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Forest  
Service

Southwestern  
Region

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# Coronado National Forest

## Draft Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area Evaluation Report PW-03-05-D1-002

This draft potential wilderness evaluation report is divided into three parts: capability, availability, and need. Capability and availability are intended to be objective evaluations of existing conditions in the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area.

The most important area of focus for public comment is the “need” evaluation. The intent of this part of the evaluation is to consider if this area of the Chiricahua Mountains fits into the National Wilderness Preservation System at the regional level. This report offers data that helps the Forest Service understand different sources that might generate need; ultimately, however, need for wilderness is generated by public demand. Therefore, public input is an essential component of this part of the wilderness evaluation.

We would like your feedback on this draft report - if we have missed an important detail or you would like to share your comments or other input, please contact us (our contact information can be found on Page 11 of this report).

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## **Introduction**

As part of the Land and Resource Management Plan (the Forest Plan) revision for the Coronado National Forest, the Forest Service has prepared this draft wilderness evaluation report for the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area (see Map 1).

## **Purpose**

Completion of a potential wilderness inventory and evaluation is an essential step in the Forest Plan revision process. Wilderness is the one special area designation that the Forest Service is mandated to consider during Forest Plan revision. If an area is recommended for wilderness designation, then the revised Forest Plan will contain management direction that protects its wilderness characteristics.

## **The Process**

A wilderness evaluation begins with an inventory of potential wilderness, which includes areas of federal land over 5,000 acres, and then determines if those areas meet the definition of wilderness as defined in the Wilderness Act of 1964 (see Appendix A). Once a list of potential wilderness areas is created, each area is evaluated for capability, availability and need. These evaluation factors are described in more detail in this report in the introductions to each evaluation step and in Appendix A. The purpose of this report is to summarize the findings of the wilderness capability, availability and need evaluations based on the best available data.

The Coronado National Forest will use this report when making a preliminary administrative recommendation for wilderness or non-wilderness designation for the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area (Chiricahua PWA, PWA). The Deciding Official's (the Regional Forester) recommendation will be documented in the final Forest Plan. Public comments on this issue will be accepted and considered throughout the Forest Plan revision process. If this area is recommended for wilderness, the recommendation will receive further review by the Chief of the Forest Service and the Secretary of Agriculture. If the Chief of the Forest Service intends to move forward with a wilderness recommendation, the Forest Service will complete a detailed analysis of the trade-offs in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, including further public review and comment. Ultimately, only Congress has the authority to make final decisions on wilderness designation.

## Area Overview

### Description

**Size and Location:** The Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area encompasses 2,537 acres. This area is located in the southern Chiricahua Mountains and is adjacent to the existing Chiricahua Wilderness. The Chiricahua Mountains are part of the Douglas Ranger District of the Coronado National Forest in Southeastern Arizona (see Map 1 at the end of this document).

**Vicinity, Surroundings and Access:** This potential wilderness area is approximately 110 miles southeast of Tucson, Arizona in the Blind and Price Canyons of the southeastern corner of the Chiricahua Mountains. The potential wilderness area adjoins the Chiricahua Wilderness Area and is completely surrounded by National Forest System (NFS) lands. Nearby on the eastern side of the Chiricahua Mountain Range are the incorporated community of Douglas and several unincorporated communities (Apache, Chiricahua, Pearce and Sunsites).

State Route 80, located on the eastern side of the Chiricahua Mountains, connects Douglas, Arizona with several small unincorporated southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico communities as well as with Interstate 10 near Road Forks, New Mexico. U. S. Highway 191, located on the western side of the Chiricahua Mountains, is the primary north-south artery from Interstate 10 south to Douglas and the International Boundary with Mexico.

One of the two primary motorized access routes into and through the National Forest at the southern end of the Chiricahua Mountains is the Tex Canyon Road/Rucker Canyon Road [National Forest System Road (NFSR) 74]. This road is a Cochise County-maintained road, except for the portion within the proclaimed National Forest boundary from State Route 80 (Tex Canyon Road) and U. S. Highway 191 (Rucker Canyon Road).

Tex Canyon Road (NFSR 74) provides motorized access to Pine Gulch Road (NFSR 719), which connects to National Forest System Trail (NFST) 235 (Pine Gulch Trail). Pine Gulch Trail provides non-motorized trail access into the designated Chiricahua Wilderness and to Cottonwood Trail (NFST 233). Cottonwood Trail provides non-motorized trail access through the Chiricahua Wilderness into and through the adjoining Potential Wilderness Area into Price Canyon and to Price Canyon Road (NFSR 317). Tex Canyon Road (NFSR 74) also provides motorized access to NFSR 4248, which provides motorized access for high-clearance, 4-wheel-drive vehicles to Cottonwood Trail (NFST 233).

The second primary access route into the National Forest at the southern end of the Chiricahua Mountains is Price Canyon Road. The Price Canyon Road becomes NFSR 317 at the proclaimed National Forest boundary and provides motorized access to Cottonwood Trail (NFST 233).

Although there appears to be adequate motorized and trail access to the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area, permanent legal public access via Tex Canyon Road/Rucker Canyon Road and Price Canyon Road may become an issue in the future.

It is unknown if any documented right-of-way for the existing road system exists across the non-federal lands outside the proclaimed National Forest boundary. Permanent legal public access to the NFS lands and the potential wilderness area in the southeastern corner of the Chiricahua Mountains will continue to be issue.

