

Outcome Focused Management Focus Group Report

Organ Mountains–Desert Peaks National Monument

Las Cruces, New Mexico

2016-2017



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Executive Summary

In the fall of 2016 and 2017 members of the Public Lands Recreation Research Partnership (PLRRP) conducted a series of nine focus groups (189 participants) regarding recreational outcomes and experiences on BLM managed lands in and around Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument in New Mexico. A mixed methodology focus group was employed to establish the recreation experience baseline. Participants were asked a series of open-ended questions as well as survey-type questions (recorded on handouts provided) in a 90-minute discussion focusing on their relationship to these public lands, and their preferences for recreational settings, experiences and outcomes related to these lands. The focus group script covered all the major elements needed in planning for recreation on public lands: preferences for outcomes and experiences, interests and expectations, setting characteristics, activities, and the services needed to support the recreation experience. Additional questions encouraged participants to express their preferences for management practices including the BLM's engagement with the public during its up-coming Resource Management Plan revision process. This methodology captured both a complete set of responses from each participant using the handouts with maps as well as documenting a rich set of notes from the group dialog that gives context and depth to the handout responses to set questions. The individual responses to the survey type questions and the mapping are recorded in a series of figures throughout the report, the written responses to open-ended questions were coded by theme and summary tables of the results are included in the latter half of the report. Participants were asked to identify specific areas of the Monument and surrounding lands to give more detail and location to their broad comments. These comments were then reported based on the area of the study the individual participants indicated was their primary area of interest. in Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument. This approach will make the comments and expectations of the participants more helpful for land managers who must apply them to particular locations. An example of the handout and all questions asked is found in Appendix 1, a list of the themes captured on flip charts during the meetings is found in Appendix 2, and a complete list of all written comments (sorted by question) is found in Appendix 3. Although the report attempts to summarize all of this information, the reader is encouraged to consult these appendices to better understand the nuance of the comments that is not completely captured by a brief theme description in the report.

The majority of participants in the focus groups came from communities within 50 miles of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument (OMDPNM) such as Las Cruces and Anthony New Mexico and El Paso, Texas. They highlighted the scenic beauty, recreational opportunities and close proximity of these lands to their communities as vitally important characteristics of the landscape that greatly enhanced their quality of life and the character of

their communities. The participants were concerned about access to these landscapes and the impacts of vandalism and development on the character and sustainability of the natural resources including wildlife, vegetation, soils, water and visual resources. Typical of public lands across the west, these landscapes offer the opportunity for a variety of recreational activity, but land managers have a challenge to handle the conflict that often arises between user groups. The diversity of the population, culture and the landscape are particularly prized by participants in this study. This makes it even more important that managers include a wide variety of stakeholders in the planning process and focus on transparent ways to communicate with the public and include them in partnerships for planning and management of the landscape. Many participants suggested the opportunities for educational partnerships and programs were especially important for OMDPNM and the surrounding public lands in Doña Ana County. According to most the participants this is a natural landscape that should be managed for recreational opportunities, protection of unique biological and physical qualities, and as a place to experience tranquil escapes and self-reliant adventures that enhance the quality of life for local residents and tourist visitors into the future. Summary conclusions, observations and suggestions are presented at the end of the report.

Full Report

Introduction

Characteristics of the Monument

On May 21, 2014, President Barak Obama established Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument (OMDPNM) by presidential proclamation under the authority of the Antiquities Act of 1906. The monument is nearly 500,000 acres in four discrete parcels located in Southeast New Mexico surrounding the city of Las Cruces, New Mexico. The following passage from the BLM website identifies the focus of the designation and describes each of the discrete parcels including some noted unique features.

The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument was established to protect significant prehistoric, historic, geologic, and biologic resources of scientific interest, and includes four areas: the Organ Mountains, Desert Peaks, Potrillo Mountains, and Doña Ana Mountains (see Figure 1).

The Organ Mountains are a steep, angular mountain range with rocky spires that jut majestically above the Chihuahuan Desert floor to an elevation of 9,000 feet. This picturesque area of rocky peaks, narrow canyons, and open woodlands ranges from Chihuahuan Desert habitat to ponderosa pine in the highest elevations. Located adjacent to and on the east side of Las Cruces, this area provides opportunities for photography, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, camping, and wildlife viewing.

The Desert Peaks include the Robledo Mountains, Sierra de las Uvas, and Doña Ana Mountains, characterized by desert mountains rising steeply from flat plains.

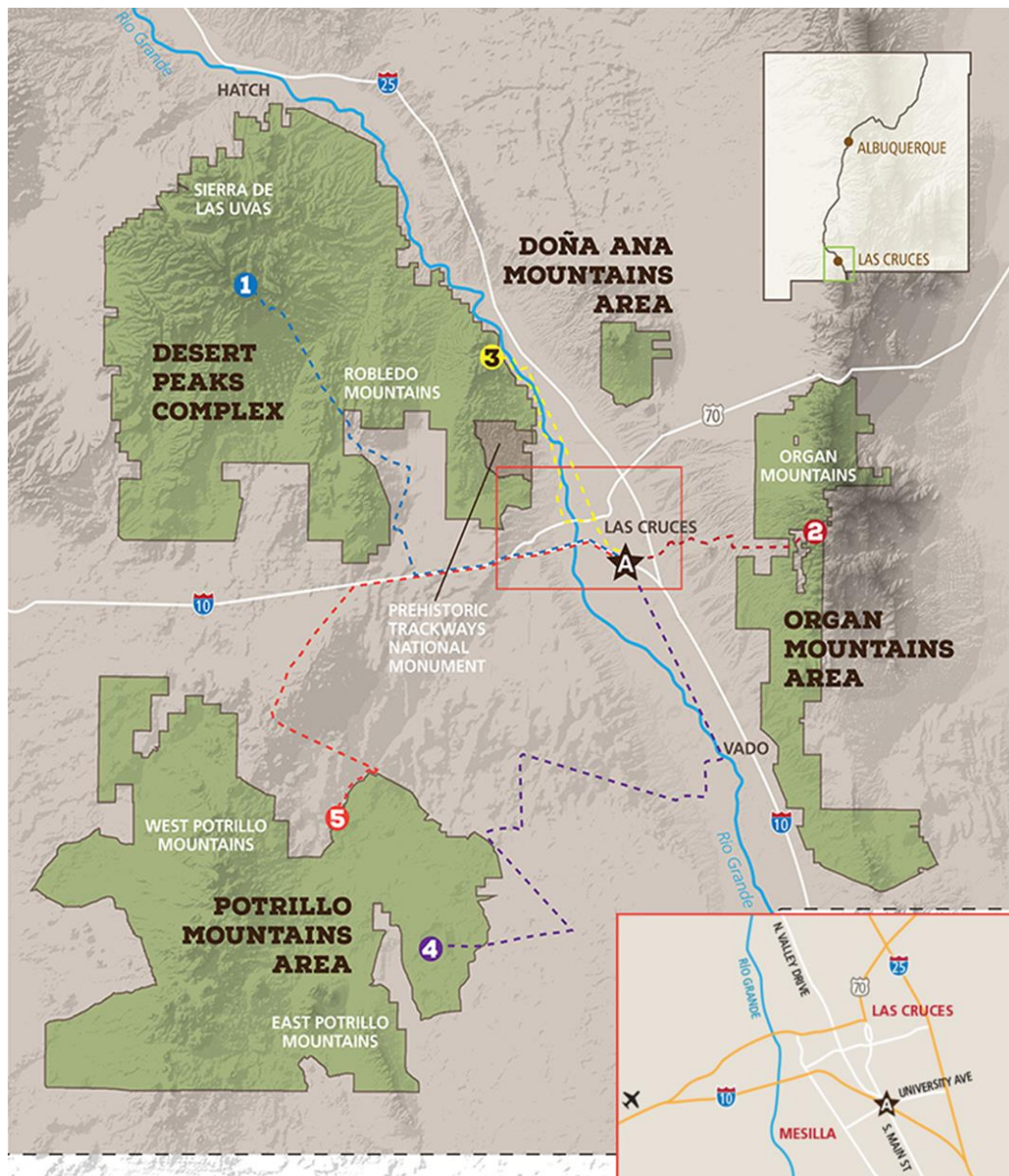
The Potrillo Mountains are the most remote section of the Monument located a distance to the southwest from Las Cruces, and is comprised of a volcanic landscape of cinder cones, lava flows, and craters.

The Doña Ana Mountains have extensive pedestrian trails, equestrian trails, mountain bike trails, rock climbing routes, and some limited routes available for motorized use⁴.

When a monument is created to highlight particular features of the landscape, federal law requires that a management plan be developed to protect the resource and ensure public input in the planning process. This study is part of the effort to gather public input on planning and management efforts on the Monument, particularly as it relates to recreation within the Monument. After consideration of the management objectives of OMDPNM, a mixed methodology study of onsite and mail-back surveys and community-based focus groups was determined to be the best approach to capture the public interest and expectations regarding recreation on the Monument (see methodology discussion below for a more detailed account of the study methods and justification for the mixed approach). The need of OMDPNM to develop a Recreational Experience baseline coincided with the need for a pilot project for a larger Outcomes Focused Management Data project and the national consortium of researchers from University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Colorado Mesa University and Arizona State University were brought in to conduct the study. Researchers and student surveyors from the local university, New Mexico State University, were also engaged in the data collection part of the survey.

⁴ Organ-Mountains Desert Peaks page on USDOJ-BLM National Website located at <https://www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/new-mexico/organ-mountains-desert-peaks-national-monument> Retrieved in September 2017.

Figure 1: Map of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument



Methodology

A mixed methodology focus group was employed to establish the recreation experience baseline. The mixed methodology focus group uses audience handouts to record individual responses anonymously in addition to engaging participants in open dialogue. This methodology captures both a complete set of responses from each participant using the handouts with maps as well as documenting a rich set of notes from the group dialog that gives context and depth to the handout responses to set questions. Either approach used alone

could leave an incomplete picture of the broad and deep relationships people have with this landscape, so the mixed methodology is the preferred approach to capture as much input as possible.

The design of the focus group script (for data collection purposes) entailed a structured series of discussion questions intended to engage participants in open dialogue about their preferences, interests, and expectations so responses could be captured in their own words. These open ended questions were often followed by a list of choices that represented a spectrum of possible responses to the discussion questions. Participants could respond via anonymous handouts given to every participant and collected at the end of the focus group so their responses can be recorded for a larger database. The open dialogue comments were documented with audio recording equipment as well as by consortium researchers taking notes on flipcharts and individual participants writing down their comments on the handouts that were collected at the end of the focus group.

The focus group script covered all the major elements needed in planning for recreation on public lands: preferences for outcomes and experiences, interests and expectations, setting characteristics, activities, and the services needed to support the recreation experience. Additional questions encouraged participants to express their preferences for management practices including the BLMs engagement with the public during its up-coming Resource Management Plan revision process. It included 14 questions, seven were open-ended, five had prepared responses for audience polling recorded on the handouts, and two allowed for both polling and open-ended responses. All questions with prepared responses included an “other” option so participants were not constrained by the prepared responses. Of the open-ended questions, one included a mapping exercise where participants noted special places on a series of 5 different maps⁵ corresponding to the four parts of the monument and the Doña Ana County (See Appendix 1 for a copy of all questions on the handout including the maps). The number of questions included in the script was tailored to allow for a 90-minute focus group.

A total of nine focus groups were conducted in the fall of 2016 and fall of 2017. All the focus groups in 2016 took place in Las Cruces, NM on the campus of New Mexico State University or at the public library to provide a central location to the four discrete parcels of the monument. In an attempt to broaden the participation, the 2017 focus groups were held at other locations

⁵ The focus groups were conducted in two rounds. The first took place in October and November 2016, and the second round took place in October 2017. In the first round, participants were given 4 maps of the 4 segments of OMDPNM; in the second round an additional map area was offered of BLM lands in Doña Ana county after several participants from the first round commented on the need to consider these landscapes as part of the overall planning process.

in the area (See Table 1). There were a total of 189 participants⁶ in the nine focus groups. The participants were allowed to remain anonymous; although their responses were tracked and collated by the use of the handouts they filled out and turned in. Their participation in the study and on every question was voluntary and they were reminded that they were free to participate or not as they wished, but that if they did speak up or write something down, that was taken as their consent to participate in the study. Some basic demographic information was collected at the beginning of each session. The participant response to zip code indicates that most of the participants live within 50 miles of OMDPNM. The table in Table 1 indicates the dates, locations, and number of participants for each focus group.

Table 1: Focus Groups, Dates and Locations

Focus Group #	Date	Location	Group	Number of Participants
1	11/12/16	NMSU - Corbett Center	General Public	15
2	11/12/16	NMSU - Corbett Center	Stewardship Groups	7
3	11/12/16	NMSU - Corbett Center	Community Leaders	10
4	11/18/16	NMSU - Corbett Center	General Public	22
5	11/19/16	Las Cruces Public Library	Commercial Groups	1
6	11/19/16	Las Cruces Public Library	User groups - outfitters	8
7	10/26/17	Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum, Las Cruces, NM	General Public	97
8	10/27/17	City of Anthony, NM Council Chambers	General Public	12
9	10/28/17	El Paso Community College Theater – El Paso, TX	General Public	17

⁶ There were 189 completed handout responses returned by participants included in this study. There were a few additional participants at some of the focus groups that did not complete any of the handout responses, so they are not counted in this study. The numbers in Table 1 reflect the number of participants who filled out the handouts and are included in the study.

Outreach to populate the focus groups included:

- Invitations shared with area board and committees (i.e. Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce, Latino Chamber of Commerce, Green Chamber of Commerce, Las Cruces Convention and Visitor Bureau, similar organizations in El Paso, local elected officials, etc.),
- Direct outreach to partners and key stakeholders (local activity oriented groups such as Las Cruces 4x4 Club, local stewardship/conservation groups such as Southern New Mexico Trails Alliance, etc.),
- Friends of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks
- Press releases in local newspapers, radio interviews
- Flyers – put up at community centers, bike and outdoor shops, running gear stores, etc.

The technique of audience polling (with data gathered by handout) to record responses allows each participant the opportunity to weigh in on every area of the research. This is important to avoid a wide variety of social setting dynamics that arise in traditional focus group settings, such as only hearing from extroverted participants who dominate a conversation. The polling also minimizes the undue influence of peer settings in small communities. If an individual is worried about the repercussions of their responses mentioned aloud in a focus group within their community, they are not likely to respond, or not as accurately. However, if they can anonymously record their preferences, they may feel more liberated to express their true opinion. The audience polling using written responses on handouts preserves participants' anonymity while being able to link all of their answers together for the purposes of analysis. In traditional focus groups, one might be able to link comments and preferences back to a particular focus group, but unless the group was small and homogenous, it would be difficult to determine preferences for groups, or how those preferences might interact with other preferences (i.e. if a person is seeking solitude, do they choose particular activities or settings to achieve that outcome?). Traditionally, a survey was needed to link these variables; however, a survey often misses the nuance of the dialogue. The advantage of using audience polling and open-ended questions in a focus group setting is that participants are allowed to clarify what they mean when they select certain responses. One of the values of a mixed methodology study (survey and focus groups combined) to establish a recreational baseline is the mix of local voices and those of visitors. Both are invaluable for successful public lands planning and management. Each method highlights a different demographic (locals and visitors), combining the data offers a richer and more complete picture of public preferences for recreational management of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.

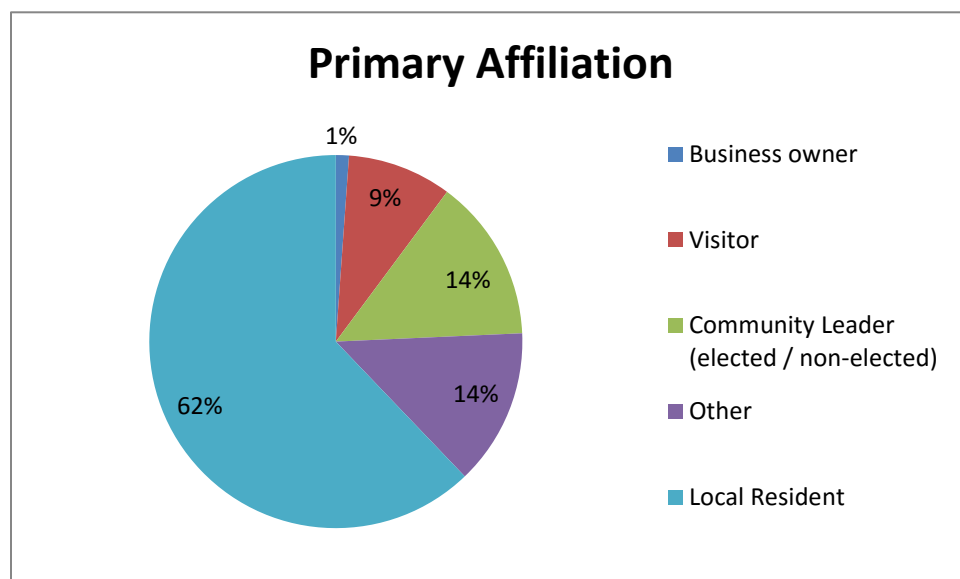
It is important to note the limitations of using this data. Because the sampling of participants was not random, it would be difficult to suggest this analysis is generalizable to the preferences

of the entire population that might be interested in the area. This study does not attempt to do this here. However, effort was made to hear from a broad sample of groups who have a connection to the landscape including both locals and visitors that were willing to spend 90 minutes participating in the conversation.

Demographics

A total of 189 individuals participated in one of the nine focus groups that were conducted in the fall of both 2016 and 2017. They represented a broad spectrum of the Las Cruces and surrounding community population in terms of occupation and recreational interest. When discussing the planning process including these focus groups several participants noted the relative lack of Hispanics attending the focus groups in 2016 compared to the number of Hispanics in the community. They recommended renewed efforts to reach out to underrepresented groups in this planning process including the Hispanic community in the area. Because of these recommendations, additional focus groups were conducted in the fall of 2017 including offering a bilingual focus group. It was also noted by several participants in 2016 that the age of the participants in these focus groups underrepresented the millennial generation. Several suggestions were made to address this issue in future planning events, particularly in the advertising and gathering of information using social media and other nontraditional forms of communication.

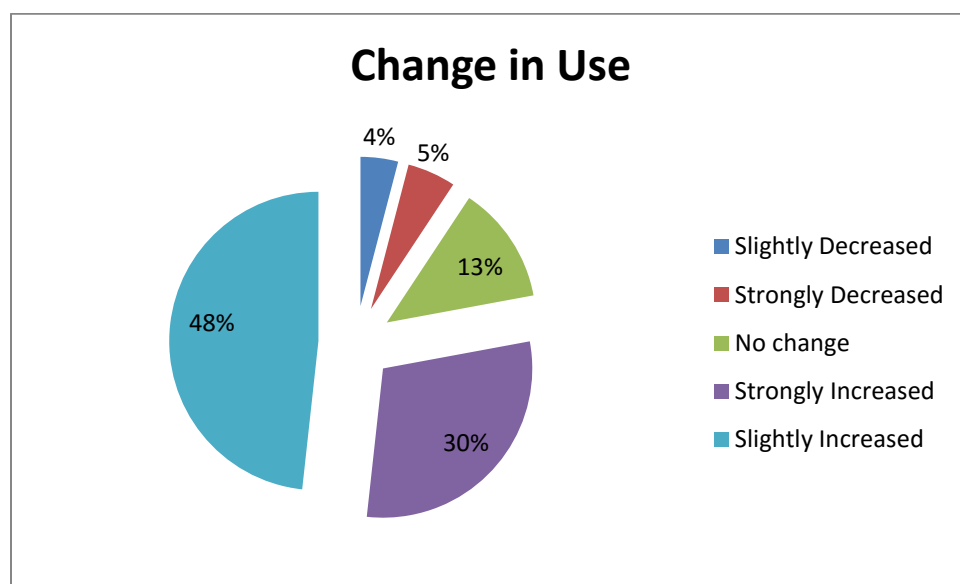
Figure 2: Primary Affiliation with the Monument



Participants had many possible roles that they could assume/choose in the focus group (e.g. a participant may be a local resident, a monument visitor and local business owner at the same time). However, they were asked to assume only one primary role for the focus group and Figure 2 exhibits the

primary roles the participants chose across all nine focus groups. The largest set of the participants (62%) identified their primary affiliation as local resident. The next largest category was community leader and other, both at 14%. Most of those who selected “other” wrote their response to what they meant by “other” on their handouts. The overwhelming majority of these were local resident adding some role in the community such as volunteer for an outdoor oriented non-profit organization (examples), or a leader in those organizations. Business owners comprised 1% of the focus group participants, and were also likely local residents. If business owners and those who select “other” are added to the participants that identified primarily as “local residents” (62%) and those who identified primarily as “community leader” (14%), the sample of people who live in the communities surrounding the monument is over 90% of all participants in the study.

Figure 3: Perception of Change in use Over the Last Five Years

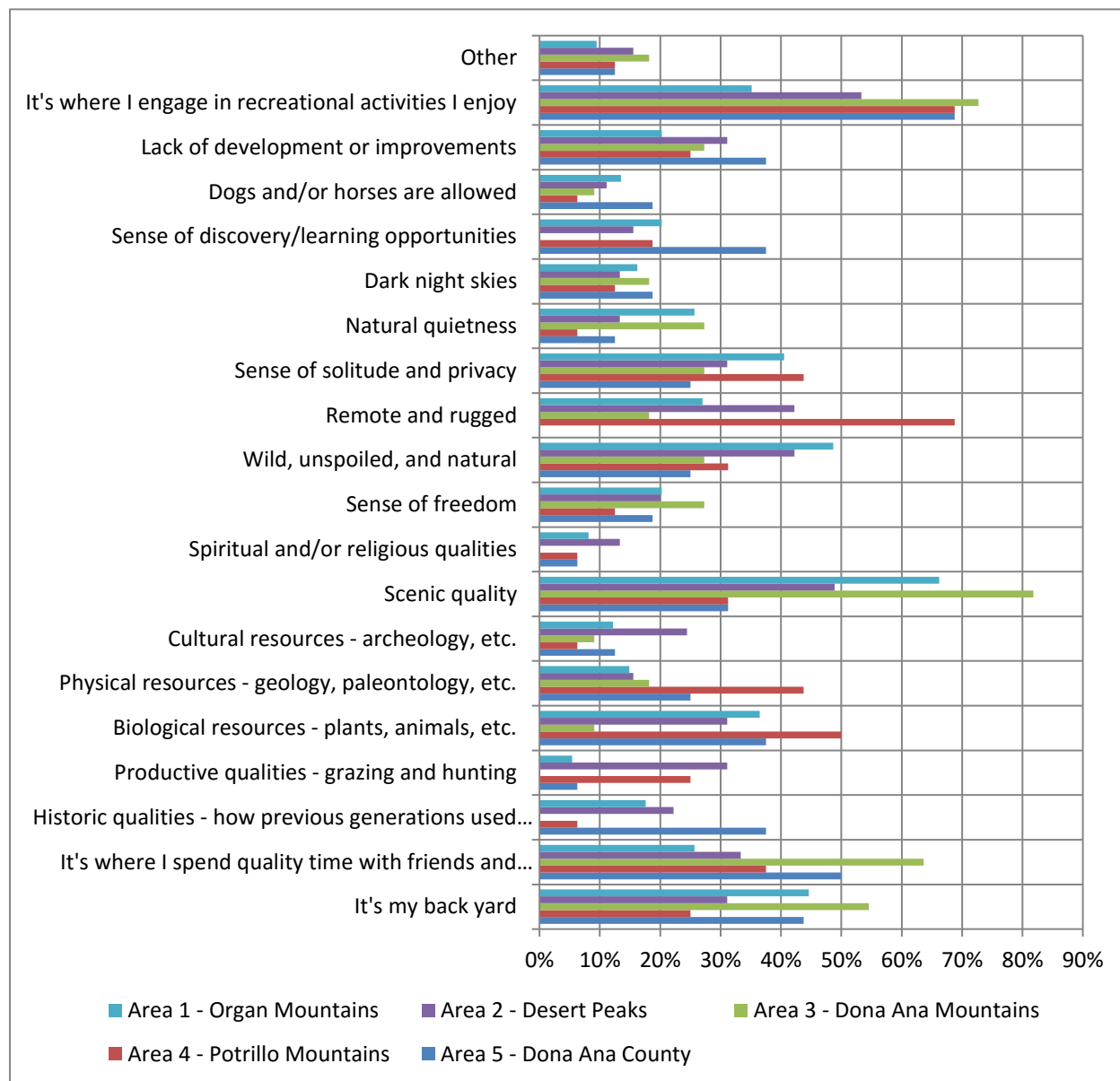


It is clear from the graph in Figure 3 that most of the participants perceived some type of increase in use of the monument over the last five years. The perception of that increase was split between those who saw the increase as slight (48%), and those who saw a strong increase in usage over the last five years (30%). The next largest category of participants is those who saw no change at all in usage over the last five years (13%). Four percent of participants indicated that there was a slight decrease in use, and 5% of the participants suggested that there was a strong decrease in usage over that time. Since the monument designation took place in the last five years, it seems reasonable to expect that usage would increase due to an increased visibility and marketing of the monument.

Special Qualities of OMDPNM

Initially, the participants of the focus groups were asked to talk about what makes OMDPNM and the BLM lands in Doña Ana County “special” places in their mind. They were encouraged to be as specific as they wanted to be in terms of identifying actual locations in and around the Monument, or they could speak more broadly about the Monument as a whole or any one of the five areas of the Monument or the BLM lands in Doña Ana County. They were asked first to put their response in their own words in order to capture themes that might emerge from their own experiences on the Monument or BLM lands in the Doña Ana County before they looked at the list of special qualities often associated with public lands in the handout question. Next, participants were given a list of 20 qualities that often are identified as special characteristics of public lands according to past research. In each of the lists found in the handouts, the final option is always “other” which allows participants to identify in writing those qualities that are important to them, which are not reflected in the lists (their written responses of “other” are recorded in Appendix 3). In general, the selection of “other” made up less than 10% of the total selections on any question, indicating that the lists adequately represented the range of characteristics measured in the question. Figure 4 below shows the percentage of total responses for any given characteristic that makes OMDPNM or BLM lands in Doña Ana County special in the eyes of the participants. Participants were asked to focus their selections on the characteristics that really matter to them by limiting their choices to five or fewer responses. Most respondents followed these directions, but a few selected more than five. While the percentages below represent the total number of answers and not the percentage of participants selecting it, they do show the relative strength of response for each characteristic.

Figure 4: What Makes OMDPNM "Special"



7

As the responses in Figure 4 indicate, among all participants the most popular response varies depending on the individual area (see area discussions below for a more detailed analysis of each area), but there are some qualities that seem to be persistently highlighted in most or all areas in the study. These qualities include scenic beauty of the landscape; the opportunity to engage in their favorite recreational activity; a place to spend quality time with family and

⁷ The participants were asked to select up to their top five qualities, the percentages indicate the percentage of participants selecting the quality and selecting a particular area of the Monument as their area of focus for these responses (See Figure 8 below for more discussion of the areas selected). This number shows the relative importance of the characteristic among participants selecting a particular area. Organ Mountains N=74; Desert Peaks N = 45; Dona Ana Mountains N = 11, Potrillo Mountains N=15, Dona Ana County N=17. 27 participants did not identify a specific area of focus, so they are not included in these numbers. These numbers of participants apply to Figures 4-8.

friends; and a sense that it is “their backyard. Several of the individual areas are highly prized for their wild, unspoiled and natural settings; ruggedness; and sense of solitude or privacy. The combination of these traits is a beautiful, rugged landscape close to town that provides opportunities to engage in a variety of recreational activities.

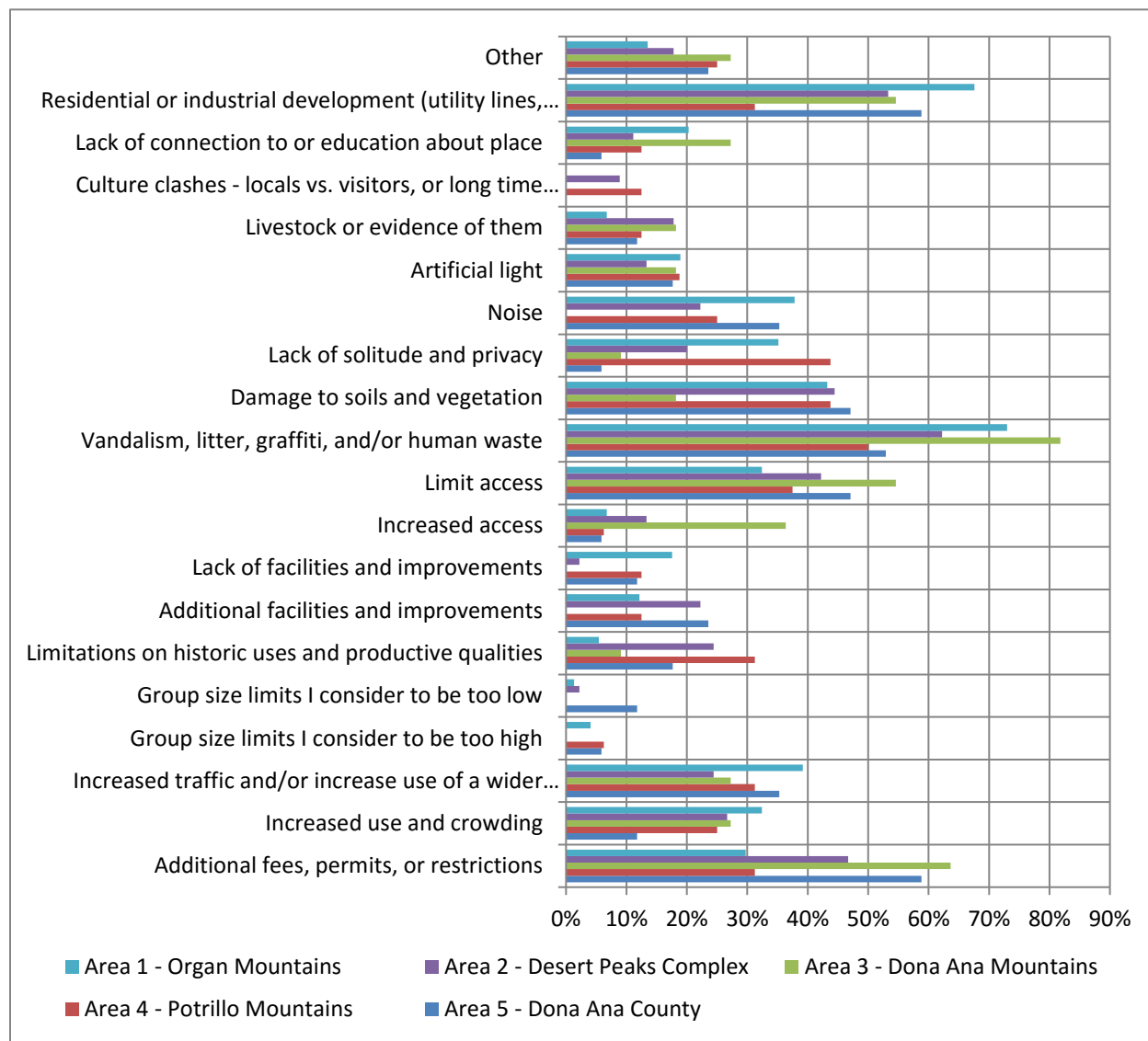
The written comments on the handouts and the summary comments from the flip charts used in the focus groups seem to agree with these trends and preferences. While the complete list of flip chart responses for each question can be found in Appendix 2, and a complete set of written handout comments can be found in Appendix 3; the following discussion is intended to summarize the main points of these written responses. Several comments highlighted the beauty of the Monument and its value as an inspiration and subject for artists and photographers in the community. The diversity of the terrain and the diversity of recreational opportunities due to the Monument’s close proximity and accessibility to Las Cruces contribute to the specialness of the place as well as the opportunities it provides for all socio-economic groups. While the wild and rugged character of the Monument was emphasized in the written and verbal comments, more comments were directed toward the close proximity to town and broad accessibility of the Monument including the connectivity of trails from one segment of the Monument to the others. Several participants commented on the need to have diversity even in the access because there are times where it is advantageous to make access a bit more challenging to preserve some of the remote characteristic of the landscape that is so valued. Some even suggested that the diversity of the landscape and the diversity of recreational opportunities mirrors the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Las Cruces and facilitates the participant’s cultural connection to the landscape and how it has been used in the past. Other participants also emphasized a connection to place based on where they live and work and a more general value of the history of human interaction with the place.

