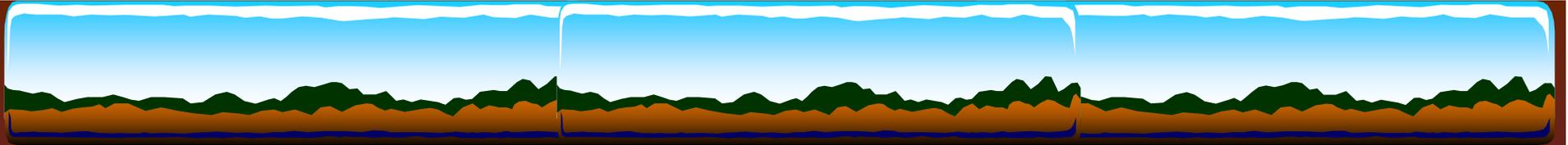
- Closed
 - Motorized
 - Non-Motorized
 - Pending
 - Reclaiming
 - FMR LEASE- TRAINING AREA
 - TRA NSPORTATION STUDY AREA
 - Transportation Route (ALRIS)
- General Land Ownership
- BLM
 - BOR
 - County Lands
 - F&WS Refuge
 - Indian Lands
 - Military
 - NPS
 - Private
 - State
 - State & County Parks
 - State Wildlife Area
 - USFS

MAP 4



Travel Management Goals:

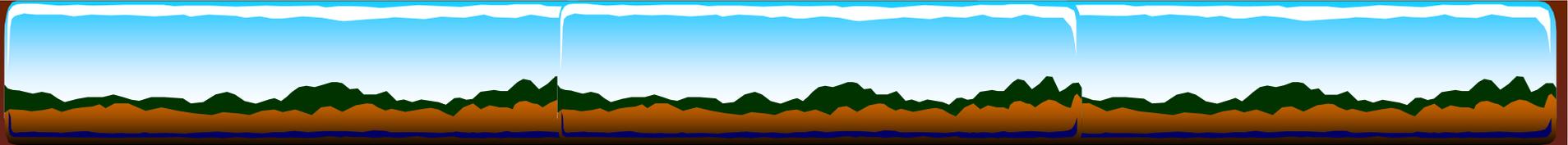
- Accommodate access for administrative and public purposes
- Protect resources on the public lands
- Minimize conflicts among uses/users
- Coordinate with adjacent land managers



Preferred Alternative Selecting Travel Route Designations

Choose the most appropriate long term strategy for the Preferred Alternative for each route or group of routes:

- Consider designations from Alternative B, C or D
- Consider new information, emerging needs



Required Travel Route Designations

Allowable Use:

Motorized, Non-Motorized, Reclaim

Asset Type:

Road, Primitive Road, Trail (M, NM, NMNM)

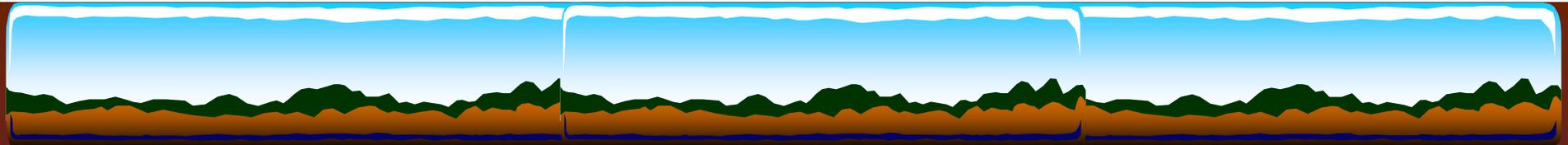
Maintenance Intensity:

Level 1, 3, 4 (See TN422)

Access Type

Typical access vehicle to accommodate

Special Restrictions, if any

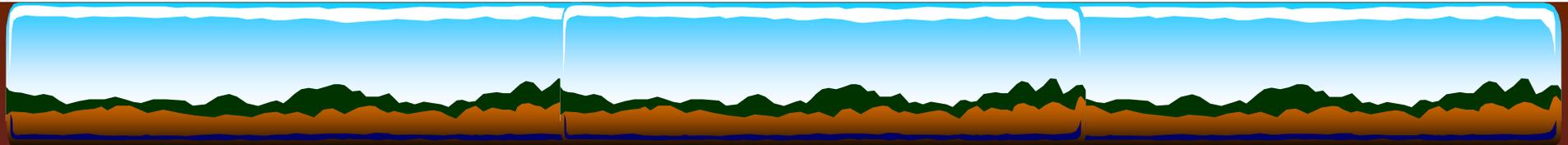


Travel Route Designation Selection Criteria Allowable Use...