**Geography & Topography:** Adjoining the southeastern edge of the existing Chiricahua Wilderness, the Chiricahua Addition PWA is a narrow, north-trending arc-shaped area measuring six miles long by less than one mile wide. It covers 2,537 acres. The PWA rises from a low point of 5,550 feet above sea level along the eastern range front to a maximum elevation of 7,810 feet at Dobson Peak along the ridge crest that forms the common boundary between the existing Chiricahua Wilderness and the PWA.

The Chiricahua Addition PWA lies along the eastern range front of the north-south-trending Chiricahua Range, which is typical of the Mexican Highlands Sub-province of the Southern Basin and Range Province in southeastern Arizona. This range is bounded by San Simon and San Bernardino Valleys to the east and Sulphur Springs Valley to the west. Located in the west-central portion of the Chiricahua Mountains, the Turkey Creek volcanic center was the site of a series of massive volcanic eruptions approximately 22 to 32 million years ago. This volcanic event produced the voluminous outcrops of silica-rich volcanic rocks, mostly rhyolite, which dominate the central portion of this range, where it locally attains thicknesses up to 1,400 feet. Older geological units consisting of Precambrian granite and schist and sedimentary strata of early Paleozoic to Cretaceous age are exposed in the northern and southern portions of the range where erosional windows have developed within the overlying volcanic cover. This PWA overlooks one of the youngest volcanic fields in Arizona, which lies in the San Bernardino Valley to the southeast. Widespread silica-poor (i.e., basaltic) volcanism occurred in this area three to 0.3 million years ago, forming a moon-like landscape characterized by 135 cinder cones and five huge craters.

**Appearance and Vegetation:** Due to the steep topography of the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area, the vegetation is largely unmodified pinyon, juniper and evergreen oak woodland communities. Species include Madrean evergreen oaks such as Arizona white oak (*Quercus arizonica*), Emory oak (*Quercus emoryi*), gray oak (*Quercus grisea*), Mexican blue oak (*Quercus oblongifolia*) and Toumey oak (*Quercus toumeyii*). Other tree species [including pinyon pines (*Pinus cembroides* and *Pinus monophylla*), Chihuahuan pine (*Pinus leiophylla*), Arizona cypress (*Cupressus arizonica*), alligator juniper (*Juniperus deppeana*)] and interior chaparral species [including manzanita spp. (*Arctostaphylos* spp.), crucifixion thorn (*Canotia holacantha*), desert ceanothus (*Ceanothus greggii*), mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*), little-leaved mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus intricatus*), antelope bushes (*Purshia* spp.), silktassles (*Garrya* spp.), Stansbury cliffrose (*Purshia stansburiana*), shrub live oak (*Quercus turbinella*) and sumacs (*Rhus* spp.)] may be present but do not co-dominate. The ground cover is dominated by warm-season grasses such as threeawns (*Aristida* spp.), blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*), sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), Rothrock grama (*Bouteloua rothrockii*), Arizona cottontop (*Digitaria californica*), plains lovegrass (*Eragrostis intermedia*), curly-mesquite (*Hilaria belangeri*), green sprangletop (*Leptochloa dubia*), muhly grasses (*Muhlenbergia* spp.) and Texas bluestem (*Schizachyrium cirratum*). Overstory canopy is

less than 20% in about 60% of the community. Historically, some areas near canyon bottoms were logged to provide wood for nearby mines, but second growth has matured. Fire suppression has allowed for more dense stands than may have been present historically.

## **Current Uses**

**Recreation:** The primary recreation uses include hiking and dispersed camping. Other uses include horseback riding, hunting, rock-climbing and bird-watching. This area is adjacent to the Chiricahua Wilderness. Most of the area is Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) Primitive and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, with smaller areas of Semi-Primitive Motorized.

**Wildlife, Fish, and Rare Plants:** During the Forest Plan Revision process the Coronado National Forest developed a list of species to be evaluated for potential risks to population viability. In the Chiricahua Mountains, there are 127 species on the viability evaluation list (see Appendix B). The Chiricahua Mountains contain eight Threatened or Endangered species. This is the only one of the Coronado NF mountain ranges with the rare Yaqui fishes. There are 18 species found on this list that are found nowhere else on the Coronado, and some of these are found nowhere else on earth. There are several other rare or endemic species that were not carried forward into Plan revision because little is known about their biology and habitat needs. This area is famous for its biological diversity and unique flora and fauna. However, it is likely that few, if any, of the species occur only in the area proposed to be added to the Chiricahua Wilderness Area.

**Range:** There are two grazing allotments within the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area: Price Canyon and Tex canyon. Both of these allotments are active with valid permitted uses. The range improvements within the potential wilderness area include fences, gates and water developments.

**Water:** The watershed represented within the PWA is the San Simon River Headwaters (HUC 1504000601). There is one known stockpond within the potential wilderness. There is no known perennial water. No water quality data has been collected within the potential wilderness.

**Minerals:** Outcrops exposed within the Chiricahua Addition PWA consist of rhyolite and show no evidence of historical mining activity. Field studies of the Chiricahua Mountains by the U. S. Geological Survey and U. S. Bureau of Mines (including surface examinations, mapping and sampling of mine workings and geochemical and geophysical surveys of the area) have not identified any characteristics that would indicate the presence of valuable mineral occurrences in or near the Chiricahua Addition PWA. No mining claims have been filed within or near this PWA. The closest mining claims are located more than five miles away and were only held for one year before being allowed to lapse. The mineral potential of the Chiricahua Addition PWA is considered to be very low, based on the absence of any mineral activity within the immediate area and the thickness of the unmineralized volcanic rocks overlying potential host rocks.