Few were interested in closing off access to recreation; however, a more sophisticated strategy was emerging to consider the relationship between access and destruction of the resources as well as how one might constrict access in some places to meet the management objective of solitude. Another important theme emerging from the focus group discussion and written comments is the value of scale of the Monument in both space and time. It is described as having a timeless quality as well as sufficient space to create an uncrowded feeling. Most participants agreed that it is important to protect the resource, with several identifying particular resources such as wildlife and cattle habitat, as well as, rare, threatened and endangered plant species. Finally, participants identified the Monument as special because of the opportunities it provides the local community particularly in the area of socio-economic development and educational opportunities from K-12 through the university (NMSU). Specific recommendations regarding these opportunities are addressed in the management section of this report.

Qualities that diminish the specialness of OMDPNM

Next, the participants were asked to talk about what might diminish the specialness of places in OMDPNM and the BLM lands in Doña Ana County. They were encouraged to be as specific as they wanted to be in terms of identifying actual locations in and around the Monument, or they could speak more broadly about the Monument as a whole or any one of the five areas of the Monument or the Doña Ana County. They were asked first to put their response in their own words in order to capture themes that might emerge from their own experiences on the Monument or BLM lands in the Doña Ana County before they looked at the list of special qualities often associated with public lands in the handout question. Next, they were given a list of 20 qualities that often are identified as special characteristics of public lands according to past research. In each of the lists found in the handouts, the final option is always “other” which allows participants to identify in writing those qualities that are important to them, which are not reflected in the lists (their written responses of “other” are recorded in Appendix 3). Figure 5 below shows the percentage of total responses for any given characteristic that makes OMDPNM and surrounding BLM lands special in the eyes of the participants. Participants were asked to focus their selections on the characteristics that really matter to them by limiting their choices to five or fewer responses. Most respondents followed these directions, but a few selected more than five. While the percentages below represent the total number of answers and not the percentage of participants selecting it, they do show the relative strength of response for each characteristic.

Figure 5: Characteristics that Diminish the Specialness of the Place



As the graph in Figure 5 indicates there is broad agreement among the participants that a significant threat to the specialness of all areas comes from “vandalism, litter, graffiti, and/or human waste” and from “residential and industrial development, although these concerns are identified by fewer participants in the Potrillo Mountains where participants are more worried about a “lack of solitude and privacy” as well as “Damage to soil and vegetation”. There are noted differences in the concerns between the various areas which will be discussed further in each of the area sections below.

Interest and Expectations when visiting OMDPNM

Research has indicated that people visit public lands to achieve a variety of beneficial outcomes and experiences for themselves, their communities, and the environment, while at the same

time trying to avoid adverse outcomes and experiences. The list of such outcomes and experiences is extensive, but further research has discovered that people tend to bundle these experiences and expectations into a limited number of profiles of interests and expectations.⁸ Participants were given a list of 12 profiles of interests and expectations they might have when visiting OMDPNM and the BLM lands in Doña Anna County. Each profile included a descriptive sentence of what someone choosing that profile might say. The profiles and descriptions included the following:

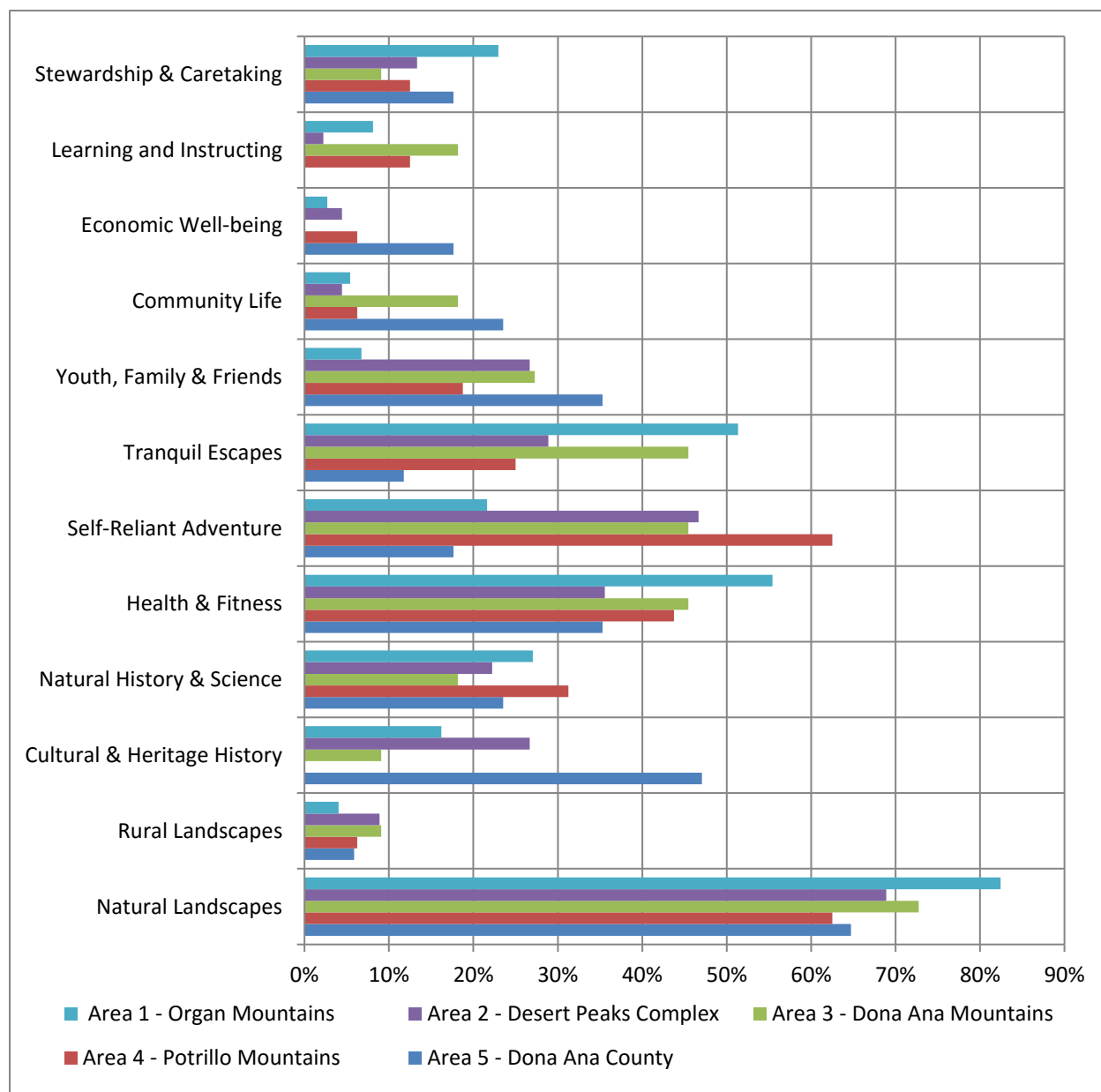
1. **Natural Landscapes** - I like to surround myself with the beauty of open space and the wildness of mountains, forests, rangeland, water and wildlife.
2. **Rural Landscapes** - I want to connect with the visual landscapes, sense of place and pace of rural areas where people make their living from the land.
3. **Cultural & Heritage History** - I am interested in how historic and prehistoric peoples lived in the area, and in exploring the connections I have with those peoples.
4. **Natural History & Science** - I am interested in knowing about natural processes in this area and the study of the scientific value of the landscape for enhancing our understanding of the world around us.
5. **Health & Fitness** - I like being able to regularly access public lands recreation areas that help me get and stay fit or improve my mental well-being.
6. **Self-Reliant Adventure** - I prefer outdoor adventure on my own that challenges my outdoor skills, improves my abilities, and maybe even involves some risk.
7. **Tranquil Escapes** - I look forward to the quiet serenity of getting away from it all for some mental and physical relaxation, reflection, and renewal.
8. **Youth, Family & Friends** - I am enriched by socializing with others: young people, my family and/or friends and enjoying companionship in the outdoors together.
9. **Community Life** - I like seeing what the discovery and enjoyment of nearby open space recreation does for my community and our visiting guests
10. **Economic Well-being** - I want to see public lands recreation areas contributing in a significant way to our economic livelihood.
11. **Learning & instructing** - I feel comfortable having others equip and enable me to do recreation and tourism outings—or being part of helping others learn how to do that.

⁸ For a good discussion of the experiences and outcomes that people seek when recreating in public lands see the work of Driver, B.L. and D.H. Bruns. 1999. Concepts and Uses of the Benefits Approach to Leisure. P. 349-369 in Leisure Studies: Prospects for the Twenty-First Century E.L. Jackson and T.L. Burton et al. (eds.). Venture Publishing, State College, PA. Venture. To see the research that narrows the list of experiences and outcomes into profiles of interests and expectations see Parry, B., Gollob, J. and Frans, J. 2014. Benefits of public land usage: an analysis of outdoor recreationists. In Managing Leisure 19(4). That study narrowed the profiles down to eight (8). Those eight (8) are used in this study along with an additional four (4) that were added to more comprehensively capture people's expected experiences and outcomes for recreating in these landscapes.

12. **Stewardship & Caretaking** - I like giving back to the outdoors from what I've received by helping care for special sites and facilities so others can also enjoy them.

Participants were allowed to select up to three profiles. Figure 6 shows the percentage of total selections by all participants for particular interest and expectation profile options by area to see if additional insight could be gained on the motivation for visiting a particular area and how that might differ depending on who is visiting.

Figure 6: Interests and Expectations by Area



9

As Figure 6 clearly shows, the most common interest and expectation selected in all areas¹⁰ is the natural landscape where participants like to “surround {themselves} with the beauty of open space and the wildness of mountains, forests, rangeland, water and wildlife.” This is

⁹ Note: The participants were asked to select up to their top three interests and expectations description, the percentages represent the percentage of participants selecting the characteristic and a particular area of primary interest.

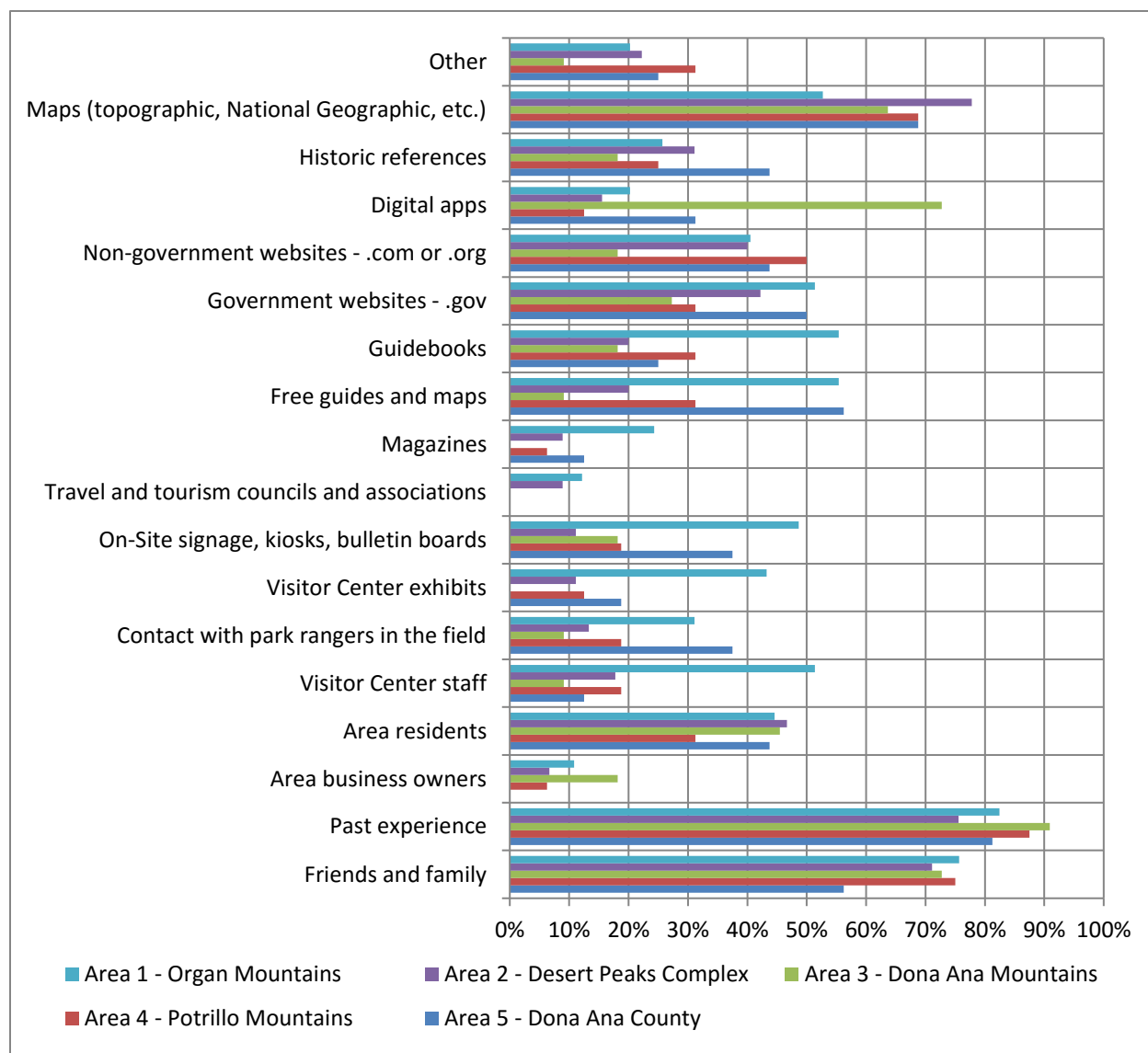
¹⁰ The only exception to this is the Potrillo Mountain area where 62.5% selected both Natural landscapes and Self-reliant adventures

especially the case in the Organ Mountains area where over 80% of the participants selecting that area identified “natural landscapes” as one of their top three choices. Figure 6 also indicates there are some interest and expectation characteristics that vary considerably by the area of the Monument or other BLM lands selected for example “cultural heritage and history” seems to be more desired in the non-Monument BLM lands in Doña Ana County, while “self-reliant adventures” is more desired in the Potrillo Mountains area. “Health and Fitness” experiences are desired in all areas, but particularly in the Organ Mountains Area. A more detailed analysis of these experiential preferences will be discussed under each area section below.

Information

When individuals recreate on public lands they are concerned about the outcomes and experiences that they desire, the activities they want to participate in, and the setting characteristics that make all of those possible, but they are also reliant on the provision of services that make their experiences possible. These services typically range from information to fuel, food to gear, and accommodations to communications. Many of these services are provided by surrounding communities. Some services such as information are partially provided by the BLM. It is critical for recreational management to better understand all the sources of information visitors rely on to be successful recreating on public lands. The participants of the focus groups were asked to select all sources of information they relied on to recreate in OMDPNM and surrounding BLM lands. The results are displayed by area in Figure 7 below.

Figure 7: Sources of Recreational Information About the Place



11

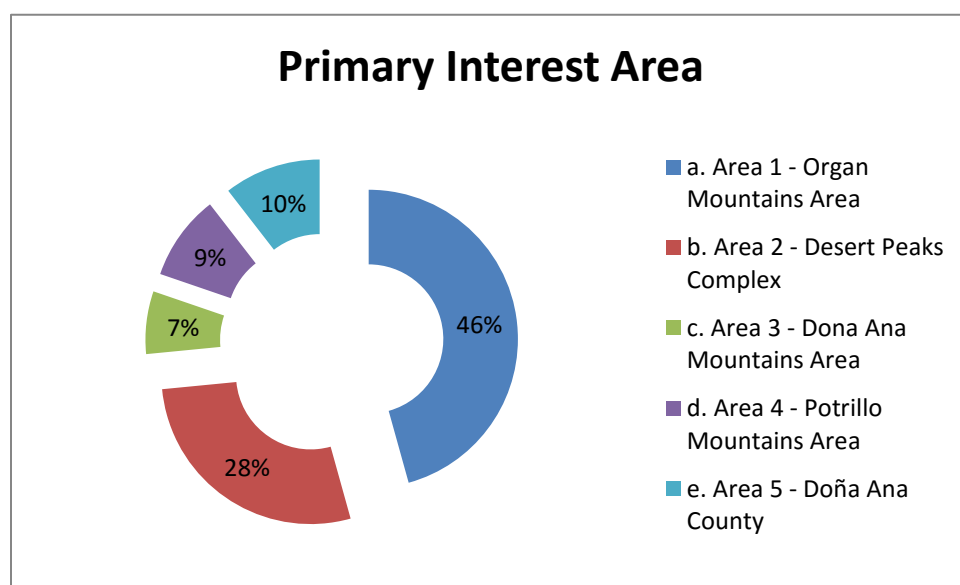
Figure 7 shows that the most common sources of information for every area are past experience, family and friends and maps. There is quite a bit of variation between areas for some sources of information such as digital app use in the Doña Ana Mountains, or visitor center staff and on site signage (such as kiosks and interpretive signs) in the Organ Mountains. A more detailed analysis of these sources of information for each area will be detailed in the individual area sections below.

¹¹ Note: The participants could select as many information sources as they wanted; the percentages reflect the number of participants selecting a particular source of information and a specific primary area of interest.

Maps and Locations of Special Places

Participants were asked to identify the places that were particularly special to them and record them on a series of maps located in their handout. There were five maps in the handout covering the four discrete areas in OMDPNM: Organ Mountains area; Desert Peaks complex; Doña Ana Mountains area; and Potrillo Mountains area, as well as a map of the Doña Ana County¹². Participants were encouraged to identify all the places that have a particular special connection for them and indicate what was special about that place. They could select areas on any or all of the maps, but a follow-up question asked them to identify one of the five areas as their area of primary interest. The results of that question are displayed in Figure 8.

Figure 8: Area of Primary Interest in the Monument



13

From the graphic in Figure 8 it is clear that a close to half of respondents (46%) selected the Organ Mountains area as their primary area of interest. Slightly more than a quarter of the participants (28%) chose the Desert Peaks Complex as their primary area, nine percent chose the Potrillo Mountains Area, seven percent chose the Doña Ana Mountains Area and 10% of the participants selected BLM managed lands in Doña Ana County as their primary focus. Participants were reminded that their responses to future questions in the handout would be interpreted as referring to the primary interest area they have indicated. This allows us to understand the reasons why a particular area is of interest to the participants. In many of the

¹² In the initial set of focus groups in 2016, there were only four maps corresponding to the 4 areas of OMDPNM. For the 2017 focus groups, a fifth map was added to identify BLM managed lands in Dona Ana County.

¹³ 162 of the 189 participants chose one of the primary interest areas. Percentages here reflect the N of 162.

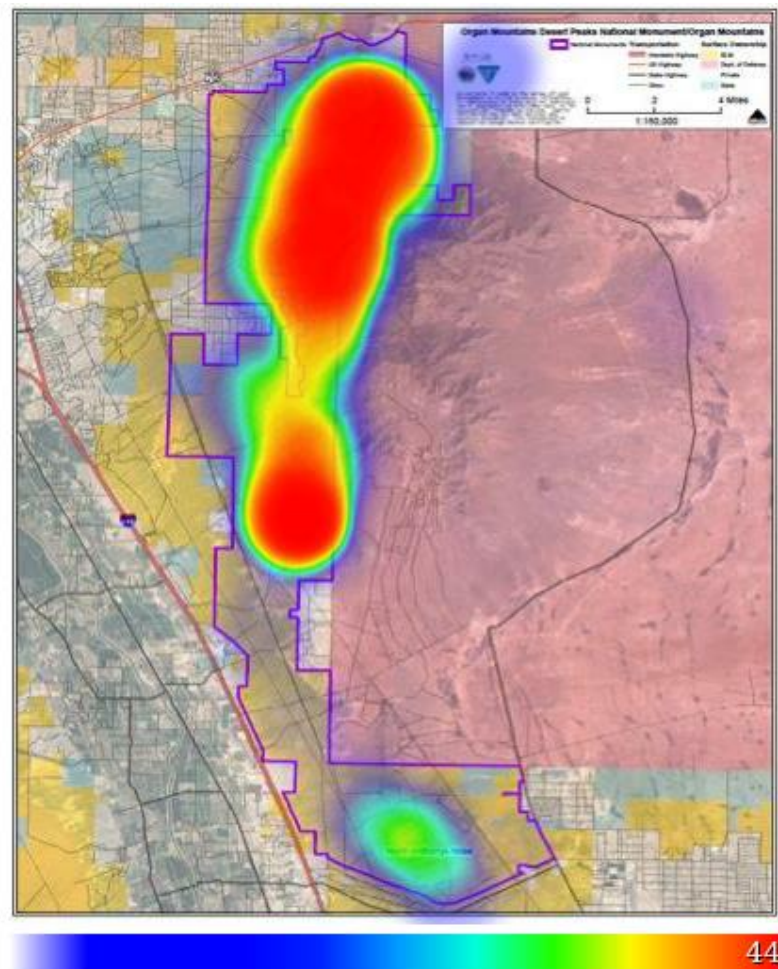
figures displayed in this report, responses are reported based on what area the participant chose as their area of primary interest.

The following graphics in figures 9, 14, 19, 24 and 29 depict the locations of the special places identified by participants in the mapping exercise. These heat maps help to understand the concentration of special places across the monument. They tend to cluster around destination locations such as the peaks of the mountains and particular sites of interest due to their geological, paleontological, or archaeological characteristics. The color spectrum below the heat maps ranges from a few special places (blue) to numerous identified places (red). A brief analysis of spatial trends for each of the four areas the monument will follow the map graphic of that particular area.

In order to facilitate locating special places on the maps and to focus comments to particular locations, OMDPNM was divided into 4 areas corresponding to the 4 discrete locations within the Monument (Organ Mountains, Desert Peaks/Uvas Mountains, Doña Ana Mountains and Potrillo Mountains) as well as a fifth area which was the non-Monument BLM-managed lands in Doña Ana County. For the purposes of this report, heat maps were generated for each of the areas, and participant comments were associated in the figures with each of the areas that they indicated was their primary area of interest.

Organ Mountains Area

Figure 9: Organ Mountains Area Special Places Map



14

The Organ Mountains area is a long narrow band of OMDPNM to the east of I-25. The special places identified by participants were concentrated on the northern half of this area that includes the Organ Mountains, the Organ Mountains WSA, Aguirre Spring and the historic Dripping Springs Natural Area. The Organ Mountains themselves have long been an iconic visual image associated with the community of Las Cruces, so it is no surprise that the participants would identify this area so heavily as a special place (Figure 9). A second primary hotspot on this map surrounds the Hot Springs emphasizing that location is a destination point, developed facilities, and for the historic connection. There are not many special places identified in the southern half of this area with the exception of the trailhead location for the Sierra Vista trail

¹⁴ The BLM triangle symbol in the legend on each of these heat maps is the location marked when participants identified “the whole area” as a special places rather than identifying specific individual locations on the map. As a result there will be color circles around the BLM triangle on each of these maps to varying degrees of intensity from few participants in the Organ Mountains and Potrillo Mountains areas to more significant identification of the entire areas of the Desert peaks and Dona Ana Mountains.

that runs North and South throughout the western side of the Organ Mountains area. Table 2 below contains a list of the most common special places named and located by participants on their handouts for the Organ Mountains area map.

Table 2: Special Places Named by Respondent in Organ Mountains Monument Area

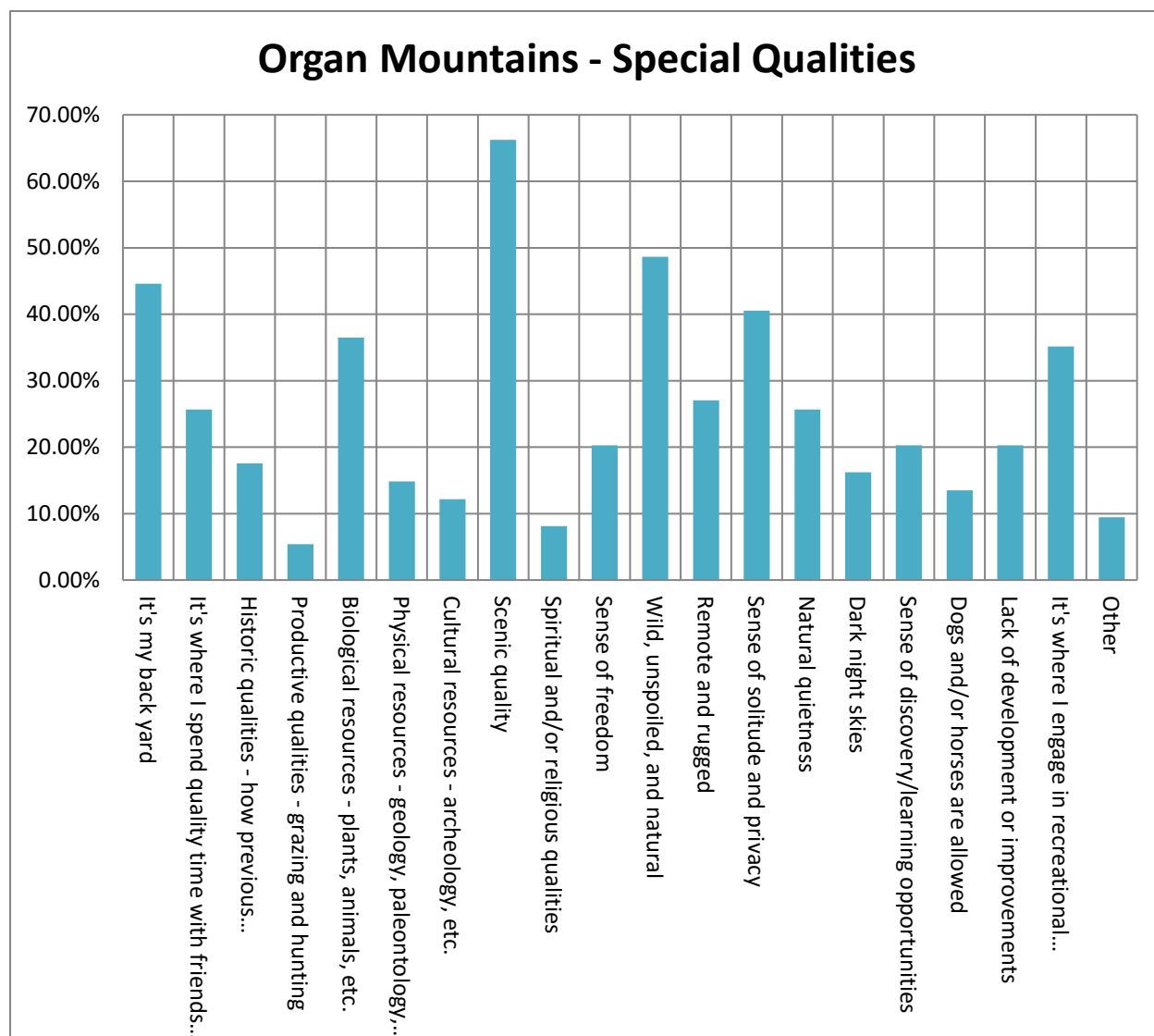
Special Place Named by Respondent (places named > 5 times)	Number of times named
Baylor Canyon / Pass / Trail / Peak	57
Dripping Springs	52
Aguirre Spring	37
Bishop Cap	34
The (Organ) Needle	33
Organ Mountains / Area / Archaeology Sites / Trails / Peaks	31
Soledad Canyon / Trail	29
Sierra Vista Trail	16
Peña Blanca	15
Achenbach Canyon / Trail	13
Squaw Mountain	13
Fillmore Canyon	9
Rabbit Ears (Canyon)	7
Sugar Loaf Peak	7
Bar Canyon / Trail	6

15

In order to better facilitate the connection between participants outcomes, experiences, and expectations that they describe in the focus groups and particular locations, the figures associated with a particular area in the following pages refer only to the responses by those participants that identified that area as their primary focus in question 3 of the handout.

¹⁵ The number of mentions in these area specific tables indicates the number of times a participant mapped that location regardless of which primary area they focused the rest of their comments on. Participants were allowed to locate and identify special places to them on all 5 area maps before they selected an area of primary interest.

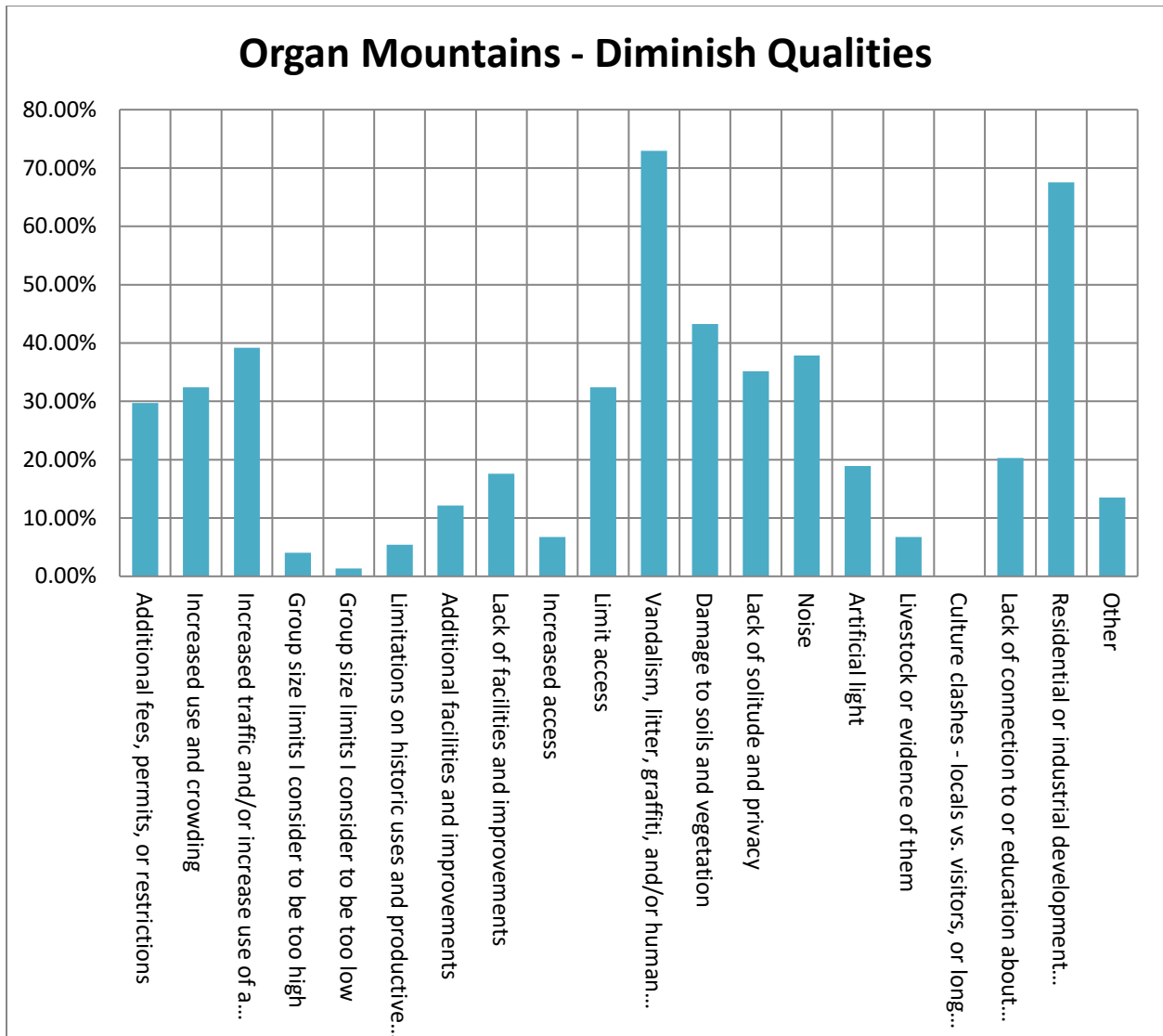
Figure 10: Organ Mountains Area Special Qualities



The most commonly identified characteristic of the Organ Mountains area¹⁶ was the “scenic quality” of the area followed by several referring to its “wild, natural and quiet” quality (Figure 10). Typical of all of the areas in this study, proximity to one’s home (“it’s my backyard”), and opportunities to recreate were also important qualities of the Organ Mountains area.