Reasons for selecting the designation for a given route

Closed Routes:

- Identified as 'Closed' under all the MGCP ARS route evaluation alternatives. Specific factors detailed in the route reports
- To protect cultural resource values (Cottonwood Canyon)
- To protect wilderness values (White Canyon Wilderness)

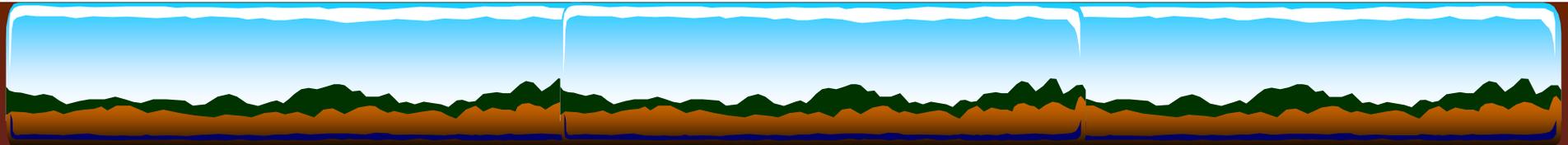


Travel Route Designation Selection Criteria

...Allowable Use...

Motorized Routes:

- Identified as ‘Motorized’ under all MGCP ARS route evaluation alternatives. Specific factors detailed in the route reports.
- To provide motorized access to non-federal in-holdings
- To provide access for multiple uses, including administrative and public purposes.
- To provide motorized recreation opportunities (sightseeing, OHV driving).



Travel Route Designation Selection Criteria

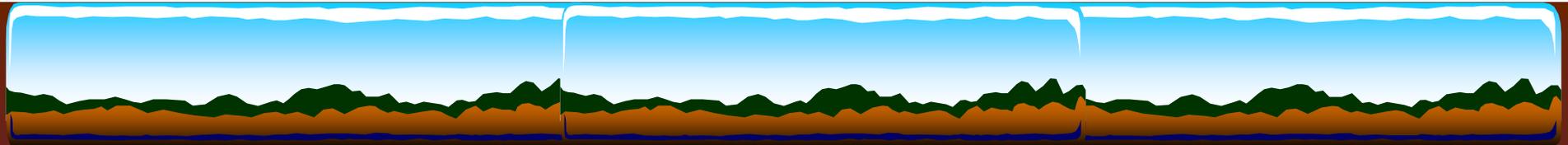
...Allowable Use...

Non-Motorized Routes:

- The Arizona Trail (planned route, construction in 2007-2011), to protect non-motorized recreation values (foot, horse, bicycle travel)
- To protect riparian and cultural resource values (middle Martinez Canyon)

Non-Motorized/Non-Mechanized Routes:

- Trail/route in White Canyon Wilderness, to protect wilderness values

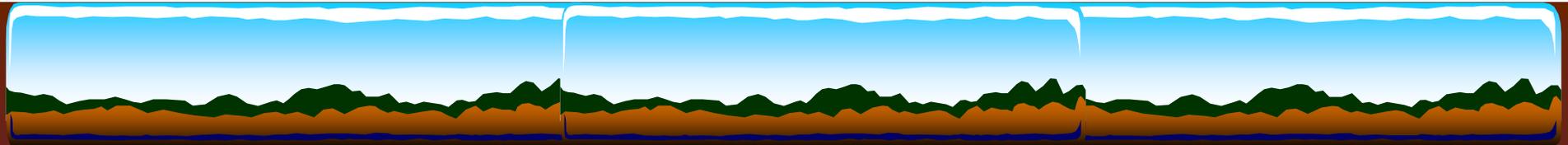


Travel Route Designation Selection Criteria

...Allowable Use

Reclaiming Routes:

- Identified as 'Reclaiming' in the 2003 RSET ground check route inventory.
- Identified in aerial photography as a linear feature (possible road or trail), but not inventoried further during ground check by RSET



Travel Route Designation Selection Criteria

Asset Type

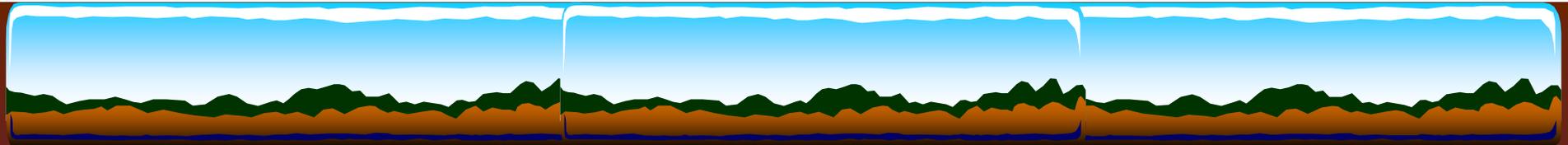
Consider route condition, access purpose and use.