**Heritage Resources:** Previous archaeological research in this potential wilderness area has been minimal. No archaeological sites have been recorded in this area.

**Fire:** Current management calls for an Appropriate Management Response to wildland fires, which includes the full spectrum of options from aggressive initial attack to management to achieve resource objectives. Natural-caused fires may be allowed to burn in this area in order to restore and sustain ecological processes in fire-dependent ecosystems. The Dobson Fire burned four acres within this area as a Wildland Fire Use fire in July 2007.

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## **Wilderness Capability**

Wilderness Capability describes the basic characteristics that make the area appropriate and valuable for wilderness designation, regardless of the area's availability or need. Five sets of factors are used to determine capability: naturalness, level of development, opportunities for solitude, special features and the ability of the Forest Service to manage the area as wilderness. The first four of these factors consider how the current conditions of the PWA fit the definition of wilderness. Manageability is slightly different because it evaluates features of the area that would make it more or less difficult to manage the area as wilderness. This also involves determining if there are possible mitigation measures that could potentially improve the manageability of the area without impacting wilderness character. Factors are rated as high, medium or low, based on the criteria shown in Appendix A.

### **Naturalness**

The Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area possesses a moderate degree of naturalness. The location of this Potential Wilderness Area has allowed it to retain a semi-primitive setting. Diversity of vegetation within the Potential Wilderness Area boundary includes grasslands, shrubs and rocky slopes. The area of the Chiricahua Addition does not have perennial rivers or streams. There may be water quality issues due to the proximity of the area to a past wildfire and Manzanita mastication project, but no water quality sampling has been done. Night skies can be clearly seen and light pollution is not evident. However, one feature detracts from the area's wilderness capability, the presence of isolated spots of Lehmann lovegrass.

### **Undeveloped**

The Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area has had a history of human use, but currently the area does not have noticeable evidence of human activity.

### **Opportunities for Solitude**

A person could find an experience of solitude, serenity, self-reliance and hiking and backpacking within this Potential Wilderness Area. Individuals venturing into this remote and steep country would find and experience challenging opportunities.

### **Special Features**

The unique rock formations found here are important as a wilderness characteristic. The area consists of Mexican spotted owl habitat. However, opportunities for education or research are limited.

### **Manageability**

The boundary of the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area is located at the most southern portion of the Chiricahua Wilderness, with limited influence from the surrounding land. There is a dude ranch operation in close proximity that could have a moderate influence. The area is adjacent to Forest Service Roads 317 and 4353, but these roads are not heavily used. Given these conditions, this area holds some challenges in managing it for wilderness characteristics.

The Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area overall was rated as high for wilderness capability and medium for the ability of the Forest Service to manage the area as wilderness.

## **Availability for Wilderness**

Availability criteria indicate the availability of a potential wilderness area for wilderness designation by describing other resource and land use potentials for the area. Availability examines the potential impact of designating an area as a wilderness to both the current and future land uses and activities. In essence, it is a summary of the trade-offs between wilderness and other uses. Factors are rated as high, medium or low, based on the criteria shown in Appendix A.

In the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area, most of the current recreational uses could continue if the area was designated as wilderness. Watersheds within the area are properly functioning and there are no water impoundments or need at this time to install impoundments. The area is committed through contracts and permits for livestock grazing and outfitter guides. These current authorizations do not conflict with wilderness management or detract from wilderness qualities. There is little or no potential for extraction of locatable minerals. The Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area is composed entirely of National Forest System Lands, as is the land adjacent to the potential boundary. The closest private land is approximately a third of a mile from the Potential Wilderness Area boundary and may impact the wilderness character of the area.

The Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area overall was rated high for availability.

## **Need for Wilderness**

The evaluation criteria shown below indicate how this Potential Wilderness Area might fit into the National Wilderness Preservation System, which includes all of the wilderness areas in the United States. Need is considered at the regional level and must incorporate public participation. The criteria used to evaluate need include consideration of other wilderness and non-wilderness areas that provide opportunities for unconfined outdoor recreation or preservation of certain ecosystems characteristics.

## **Wilderness and Non-wilderness Lands in the Vicinity**

The Forest Service evaluated comparable public lands within a 100-mile radius of this Potential Wilderness Area, which is assumed to be approximately a day's drive. Within 100 miles, there are 14 designated wilderness areas totaling just over one million acres (see Table 1 below).

Within 100 miles of the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area there are 42 non-wilderness areas over 5,000 acres in size that are specially-designated federal or state public lands likely to offer a similar unconfined recreation experience. Of these areas, 13 are

Wilderness Study Areas managed by Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service to protect wilderness characteristics, which offer a primitive or semi-primitive recreation setting similar to those provided by wilderness. Other similar non-wilderness areas include Inventoried Roadless Areas on National Forest System Lands.