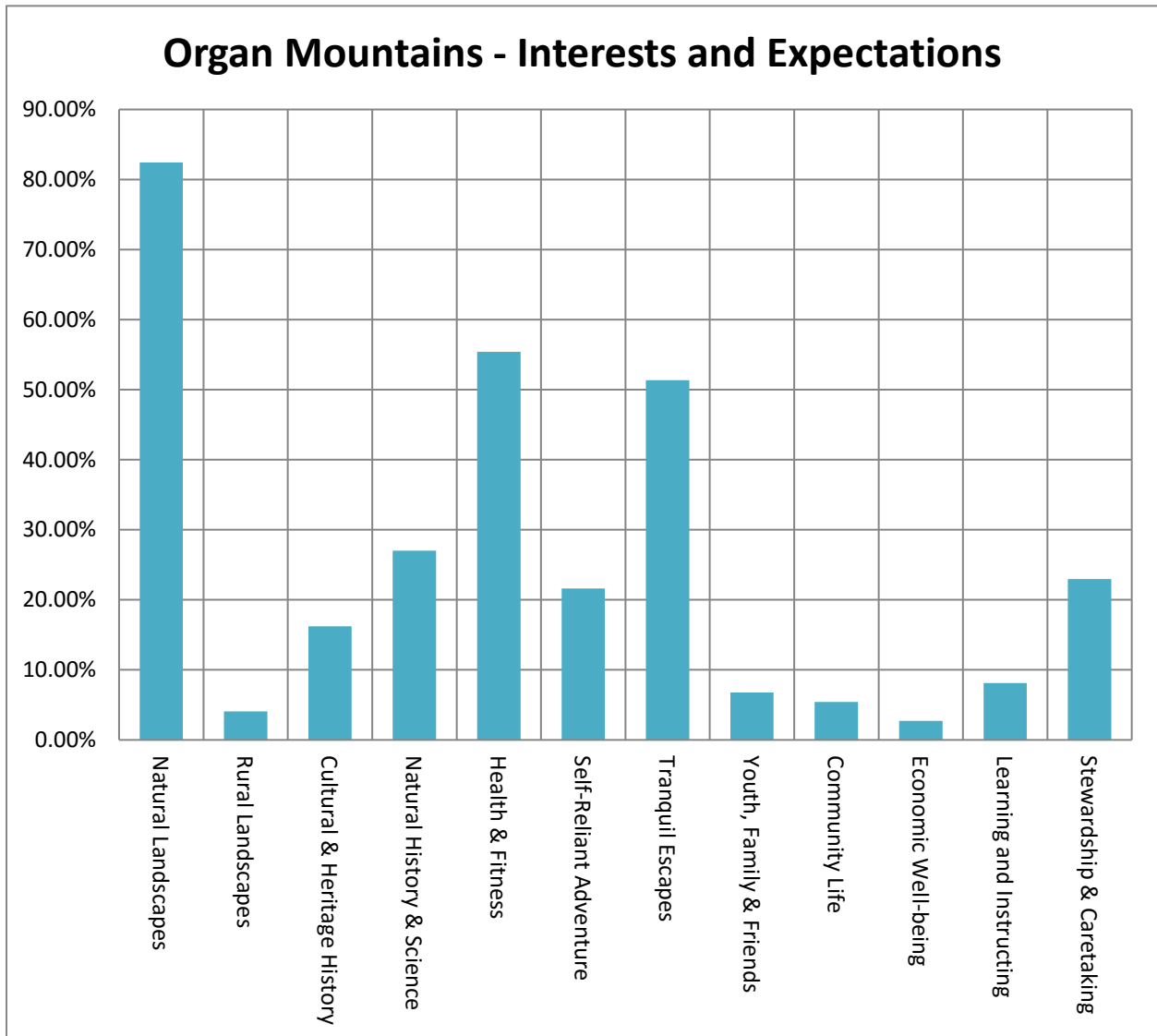
¹⁶ These responses are associated with a particular area based on the response that participant gave to the question of which primary area they were responding about (see figure 8 above).

Figure 11: Organ Mountains Area Diminishing Qualities



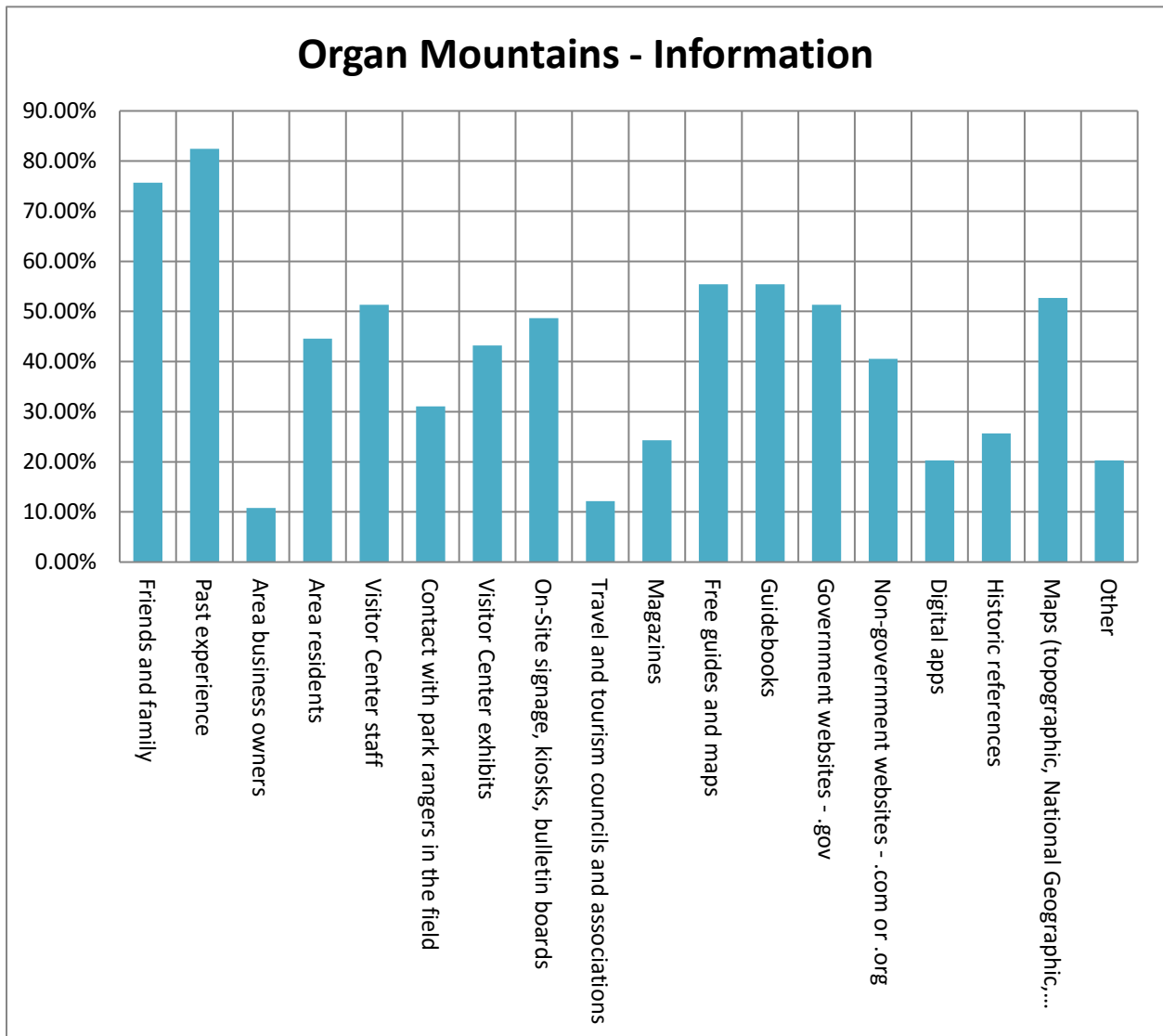
When considering what can or does diminish the special qualities of the Organ Mountains area, participants selected vandalism, litter, graffiti, etc. and residential or industrial developments as their most common concerns (Figure 11). There was an important theme of crowding, traffic and a lack of solitude for several of the participants as well.

Figure 12: Organ Mountains Area Interests and Expectations



When participants visit the Organ Mountains area they are most often interested in the natural landscapes, finding a tranquil escape and experiences that promote health and fitness (Figure 12). The participants selected characteristics that have a broader community impact such as “community life or economic well-being” less often. This does not mean that those values are unimportant to them, just not the first things they think of when going to recreate on this landscape.

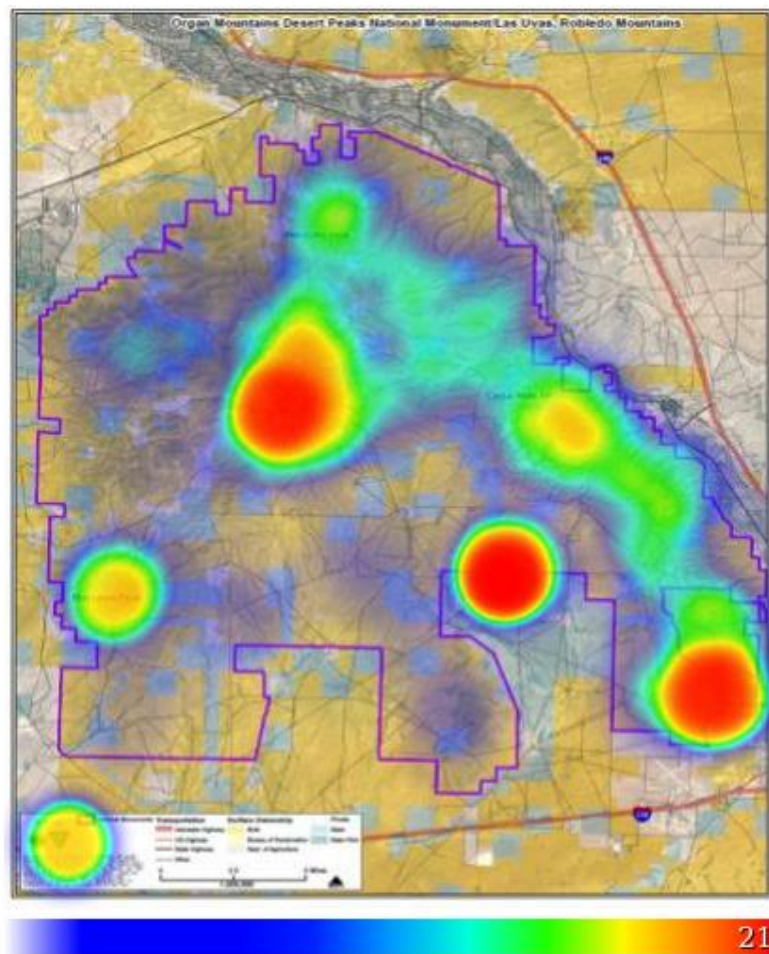
Figure 13: Organ Mountains Area Information Sources



Although the most common sources of information for the Organ Mountains area were past experience, and family and friends, there are a diversity of sources used by at least one third of the participants (Figure 13). Many of these include BLM provided information such as Visitor Center staff and displays, kiosks and other signage on-site, government websites, and even contact with the rangers in the field. Other common sources of information for the Organ Mountains area are maps (commercial and free), guidebooks and non-governmental websites. In short, visitors use a wide variety of sources of information to successfully recreate in the Organ Mountains area.

Desert Peaks Complex Area

Figure 14: Desert Peaks Area Special Places Map

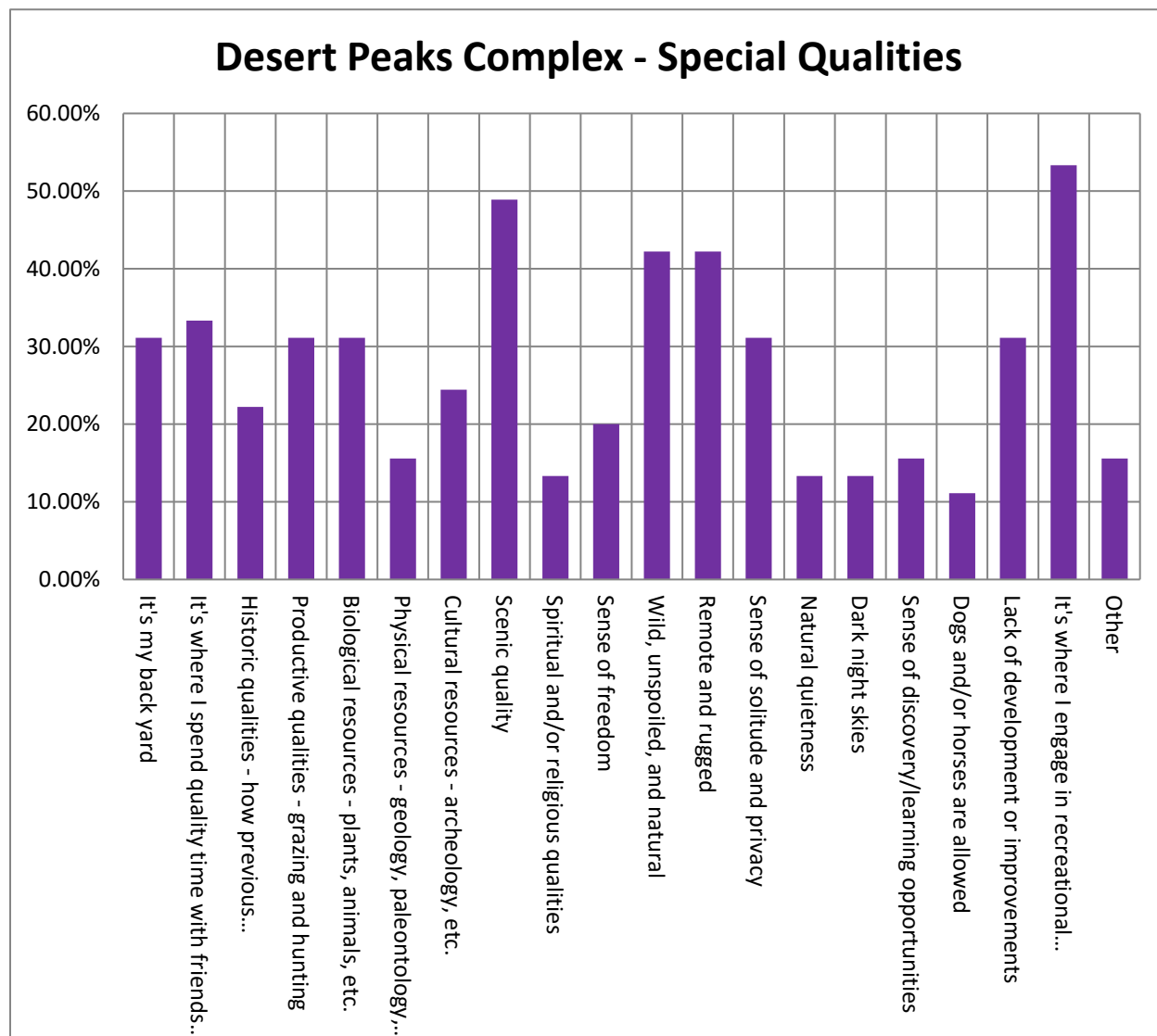


The Desert Peaks complex/area also known as Uvas Robles is located to the west of Las Cruces and north of I-10 in the OMDPNM. The Special places identified by participants are clustered around three primary locations in the area, with several others also identified (Figure 14). These three locations are the Rough and Ready Hills, Magdalena Peak, and Picacho Mountain. Other locations identified as special by several participants include Cedar Hills, the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument, and Massacre Peak as well as the areas of Broad and Valles Canyon. Table 3 below contains a list of the most common special places named and located by participants on their handouts for the Desert Peaks area map.

Table 3: Special Places Named by Respondents in Desert Peaks Monument Area

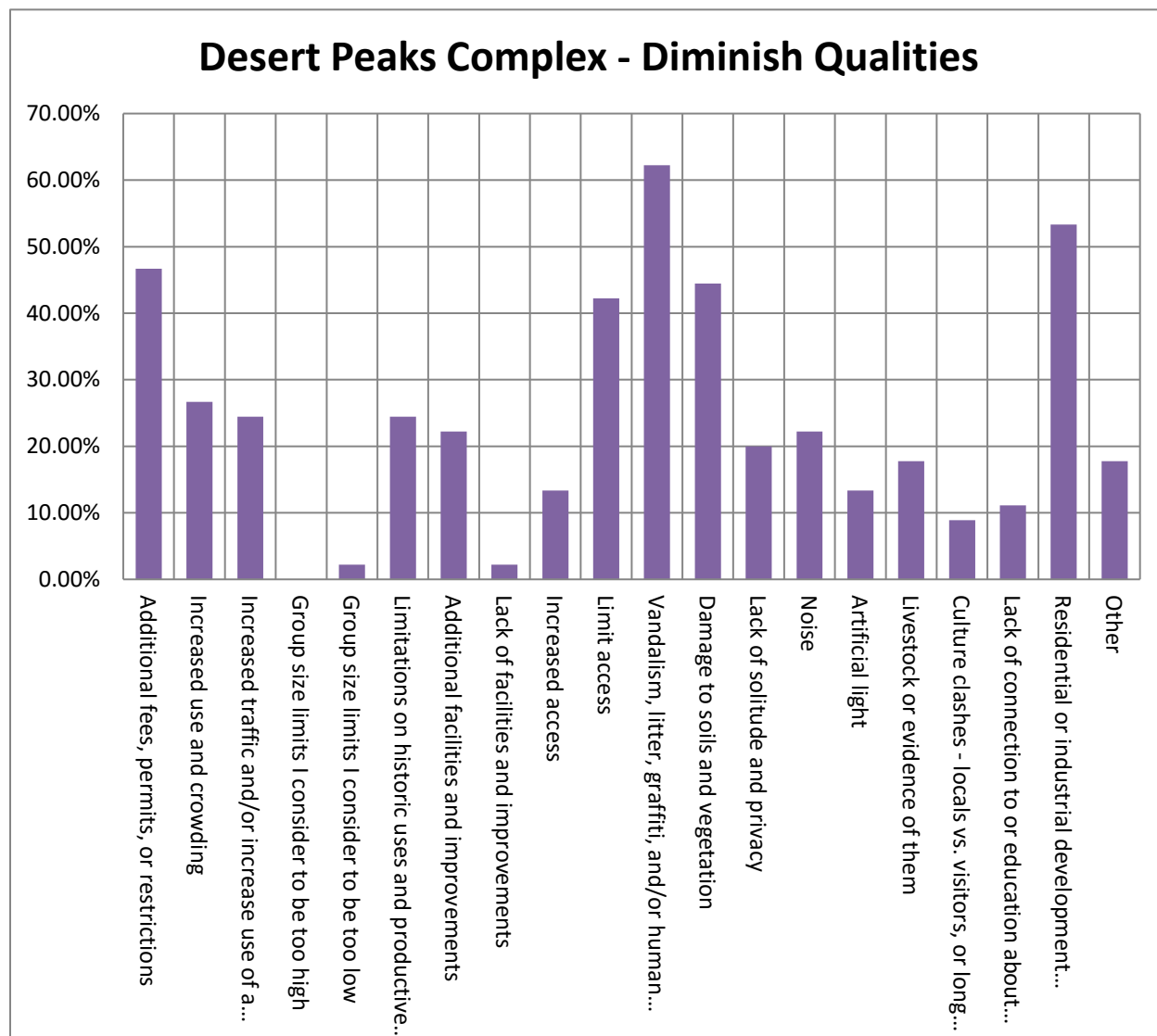
Special Places Named by Respondent (places named > 5 times)	Number of times named
Rough and Ready Hills	35
Picacho Mountain / Peak	34
Broad Canyon (often mentioned along with Valles Canyon)	30
Magdalena Peak / Ridge / Rim	25
Valles Canyon (often mentioned along with Broad Canyon)	25
Robledo Mountains / Canyons / Foothills	20
Massacre Peak	16
Prehistoric Trackways National Monument	12
Cedar Hills	10
Las Uvas Mountains / Valley / Spring / Foothills	10
Apache Flats / Canyon	9
Faulkner Canyon	9
White Gap Pass	8
Corralito's Road / Grassland / Ranch	7
Entire Monument Area	6
Peloncillo Peak	6

Figure 15: Desert Peaks Area Special Qualities



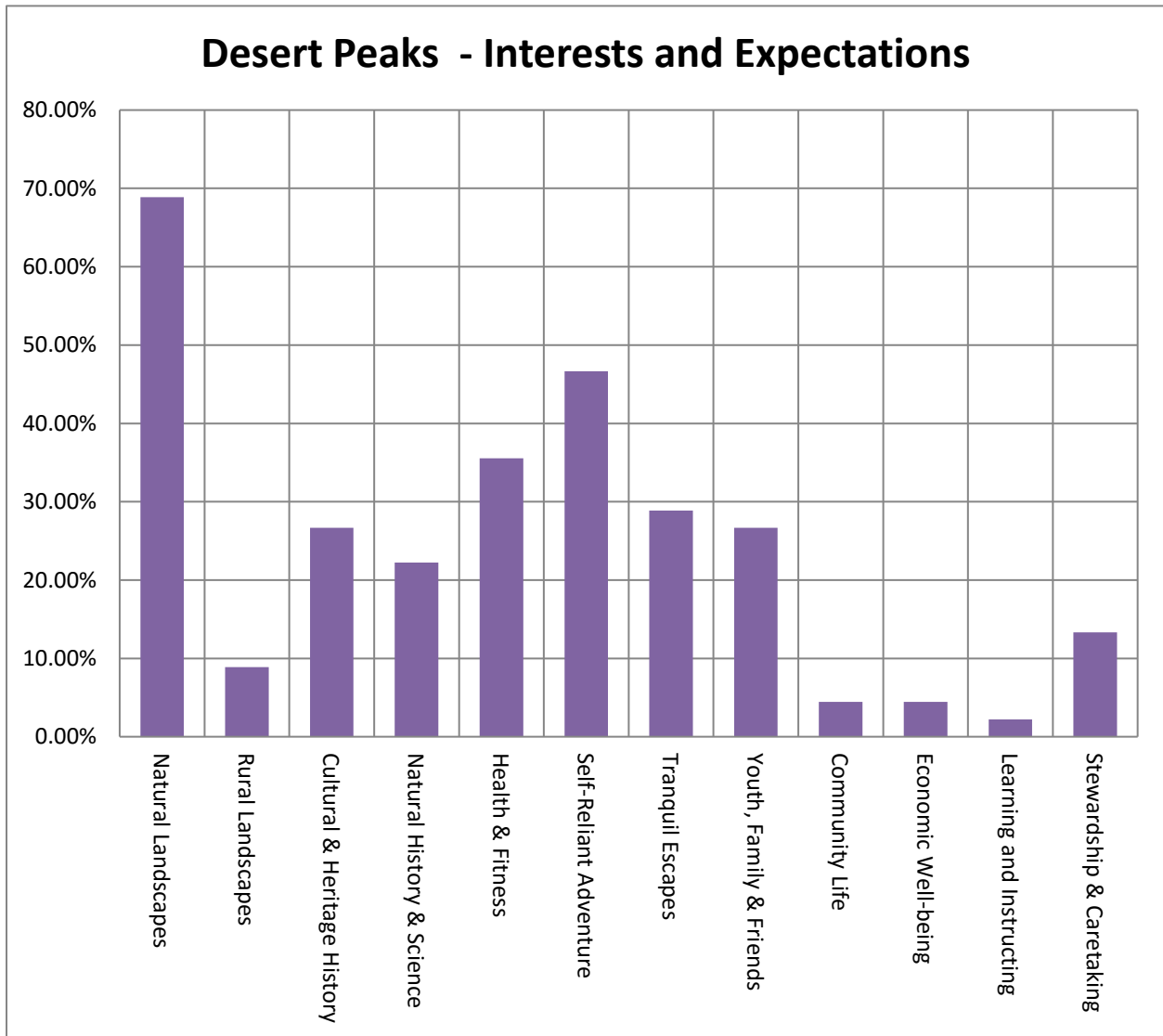
There seem to be three overriding themes in the Desert Peaks area that participants have identified most often as qualities that make it a special place (Figure 15). Many selected the “scenic qualities” as a reason it is special. Others identified a series of qualities that contribute to its natural and uncrowded, undeveloped character such as “remote and ruggedness,” “wild, unspoiled and natural,” “sense of solitude and privacy,” and “lack of development or improvements.” Finally, there are a number of qualities identified as contributing to a third theme of a backyard recreational experience with friends and family.

Figure 16: Desert Peaks Area Diminishing Qualities



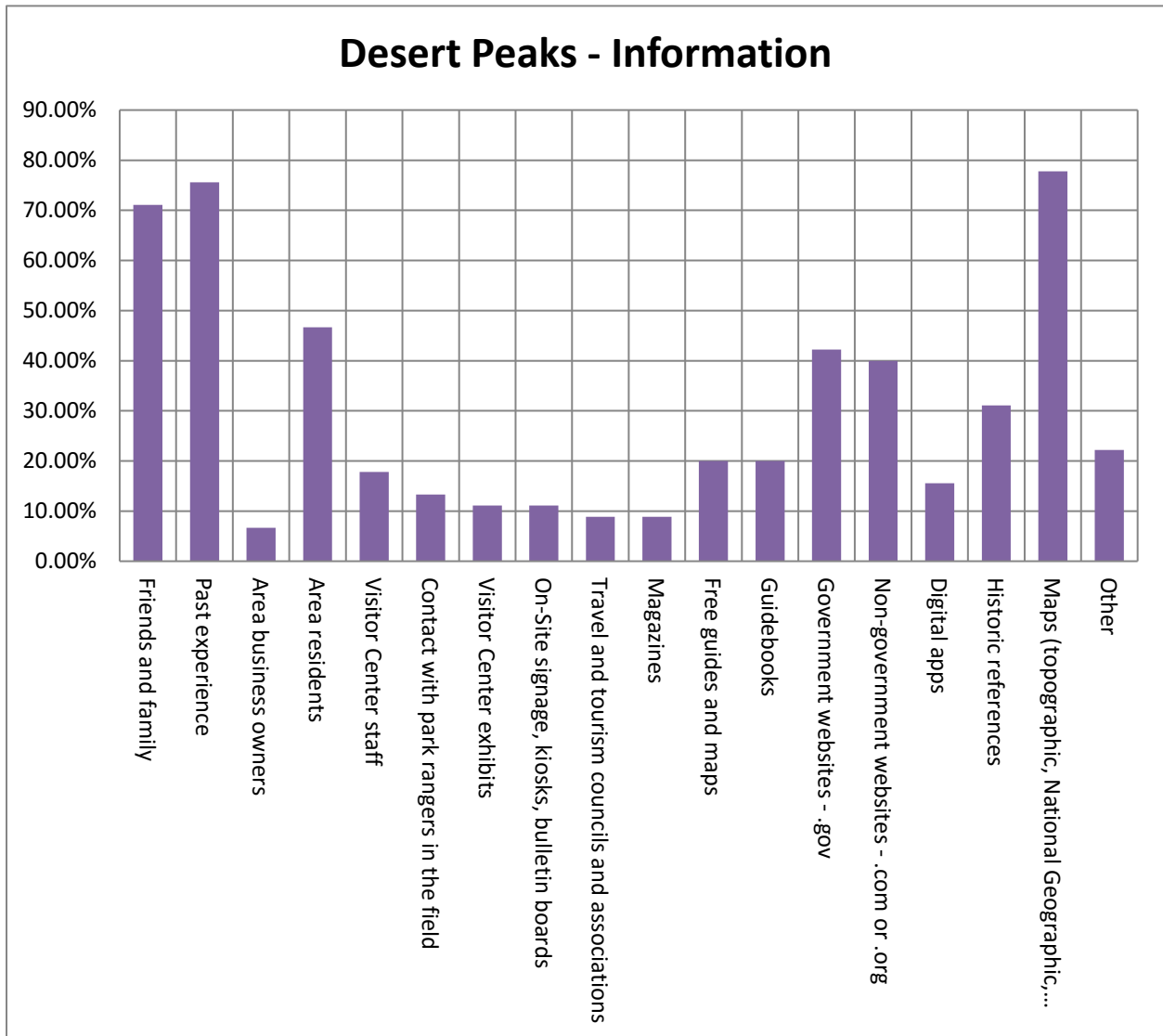
Like most of the other areas in the study, the Desert Peaks area was threatened by “vandalism, etc.” according to over 60% of the participants that chose that area as their focus (Figure 17). A majority of participants also identified “residential or industrial development” in the area as a threat to the specialness of the place. Other characteristics that could or do diminish the specialness of the Desert Peaks area directly address management practices were “additional fees, permits, or restrictions” as well as “limiting access.” There was also a concern about additional “damage to soils and vegetation” in the area.

Figure 17: Desert Peaks Area Interests and Expectations



By far the most common preferred set of interest and expectations for the Desert Peaks area was the experience of “natural landscapes;” nearly 70% of the participants selected that as one of their three most desired settings (Figure 17). In keeping with the theme of rugged and wild natural areas discussed above, nearly half of the participants also selected “self-reliant adventure” as one of their most desired outcomes or experiences from a trip to the Desert Peaks area.

Figure 18: Desert Peaks Area Information Sources



Beyond an obviously common reliance on maps for information about the Desert Peaks area, most of the information about the area was gained from word of mouth through area residents, family and friends and past experiences of the area (Figure 18). About 40% of the participants also identified websites (government and non-governmental) as an important source of information about the Desert Peaks area when they are preparing to recreate in the area.