Road

Primitive Road

Trail

Linear Feature



Travel Route Designation Selection Criteria

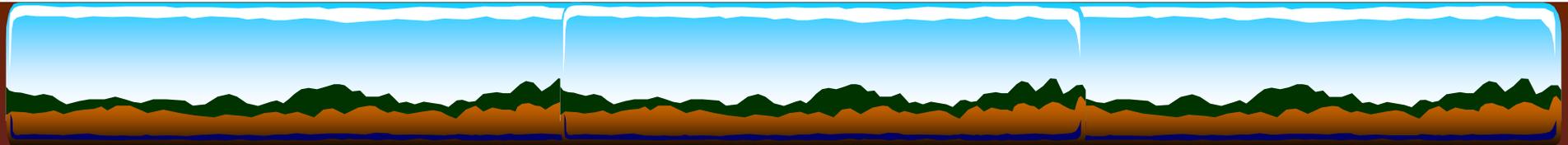
Maintenance Intensity

Definition TN422:

Level 1

Level 2

Level x

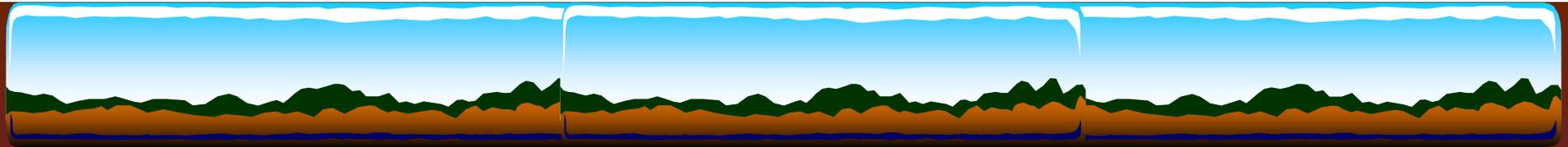


Travel Route Designation Selection Criteria

Access Type

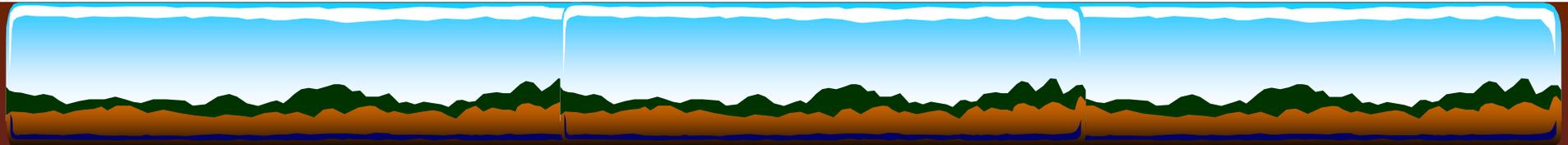
Definitions AASHTO design vehicle types, expanded to include OHVs

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Mine haul truck | Modified/Custom 4WD |
| • Livestock haul truck | ATV < 50" / ATV > 50" |
| • Motor home | Trail motorcycle |
| • Truck-trailer | Mountain bike |
| • Passenger car | Riding / Pack livestock |
| • High clearance 2WD | Foot / hike |
| • 4WD | |



Related Efforts

- [Pinal County Open Space and Trails Plan](#) - Motorized and Non-Motorized trails system
- [Az. State Land Department:](#) - Leases and permits and easements
- [Az. State Parks](#) – Comp. Trails Plan, Heritage and Trails grant programs
- [Az. Game and Fish Dept.](#) – Habitat protection and user education, game & OHV law enforcement; new law initiatives.
- [U.S.F.S. Tonto N.F. F.M.P.](#) – General land use plan revision



Your Insights, Ideas and Solutions?

- Travel Management Alternatives, Middle Gila Conservation Partnership Motorized Route Evaluation, 2005
- Preferred Alternative