**Table 1: Designated Wilderness Within 100 Miles of the Chiricahua Addition PWA**

<b>Wilderness Area</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Chiricahua National Monument Wilderness	10,290
Chiricahua Wilderness	87,700
Dos Cabezas Mountains Wilderness	11,700
Galiuro Wilderness	76,317
Gila Wilderness	558,014
Miller Peak Wilderness	20,191
Mount Wrightson Wilderness	25,260
North Santa Teresa Wilderness	5,800
Peloncillo Mountains Wilderness	19,440
Pusch Ridge Wilderness	56,933
Redfield Canyon Wilderness	6,600
Rincon Mountain Wilderness	38,950
Saguaro Wilderness	70,950
Santa Teresa Wilderness	26,780

### **Visitor Pressure**

In order to consider the degree to which regional population centers are already served by wilderness, the evaluation looked at one metropolitan area (Tucson, Arizona) and five micropolitan areas (Nogales, Safford and Sierra Vista, Arizona and Deming and Silver City, New Mexico), all within 100 miles (a day's drive) of the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area. Tucson and Safford have access to 29 designated wilderness areas within 100 miles, Sierra Vista has 21 designated wilderness areas within 100 miles, Nogales has 16 designated wilderness areas within 100 miles, Silver City has 13 designated wilderness areas within 100 miles, and Deming has 6 designated wilderness areas within 100 miles.

Tucson and Nogales both had estimated population growth of 11% between 2000 and 2006 and Sierra Vista and Deming had an estimated population growth of 8% during that same time period (US Census 2007). Using the population data for 2006, it's estimated that Deming has 34 acres of designated wilderness per capita, Nogales has 10 acres of designated wilderness per capita, Sierra Vista has 4 acres of designated wilderness per capita, and Tucson has 1.2 acres of designated wilderness per capita. The increasing population and limited availability of wilderness opportunities does suggest that the population trend of these four cities generates a need for more designated wilderness areas.

Unlike the other cities, the population of Silver City is estimated to have declined by 4% and Safford is estimated to have declined by 2% between 2000 and 2006 (US Census, 2006). In 2006, it's estimated that Silver City has 40 acres of designated wilderness per capita and Safford has 36 acres of designated wilderness per capita. The declining population and larger availability

of wilderness opportunities does not suggest that the population trend of these two cities generates a need for more designated wilderness areas.

According to the 2008 National Visitor Use Monitoring Results from data collected in 2001 and 2007, visitation to wilderness areas on the Coronado National Forest dropped 1%. In 2001, annual visitation to designated wilderness areas was estimated at 528,190 visits, approximately 18 percent of all visits to the Forest. In 2007 the number of estimated visits was 488,500, approximately 17 percent of all visits to the Forest. Wilderness users on the Coronado NF, both in 2001 and 2007, are predominantly white males between the ages of 30 and 69. The majority of the individuals live in Pima County, mainly within the Tucson metropolitan area. It can be assumed that wilderness use on the Coronado NF will continue to remain at current levels and potentially increase in those areas where the trailheads are easily accessed.

### **Primitive Sanctuary for Plants and Wildlife**

As part of the Forest Plan revision process, the Coronado National Forest has developed a list of species that warrant consideration in the revised Forest Plan. Appendix B displays those species from this list that are known to occur in the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area. Though all of these species would benefit from reduced disturbance, none require a primitive wilderness environment to survive.

### **Capacity of Established Wilderness Areas**

There are eight existing wilderness areas and three wilderness study areas (WSA) on the Coronado National Forest. The wilderness areas and WSA range in size from 7,400 acres to 87,700 acres. Accessibility by motor vehicles ranges from easily accessible to remote, hard-to-access wilderness. Trail systems range within wilderness areas from extensive trail systems to very minimal systems. Visitor use is considered high in the wilderness areas adjacent to the Tucson metropolitan area and includes the Pusch Ridge and Mt. Wrightson Wilderness Areas. Encounters with other wilderness visitors in both areas are high. For these two areas there are limited management opportunities to accommodate additional use. The Coronado NF also has wilderness areas that are remote, difficult to access, and where visitor use is considered low. Here, additional demand could be accommodated without management changes.

### **Wilderness areas with Similar Landform and Vegetation**

Consideration was given to how the landform and ecological condition of the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area (PWA) might be broadly similar to existing wilderness areas within the National Wilderness Preservation System. All designated wilderness areas in Arizona and New Mexico were compared using ecological sections and vegetation communities.

The Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area is in the Basin and Range Section of the Chihuahuan Semi-Desert Province (McNab and Avers 1994). The Basin and Range Section encompasses 24,270 square miles, of which 749 square miles (approximately 3%) occur in 20 designated wilderness areas.

The Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area includes six of the nine major vegetation communities of the Coronado NF (see Table 2 below). Of these six vegetation communities, the Chiricahua Addition PWA would only contribute an additional 0.1% to wilderness in the Interior Chaparral community.

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**Table 2: Major Vegetation Communities of the Coronado National Forest and Chiricahua Addition PWA**

Major Vegetation Communities of Coronado NF	Acres within AZ and NM	Acres within Designated Wilderness in AZ and NM	Percent of Designated Wilderness in AZ and NM	Acres within Chiricahua Addition PWA	Percent of Chiricahua Addition PWA	Percent Addition to Wilderness with Chiricahua Addition PWA
Desert Communities	30,049,409	2,957,920	9.8%	369	14.5%	0.0%
Interior Chaparral	3,007,982	347,373	11.5%	540	21.3%	0.1%
Madrean Encinal Woodland	5,881,883	429,389	7.3%	1,523	60.0%	0.0%
Madrean Pine Oak Woodland	1,401,126	198,467	14.2%	62	2.4%	0.0%
Mixed Conifer Forest	2,005,391	294,655	14.7%	13	0.5%	0.0%
Ponderosa Pine	8,697,795	729,664	8.4%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Riparian Areas	929,779	25,378	2.7%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Semi-desert Grasslands	23,886,097	289,792	1.2%	32	1.3%	0.0%
Spruce Fir Forest	831,285	134,548	16.2%	0	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>76,690,747</b>	<b>5,407,188</b>		<b>2,539</b>		

Further evaluation and input from the public will determine if there is a need for recommending the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area as a new wilderness area.