Figure 19: Doña Ana Mountains Area Special Places Map

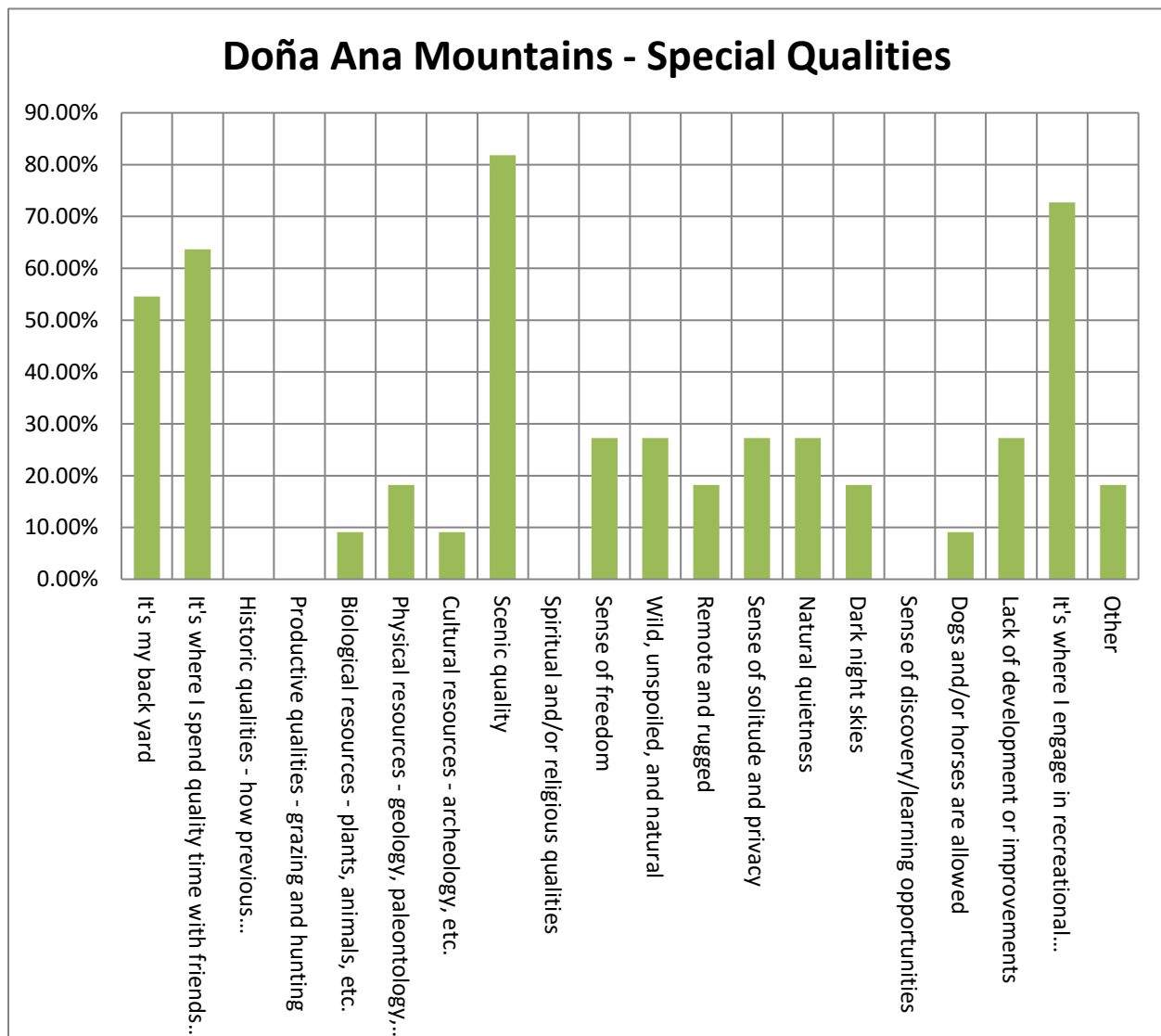


The Doña Ana Mountains area is located to the Northeast of Las Cruces, NM in OMDPNM. This area had the highest percentage of participants selecting the entire area as special (evidenced by the colored spot covering the BLM Triangle in the legend). This is the smallest of the area units in the study, and according to the comments accompanying the identification of this place in the handouts, it is popular for mountain biking activity as well as being perceived as the “locals” area of the monument where many value the “backyard” character of the area. Part of this perception may be fueled by the fact that this area of the Monument is the closest to housing developments in the outskirts of Las Cruces. If participants were to identify specific locations in this area, the map indicates they clustered around the tallest peak in the Doña Ana Mountains area (Figure 19). Table 4 below contains a list of the most common special places named and located by participants on their handouts for the Doña Ana Mountains area map.

Table 4: Special Places Named by Respondent in Doña Ana Mountains Monument Area

Special Places Named by Respondent (places named > 5 times)	Number of times named
Doña Ana Mountains / Peak / Hills / Arches	54
Checkerboard Wall / Mountain	9
Doña Ana Trails / Mountain Biking Trails	7

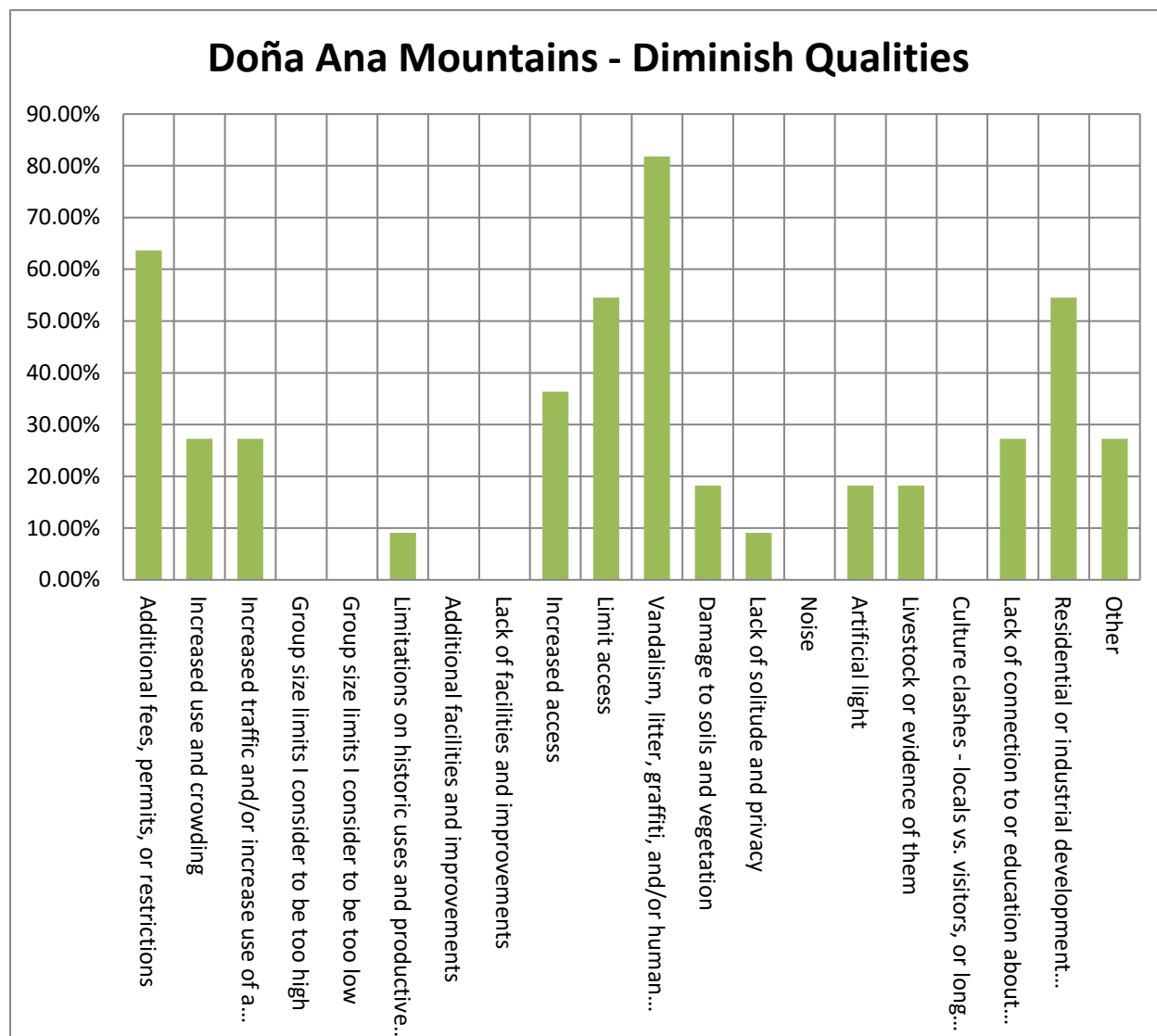
Figure 20: Doña Ana Mountains Area Special Qualities



Like most of the other areas in OMDPNM, the Doña Ana Mountains area was prized for its scenic qualities by over 80% of the participants that identified that area as their primary focus in the study (Figure 20). Beyond its scenic beauty, the area was largely valued as a backyard recreation destination that is often shared with family and friends. Fewer than 30% of the

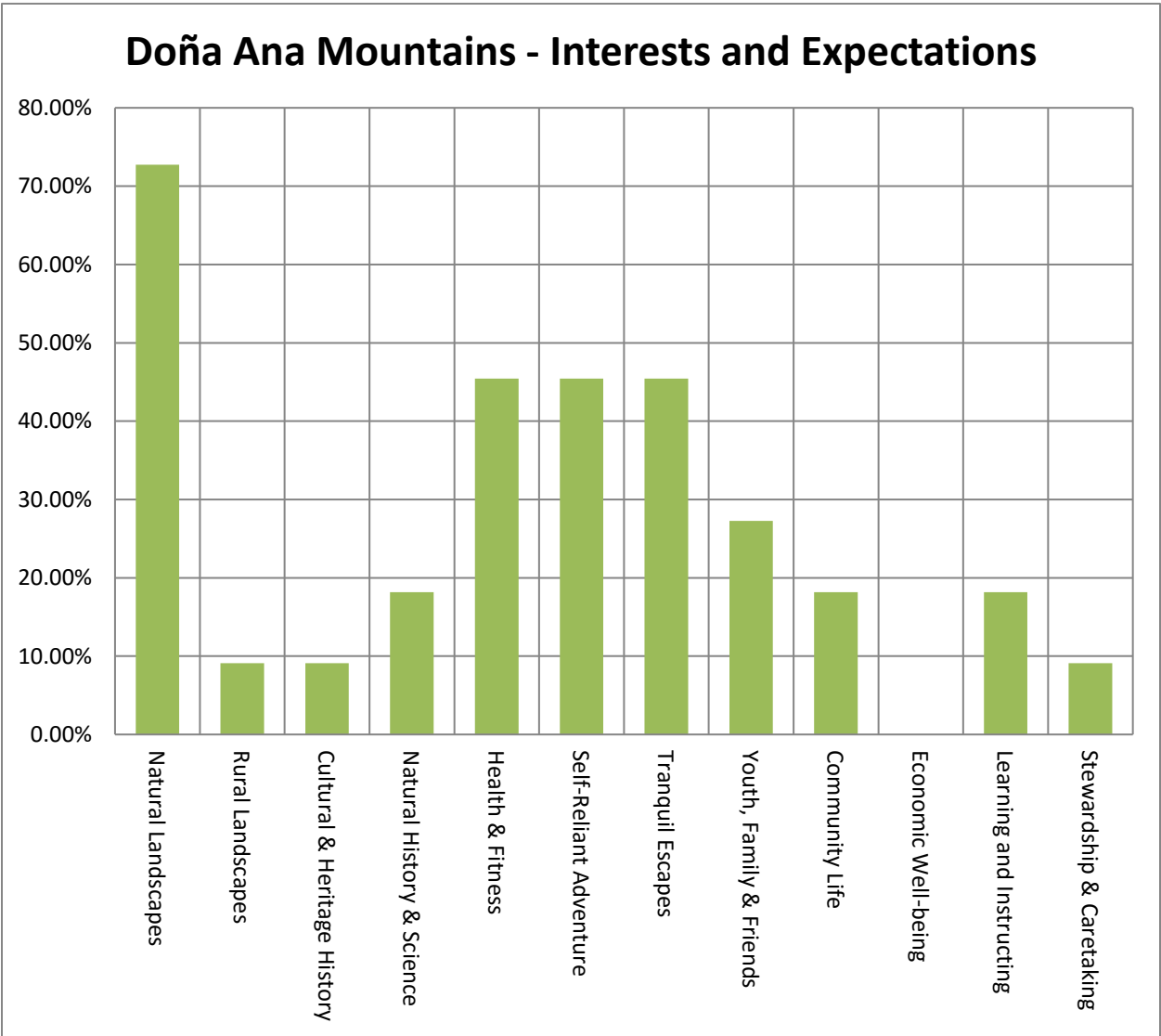
participants focusing on the Doña Ana Mountains area selected any of the other qualities in their top five selections of why this area is a special place.

Figure 21: Doña Ana Mountains Area Diminishing Qualities



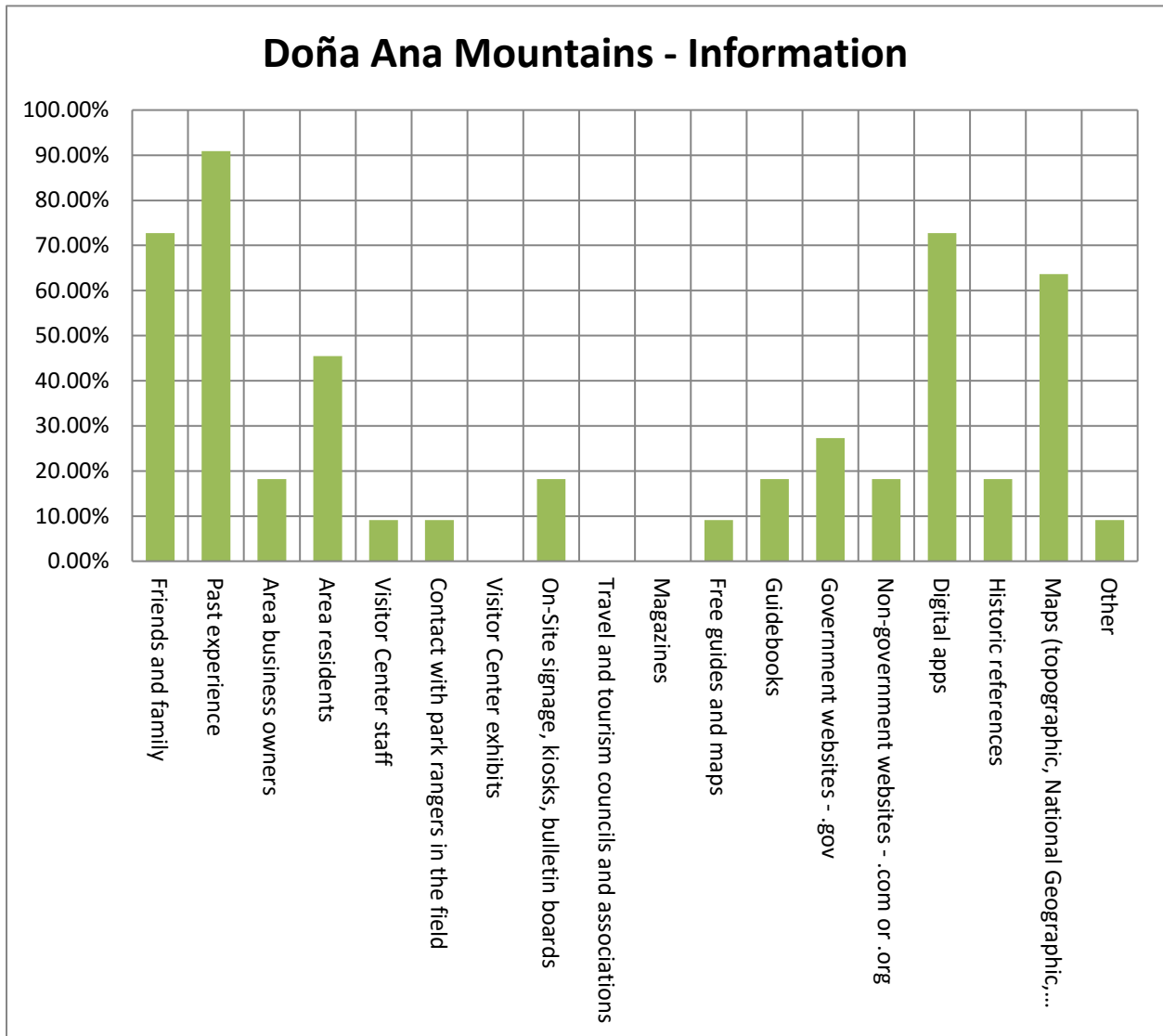
Vandalism, litter, graffiti and/or human waste was the single most common response of a quality that diminishes the specialness of the Doña Ana Mountains area for the participants selecting that area as their primary focus (Figure 21). This was a common concern across all areas in the study. A majority also expressed concern for the impact of managerial actions such as additional fees, permits, or restrictions and limiting access to the area. There are also many participants who expressed concern for residential or industrial development in the area.

Figure 22: Doña Ana Mountains Area Interests and Expectations



According to the participants selecting the Doña Ana Mountains as their primary area, it was a great place to experience natural landscapes as well as escape from the hustle and bustle of urban life as they engage in self-reliant adventures that improve their health and fitness (Figure 22). For the participants in the study, this area was not identified for its contributions to the economic well-being of the surrounding community as often.

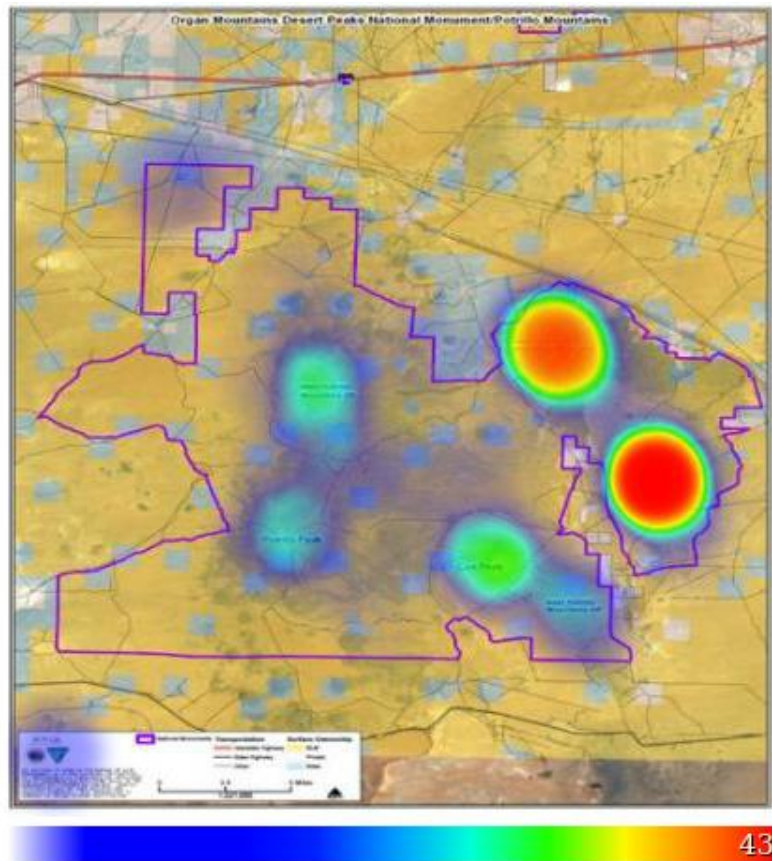
Figure 23: Doña Ana Mountains Area Information



Although maps, friends, family and past experience all appeared to be a very common sources of information for this area (like all other areas), over 70% of the participants identified “digital apps” as another important source of information for the Doña Ana Mountains area (unlike any of the other areas in the study)(Figure 23). This is worth asking follow up questions to better understand why digital apps are such a popular source of information for this area in particular.

Potrillo Mountains Area

Figure 24: Potrillo Mountains Special Places Map

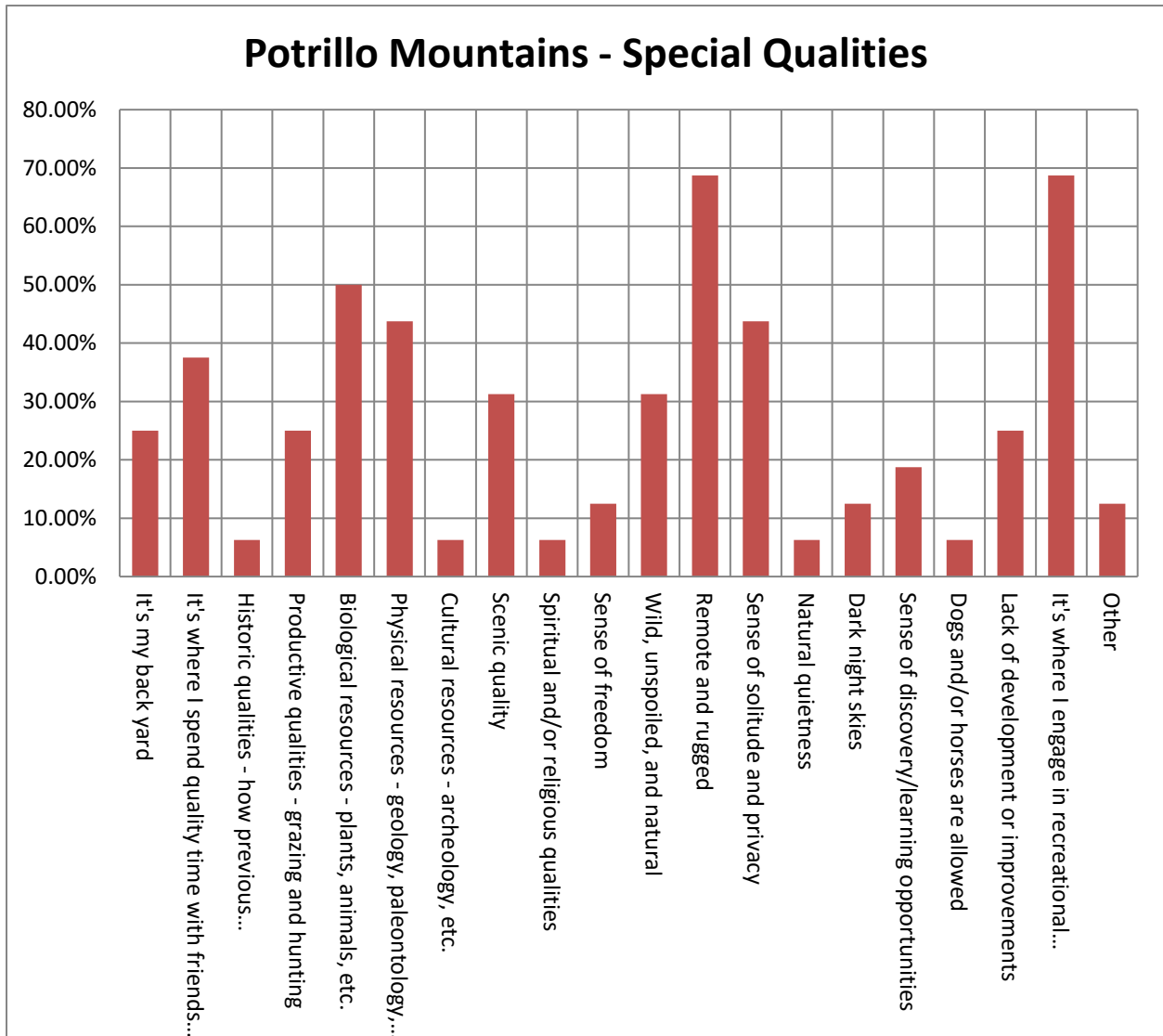


Many of the sites named in the Potrillo Mountains area are dispersed across the area in keeping with the strong emphasis on the remote, rugged and wild character of this particular area according to the special qualities most commonly identified with it. There are two areas identified by bright color on the heat map in Figure 24 above that act as more popular named destinations. They are surrounding Kilbourne Hole and the Aden Lava flow/Crater. Table 5 below contains a list of the most common special places named and located by participants on their handouts for the Potrillo Mountains area map.

Table 5: Special Places Named by Respondent in Potrillo Mountains Monument Area

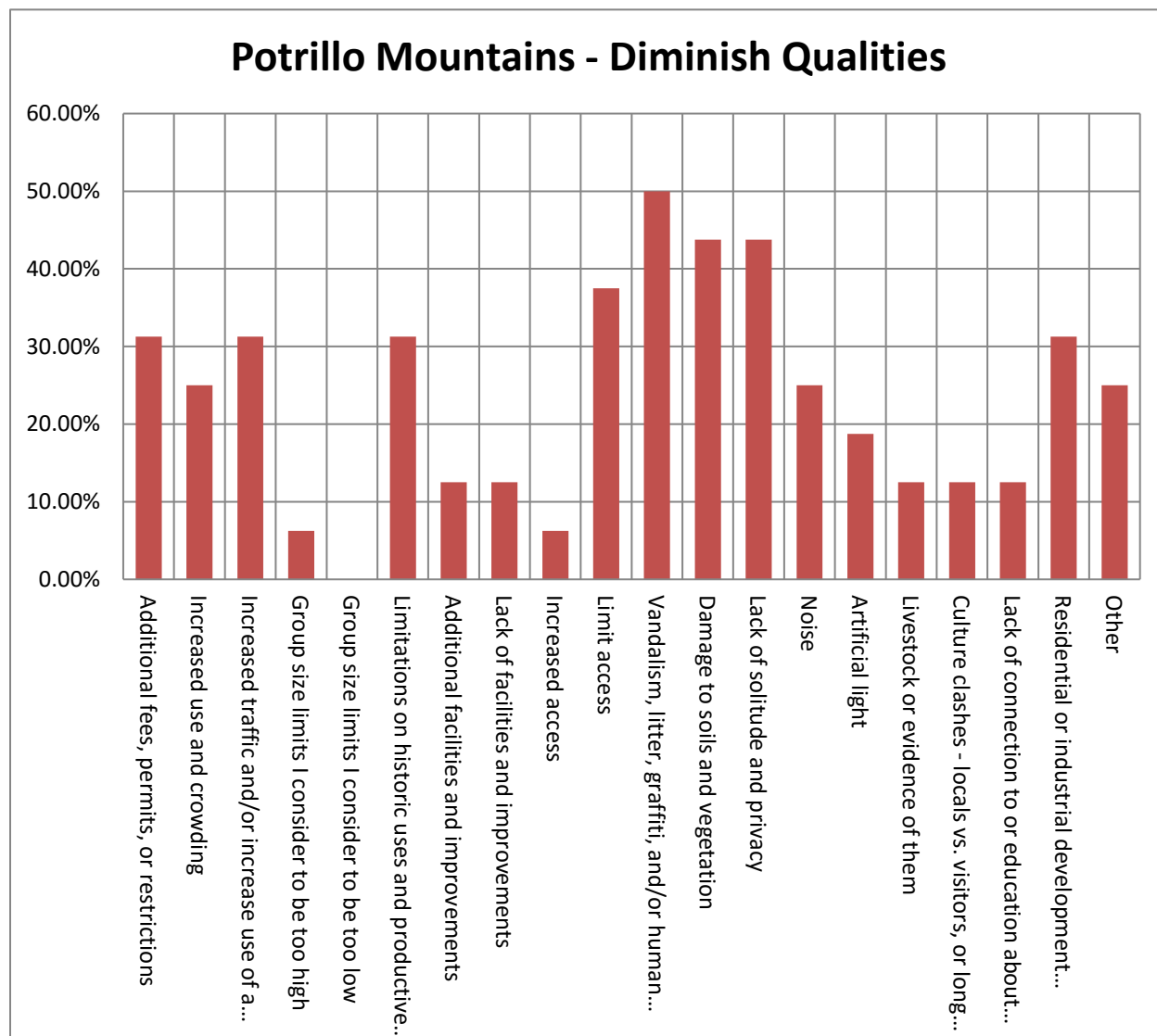
Special Places Named by Respondent (places named > 5 times)	Number of times named
Kilbourne Hole	48
Aden Lava Flow / Crater	43
Potrillo Mountains Area / Peak	14
Mount Cox (often mentioned with Mount Riley)	13
Mount Riley (often mentioned with Mount Cox)	12
West Potrillo Mountains	12
East Potrillo Mountains	8
Providence Cone	7

Figure 25: Potrillo Mountains Special Qualities



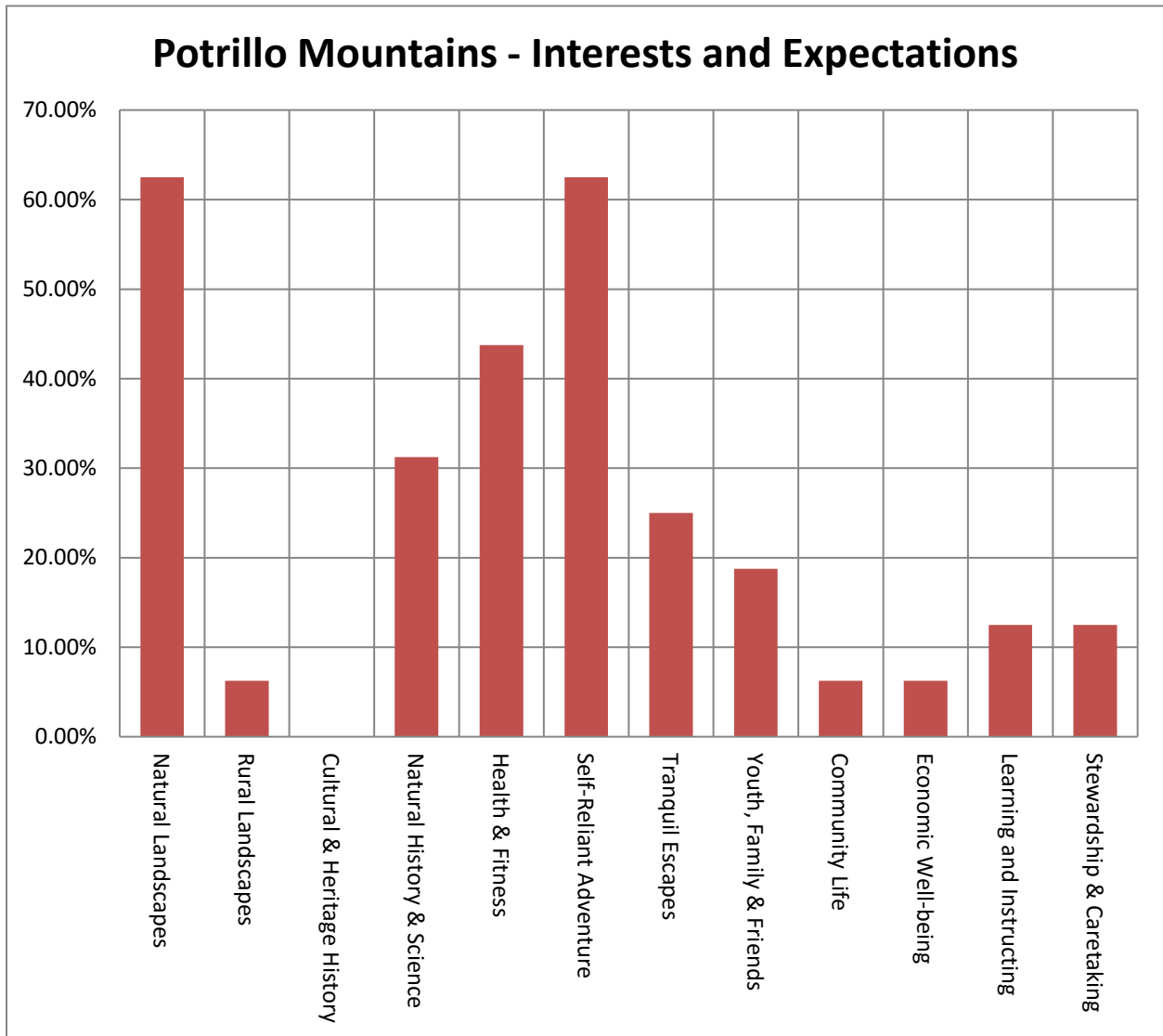
While the Potrillo Mountains area was commonly identified as a location to engage in desired recreational activity, it was also frequently prized for its remote, rugged, natural and wild character, and for the sense of solitude and privacy that offers (Figure 25). While most of the other areas were most commonly prized for their scenic beauty, the Potrillo Mountains area was identified by a much greater number of participants for its biological and physical resources.