## Next Steps

The Forest Service will collect comments on the Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area evaluation throughout the Forest Plan revision process. Comments on this draft of the Wilderness Evaluation Report should be sent to the Coronado National Forest Supervisor's Office by April 30, 2010. Comments received will be incorporated into the wilderness evaluation.

Please share your feedback or comments on this evaluation with us:

**Phone:** Erin Boyle, Assistant Forest Planner, (520) 388-8300

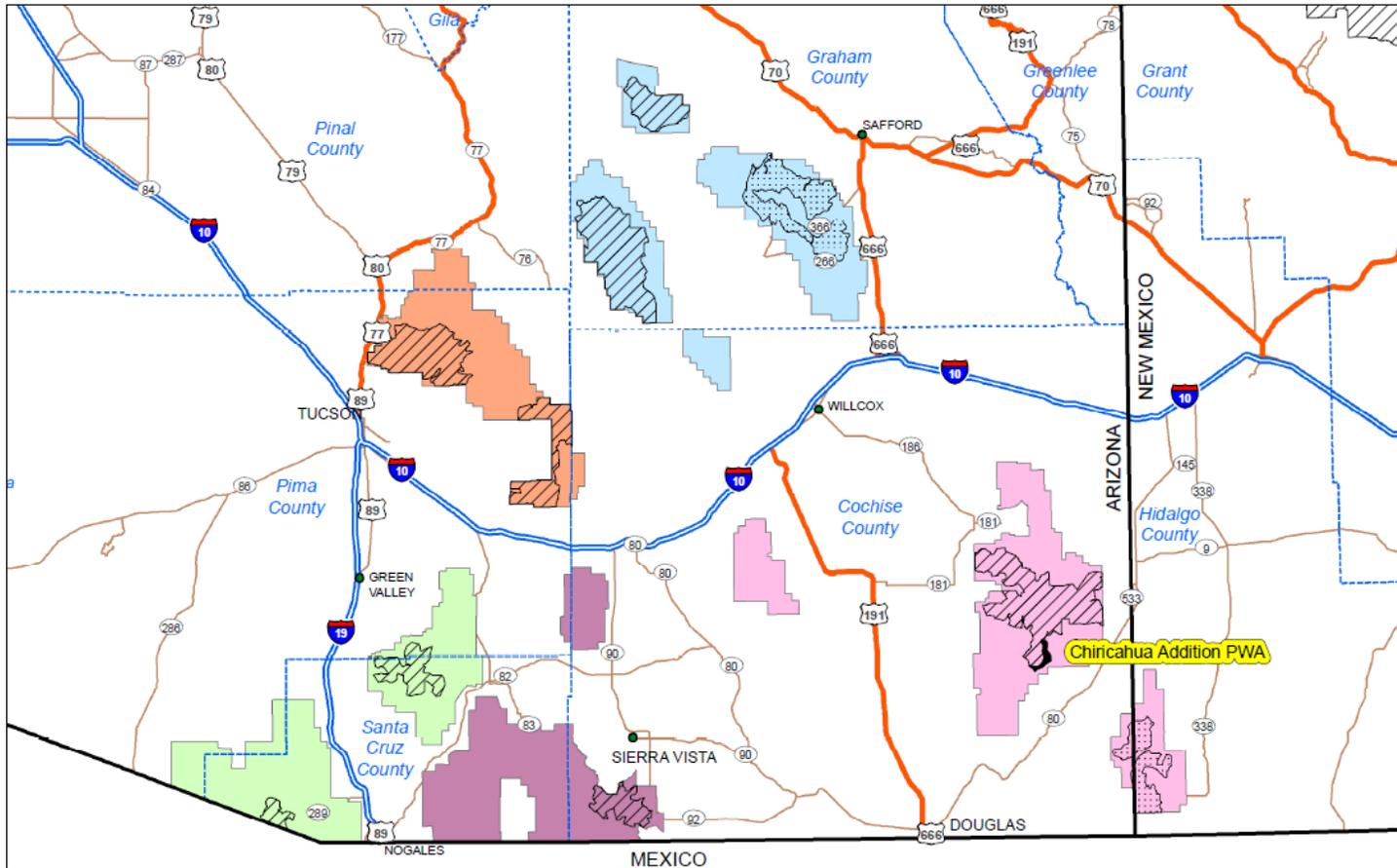
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### Map 1: Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area Location Map



**Legend**

- Douglas Ranger District
- Nogales Ranger District
- Safford Ranger District
- Santa Catalina Ranger District
- Sierra Vista Ranger District
- Wilderness
- Wilderness Study Area
- Potential Wilderness Area