Figure 26: Potrillo Mountains Diminishing Qualities



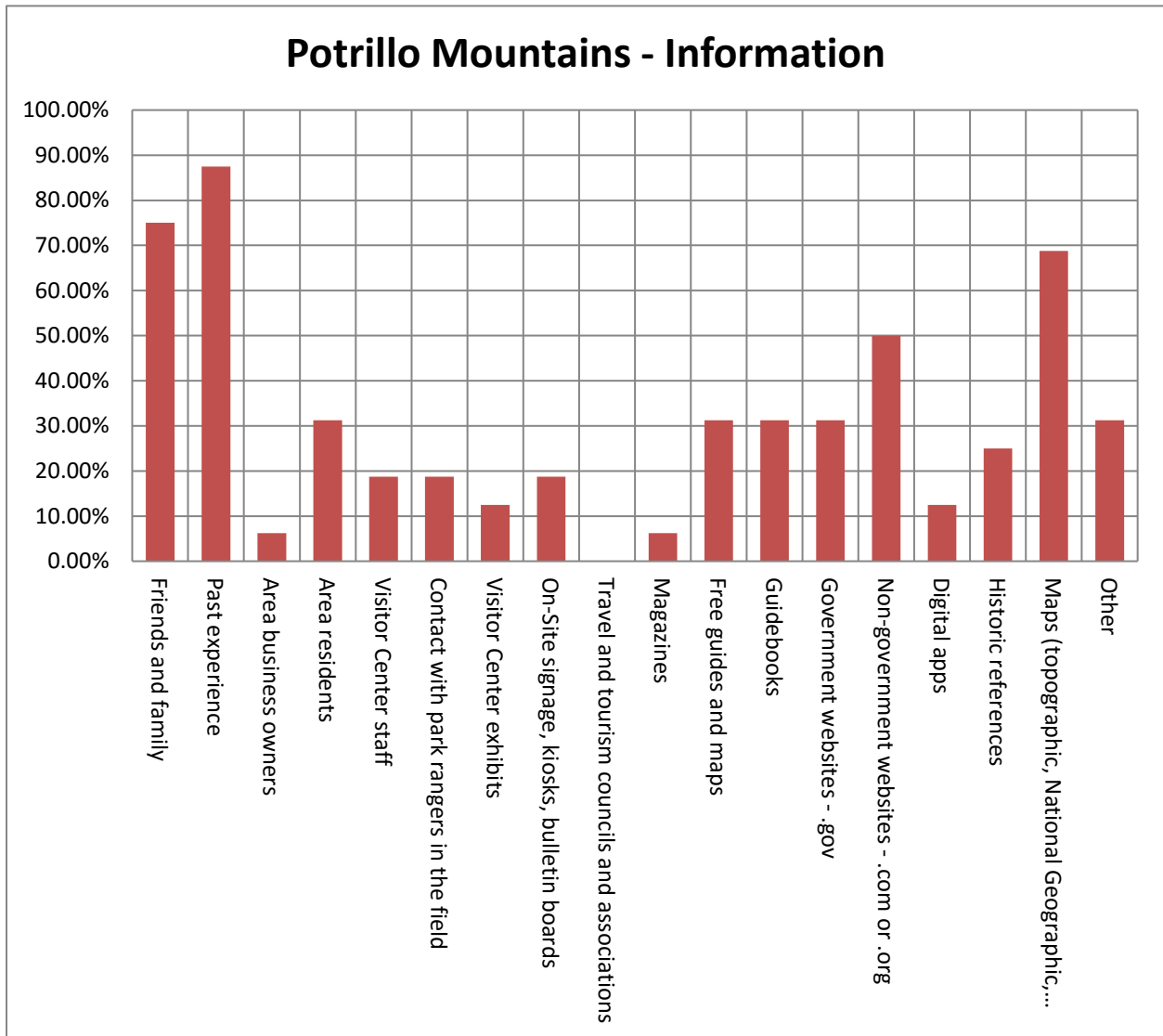
Half of the participants selecting the Potrillo Mountains area as their primary focus saw vandalism, litter, etc. as a threat to the specialness of the area (Figure 27). Beyond this, about 30-45 % of the participants identified a diversity of other threats including a loss of solitude, damage to the resources, fees, traffic or additional types of vehicles, residential or industrial development, and even limitations on historic uses and productive uses of the landscape as threats. The later concern was more commonly expressed in the Potrillo Mountains than any other area. This was likely expressed because of the long-standing relationship area ranchers have with this part of the landscape.

Figure 27: Potrillo Mountains Interests and Expectations



Once again, the most common response to highly valued outcomes and experiences in the area was the value of its natural landscape (Figure 27). Consistent with the desire for solitude in this remote and rugged landscape, another value identified by over 60% of the participants was the experience of self-reliant adventures, with a desire for health and fitness outcomes and experiences rounding out the top three most popular responses in the Potrillo Mountains area.

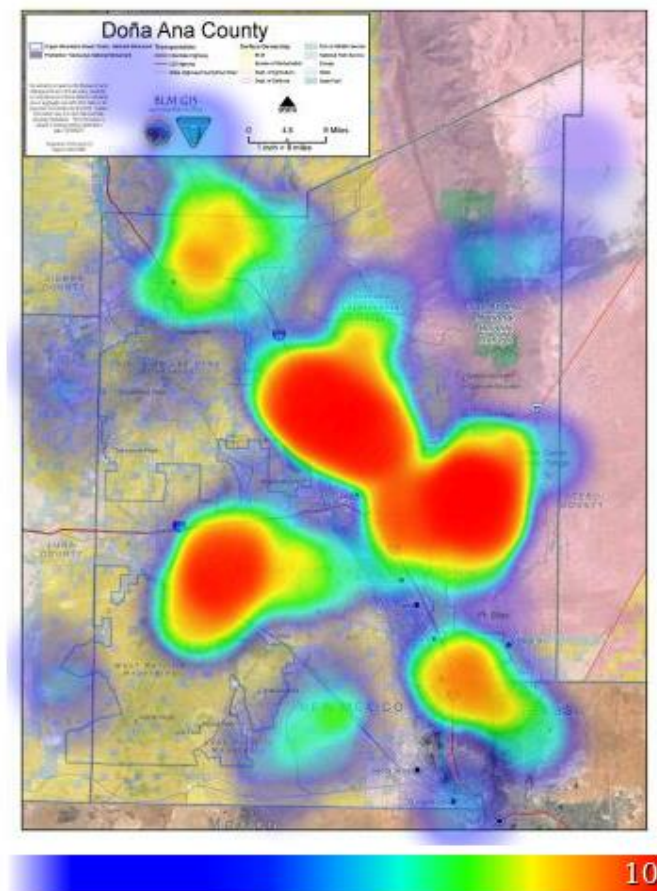
Figure 28: Potrillo Mountains Information



Most of the participants focusing on the Potrillo Mountains as a primary interest area relied on their past experience and family and friends to get their information about the area (Figure 28). Over half also selected maps, and half of the participants selected non-governmental websites for information. It would be worth further research to better understand which non-governmental websites are most helpful for providing information about the area.

Doña Ana County Area

Figure 29: Doña Ana County Special Places Map

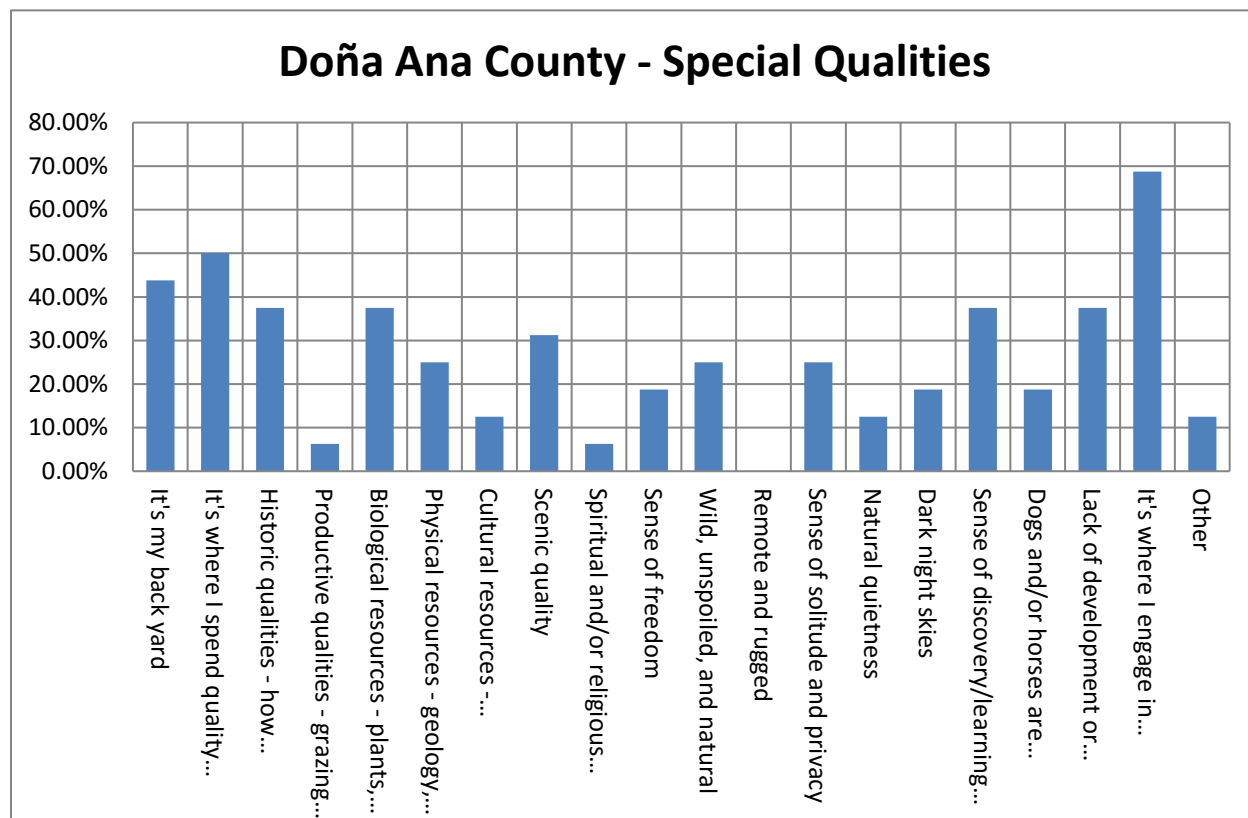


After the first round of focus groups in 2016, it became clear from the comments that an additional area should be offered in the second set of focus groups in 2017 because several participants were identifying those areas of BLM-managed lands in Doña Ana County outside OMDPNM boundaries that were essential for their recreational experiences in the region. These lands were especially prized for their proximity to Las Cruces and other communities in the county as well as for their role in connecting the discrete areas of OMDPNM for a comprehensive recreational experience. This area map was added to the study for the second set of focus groups in 2017, and although few selected it as their primary destination, many identified trails running through the area as well as the general interface between public lands and urban areas as indicated by the bright colors over Las Cruces in the Figure 29 heat map. It should be noted that several of the special places identified in this area are not actually BLM-managed lands, but may include non-BLM lands managed by state or other federal agencies, or even private lands as well. Table 6 below contains a list of the most common special places named and located by participants on their handouts for the BLM-managed lands in Doña Ana County area map.

Table 6: Special Places Named by Respondent in Doña Ana County Area

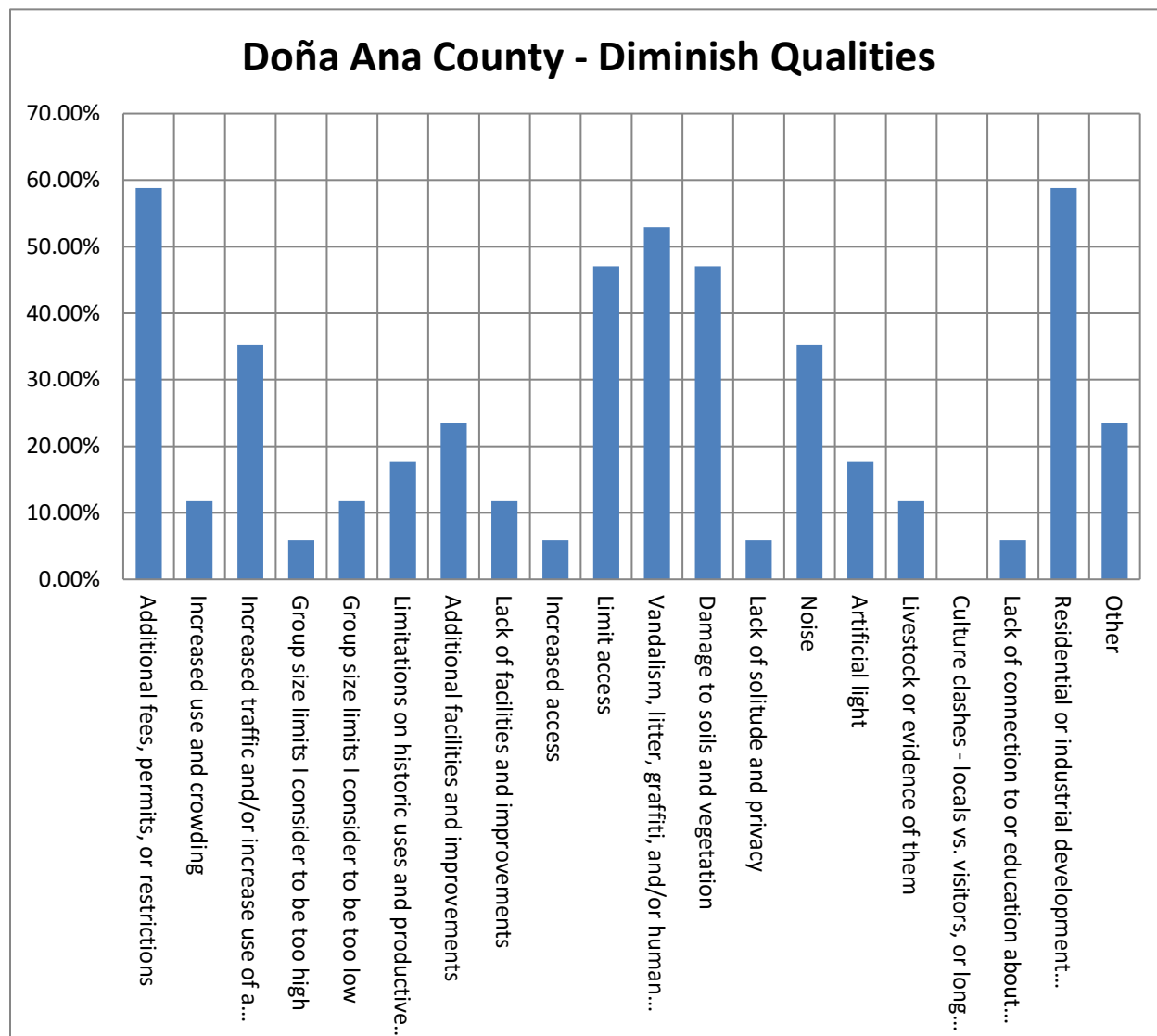
Special Places Named by Respondent (places named > 2 times)	Number of times named
Trails (incl. Doña Ana Mountains, Robledo Mountains, Sierra Vista Trail, and Monumental Loop Bikepacking Route through the National Monuments and Doña Ana County) *	6
White Sands Area / Missile Range *	6
Interface between public lands and urban areas *	5
Personal Sites (incl. work and home) *	5
Aden Crater / Hills / OHV trails	4
Organ Mountains	4
Tonuco Mountain	4
Leasburg *	3
Mesilla Dam *	3
Southern Caballo Mountains	3
Aguirre Spring	2
Anthony *	2
Bishops Cap	2
Castner Range	2
Cottonwood Springs*	2
Fort Selden *	2

Figure 30: Doña Ana County Special Qualities



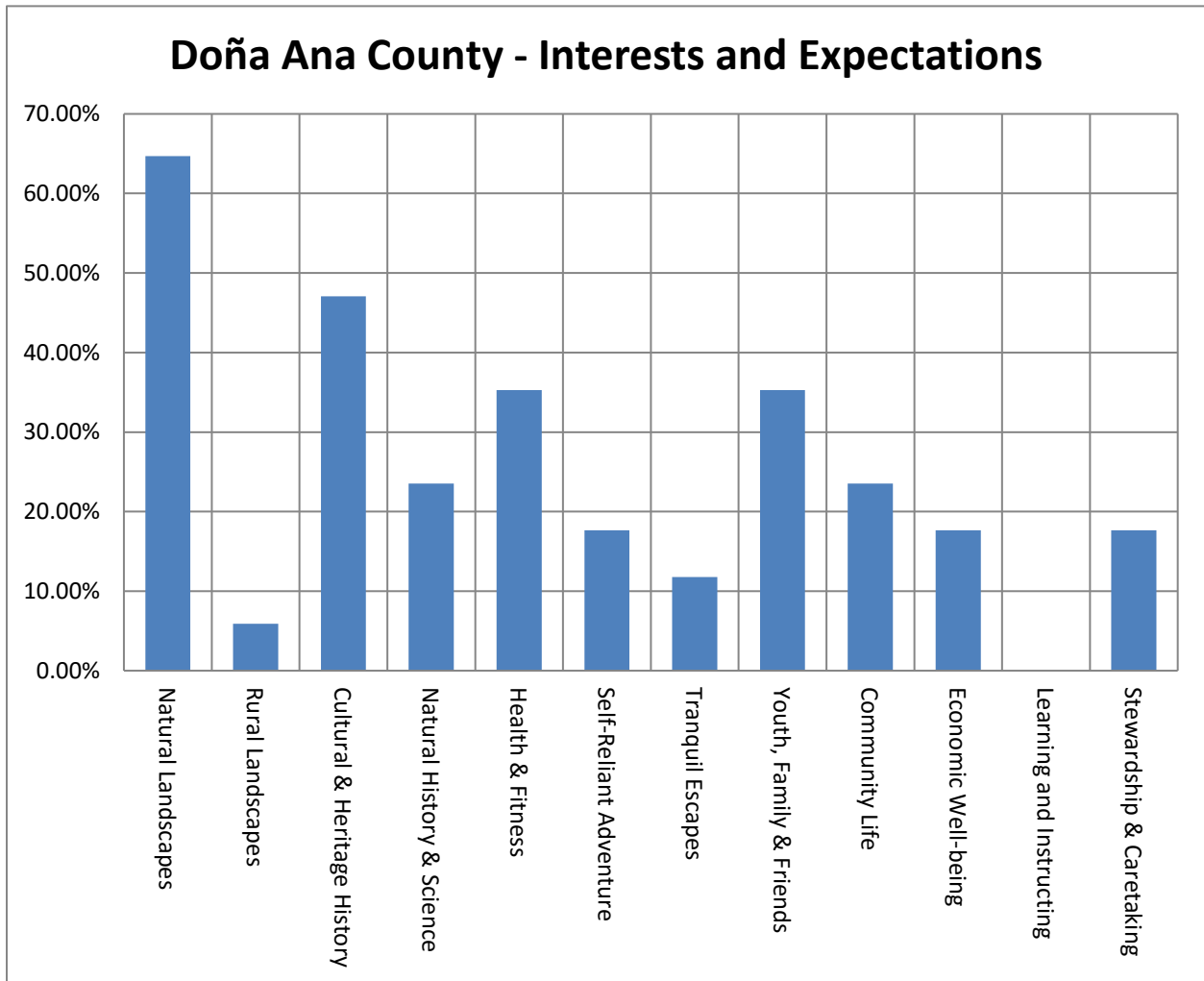
The BLM managed lands in Doña Ana County outside OMDPNM were most commonly seen as special because they provide a place for outdoor recreation particularly close to where the participants live (Figure 30). They are also often prized for ability to spend time with family and friends there. Slightly more than a third of the participants identifying these lands as their primary area of focus also selected the opportunity to discover and learn about the area, especially its biological and historic qualities. This was done in a setting that lacks a lot of development and improvements.

Figure 31: Doña Ana County Diminishing Qualities



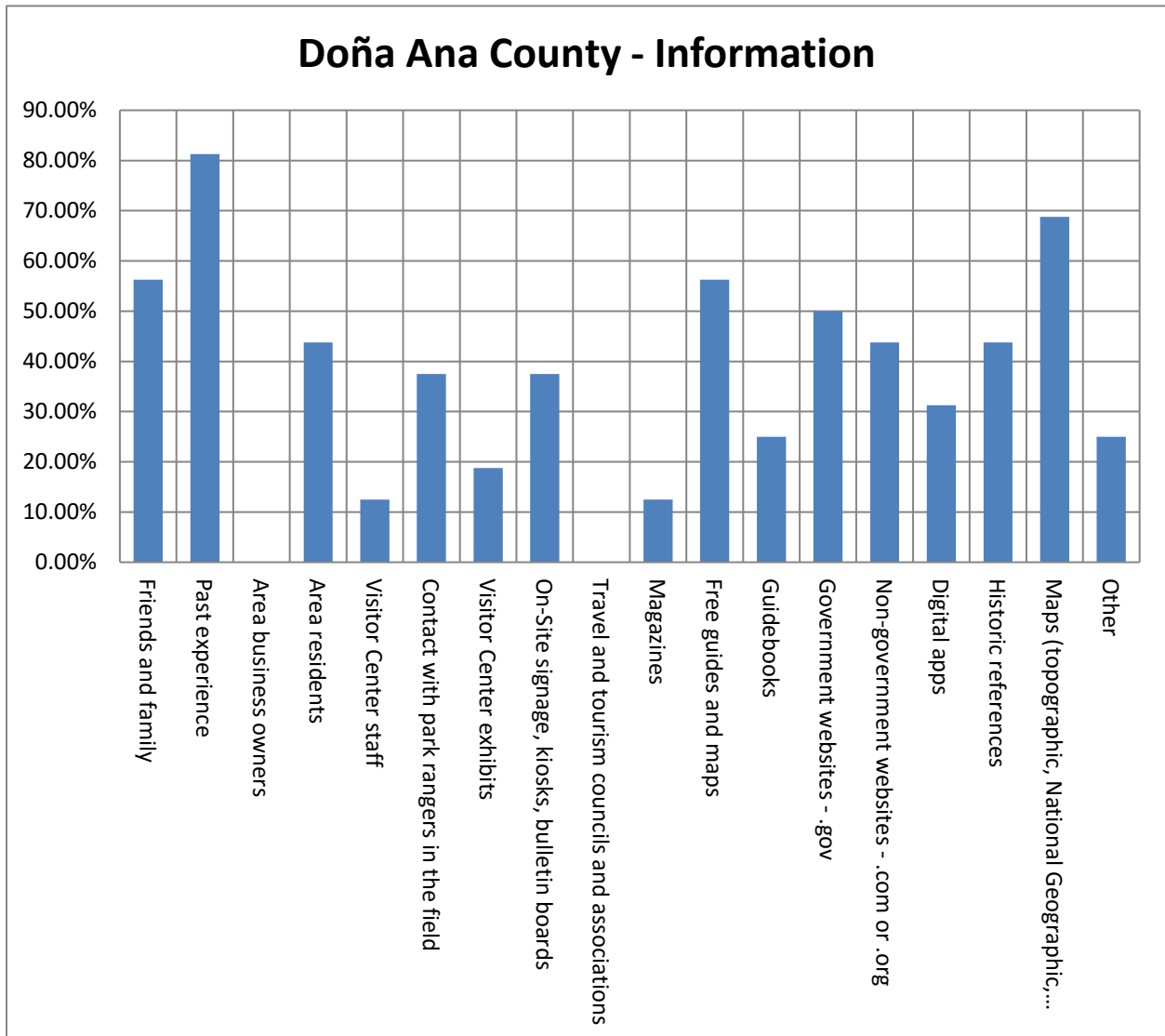
These BLM managed lands in Doña Ana County outside OMDPNM face a variety of threats that might diminish their specialness for the participants including: additional fees, permits and regulations; residential or industrial development; vandalism, litter, etc.; damage to the soil and vegetation; limited access (Figure 31). All of these threats were identified by at least 45% of the participants.

Figure 32: Doña Ana County Interests and Expectations



Participants identified “natural landscapes” as the most common desired outcome and experience (Figure 32). Unlike other areas of the study, this area also was valued frequently for its cultural and heritage history and for the opportunities to experience it with youth, family and friends, as well as the health and fitness outcomes experienced when recreating there.

Figure 33: Doña Ana County Information



Information sources about this area were similar initially to other areas highlighting past experience and word of mouth from family and friends (Figure 33). However, over 50% of the participants also identified the information in free guides and maps as well as historic references (42%) and websites (50%) as common sources of information. These are the highest percentages of participants selecting free guides and maps as well as historic references for any area in the entire study.

Community Character

An important part of the planning process for any public lands is trying to understand what the local community's vision of itself is, and how public lands might fit into and enhance that vision. In order to better understand how these two fit together, participants were asked to describe the characteristics of their community that they think contribute to the desirability of living and visiting Las Cruces, then they were asked to describe how the surrounding public lands contributed to that community vision. The participants were asked to write down on their handouts their comments to open-ended questions throughout the focus groups. Those responses are all recorded in Appendix #3. The comments have been sorted based on theme and those themes are reported in tables within this report.

The responses to the question of community character (Question 12, Appendix 1) captured in the focus group notes on the discussion fell into four broad categories. Comments could be clustered around characteristics that impact family, characteristics about the area, characteristics of the community itself and characteristics of that impact the local economy, education and entertainment prospects. The characteristics of Las Cruces that impact families include: safety from disasters and safety of children in the community, as well as, the variety of things to do with kids and the impression that it is a great overall place to raise kids. The characteristics of the area deemed important by the participants include many comments on the nice climate, the food, and (anticipating the next question) several comments on the proximity and sense of ownership in the surrounding public lands. A significant part of the identity of Las Cruces, according to the participant's conversation, is the gateway community status it has to the local public lands, particularly the National Monument. As a community, Las Cruces, is portrayed as a welcoming community full of diversity from culture and ethnicity to occupations and opportunities. That welcoming feel translates into a "big-small town" feel to Las Cruces, which creates a place for creativity (the arts) as well as active retirement lifestyle, and an active civic life open to young and old. Participants commented on the affordability of living in this community and the asset that NMSU is to the Las Cruces providing both education and entertainment for the broader community. Their written comments to this question were sorted according to theme and summarized in Table 7 below.

Table 7: Written Comment Themes for Q12 – What do you like about living in your community?

Number of comments ¹⁷	Theme
101	Landscape characteristics (scenery, flora and fauna, etc.)
92	Community characteristics (small town, diverse population, food, etc.)
64	Proximity and access to Public Lands
35	Diversity (people, culture, landscape, recreation)
34	Climate/Weather
32	Outdoor Recreational opportunities/activities
13	It's home – sense of place
12	Archeology, History and Pre-history - ancestors
5	Economic opportunities (including agriculture)

When asked how public lands, particularly OMDPNM and the BLM managed lands in Doña Ana County support this vision of the community and its values (Question 13, Appendix 1) participants responded with a variety of comments that can be clustered into four broad themes of participation, access, identity and lifestyle. In terms of participation, several suggested that the public lands provided a common ground, which creates an opportunity to bring the community together. Others described a “pride of ownership” in their local public lands, as well as a sense of satisfaction with the opportunity to participate in the planning process for public lands. Several comments also identified the opportunity to learn about public lands from schools to recreational sharing of the landscape with youth and families. Some suggested that the that ability to participate in management efforts on the land such as trail building, clean-up efforts and other stewardship actions was an important way for them to connect to the landscape and an enhancement on their quality of life living in the area. Access to surrounding public lands is a critical part of the character of the community, but others were quick to add that the access should be open to all, and not controlled by private landowners who shut down access roads that cross their property, thus limiting access of public lands to only those they “deem worthy.” Participants reiterated that the connection they have to the land surrounding their community is an important part of their self-identity and an important part of their cultural heritage and connection to their ancestors. Finally, several participants commented on how the surrounding public lands contributed to a healthier lifestyle for members of the community, which they argued helps the overall quality and character of the community of Las Cruces. Their comments were summarized according to prevailing themes in Table 8 below.

¹⁷ Some written comments on a particular handout would address several themes. For the purpose of sorting those comments by theme, those comments were counted in each theme they applied to. Thus the total number of counted comments will exceed the total number of overall comments listed in Appendix #3.

Table 8: Written Comment Themes for Q13 – “How do public lands affect the community qualities in Q12?”

Number of Comments	Theme
74	Lifestyle/Quality of Life increased because of public lands
44	Proximity and Access to public lands
31	Activities
26	Landscape characteristics
24	Enhanced community character
13	Sharing the lands with family/friends/strangers
6	Misc.
5	Educational opportunities/learning
5	History, Archeology

Management of OMDPNM

The final section of the focus groups was designed to better understand the public’s desires regarding management actions and management priorities for the landscape as they prepare for a new planning process to create a Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Monument and modify the RMP for the surrounding BLM land in Doña Ana County. The participants were asked a series of open ended questions. Their answers were sorted into a series of themes in each question, and are listed in Tables 9-11 below.

Table 9: Written Comment Themes for Q14 – “What could the BLM or Managing partners do in planning and managing the OMDNNM that would POSITIVELY impact your community values and vision?”

Number of Comments	Theme
55	Access issues
43	Regulations and enforcement
32	Protect resources (wildlife, plants, etc.)
30	Partnerships/Stewardship/co-management
27	Diversity of Stakeholders and Visitors
25	Activity specific comments
23	Communications and Information
19	Education
14	Infrastructure
13	Do not shrink or sell Monument
8	Misc.
6	Staffing
5	Landscape purchase/swap

The most common theme for actions the BLM could take in the planning process related to access to the lands (Table 9). Many participants were concerned that access to these lands would be limited by the planning process, or they thought their access was already limited and

that those limits should be eased. The second most common theme for the written comments identified regulations and enforcement as a key concern. Some of the comments suggested there was too much regulation while others feared there was not enough regulation or enforcement of existing regulations to protect the resources. The protection of resources was the third most common response on this question. There were an unusually large number of comments calling for education efforts about the process and the land itself so participants could better understand the needs of the landscape and their opportunities for participation and co-management which shows up as the third most common suggestion of positive actions the BLM could facilitate in the planning process. Another important set of themes in the comments revolved around communications between the BLM and the public during the planning process, and the importance of including a diverse set of stakeholders and voices in the process itself. Particular concern was expressed about the need to bring Hispanic voices into the process since they make up so much of the surrounding communities' population and because of the cultural ties with Mexico only a few miles south of the planning area. It should be noted that this concern was expressed more often in the 2016 focus group sessions, so efforts were made to be more inclusive in the 2017 round of focus groups including offering translators at the focus group, offering the handout in Spanish or English, and special outreach efforts to the Hispanic community to participate in the focus group process. The results of these efforts showed a marginal increase in Hispanic participation in the 2017 groups, but more effort is needed to strengthen that participation as the planning process moves forward.