**Coronado National Forest**  
**Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area PW-03-05-D1-002**

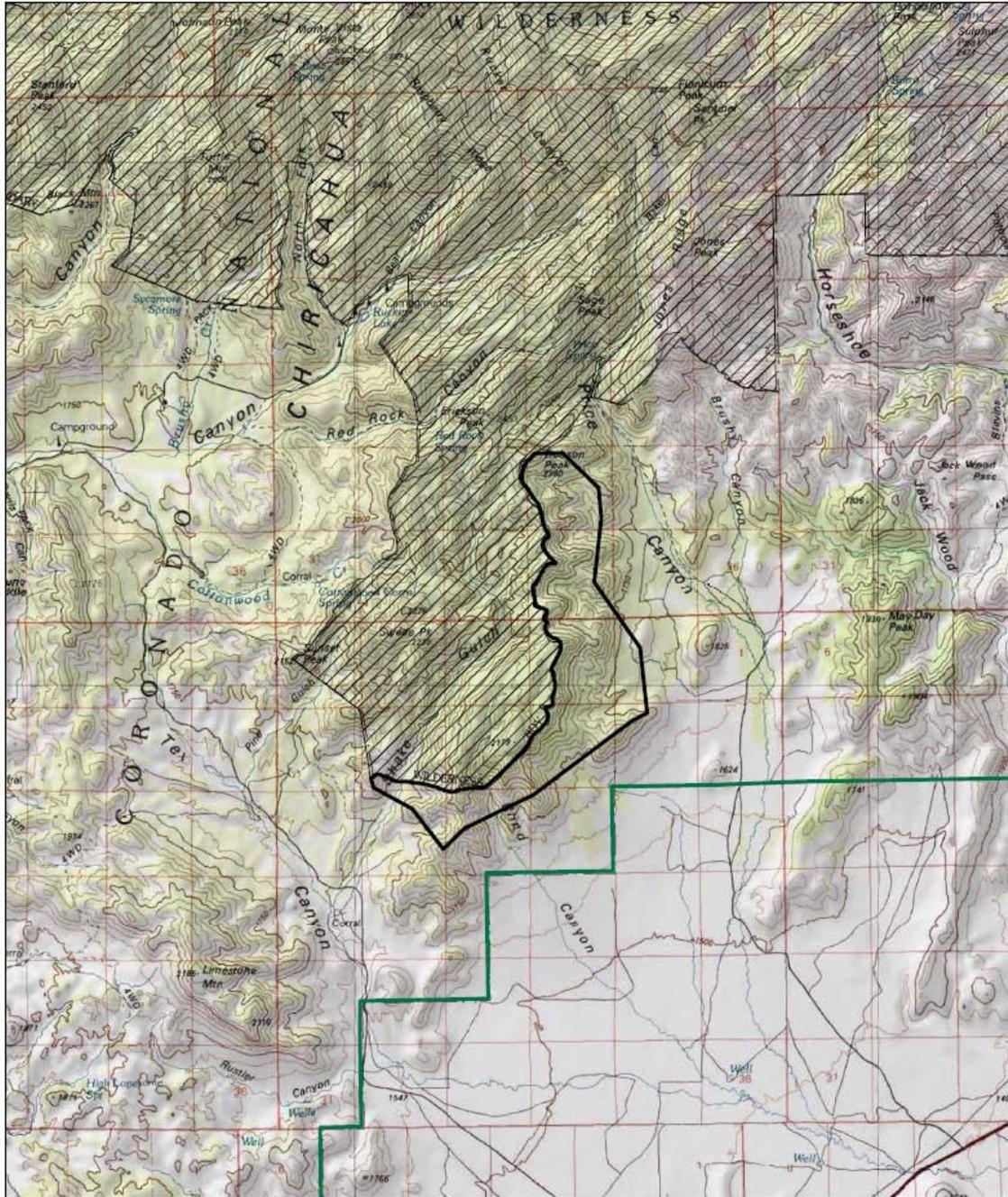
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## Map 2: Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area



**Coronado National Forest**  
**Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area**  
**PW-03-05-D1-002**

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1:106,808



**Legend**

-  PW-03-05-D1-002
-  Existing Wilderness
-  Forest Boundary



## References

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<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/04000.html>

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## **Appendix A: The Wilderness Evaluation Process**

The Wilderness Act of 1964 defines wilderness as:

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this chapter an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

The Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 1909.12, Chapter 70 describes the process and documentation for identifying and evaluating potential wilderness in the National Forest System.

### **Inventory**

The Chiricahua Addition Potential Wilderness Area is one of ten potential wilderness areas on the Coronado National Forest based on criteria in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 71. The entire Coronado National Forest was evaluated during the inventory phase and eliminated based on the criteria for wilderness inventories on national forests.

### **Capability**

In 2008, an interdisciplinary planning team conducted a preliminary wilderness evaluation of all potential wilderness areas on the Coronado National Forest. Documents from this evaluation qualitatively described capability characteristics such as size (acres), access, remoteness, natural integrity, apparent naturalness, solitude and other values. The process included ranking the potential wilderness area as having high, medium or low wilderness potential based on capability factors included in the criteria in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 70 (2007).

### **Availability**

In 2008, an interdisciplinary team ranked the area as high, medium or low for wilderness availability, based on a set of factors consistent with guidelines in the 2007 directives.

### **Need**

FSH 1909.12, Chapter 72.31 requires that the evaluation of need consider, at a minimum, the following factors:

1. The location, size, and type of other wilderness areas in the general vicinity and their distance from the proposed area. Consider accessibility of areas to population centers and

user groups. Public demand for wilderness may increase with proximity to growing population centers.

2. Present visitor pressure on other wilderness areas, the trends in use, changing patterns of use, population expansion factors, and trends and changes in transportation.