Next, the participants were asked whether there were things the BLM could do during the planning process that would negatively affect the community's vision of itself and the surrounding public lands. At almost every meeting the first response was "not doing what we just said would positively impact the process {in Question 13}. Beyond that quick response, participants began to identify detrimental actions that could be taken. Some are the mirror image of the comments on positive efforts above such as closing off access, poor communication and a lack of diversity in stakeholders involved. However, the order of frequency of these items seemed to differ from responses to Q13. The comments were sorted according to emerging themes and summarized in Table 10 below.

Table 10: Written Comment Themes for Q15 - What could the BLM or Managing partners do in planning and managing the OMDNNM that would NEGATIVELY impact your community values and vision?"

Number of Comments	Theme
73	Access Issues
63	Development (including resource extraction)
32	Regulations
26	Shrink or sell monument
15	Diversity of Stakeholders and Visitors
12	Infrastructure
12	Activity specific comments
8	Partnerships/Stewardship/Co-management
6	Fees
6	Misc.
4	Staffing and Funding issues
3	Communications
3	Safety issues
2	Signage

Finally, participants were asked to help prioritize management actions for OMDPNM and surrounding BLM lands in Doña Ana County by giving them a hypothetical open ended question in which they could be the manager of the BLM lands in the area “for a day” to set priorities. Once again maintaining or improving access was the most common priority mentioned along with communication and partnerships with the public. Other themes such as increasing the diversity of stakeholders and visitors, ecological issues and damage to resources as well as the landscape characteristics were commonly identified as important priorities. Echoing the most common threat identified for each area in the study (in the question about diminishing the specialness of the area), many participants prioritized addressing damage to the resources as a result of actions such as vandalism and litter, etc. Infrastructure and educational outreach and partnerships with schools were also identified as priorities by several participants. In 2017 a number of participants identified changing size and management control of the Monument as a priority to consider (most but not all were against shrinking or transferring the control of Monument lands). It is worth noting that this was not mentioned as a priority in the previous year’s focus groups. This is consistent with such concerns surfacing in the planning actions questions above as well. This reflects the concern generated in the public when OMDPNM was added to the list of Monuments reviewed for boundary and management changes under the Interior Department. A summary of the priorities (grouped according to theme) can be found in Table 11 below, and a complete set of comments is located in Appendix 3.

Table 11: Written Comment Themes for Q16 – “If you were public lands manager for a day at OMDPNM, what would your priorities be?”

Number of Comments	Theme
42	Access Issues
42	Communications/public engagement/partnerships
26	Diversity of Stakeholders or Visitors
24	Ecological Issues (ecosystem, flora, fauna, water, etc.)
23	Damage to Resources (Vandalism, trash, etc.)
22	Regulations and Enforcement
21	Landscape characteristics (open, wild, scenic, etc.)
20	Infrastructure
18	Education
18	Activities/Recreation
14	Issues regarding sale, transfer or shrinking of lands
10	Future planning
9	Staffing and funding
8	No Changes - Leave as is
7	Range Management

Conclusions

Over 190 members of the public participated in one of the 9 focus groups offered in the fall of 2016 and 2017. In addition to the verbal responses to focus group questions, the participants offered over 1000 written comments on their handouts (the verbal comments are recorded in Appendix 2 and every written comment submitted is located in Appendix 3). It would be impossible to comprehensively capture such a rich dialogue and such a diversity of perspectives in a short conclusion, but several observations have emerged from the data (verbal and written). This report will try to offer some of these observations in bullet point form in this conclusion. They will be broken into the broad categories of: characteristics of the landscape; threats to the landscape; opportunities emerging from the landscape; and managing the landscape.

Characteristics of the landscape

- Most participants of these focus groups **live within 50 miles of Organ Mountain Desert Peaks National Monument** and surrounding BLM managed lands in Doña Ana County.
- The **identity** of many of the participants is tied to the landscape and their memories of past encounters with the land. Often these relationships with the landscape go back several generations.
- One of the most salient characteristics of the lands in this study for the participants is the close **proximity** of the land to where they live. It is convenient to recreate, even

after a long day of work, and they express a sense of ownership for these public lands in their “backyard.”

- Another very salient feature of the lands in this study is their exceptional natural and **scenic beauty**. Dozens of comments and over 70% of the participants (through the handout selections) identified the visual resources of the Monument and surrounding lands as critically important to their assessment of the place.
- OMDPNM and surrounding public lands offer a **remote, rugged, and wild** experience that is still “close to home.” This contrast featured prominently throughout the focus group conversations and written comments.
- **Access** is a very important issue across the study area. In some cases participants commented on the diversity of access for all travel modes throughout the study area, at other times they expressed concern that access is or would be restricted in the future having a negative impact on their recreational experience and even their quality of life and the character of the community.
- OMDPNM, according to the participants, is highly prized as a **wildlife habitat** and for the other **ecological services** from water to flood control.
- OMDPNM and surrounding lands offer a **tranquil escape** from urban life. This is especially important for participants from cities such as El Paso, Las Cruces and Albuquerque.
- This area is rich in **cultural and historical resources**. Many of the cultural activities on the landscape are still active for Native American and Hispanic populations in the area.
- Many participants commented on the value of **diversity** in the landscape. They identified the diversity of recreational opportunities, landscapes, wildlife, access points, and people encountering the lands. These were seen generally as positive aspects of the area.
- OMDPNM has unique geography to facilitate certain **recreational activities** such as hang gliding and para gliding, long distance trail riding, and bird watching.
- The desire to **protect the resources** of OMDPNM and surrounding lands is strong and common among the participants of the focus groups.
- The petroglyphs, rock art and other **archeological sites** are of exceptional quality. These sites are located in most of the areas of the study.
- The **spiritual qualities** of the landscape were mentioned by several participants.
- Several participants also highlighted the value of the landscape for traditional uses such as cattle grazing. They see **ranching** as part of the cultural legacy of these lands that still offers important identity for residents today.
- A number of participants also value this land for its **lack of noise, lack of light pollution at night, and lack of developed infrastructure**. The dark night skies and remote escapes enjoyed in the monument are treasured by many.

- Participants value that ONDPNM and surrounding public lands offer places for several **types of travel** by foot, horseback, mountain bike, ATV, motorcycle and 4x4 vehicles. The surrounding public lands are particularly important for the **travel connectivity** they offer between recreation destinations on the Monument and beyond. Most participants seemed to support all modes of travel somewhere on the Monument, although not necessarily in every location.
- Participants identified the **open space** that surrounding public lands offer to their community as a particularly important characteristic of the community and the landscape.
- The **historical connections** of the archeological sites and other signs of past human interaction with the landscape are an important part of the identity of OMDPNM and surrounding public lands for many participants.
- Ultimately, most participants expressed that surrounding public lands are essential to the **quality of life and character of their communities**, and as such should be valued and protected.

Threats to the landscape

- Frequently participants expressed concerned about **damage to the resources** coming from vandalism, off-trail motorized travel, overgrazing, litter, crowding, industrial or residential development and a lack of connection or sense of stewardship for the landscape by visitors.
- Many expressed concern over **restrictions (current and additional) to access** for all modes of travel in the area.
- Several participants on the 2017 round of the focus groups expressed concern about the national monument review by the Interior Department and the possibility of **OMDPNM shrinking, being privatized or being opened to resource extractive industries** such as oil, natural gas and mining. Generally these actions would be opposed by participants that identified this as an issue.
- **Overcrowding**, particularly around destination sites such as Dripping Springs, Aguirre Springs, Soledad Canyon, and Kilbourne Hole is a growing concern for many participants.
- Concern for **unmanaged development** of trails, grazing, visitor use, etc. created an often reluctant acceptance of some management restrictions to preserve the landscape. However, a common theme of managerial overreach was also present in the conversations. What is needed is a **balance of management and freedom** to address the threats to the resource from social trails and poached wildlife.
- Another threat to these landscapes comes from the diversity of stakeholders and user groups with differing opinions about how to manage the landscape which leads to **user conflict**. According to the participants, this conflict needs to be carefully managed by

the BLM through active engagement of a wide variety of stakeholders in the planning process so all voices are heard, and creative recreational activity designations to provide all groups at least some opportunities to participate in their favorite activities without experiencing conflict with others who choose to participate in different activities. Some participants also expressed a concern that the BLM managers were **favoring some interest groups** over others or the public as a whole.

- In the 2017 focus groups there was a noticeable increase in the comments concerned about **increased resource extraction** such as mining, fracking, other mineral extraction and overgrazing.

Opportunities on the landscape

- There are great opportunities to **share the outdoors with family and friends** on the lands in this study. This has been an activity taking place for generations in the area.
- There are incredible **educational opportunities**, especially in the Monument. Many participants encouraged more outreach to local schools (from Kindergarten to the University) to develop more educational experiences on these public lands.
- These lands also offer the opportunity to **enhance individual and public health benefits** through recreating and fitness exercise on the landscape.
- This area provides a wide variety of opportunities for **challenging recreation and solitude experiences**.
- Many participants encouraged the BLM land managers to take advantage of the opportunities for **partnerships** with local stakeholders to help in the planning process and stewardship of the landscape.
- Related to this, the upcoming planning process provides an excellent opportunity to **involve the public** in data gathering and decision-making about a landscape in which they have a strong sense of ownership and identity.

Managing the landscape

- **Information** is key. Participants encouraged the BLM to share information from signage and kiosks to public information and transparency in the planning process. Communications from the BLM about the landscape showed up again and again in the written comments regarding what the BLM could do to support the community during the planning process.
- Participants were mixed about the need to add additional recreational infrastructure, but they largely agreed on the need to **maintain existing recreational infrastructure**.
- Several participants encouraged **community outreach and education** about the importance of public lands and how to manage them.

- While participants were mixed about the need for additional regulations, most agreed on the need to **monitor and enforce existing regulations** designed to protect the resource.
- Because of the value of shared stewardship and the limitations of BLM resources, participants encouraged the BLM to **develop volunteer resources** to help them manage the land. This includes working with local user groups who are interested in helping with management.
- **Recreational planning for a variety of skill levels** from beginner to self-reliant adventurer, and **developing opportunities for a variety of access** from hiking to motorized vehicles to hang gliding seem to resonate among many of the participants.
- Attention should be given to **infrastructure, signage and other facilities** especially at popular destinations such as Dripping Springs, etc.
- Several participants suggested the BLM improve its efforts to **increase Hispanic trail usage and participation in the planning process**.
- Along these lines, participants also encouraged the BLM to **work with diverse stakeholders and visitors** (including Native Americans, Hispanics, the disabled and others that are typically underrepresented in such a process) in order to try to proactively manage conflict and increase the broad public nature of the management.

Appendix 1 – Participant Handout for Focus Groups

Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument and
Doña Ana County, New Mexico

Recreation Focus Group Study



Tim Casey, PhD

Colorado Mesa University and University of Alaska, Fairbanks

2017

Participants:

- ✓ Listen, contribute, and stay focused on the subject at hand
- ✓ Feel free to keep or change your opinions in response to what you hear
- ✓ Respect others' right to share their thoughts; do not interrupt
- ✓ The moderator will stop anyone who attempts to block another's views
- ✓ Feel free to get up, obtain refreshments, or visit the restroom
- ✓ Do not engage in separate, private discussions
- ✓ Remember, participation is voluntary on all questions

1. Would you start by entering your home zip-code in the space provided below.

2. Which of the following choices best describes your primary association with Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument or Doña Ana County?

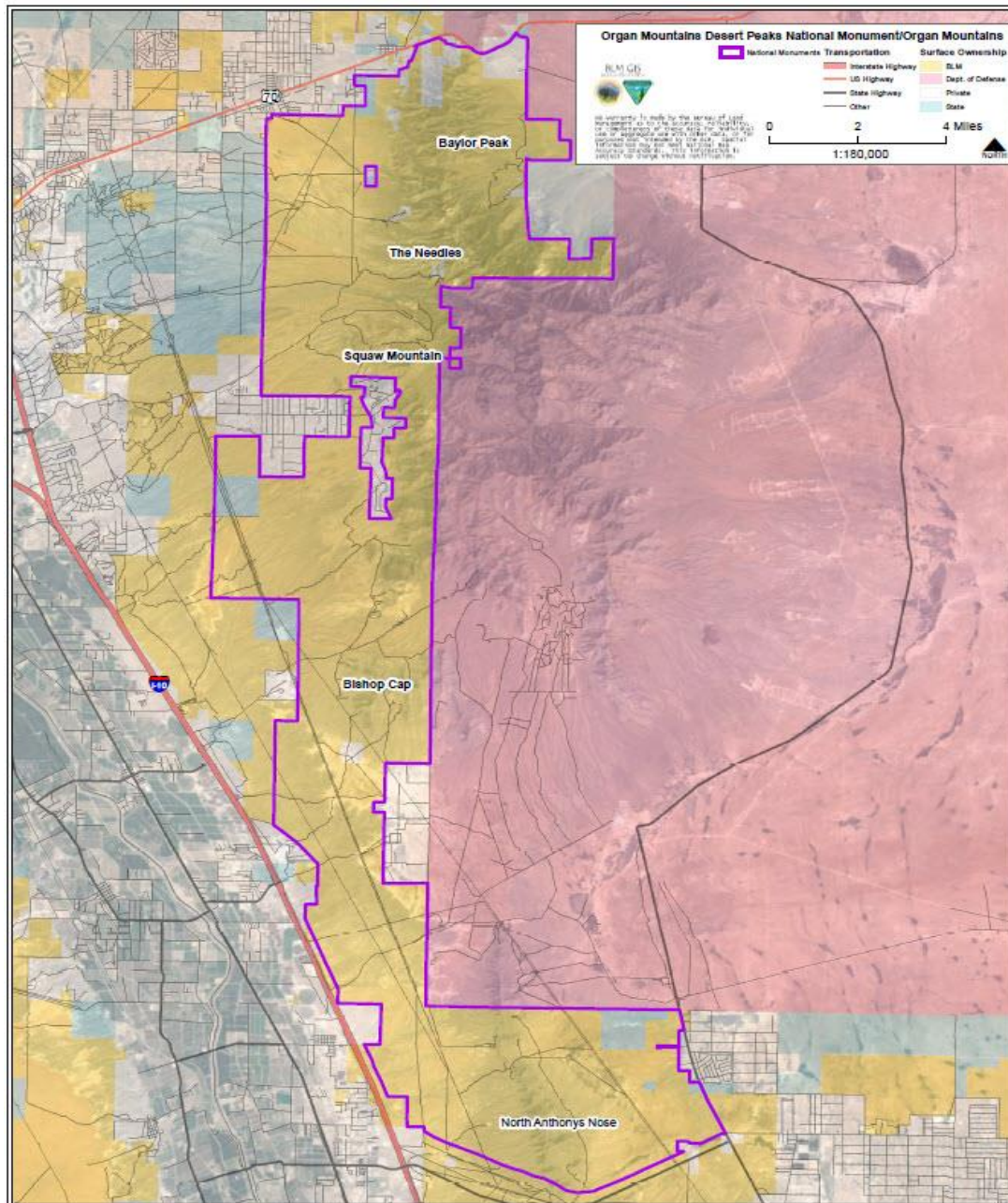
1	Visitor
2	Local Resident
3	Community Leader (elected / non-elected)
4	Outfitter/Guide
5	Business owner
6	Other

3. Please take a couple moments to think about a few areas or places on BLM managed public lands in the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument or Doña Ana County (highlighted on the 5 maps below) that have special personal meaning and importance for you.

For each of these places please do the following:

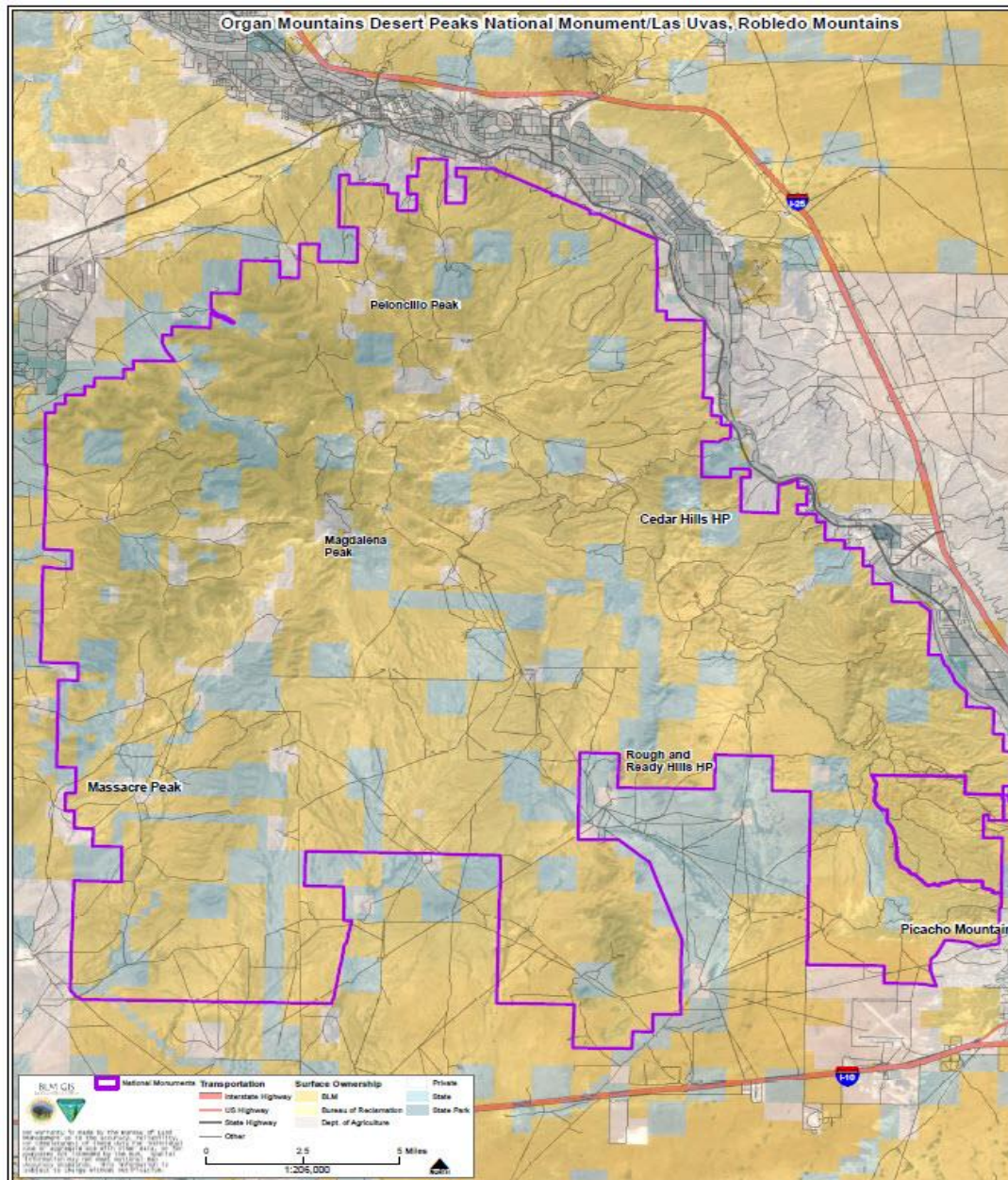
- 1) circle it and number it on the four attached maps;
- 2) then in writing below name and number the place;
- 3) indicate the reason that this place has special meaning for you

Organ Mountains Area



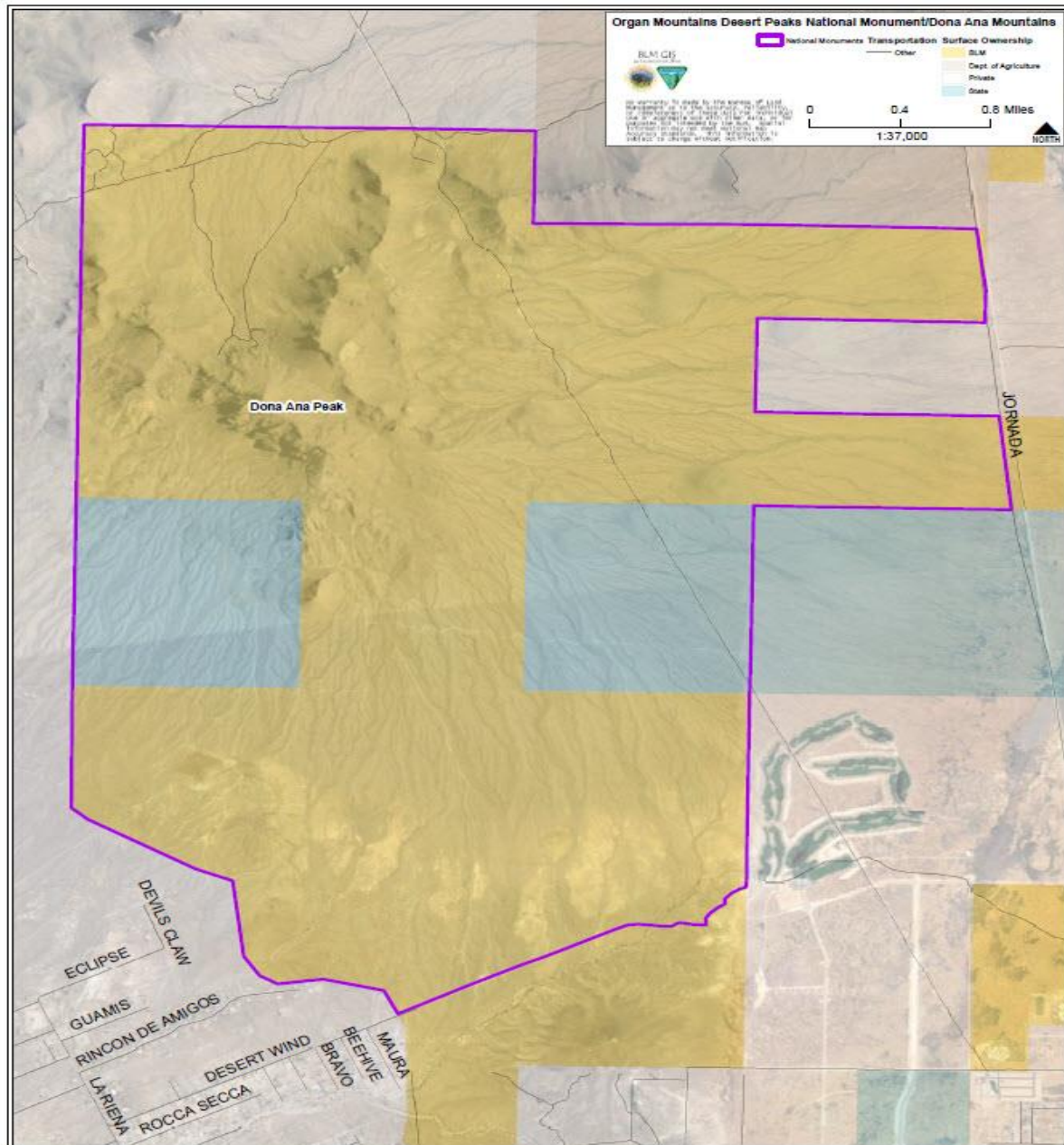
Special Places:

Desert Peaks Complex Area



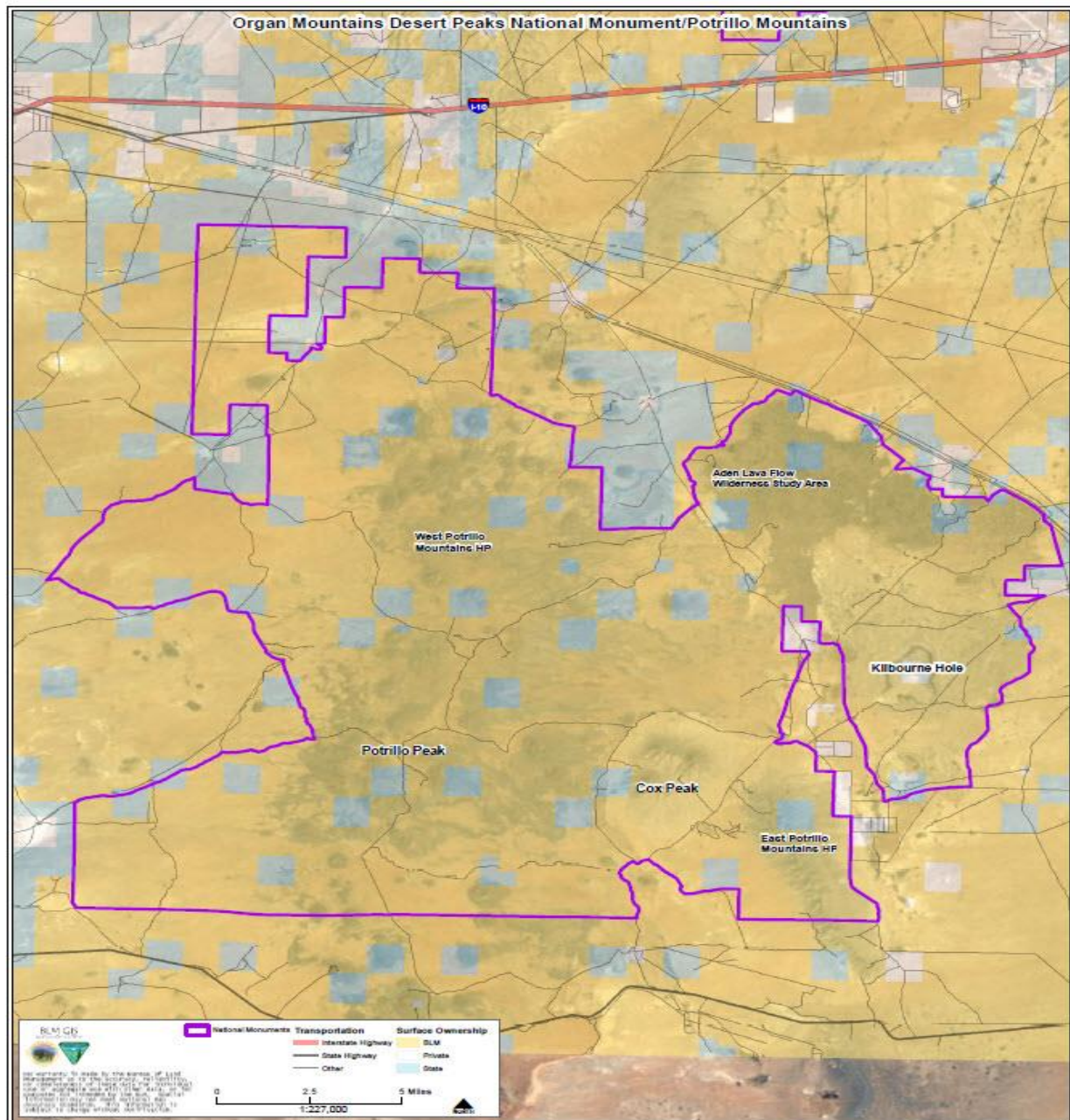
Special Places:

Doña Ana Mountains Area



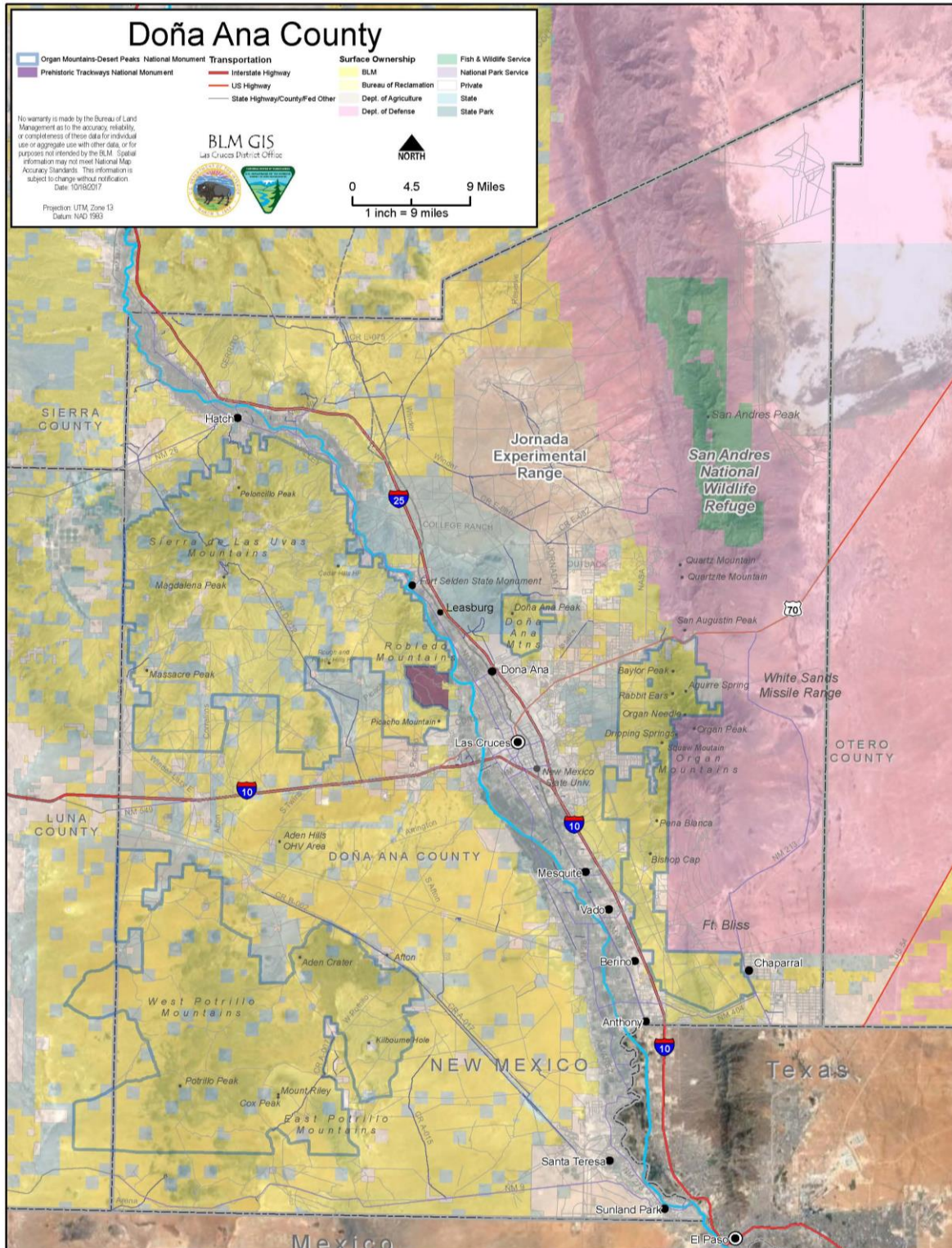
Special Places:

Potrillo Mountains Area



Special Places:

Doña Ana County



Special Places:

4. While you may have identified special places on multiple maps in the previous question, for the purposes of facilitating this discussion, please indicate which Map Area you would like to tell us more about. (Circle one, and unless we tell you otherwise, assume that area as a focus when answering future questions)

- a. Area 1 – Organ Mountains Area**
- b. Area 2 – Desert Peaks Complex**
- c. Area 3 – Doña Ana Mountains Area**
- d. Area 4 – Potrillo Mountains Area**
- e. Area 5 – Doña Ana County**

5. What are the qualities of the study area that make it special for you?

(Please don't turn the page until asked to do so by the facilitator)

6. What are the qualities of the study area that makes it a special place for you? (Circle up to five below.)

	1	It's my back yard
	2	It's where I spend quality time with friends and family
	3	Historic qualities - how previous generations used the area
	4	Productive qualities - grazing and hunting
	5	Biological resources - plants, animals, etc.
	6	Physical resources - geology, paleontology, etc.
	7	Cultural resources - archeology, etc.
	8	Scenic quality
	9	Spiritual and/or religious qualities
	10	Sense of freedom
	11	Wild, unspoiled, and natural
	12	Remote and rugged
	13	Sense of solitude and privacy
	14	Natural quietness
	15	Dark night skies
	16	Sense of discovery/learning opportunities
	17	Dogs and/or horses are allowed
	18	Lack of development or improvements
	19	It's where I engage in recreational activities I enjoy
	20	Other

7. What could or does diminish the specialness for you?

(Please don't turn the page until asked to do so by the facilitator)

8. What could or does diminish the specialness for you? (Circle up to five.)

	1	Additional fees, permits, or restrictions
	2	Increased use and crowding
	3	Increased traffic and/or increase use of a wider array of vehicles
	4	Group size limits I consider to be too high
	5	Group size limits I consider to be too low
	6	Limitations on historic uses and productive qualities
	7	Additional facilities and improvements
	8	Lack of facilities and improvements
	9	Increased access
	10	Limited access
	11	Vandalism, litter, graffiti, and/or human waste
	12	Damage to soils and vegetation
	13	Lack of solitude and privacy
	14	Noise
	15	Artificial light
	16	Livestock or evidence of them
	17	Culture clashes – locals vs. visitors or long time locals vs. move-ins
	18	Lack of connection to or education about place
	19	Residential or industrial development (utility lines, pipelines, etc.)
	20	Other

9. At the places you enjoy visiting has use increased or decreased in the last five (5) years? (Circle one)

1. Strongly Decreased	2. Slightly Decreased	3. No Change	4. Slightly Increased	5. Strongly Increased
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10. When you go to your areas of interest on the monument, which of these phrases best captures your interests and expectations for going there? (Circle up to 3.)

	1	Natural Landscapes	I like to surround myself with the beauty of open space and the wildness of mountains, forests, rangeland, water and wildlife
	2	Rural Landscapes	I want to connect with the visual landscapes, sense of place and pace of rural areas where people make their living from the land
	3	Cultural & Heritage History	I am interested in how historic and prehistoric peoples lived in the area, and in exploring the connections I have with those peoples
	4	Natural History & Science	I am interested in knowing about natural processes in this area and the study of the scientific value of the landscape for enhancing our understanding of the world around us.
	5	Health & Fitness	I like being able to regularly access public lands recreation areas that help me get and stay fit or improve my mental well-being
	6	Self-Reliant Adventure	I prefer outdoor adventure on my own that challenges my outdoor skills, improves my abilities, and maybe even involves some risk
	7	Tranquil Escapes	I look forward to the quiet serenity of getting away from it all for some mental and physical relaxation, reflection, and renewal
	8	Youth, Family & Friends	I am enriched by socializing with others: young people, my family and/or friends and enjoying companionship in the outdoors together
	9	Community Life	I like seeing what the discovery and enjoyment of nearby open space recreation does for my community and our visiting guests
	10	Economic Well-being	I want to see public lands recreation areas contributing in a significant way to our economic livelihood
	11	Learning & instructing	I feel comfortable having others equip and enable me to do recreation and tourism outings—or being part of helping others learn how to do that
	12	Stewardship & Caretaking	I like giving back to the outdoors from what I've received by helping care for special sites and facilities so others can also enjoy them

11. Which sources of information do you depend upon to plan your recreation in the region? (Circle all that apply.)

	1	Friends and family
	2	Past experience
	3	Area business owners
	4	Area residents
	5	Visitor Center staff
	6	Contact with park rangers in the field
	7	Visitor Center exhibits
	8	On-Site signage, kiosks, bulletin boards
	9	Travel and tourism councils and associations
	10	Magazines
	11	Free guides and maps
	12	Guidebooks
	13	Government websites - .gov
	14	Non-government websites - .com or .org
	15	Digital apps
	16	Historic references
	17	Maps (topographic, National Geographic, etc.)
	18	Other

12. What are the things you like about living in or visiting this community?

- 13. How do public lands in the area affect the quality of life issues you just described?**
- 14. What could the BLM or managing partners do in planning or managing the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument or other BLM lands in Doña Ana County that would positively impact those values and vision for this community you expressed earlier?**
- 15. What could the BLM do in planning or managing the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument or other BLM lands in Doña Ana County that would negatively impact those values and vision for this community you expressed earlier?**
- 16. If you were the public lands manager for a day and could set management priorities for Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument or other BLM lands in Doña Ana County, what would your priorities be?**

We appreciate your involvement in this important focus group.

*Your input is an important part of maintaining an ongoing inventory
of our recreational users' preferences, expectations, and concerns.*

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Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks National Monument

Recreation Focus Group Study



Tim Casey, PhD

Colorado Mesa University and University of Alaska,
Fairbanks

2016

Participants:

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- ✓ Do not engage in separate, private discussions
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1. Would you start by entering your home zip-code

2. Which of the following choices best describes your primary association with Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument?

1	Visitor
2	Local Resident
3	Community Leader (elected / non-elected)
4	Outfitter/Guide
5	Business owner
6	Other

5. For the purposes of facilitating this discussion, the recreational managers of the Monument have divided the landscape into several recreation zones (labeled on map on the wall), please indicate which Area you would like to tell us more about. (Choose one and unless we tell you otherwise, assume that area as a focus when answering future questions)

- a. Area 1 – Organ Mountains Area
- b. Area 2 – Desert Peaks Complex
- c. Area 3 – Doña Ana Mountains Area
- d. Area 4 – Potrillo Mountains Area

6. Please take a couple moments to think about a few areas or places on BLM managed public lands in the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument (highlighted on the 4 maps below) that have special personal meaning and importance for you.

For each of these places please do the following:

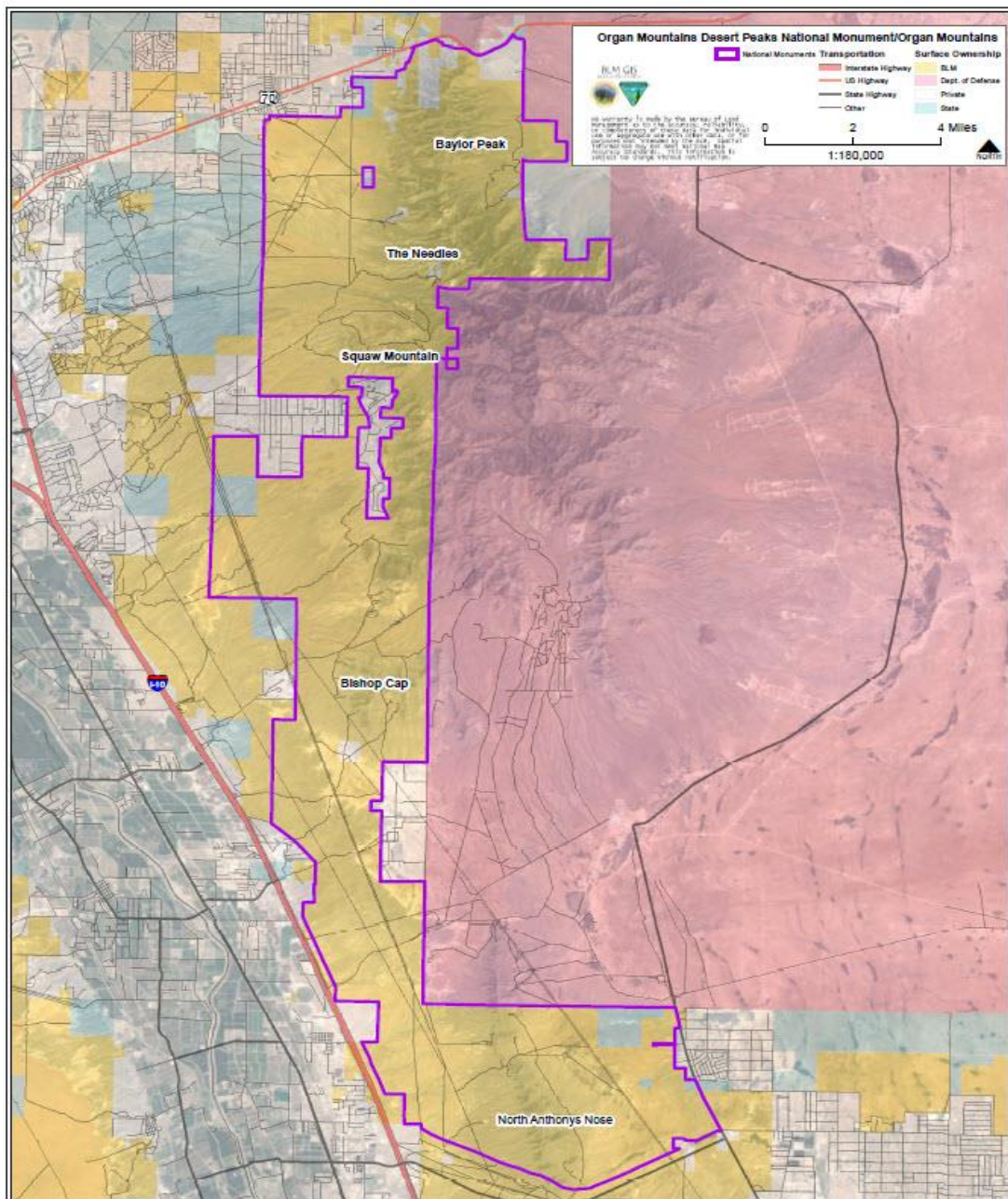
4) circle it and number it on the four attached maps;

5) then in writing below name and number the place;

6) indicate the reason that this place has special meaning for you

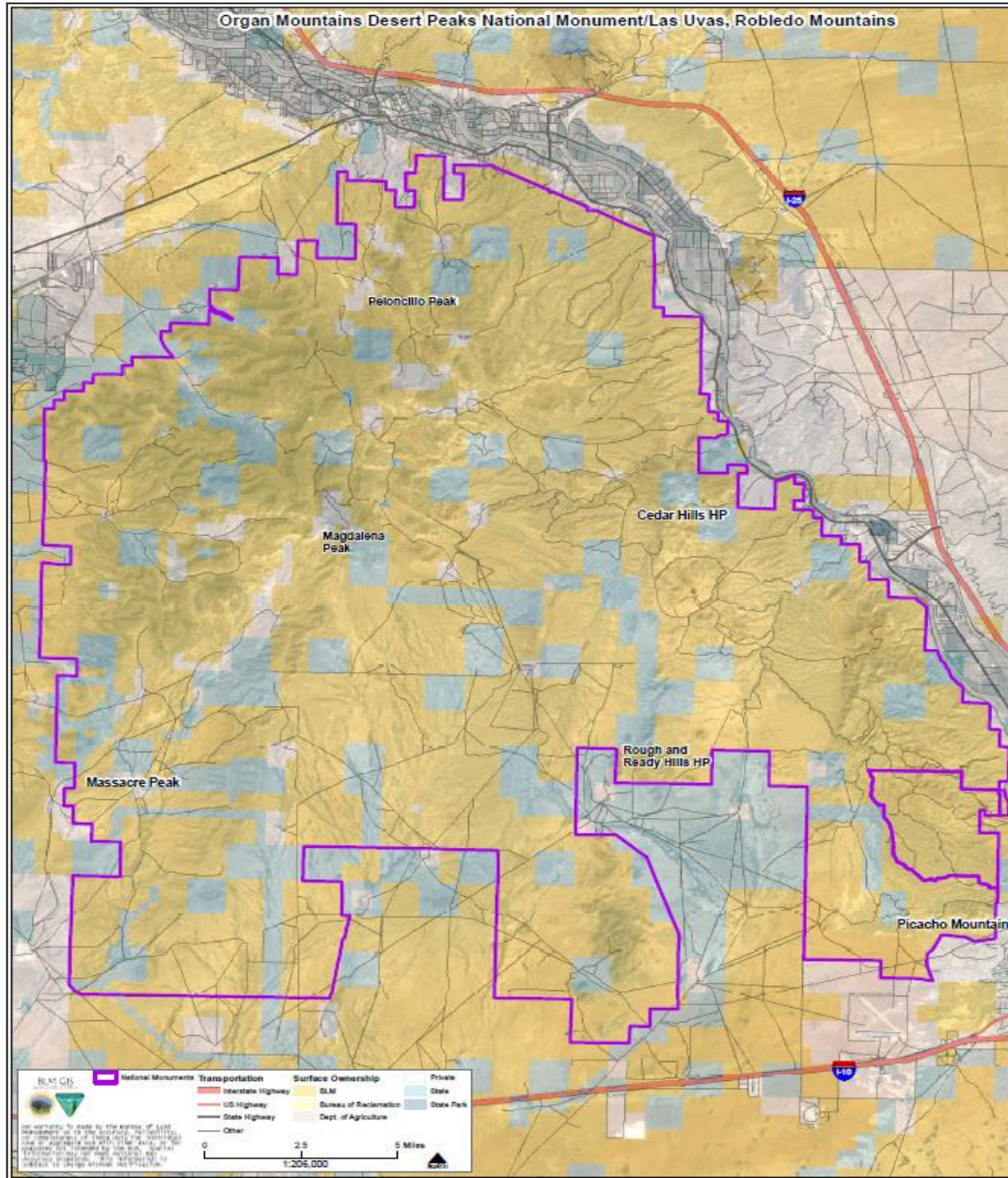
7) circle the name of the most special place for you

Organ Mountains Area



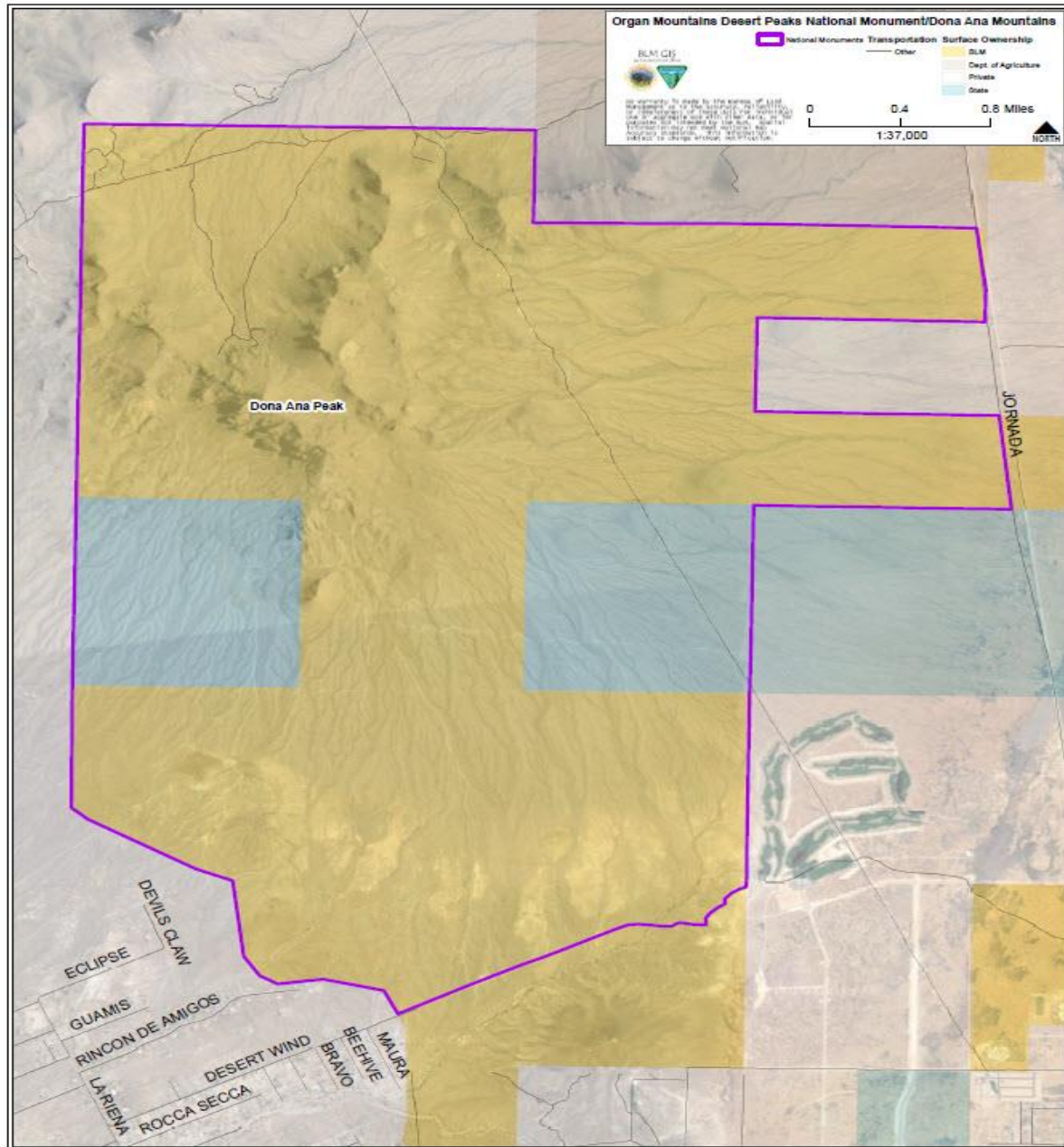
Special Places:

Desert Peaks Complex Area



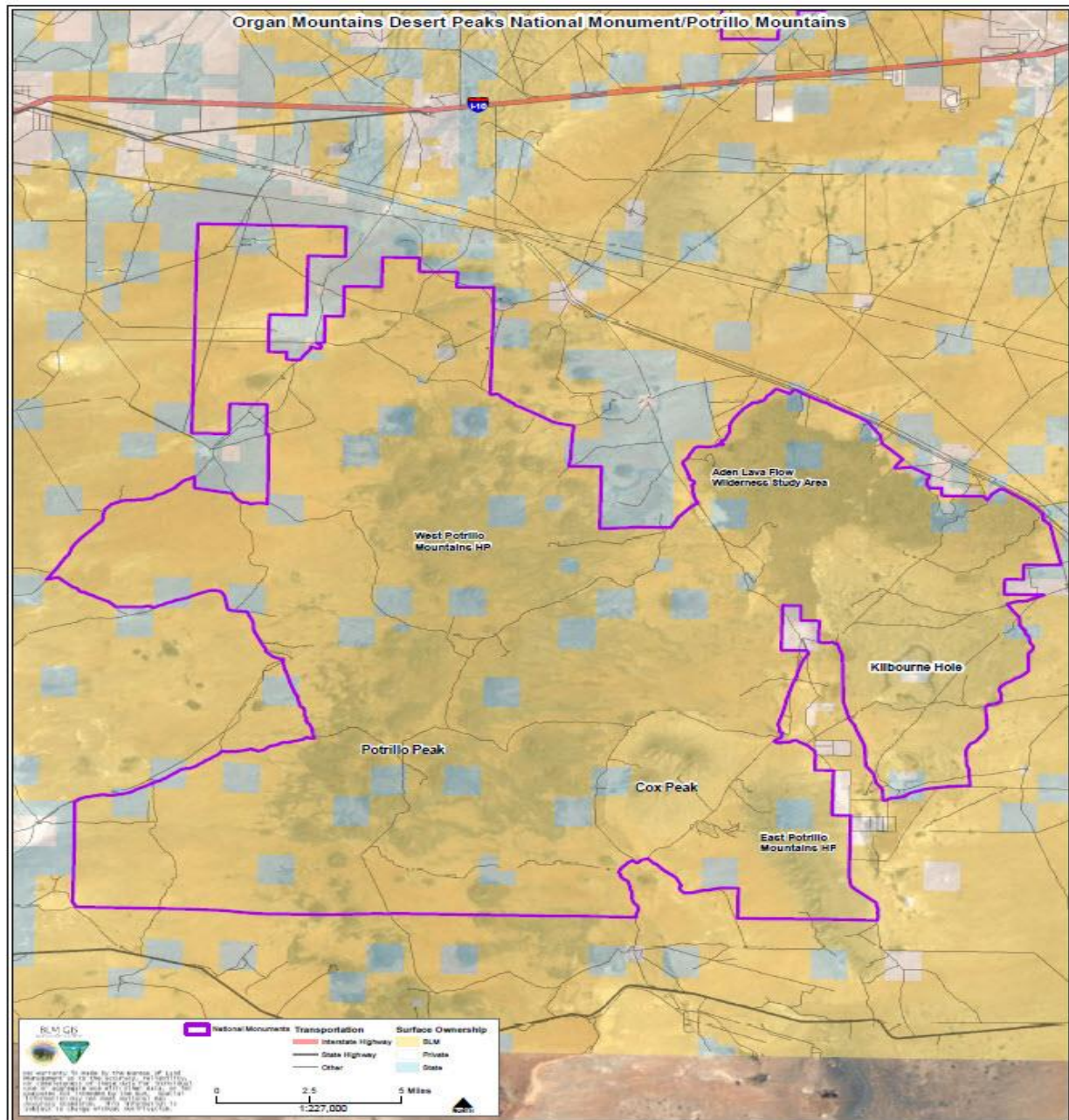
Special Places:

Doña Ana Mountains Area



Special Places:

Potrillo Mountains Area



Special Places:

5. What are the qualities of the study area that make it special for you?

(Please don't turn the page until asked to do so by the facilitator)

6. What are the qualities of the study area that makes it a special place for you? (Choose up to five.)

SP-1	<input type="checkbox"/>	It's my back yard
	<input type="checkbox"/>	It's where I spend quality time with friends and family
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Historic qualities - how previous generations used the area
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Productive qualities - grazing and hunting
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Biological resources - plants, animals, etc.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical resources - geology, paleontology, etc.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural resources -archeology, etc.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scenic quality
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spiritual and/or religious qualities
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sense of freedom
SP-2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wild, unspoiled, and natural
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Remote and rugged
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sense of solitude and privacy
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural quietness
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dark night skies
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sense of discovery/learning opportunities
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dogs and/or horses are allowed

		Lack of development or improvements
		It's where I engage in recreational activities I enjoy
		Other

Discussion:

7. What could or does diminish the specialness for you?

(Please don't turn the page until asked to do so by the facilitator)

8. What could or does diminish the specialness for you? (Choose up to five.)

DIM-1	1	Additional fees, permits, or restrictions
	2	Increased use and crowding
	3	Increased traffic and/or increase use of a wider array of vehicles
	4	Group size limits I consider to be too high
	5	Group size limits I consider to be too low
	6	Limitations on historic uses and productive qualities
	7	Additional facilities and improvements
	8	Lack of facilities and improvements
	9	Increased access
	0	Limited access
DI M-2	1	Vandalism, litter, graffiti, and/or human waste
	2	Damage to soils and vegetation
	3	Lack of solitude and privacy

	4	Noise
	5	Artificial light
	6	Livestock or evidence of them
	7	Culture clashes – locals vs. visitors or long time locals vs. move-ins
	8	Lack of connection to or education about place
	9	Residential or industrial development (utility lines, pipelines, etc.)
	0	Other

9. At the places you enjoy visiting has use increased or decreased in the last five (5) years?

6. Strongly Decreased	7. Slightly Decreased	8. No Change	9. Slightly Increased	10. Strongly Increased
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10. When you go to your areas of interest, which of these phrases best captures your interests and expectations for going there? (Choose up to 3.)

S-1	1	Natural Landscapes	I like to surround myself with the beauty of open space and the wildness of mountains, forests, rangeland, water and wildlife
	2	Rural Landscapes	I want to connect with the visual landscapes, sense of place and pace of rural areas where people make their living from the land
	3	Cultural & Heritage History	I am interested in how historic and prehistoric peoples lived in the area, and in exploring the connections I have with those peoples

	4	Natural History & Science	I am interested in knowing about natural processes in this area and the study of the scientific value of the landscape for enhancing our understanding of the world around us.
	5	Health & Fitness	I like being able to regularly access public lands recreation areas that help me get and stay fit or improve my mental well-being
	6	Self-Reliant Adventure	I prefer outdoor adventure on my own that challenges my outdoor skills, improves my abilities, and maybe even involves some risk
CS-2	1	Tranquil Escapes	I look forward to the quiet serenity of getting away from it all for some mental and physical relaxation, reflection, and renewal
	2	Youth, Family & Friends	I am enriched by socializing with others: young people, my family and/or friends and enjoying companionship in the outdoors together
	3	Community Life	I like seeing what the discovery and enjoyment of nearby open space recreation does for my community and our visiting guests
	4	Economic Well-being	I want to see public lands recreation areas contributing in a significant way to our economic livelihood
	5	Learning & instructing	I feel comfortable having others equip and enable me to do recreation and tourism outings—or being part of helping others learn how to do that
	6	Stewardship & Caretaking	I like giving back to the outdoors from what I've received by helping care for special sites and facilities so others can also enjoy them

11. Which sources of information do you depend upon to plan your recreation in the region? (Choose all that apply.)

S-1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends and family
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Past experience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Area business owners
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Area residents
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Visitor Center staff
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Contact with park rangers in the field
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Visitor Center exhibits
	<input type="checkbox"/>	On-Site signage, kiosks, bulletin boards
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Travel and tourism councils and associations
	<input type="checkbox"/>	

S-2		Magazines
		Free guides and maps
		Guidebooks
		Government websites - .gov
		Non-government websites - .com or .org
		Digital apps
		Historic references
		Maps (topographic, National Geographic, etc.)
		Other

12. What are the things you like about living in or visiting this community?
13. How do public lands in the area affect the quality of life issues you just described?
14. What could the BLM or managing partners do in planning or managing the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument that would positively impact those values and vision for this community you expressed earlier?
15. What could the BLM do in planning or managing the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument that would negatively impact those values and vision for this community you expressed earlier?

16. If you were the public lands manager for a day and could set management priorities for Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument, what would your priorities be?

Appendix 2 – Flip Chart comments

Focus Group #	Group type	Question Name	Zone	Comment
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Openness/Freedom to get away
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Share with family and friends
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Camping and Rock hounding
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Solitude
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Very diverse area/ Peaks to desert
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Close to home/city
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Picturesque/scenic beauty
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Very underdeveloped
1	General Public	Special Qualities		everything is open to hikers
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Very clean
1	General Public	Special Qualities		relatively low recreational pressure
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Tourism/Economic opportunities
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Diversity of outdoor activities
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Great educational lab
1	General Public	Special Qualities		BLM management structure
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Size - very large and surrounding area
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Space to handle recreation
1	General Public	Special Qualities		Existing roads are good for access
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		the diversity of flora/plant life
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		opportunities for birding and hiking
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		diversity of scenery and vegetation
2	Conservationists	Special qualities	DP	Proximity to where we live - ease of getting away
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		opportunity for isolation/solitude
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		diversity of wildlife
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		historical, spiritual, cultural values an link to past/old west identity
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		opportunity for cultural connection

2	Conservationists	Special qualities		access is open and available to all
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		great urban interface resource
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		"wild" character of the resource
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		diversity of recreation opportunities
2	Conservationists	Special qualities		inspirational area for art
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		open access
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		world class 4 wheel drive trails
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		peace
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		4 wheel and hunting opportunities
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		connection to the natural desert/memories
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		habitat and grassland for flora and fauna
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		exploring the organ mountains - recreation
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		ranching history of the area
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		4 wheel drive opportunity
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		cultural (Native American) history of the Desert Peaks
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		Petroglyphs
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		beauty of the National Monument and rec opportunities
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		economic impact of tourism
3	Community leaders	Special qualities		native and new world history of the area
4	General Public	Special qualities		being left alone, as it is
4	General Public	Special qualities	all	like the current roads
4	General Public	Special qualities	all	wildness and wildlife
4	General Public	Special qualities		convenient-close to home
4	General Public	Special qualities	1	opportunity for rock climbing
4	General Public	Special qualities	1	solitude
4	General Public	Special qualities	1	4 wheel opportunities
4	General Public	Special qualities	1,2	bird watching
4	General Public	Special qualities	3	mountain biking
4	General Public	Special qualities	2,4	remoteness and solitude
4	General Public	Special qualities	1	hiking and wandering
4	General Public	Special qualities		quietness

4	General Public	Special qualities		diversity of environment
4	General Public	Special qualities		places to hike and mountain bike
4	General Public	Special qualities		access
4	General Public	Special qualities		isolation
4	General Public	Special qualities		change in seasons
4	General Public	Special qualities		hunting
4	General Public	Special qualities		photography
4	General Public	Special qualities		ruggedness and remote
5	Commercial	Special qualities	1	Iconic for area
5	Commercial	Special qualities	1	opportunities for recreation
5	Commercial	Special qualities	1	Dripping Springs history
5	Commercial	Special qualities	1	climbing the Needles
5	Commercial	Special qualities	2,3,4	More for general public
5	Commercial	Special qualities	2,3,4	good access
5	Commercial	Special qualities	2,3,4	Wilderness values
6	User groups	Special qualities	1	Rugged quality of Organ Mountains
6	User groups	Special qualities	4	Vastness of Potrillos
6	User groups	Special qualities	1	Quality of rock
6	User groups	Special qualities	1	Accessibility/close
6	User groups	Special qualities	1	Scenic views
6	User groups	Special qualities	all	Scenic Views
6	User groups	Special qualities	2	wide open empty spaces
6	User groups	Special qualities	2	Prehistoric history
7	General Public	Special qualities	1	Diverse bird habitat
7	General Public	Special qualities	5	Historical significance, peaceful
7	General Public	Special qualities	2	Cultural resources
7	General Public	Special qualities	2	Solitude, wildlife density, wilderness
7	General Public	Special qualities	1	Equestrian use/facilities
7	General Public	Special qualities	1	Aguirre Springs – native dances site
7	General Public	Special qualities	5	Connectivity, non-motorized transportation
7	General Public	Special qualities	1	Eastern side – hiking, variety of habitats, take visitors
8	General Public	Special qualities	5	Close to Anthony recreation area (hunting, ATVs, hiking)
8	General Public	Special qualities	5	Flood control
8	General Public	Special qualities	5	Close by – biking, hiking, hunting and mountain biking

8	General Public	Special qualities	2	Hang glider/soaring site Magdalena rim area – access
8	General Public	Special qualities	2	Hiking and rock art
8	General Public	Special qualities	4	Hike and fly paraglider (East/West Potrillo)
8	General Public	Special qualities	2	Paraglider access important to “rim” area/hang gliding
9	General Public	Special qualities	2	The wildlife – key wildlife habitat
9	General Public	Special qualities	2	Archaeological sites and historical sites
9	General Public	Special qualities	2	Hunting opportunities
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Lack of/limited access
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Fees
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		diminished quality of experience because of conflict
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Dumping
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Too much motorized activity
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Mineral development
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		paved roads
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Trashing monument (need education)
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Impacts of grazing on trails, vegetation, etc.)
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		"national monument" popularity
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Too much tourism/associated use
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Too much access by cars (need balance)
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		vandalism/graffiti/litter
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Not enough education
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		land ownership obstacles
1	General Public	Diminish Qualities		lack of connectivity between parts of monument
2	Conservationists	Diminish Qualities		Noise - dirt bikes on hiking trails
2	Conservationists	Diminish Qualities		illegal dumping
2	Conservationists	Diminish Qualities		failure to enforce existing travel management plan
2	Conservationists	Diminish Qualities		OHV use and OHVs in special areas disrupts wildlife and scenery
2	Conservationists	Diminish Qualities		Travel off trails