3. The extent to which non-wilderness lands on the NFS unit or other Federal lands are likely to provide opportunities for unconfined outdoor recreation experiences.

4. The need to provide a refuge for those species that have demonstrated an ability to survive in less-than-primitive surroundings or the need for a protected area for other unique scientific values or phenomena.

5. Within social and biological limits, management may increase the capacity of established wilderness areas to support human use without unacceptable depreciation of the wilderness resource.

6. An area's ability to provide for preservation of identifiable landform types and ecosystems. Consideration of this factor may include utilization of Edwin A. Hammond's subdivision of landform types and the Bailey-Kuchler ecosystem classification. This approach is helpful from the standpoint of rounding out the National Wilderness Preservation System and may be further subdivided to suit local, sub-regional, and regional needs.

These directives also require the Forest Service to demonstrate need through the public involvement process, including input on the evaluation report. Public participation begins March 3, 2010.

## Appendix B: Species List for the Chiricahua Addition PWA

Scientific Name	Common Name	Threatened or Endangered
<i>Rana chiricahuensis</i>	Chiricahua Leopard Frog	X
<i>Stygobromus arizonensis</i>	Arizona Cave Amphipod	
<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Aplomado Falcon	X
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	X
<i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	Mexican Spotted Owl	X
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Northern Goshawk	
<i>Ammodramus savannarum ammolegus</i>	Arizona Grasshopper Sparrow	
<i>Cyrtonix montezumae</i>	Montezuma Quail	
<i>Empidonax fulvifrons pygmaeus</i>	Northern Buff-breasted Flycatcher	
<i>Meleagris gallopavo mexicana</i>	Gould's Turkey	
<i>Patagioenas fasciata</i>	Band-tailed Pigeon	
<i>Trogon elegans</i>	Elegant Trogon	
<i>Euptilotis neoxenus</i>	Eared Quetzal	
<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	American Peregrine Falcon	
<i>Chitrellina chiricahuae</i>	A Cave Obligate Pseudoscorpion	
<i>Gila purpurea</i>	Yaqui Chub	X
<i>Agosia chrysogaster</i>	Longfin Dace	
<i>Campostoma ornatum</i>	Mexican Stoneroller	
<i>Aeshna persephone</i>	Persephone's Darner	
<i>Ameletus falsus</i>	False Ameletus Mayfly	
<i>Automeris patagoniensis</i>	Patagonia Eyed Silkmoth	
<i>Chimarra primula</i>	A Caddisfly	
<i>Cicindela oregona maricopa</i>	Maricopa Tiger Beetle	
<i>Cloeodes peninsulus</i>	A Mayfly	
<i>Melanoplus desultorius</i>	Red Whiskers Grasshopper	
<i>Oligocentria delicata</i>	A Notodontid Moth	
<i>Psephenus arizonensis</i>	Arizona Water Penny Beetle	
<i>Sympetrum signiferum</i>	Spot-winged Meadowhawk	
<i>Heterodermia appalachensis</i>		
<i>Leptogium rugosum</i>	Rugos skin lichen	
<i>Canis lupus baileyi</i>	Mexican Gray Wolf	X
<i>Leptonycteris yerbabuenae</i>	Lesser Long-nosed Bat	X
<i>Panthera onca</i>	Jaguar	X
<i>Antilocapra americana</i>	Pronghorn	
<i>Choeronycteris mexicana</i>	Mexican Long-tongued Bat	
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>	California Bonneted Bat	
<i>Idionycteris phyllotis</i>	Allen's Big-eared Bat	
<i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i>	Western Red Bat	
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i>	Western Yellow Bat	
<i>Nyctinomops macrotus</i>	Big Free-tailed Bat	
<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>	Mule Deer	
<i>Odocoileus virginianus couesi</i>	Coues' White-tailed Deer	
<i>Puma concolor</i>	Mountain Lion	

<i>Sciurus arizonensis</i>	Arizona Gray Squirrel	
<i>Ursus americana</i>	Black Bear	
<i>Sciurus nayaritensis chiricahuae</i>	Chiricahua [Fox] Squirrel	
<i>Sorex arizonae</i>	Arizona Shrew	
<i>Ashmunella chiricahuana</i>	Cave Creek Woodlandsnail	
<i>Gastrocopta prototypus</i>	Sonoran Snaggletooth	
<i>Holospira ferrissi</i>	Stocky Holospira	
<i>Oreohelix barbata</i>	Bearded Mountainsnail	
<i>Radiocentrum chiricahuana</i>	Chiricahua Mountainsnail	
<i>Sonorella virilis</i>	Chiricahua Talussnail	
<i>Plagiochasma wrightii</i>		
<i>Crotalus pricei</i>	Twin-spotted Rattlesnake	
<i>Kinosternon sonoriense</i>	Sonoran Mud Turtle	
<i>Sceloporus slevini</i>	Slevin's Bunchgrass Lizard	
<i>Tantilla yaquia</i>	Yaqui Black-headed Snake	
<i>Terrepene ornata luteola</i>	Desert Box Turtle	
<i>Allium rhizomatum (=glandulosum)</i>	Redflower Onion	
<i>Asclepias lemmonii</i>	Lemmon Milkweed	
<i>Capsicum annuum var. glabriusculum</i>	Chiltepin	
<i>Castilleja nervata</i>	Trans-Pecos Indian Paintbrush	
<i>Hedeoma costatum</i>	Chiricahua Mock Pennyroyal	
<i>Limosella pubiflora</i>	Chiricahua Mudwort	
<i>Margaranthus solanaceus</i>	Netted Globeberry	
<i>Polemonium pauciflorum hinckleyi</i>	Hinkley's Jacob's Ladder	
<i>Roldana hartwegii</i> (= <i>Senecio hartwegii</i> , with syn = <i>S. seemannii</i> , <i>S. carlomasonii</i> , and <i>R. carlomasonii</i> )	Seemann (Hartweg's) Groundsel	
<i>Sisyrinchium cernuum</i>	Nodding Blue-eyed Grass	
<i>Acacia millefolia</i>	Milfoil Acacia	
<i>Apacheria chiricahuensis</i>	Cliff Brittlebush	
<i>Arabis tricornuta</i>	Rincon Mountain Rockcress	
<i>Arceuthobium blumeri</i>	Southwestern White Pine Dwarf- mistletoe	
<i>Astragalus allochrous var. playanus</i>	Halfmoon Milk-vetch	
<i>Astragalus cobrensis var. maguirei</i>	Copper Mine Milk-vetch	
<i>Bouteloua parryi</i>	Parry's Gramma	
<i>Bouteloua rothrockii</i>	Rothrock's Gramma	
<i>Brickellia lemmonii var. lemmonii</i>	Lemmon's Beggar-ticks	
<i>Brickellia simplex</i>	Sonoran Brickell-bush	
<i>Carex ultra</i>	Cochise Sedge	
<i>Coursetia glabella</i>	Smooth Baby-bonnets	
<i>Delphinium andesicola</i>	Chiricahua Mountains Larkspur	
<i>Delphinium scopulorum</i>	Rocky Mountain Larkspur	
<i>Draba helleriana var. bifurcata</i>	Heller's Whitlow-grass	
<i>Draba petrophila var. viridis</i>	Rock Whitlow-grass	
<i>Draba standleyi</i>	Standley's Whitlow-grass	
<i>Erigeron arisolius</i>	Arid Throne Fleabane	

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<i>Erigeron kuschei</i>	Chiricahua Fleabane	
<i>Eriogonum arizonicum</i>	Arizona Wild-buckwheat	
<i>Escobaria orcuttii</i>	Orcutt's Foxtail Cactus	
<i>Escobaria vivipara</i> var. <i>bisbeeana</i>	Bisbee's Pincushion Cactus	
<i>Fraxinus papillosa</i>	Chihuahua Ash	
<i>Gentianella wislizeni</i>	Chiricahua Gentian	
<i>Graptopetalum bartramii</i>	Patagonia Mountain Leather-petal	
<i>Hackelia ursina</i>	Chihuahuan Stickseed	
<i>Hedeoma dentata</i>	Arizona False Pennyroyal	
<i>Heuchera glomerulata</i>	Chiricahua Mountain Alumroot	
<i>Hexalectris spicata</i> var. <i>arizonica</i>	Crested Coralroot	
<i>Hexalectris warnockii</i>	Purple-spike Coralroot	
<i>Hieracium rusbyi</i>	Rusby's Hawkweed	
<i>Ipomoea plummerae</i> var. <i>cuneifolia</i>	Huachuca Mountain Morning-glory	
<i>Ipomoea tenuiloba</i> var. <i>lemmonii</i>	Lemmon's Morning-glory	
<i>Ipomoea thurberi</i>	Thurber's Morning-glory	
<i>Lilium parryi</i>	Lemon Lily	
<i>Lupinus huachucanus</i>	Huachuca Mountain Lupine	
<i>Lupinus neomexicanus</i>	New Mexico Lupine	
<i>Macromeria viridiflora</i> var. <i>thurberi</i>	Giant-trumpets	
<i>Mammillaria grahamii</i> var. <i>oliviae</i>		
<i>Mammillaria wrightii</i> var. <i>wrightii</i>	Wright Fishhook Cactus	
<i>Perityle cochisensis</i>	Cochise Rock Daisy	
<i>Perityle dissecta</i>	Slimlobe Rockdaisy	
<i>Phaseolus supinus</i>	Supine Bean	
<i>Phoradendron bolleanum</i> ssp. <i>pauciflorum</i>	Rough Mistletoe	
<i>Plagiobothrys pringlei</i>	Pringle's Popcorn-flower	
<i>Potentilla subviscosa</i> var. <i>subviscosa</i>	Navajo Cinquefoil	
<i>Potentilla thurberi</i> var. <i>thurberi</i>	Thurber's Cinquefoil	
<i>Ranunculus hydrocharoides</i> var. <i>stolonifer</i>	Frog's-bit Buttercup	
<i>Rhamnus crocea</i> ssp. <i>pilosa</i>	Redberry Buckthorn	
<i>Rumex orthoneurus</i>	Blumer's Dock	
<i>Samolus vagans</i>	Chiricahua Mountain Brookweed	
<i>Scutellaria tessellata</i>	Huachuca Mountains Skullcap	
<i>Senecio multidentatus</i> var. <i>huachucanus</i>	Huachuca Groundsel	
<i>Sisyrinchium arizonicum</i>	Arizona Blue-eyed-grass	
<i>Sisyrinchium longipes</i>	Timberland Blue-eye-grass	
<i>Stellaria porsildii</i>	Porsild's Starwort	
<i>Woodsia cochisensis</i>	Cochise Woodsia	
<i>Woodsia phillipsii</i>	Phillips' Cliff Fern	