2	Conservationists	Diminish Qualities		Target shooting - impacts other users
3	Community leaders	Diminish Qualities		vandalism
3	Community leaders	Diminish Qualities		lack of signage, public information and field personnel
3	Community leaders	Diminish Qualities		increased use - more trash - more vandalism
3	Community leaders	Diminish Qualities		limited access - need more 2 track roads
3	Community leaders	Diminish Qualities		more use leads to destruction
3	Community leaders	Diminish Qualities		damage by motorized trail users - more social trails
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities	3	Trash
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities		access restriction
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities		more social trails cut
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities	3	shooting
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities	4	shells on ground/trash
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities		poor stewardship ethic
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities		restrictions on target shooting
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities		lack of law enforcement
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities		too much development
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities		locked gates and limited hours
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities	1	closing roads/access
4	General Public	Diminish Qualities		noise-shooting
5	Commercial	Diminish Qualities	1	Drilling for oil and gas
5	Commercial	Diminish Qualities	1	Development too close to the monument
5	Commercial	Diminish Qualities	1	Over-commercialized entrance area
6	User groups	Diminish Qualities		Litter and illegal dumping
6	User groups	Diminish Qualities		shooters leave waste behind
6	User groups	Diminish Qualities		active shooting conflict with recreation
6	User groups	Diminish Qualities		visual and noise of oil and gas in the future
6	User groups	Diminish Qualities		light pollution in the future
7	General Public	Diminish Qualities	5	Decreased access, fencing
7	General Public	Diminish Qualities	1	Increased user population Qualities decreased solitude

7	General Public	Diminish Qualities	all	loss of access to motorized
7	General Public	Diminish Qualities	all	special interest/development
7	General Public	Diminish Qualities	all	decrease the size of the monument
7	General Public	Diminish Qualities	2	Overgrazing
7	General Public	Diminish Qualities	1	Dripping Springs – hurt native ceremonies, too many people around during the ceremonies on certain days
8	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Closing access/limiting access to soaring/hang gliding
8	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Development
8	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Lack of access for people with disabilities, no accommodations
8	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Too much motorized use in some areas
8	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Lack of improved roads
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities	4	Restricting access
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities	4	Light/noise pollution
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities		More mineral extraction
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities		More development
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Damage to cultural and biological resources
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Litter and trash
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities		People traveling off of trails
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Lack of enforcement of existing laws
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Poorly built trails
9	General Public	Diminish Qualities		Overuse

1	General Public	Community values		large community, but it "feels" small
1	General Public	Community values		welcoming community
1	General Public	Community values		immune to disasters
1	General Public	Community values		diversity of community (culture, etc.)
1	General Public	Community values		moderate climate
1	General Public	Community values		people are friendly/tolerate others
1	General Public	Community values		it is easy/simple to navigate
1	General Public	Community values		safe for families/children
1	General Public	Community values		very affordable
1	General Public	Community values		variety of opportunities
1	General Public	Community values		good for seniors (very active)
1	General Public	Community values		hasn't grown too fast
1	General Public	Community values		NMSU-affordable education
1	General Public	Community values		growing young community
1	General Public	Community values		lots to do here (politics, recreation, culture)
2	Conservationists	Community values		friendly/tolerant community
2	Conservationists	Community values		very diverse community and multicultural
2	Conservationists	Community values		size of community - much to do, but not too large
2	Conservationists	Community values		close proximity to the National Monument
2	Conservationists	Community values		university and diversity of jobs (e.g. military, NASA, etc.)
2	Conservationists	Community values		lots of creative opportunities for art
3	Community leaders	Community values		great climate - lack of severe weather
3	Community leaders	Community values		people are possessive about the land and the views
3	Community leaders	Community values		attitude and friendliness of the people (open and helpful)
3	Community leaders	Community values		recreation opportunities in the area

3	Community leaders	Community values		major university
3	Community leaders	Community values		beautiful public lands
3	Community leaders	Community values		cultural diversity
3	Community leaders	Community values		local sense of ownership of public lands
4	General Public	Community values		easy access to public lands
4	General Public	Community values		diversity of recreational opportunities
4	General Public	Community values		diversity of the community
4	General Public	Community values		diversity of cultures (ethnic, gender)
4	General Public	Community values		not everybody uses public lands
4	General Public	Community values		friendly community
4	General Public	Community values		small town feel
4	General Public	Community values		tight knit community
5	Commercial	Community values		live and let live philosophy
5	Commercial	Community values		thriving arts community
5	Commercial	Community values		climate/weather
5	Commercial	Community values		diverse things to do here
5	Commercial	Community values		welcoming community
5	Commercial	Community values		opportunity for tourism and recreation
5	Commercial	Community values		healthy lifestyle
5	Commercial	Community values		nice hub for the region
5	Commercial	Community values		good diverse food
6	User groups	Community values		the mountains/views
6	User groups	Community values		Accessibility
6	User groups	Community values		good friendly small town feel
6	User groups	Community values		people play together - recreation
6	User groups	Community values		climate/weather
6	User groups	Community values		access to diverse outdoor activities
6	User groups	Community values		growth of local businesses
6	User groups	Community values		college town
6	User groups	Community values		difficulty to access - control use

7	General Public	Community values		Natural beauty
7	General Public	Community values		Diversity of people
7	General Public	Community values		Potential for creative people
7	General Public	Community values		Scenic views
7	General Public	Community values		Hiking so close to home
7	General Public	Community values		Variety\access to outdoor recreation
7	General Public	Community values		Motorized access to miles of rides
7	General Public	Community values		Ability of community to save public lands
8	General Public	Community values		Spaciousness, openness of areas
8	General Public	Community values		Welcoming of community
8	General Public	Community values		Access to outdoor resources and activities and wildlife
8	General Public	Community values		Great climate and weather
8	General Public	Community values		Public lands and areas
8	General Public	Community values		Very friendly and hospitable community
8	General Public	Community values		Archaeological sites/areas and ancient culture
8	General Public	Community values		Geology of the area
9	General Public	Community values		Fell in love with Mountains
9	General Public	Community values		Climate/sunshine and deserts
9	General Public	Community values		Naturalness of Chihuahua Desert – intact ecosystem
9	General Public	Community values		Wildlife and wildlife habitat
9	General Public	Community values		Having access to public lands
9	General Public	Community values		The people – very friendly
9	General Public	Community values		Openness of the area/lands
9	General Public	Community values		Natural beauty
1	General Public	Public lands vision		land adds to quality of life
1	General Public	Public lands vision		offers things to do
1	General Public	Public lands vision		add to sanity
1	General Public	Public lands vision		planning process is a chance for the community to come together to be involved
1	General Public	Public lands vision		brings us together (commonality)
1	General Public	Public lands vision		offers motivation to be active and get outside

1	General Public	Public lands vision		adds to opportunities for youth and families
1	General Public	Public lands vision		offers pride of ownership
2	Conservationists	Public lands vision		allows for a connecting to my culture and identity
2	Conservationists	Public lands vision		provide inspiration for artwork
2	Conservationists	Public lands vision		provides recreational opportunities
2	Conservationists	Public lands vision		healthy opportunities for family and youth
2	Conservationists	Public lands vision		provides opportunities for economic development
3	Community leaders	Public lands vision		open space adds for quality of life
3	Community leaders	Public lands vision		diverse recreation opportunities
3	Community leaders	Public lands vision		close to home - easy access to go hunt and other recreation
3	Community leaders	Public lands vision		health and exercise
3	General Public	Public lands vision		easy to find a place to play
4	General Public	Public lands vision		opportunities for wilderness
5	Commercial	Public lands vision		draws people to visit and move here
5	Commercial	Public lands vision		makes population more active
5	Commercial	Public lands vision		educational opportunities
5	Commercial	Public lands vision		local girl scout patch for monument
5	Commercial	Public lands vision		bring in tourism and local economic dollars
5	Commercial	Public lands vision		helps to brand local events
5	Commercial	Public lands vision		links national monument to events
5	Commercial	Public lands vision		supports local business
6	User groups	Public lands vision		healthy lifestyle
6	User groups	Public lands vision		lab for outdoor experiential learning/education

7	General Public	Public lands vision		Opportunities to share lands with others
7	General Public	Public lands vision		Work on projects together
7	General Public	Public lands vision		Weather
7	General Public	Public lands vision		It's a reason to move here
8	General Public	Public lands vision		Go from quote urban" to "dark sky" very easily
9	General Public	Public lands vision		They added to the quality of life – absolutely critical
9	General Public	Public lands vision		They are part of my life/identity
9	General Public	Public lands vision		Like the access to public lands
9	General Public	Public lands vision		Sense of freedom
9	General Public	Public lands vision		Dream to come here (from Germany)
1	General Public	Positive plan action		provide self-guided opportunities
1	General Public	Positive plan action		providing equitable access-improve access for public (e.g. locked gates, county roads, etc.)
1	General Public	Positive plan action		promote public/special events for community
1	General Public	Positive plan action		involve community in the planning process
1	General Public	Positive plan action		engage with local groups
1	General Public	Positive plan action		coordinate/integrate with other local plans/efforts
1	General Public	Positive plan action		reach out with communication (i.e. Facebook pages)
1	General Public	Positive plan action		BLM visible in field

1	General Public	Positive plan action		Provide destination points in the monument (with info, access and opportunities)
1	General Public	Positive plan action		spread out use pressure
1	General Public	Positive plan action		increase communication (web, Facebook, phone) to ALL publics, even those opposed to monument
1	General Public	Positive plan action		Cultural/road trail survey
2	Conservationists	Positive plan action		Commitment to diversifying input from marginal groups
2	Conservationists	Positive plan action		promote visitation by all cultural ethnic groups (e.g. income, Hispanic, etc.)
2	Conservationists	Positive plan action		reaching younger people through outreach and educational partnerships
2	Conservationists	Positive plan action		conduct planning in Spanish
2	Conservationists	Positive plan action		expand planning to areas beyond Las Cruces (reach out more)
2	Conservationists	Positive plan action		promote more education with public schools
2	Conservationists	Positive plan action		increase and diversify communications
2	Conservationists	Positive plan action		be transparent
2	Conservationists	Positive plan action		plan for future and future growth
3	Community leaders	Positive plan action		keep the area and access open
3	Community leaders	Positive plan action		recognize and support wide diversity in use - include all activities
3	Community leaders	Positive plan action		identify important features and promote/provide access (and info)

3	Community leaders	Positive plan action		advertise and promote national monument (info, signage, maps, trails, etc.)
3	Community leaders	Positive plan action		foster interactions with, among, and between different user groups
3	Community leaders	Positive plan action		better on-line information about opportunities and activities
4	General Public	Positive plan action		open access
4	General Public	Positive plan action		greater access to military lands
4	General Public	Positive plan action		increase field and law enforcement staff
4	General Public	Positive plan action	4	more primitive trails
4	General Public	Positive plan action		utilize volunteers to help BLM on the ground/field
4	General Public	Positive plan action		use friends groups to help cleanup
4	General Public	Positive plan action		use Facebook to communicate
4	General Public	Positive plan action		reach out to those with disabilities
4	General Public	Positive plan action		more education on stewardship
4	General Public	Positive plan action	2	trash clean-ups
4	General Public	Positive plan action		reach out to youth
4	General Public	Positive plan action		need bike lanes on city roads and streets.
5	Commercial	Positive plan action		all web pages need to be in Spanish
5	Commercial	Positive plan action		connect with "all" cultural groups
5	Commercial	Positive plan action		more development of web/social media
5	Commercial	Positive plan action		provide more support staff on national monument
5	Commercial	Positive plan action		liaison with community/businesses
6	User groups	Positive plan action		proactive and inclusive approach to climbing

6	User groups	Positive plan action	1,2,3	community involved in bolting/route access policy
6	User groups	Positive plan action		making information available through the website including road conditions
6	User groups	Positive plan action		special area for shooting
6	User groups	Positive plan action		consider banning shooting on the monument
7	General Public	Positive plan action		Livestock coexist with recreationists
7	General Public	Positive plan action		Manage for all especially those physically impaired
7	General Public	Positive plan action		Shift from extraction
7	General Public	Positive plan action		Community needs to get back as well as take
7	General Public	Positive plan action		Work with equestrian community
7	General Public	Positive plan action		Preserve wilderness
7	General Public	Positive plan action		Reduce conflict between users
7	General Public	Positive plan action		Use sustainable management techniques to decrease impact
7	General Public	Positive plan action		Set aside some land for non-recreation
8	General Public	Positive plan action		Enforce litter laws
8	General Public	Positive plan action		Educate public about litter code
9	General Public	Positive plan action		Monitor/enforce illegal dumping and vandalism
9	General Public	Positive plan action		More developed facilities should be closer to urban areas
9	General Public	Positive plan action		More educational partnerships with schools
9	General Public	Positive plan action		Don't reduce the amount of public lands
9	General Public	Positive plan action		Educate the politicians

9	General Public	Positive plan action		Increase BLM staff
9	General Public	Positive plan action		Better coordination with other agencies (federal, state, local)
9	General Public	Positive plan action		Sierra Vista trails needs signing replaced
1	General Public	Negative plan action		Not reaching out
1	General Public	Negative plan action		Not being transparent
1	General Public	Negative plan action		Not providing enough information
1	General Public	Negative plan action		not reaching out to minorities and underrepresented groups such as Hispanics
2	Conservationists	Negative plan action		waiting too long - speed up the planning process for national monument
2	Conservationists	Negative plan action		allow resource extraction to impact monument
2	Conservationists	Negative plan action		not improving natl. monument while planning
2	Conservationists	Negative plan action		Allowing commercial development (solar panels, wind, power lines, etc.)
2	Conservationists	Negative plan action		paving roads
2	Conservationists	Negative plan action		fees will diminish low income enjoyment
3	Community leaders	Negative plan action		too many regulations
4	General Public	Negative plan action		opening up too much land
4	General Public	Negative plan action		paving roads
4	General Public	Negative plan action	2	too much signage
4	General Public	Negative plan action		more roads and development to the masses
5	Commercial	Negative plan action		not enough staff
5	Commercial	Negative plan action		don't fund a visitor center
5	Commercial	Negative plan action		don't improve communications
6	User groups	Negative plan action	2	adding development/structures

6	User groups	Negative plan action		increased road development
6	User groups	Negative plan action		ATVs go off-road/social trails
6	User groups	Negative plan action		increased fees
7	General Public	Negative plan action		Not considering conductivity to other lands
7	General Public	Negative plan action		Politicize lands by BLM
7	General Public	Negative plan action		Selling the land
7	General Public	Negative plan action		Not being transparent in the planning process
7	General Public	Negative plan action		Not working with local clubs
7	General Public	Negative plan action		Turning the land over to state of New Mexico for private developers
7	General Public	Negative plan action		Restricting local access
7	General Public	Negative plan action		Fracking
7	General Public	Negative plan action		More extractive uses
8	General Public	Negative plan action		Restrict access
8	General Public	Negative plan action		Do not help control development
8	General Public	Negative plan action		Selling or transferring public lands
9	General Public	Negative plan action		Overgrazing
9	General Public	Negative plan action		Resource extraction
9	General Public	Negative plan action		No enforcement/unrestricted use
9	General Public	Negative plan action		Oil and gas extraction
1	General Public	Manager for a day		Determine if fees are appropriate
1	General Public	Manager for a day		Identify "access gaps" and then improve them
1	General Public	Manager for a day		Trail development plan
1	General Public	Manager for a day		Develop an educational program with the schools
1	General Public	Manager for a day		Integrate with "city/county plans"
1	General Public	Manager for a day		develop county trail map
1	General Public	Manager for a day		Protect the "national monument" staff and funding
2	Conservationists	Manager for a day		get adequate funding
2	Conservationists	Manager for a day		keep in line with agency policies (D.C. office)
2	Conservationists	Manager for a day		study the impact of roads and limit paved roads and close some roads
2	Conservationists	Manager for a day		enforce dumping/litter laws
3	Community leaders	Manager for a day		improve the infrastructure (roads, access, signage, maps etc.)

3	Community leaders	Manager for a day		improve main access but more remote further out
3	Community leaders	Manager for a day		keep monument beautiful and productive for existing uses (e.g. ranching)
3	Community leaders	Manager for a day		protect water sources /springs
3	Community leaders	Manager for a day		keep water for wildlife
4	General Public	Manager for a day		protect the national monument
4	General Public	Manager for a day		reasonable access for remote areas
4	General Public	Manager for a day		balance access carefully
4	General Public	Manager for a day		take it slow and develop a plan
4	General Public	Manager for a day		make incremental changes in planning and management
5	Commercial	Manager for a day		More signage - communication out to the public
5	Commercial	Manager for a day		more educational opportunities in signage/interpretation
5	Commercial	Manager for a day		more staff and resources
6	User groups	Manager for a day		Remove litter
6	User groups	Manager for a day		restrictions on oil/gas development
6	User groups	Manager for a day		increase stewardship/education of the land
6	User groups	Manager for a day		Increase liaison with search and rescue and other groups
6	User groups	Manager for a day		leave undeveloped...as little development as possible
7	General Public	Manager for a day		Watershed restoration
7	General Public	Manager for a day		Wilderness protection
7	General Public	Manager for a day		More staff!
7	General Public	Manager for a day		Planning meetings with many stakeholders
7	General Public	Manager for a day		Sleep for a day and keep the lands as they are

7	General Public	Manager for a day		Buy adjacent land by area and in large and Monument
7	General Public	Manager for a day		Plan growth, plan for growth
7	General Public	Manager for a day		Restore soil and ecosystem services
8	General Public	Manager for a day		Providing access and roads for visitors
8	General Public	Manager for a day		Enforce existing laws
8	General Public	Manager for a day		Keep activity restrictions to a minimum
8	General Public	Manager for a day		Facilitate people ability to responsibly use of the lands
8	General Public	Manager for a day		Increase opportunities/sensitivity to persons with disabilities
9	General Public	Manager for a day		More protection of land
9	General Public	Manager for a day		Protect wildlife habitat
9	General Public	Manager for a day		Develop more partnerships to help protect lands and educate public

Appendix 3: Additional Written Comments on Handouts

Primary Association – comments written in “Other” category:

-
- Organ Mt Technical Rescue Squad
 - Member of the Jornada hiking group (organizer), Ocotillo hiking group, high desert hiking group
 - West Potrillo Rancher, and Daswed Supervisor [respondent marked both Local Resident and Community Leader]
 - Scientific Resource
 - Back Country Horseman and Horsewoman of Southern NM
 - hiker/volunteer
 - Residents of Ancestors (American Indian Piro Indians)
 - Residence of Ancestors (Piro Indian)
 - BCH- Back country horsemen
 - Volunteer @ Dripping Springs
 - Graduate Student @ NMSU
 - EBID [Elephant Butte Irrigation District?]
 - Rancher
 - Soaring Pilot + instructor
 -
 - hiker, climber, SAR volunteer
 - Local resident, and search/rescue team
 - Local search and rescue squad
 - Local Pro-photography
 - Local Residents, Community leader (lead hikes for scouts, group trail runs, mountains bike rides etc.) Outfitter Guide (race director/event director)
 - President Las Cruces four-wheel drive club
 - Soil and water conservation district manager
 - Local Resident, community leader and outfitter guide
 - Coordinate and present recreation activities particularly mountain bicycle activities and events
 - NMWA Board Member
-

Special Qualities:

-
- - hiking trails are perfect
 - - Natural beauty - silence -
 - - Looking forward to learning about the peaks - I am new
 - - this is close to Las Cruces - to home

- - It is so accessible
 - The views are incomparable
 - Hiking provides great exercise
 - Fun to observe wildlife
 - Historic significance
 - There is something peaceful and satisfying about just looking at and experiencing the mountains, even from within the city. Yet, it's unspoiled by development.
- - My Backyard
 - Accessibility
 - Flying sites
 - Don't want a lid put on public lands
- - my longest history of recreation use
 - hiking since 1967
 - rock climbing in late '60's and early 70's
 - Unique Fillmore Canyon
 - Wilderness characteristics
 - Fabulous photo opportunities
 - some small game hunting
- - riding my horses there; quiet, no ATVs to scare horses, hiking is the best! The historical significance is amazing!
- -Public access
 - Close to home: 30-45 min
 - Hunting/shooting
 - Guns: shotguns and rifles
 - Dogs
 - Empty
 - Safe
 - Desert ecology
 - Petrillo Mtns. area is important too
- '-Provide potential connectivity between Las Cruces, town to the National Monuments via non-motorized recreation transportation options
 - Less restrictive for all types of non-motorized users (specifically mountain bikers) and trail development and maintenance
 - Provide trail and recreation opportunities near to cities, towns, and population centers
- (Organ Mountain Range)
 - Easily accessible high country, largely pristine country with excellent hiking and climbing opportunities.
 - Also "easy county" for day hikes and picnicking (e.g. Dripping Springs, on West, Aguirre springs on East)
 - Good road access to periphery and absence (more-or-less) of roads to interior.
 - Lovely canyons. Lovely high country. Relatively low population density.

-
- **21 - Remote, rugged, beautiful - interesting to see work left by aspiring people in the past.**
 - *** Amazing canyons, grasslands, petroglyphs, history, views.**
 - * hiking**
 - *** EKIP partnership w/ Chamizal NM and OMDP NM w/ Socorro ISD 4th graders**
 - * Biological diversity**
 - * Waterfalls - Dripping Springs / Fillmore**
 - * Climbing opportunities**
 - *** Numerous Opportunities for quality hiking with a variety of landscapes, serenity, and challenges.**
 - * Very close to home - It's nice to go hiking without much thought or planning.**
 - * Numerous trails that are pet friendly**
 - * Waterfalls and numerous streams**
 - **~Quietude and solitude**
 - **~Minimal adjacent commercial and residential development**
 - **~Hiking opportunities**
 - **~State cultural and recreation facilities nearby**
 - **1. feel safe doing solo hikes**
 - **2. multitude of places to hike**
 - **3. field trips several years ago- great local history**
 - **4. Challenging hikes: Needles, Organ Peak, Big Baudy**
 - **5. The beautiful habitat**
 - **6. multitude of trails for conditioning hikes**
 - **7. Organ mountains from a distant provides lovely scenery, changing colors**
 - **8. Bone tree tradition!**
 - **1. Grasslands - vistas and grassland birds**
 - **2. Lava flows - Geology and Wildlife**
 - **3. Kilbourne Hole - Geology**
 - **4. Wildlife diversity throughout the area**
 - **1. Historical aspects of the Dripping Springs, i.e, Van Patten camp and Boyd sanitarium and structures associated with these enterprises.**
 - **2. Variation of waterfalls/stream flows depending on rainfall in the drainage i.e. Fillmore and Bar Canyons**
 - **3. More trails would increase my enjoyment of this area**
 - **1. Open and accessible**
 - **2. Human history**
 - **a- The beauty and solitude of the mountains- History of area- Birding and wildlife**
 - **b- History of area- the pre-historical tracks**
 - **a. Doña Ana County and all BLM**
 - **b. Area 3 - hiking, geocaching, four wheeling, hiking, picture taking and process photography**
 - **c. Doña Ana Mts. - geocaching and four wheeling**
-

- Access and dog friendly - great for visitors. Aguirre Springs, Baylor Pass. Good medium hikes.
- Aesthetic Beauty- backdrop of community
diverse recreation opportunities, environment
accessibility of access to our community
historical and cultural
- All of these areas have good ATV trails and ranch roads to ride. Please don't close any of them. The road is what is special, wherever it is.
- All the climbing areas represent years of adventures. I have many experiences in this areas over the last 40 years which shaped my life.
Memories, isolation, scenery, silence, climbing. I like being alone and it nice to be able to spend a day with only your own party.
- Archaeology and scenic views (hiking)
- Area 1 - diversity of habitat for wintering birds and resident birds, Audubon Society conducts Christmas Bird Count just west of Mtns.; grasslands, desert scrub, foothills of the mtns., arroyos all provide important habitat for birds (nearly 40% of our Christmas Bird Count circle is contained within the area west of Organ Mtns.; Boyd Ranch / stage coach stops only place in Doña Ana County that has Black-chinned Sparrows.
- Area 1- Soledad canyon- views horse friends, good parking for horse trailers, no motorized vehicles
- Area 2 (desert peaks complex)- empty spaces
- Area 5. Historical significance- no motorized vehicles
Area 2. Hiking
Area 1. Dripping Springs- animal habitat native to NM
- As a child, my father would grab me after school and we would "head to the desert" to camp and recreate. I hope to retain this experience for my 2 girls, 8 and 3 years.
- As a member of the Las Cruces 4 wheel drive club, we enjoy responsible four wheeling all around Las Cruces and Doña Ana County never neglecting the trails always trying to notice areas that need trash removal. 4x4 Club has always been the first in the area to maintain our trails.
- Attracts new people to move to Las Cruces for the beauty and recreation. Increase in visitors to our area since designated Natl Monument helps w/economy and jobs
- Awesome paragliding location because of the direction it faces - it's also a safe area to paraglide
- Baylor Canyon Pass
Trail hiking view
Peace/meditation
Encountering
- Before it was named the Organ Mountains they were known as the Manso Mountains
- Close to home with the most interesting sights varied in what it offers- hikes, history, scenery, waterfalls, interesting geology- fossils-Bishops cap early air way "beacon" on top.
- Desert + Peaks Complex

- Desert Peaks Complex. This area is more wild than others. This land is not protected in a monument or official ways. Because of that it is endangered, misused and can be sold or traded [possibly referring to respondent selecting DA County as area of focus].
- Desert, trees, springs, birds, outdoors exercise, wind, weather, vista
- Diversity of activities- some very isolated
-some easy access
- Diversity of landscape, petroglyphs, wildlife
4 wheeling opportunities
- Diversity- plants, animals, landscape, elevations, etc
Lack of development
Ruggedness and difficulty accessing some areas
- Doña Ana Mountains Area is special to me because it makes me feel at home. I love the desert scenery and the smell of the desert. And it's a well maintained Area
- East side of Organ mountains beautiful scenery and springs
- Easy access from my home. Nice hiking area visually (looks good). Quiet. Variety geographic [end of response]
- Easy access to monument year around. Variety of plants and wildlife, it's big enough that it's not crowded
- Every square inch is precious. Must be protected. All comments I heard are important.
- Few people go there, geology interesting, native rock art and wildflowers
- fewer people
more opportunities for off-trail discovery
in wet years the grassland is spectacular
I especially enjoy the exploring the canyons and washes which feel unlimited
There's lots of history to learn about but the human history doesn't detract from enjoying the natural resources.
- Flora, fauna; Petroglyphs. Birding, horseback riding, hiking- escape to recharge. Wildlife, access to broader rec experiences.
- Flowers and sometimes bird watching depending on season
- For decades my family has owned private land and controlled the grazing allotment in this area. We work hard at improving the range and cleaning the trash left by the public. The Rancher is the best steward of the land. Increased traffic only degrades the land.
- Formations
- four-wheel drive trails
- Geologically unique, solitude, diverse habitat and wildlife.
- Geology, volcanoes
- Growing up in Las Cruces, my family often visited [last 3 words underlined] Aguirre Springs, Dripping Springs, and Soledad / Bar Canyon. We camp, picnic, hike, and enjoy the Chihuahuan Desert environment. These places are special to me because they are association with family memories. Also, they represent and allow access to more wild, unspoiled places near to the ever-expanding urban area of Las Cruces. The scenic value of these places must not be underestimated. Visiting them helps people to gain

perspective on this region, the growth we experience in our own region, and the changes that are happening in our lives and our region. These places are also important for visitors so that can understand where we come from and how our lives are shaped.

- Habitat for wildlife, including plants and rare plants

Arch.- petroglyphs

History- native

solitude

Cultural

- Hiking around Kilbourne Hole
Hunting in the entire study area 4

- Hiking opportunities
Historical stories/significance
Scenery

- Hiking, climbing, desert plants, cultural heritage
- History, beauty, information available at volunteer center
Diversity of plants.

- Hunting!

- I do think that any preservation of land is important. I think all National Monument land should be preserved and building near that land should not be allowed.

- I grew up close to the area and still live close by, I also belong to a local 4-wheel drive club and like to use the land for 4 wheeling.

- I have been a lifelong resident of the area. I have visited the area time and time again and hope future generations get to enjoy it as much as I have.

- I have been studying rock art for 35 years and have become fascinated by the Desert Peaks area because of the landscape. Over 25 sites with petroglyphs are found in this area but much of the higher areas still remain surveyed for remnants of the past. This area represents a vast area of data that could help us understand what/who/when/where of the past.

- I like to drive out and enjoy the area. Also, like to go on mountain bike rides and hikes.

- I live near this area and I've been mountain biking and dirt biking in this entire area for the last 10 years. These activities are ones I've done with my family. The trails are pretty well kept and we've enjoyed it for a long time and we hope to enjoy it for many more years.

- I love the unique landscapes of the organ mtns, and the views are outstanding. The solitude is available 20 minutes from where I live and I appreciate the nature with my friends. the biodiversity is prominent at Aguirre Springs, great place to camp and enjoy good times with friends. Important cultural component.

- I visit all 4 areas but-living in El Paso (+/- 1 million people) and with friends in Cd. Juarez (+/- 3 million), areas 1 and 4 are easy to reach!
The remoteness/solitude of most areas is wonderful BUT it is tricky allowing so many different activities (shooting, ATVs, horses, motorized and non-motorized bikes, senior citizens wanting a quiet walk, etc). All of life is a balance

-
- I was born in Gorsefield, and we have enjoyed our land for many generations.
Petroglyphs- great to take families- great learning experience
birding- wildlife
aguirre springs- Indian significance (historical + spiritual importance)
 - Interface w/wilderness and wildlife
Solitude 20 minutes from home
 - It is a unique flying site in our region that can be used by both Hang gliding and paragliding. It is our safest launch area. It is one of few areas in the south west where we can land on top (in the launch area). We can also do tandem flights there safely. It is marginally accessible by the handicapped, which we would like to improve for the benefit of all.
 - It is accessible (more so than other locations) and has good birding habitat that is not readily available in other locations in the area.
 - It is special because there are a variety of features of the land that are accessible to many people - Little slot canyon is only recently becoming well known - The Permian Trackways are well known and very valuable because of the science
 - It shows the land in Texas (El Paso) that we are focused on.
 - It's beauty, scenery, wildlife, flora, solitude, hunting, hiking. Rattlesnake canyon is closest to vehicle access and it is beautiful for public views, photography, etc.
 - Its austere fragility and proximity to the international border make this a critical area & susceptible to damage by off-road travel- gather by public or by government agencies.
 - Jeep/ 4wd vehicles existing trails
 - Land change from low to high, vast kinds of Native Plants, very large amount of Rock Art (Native). Butterfield Trail located in this section also.
 - Large mined out mountain side rarely visited - target shooting area. I keep it clean, remove all targets, brass casing.
D. Area 4 important for camping and target shooting, inside depression of mined out mtn. You are surrounded by mtn. SAFE
 - Magdalena Rim - close to Mag Peak is one of the best Ridge Soaring site in the country. Access by vehicle was recently restricted - forcing an extended hike with equipment to Paraglide or hang-glide. It is also beautiful, remote desert country for hiking.
 - Mostly unblemished, lots of roadless areas. Immense, and yet undiscovered archaeological and historical sites. Excellent hunting, beautiful vistas. Remote and uncrowded, solitude.
 - Mountains
Alluvial Fans
4 wheel drive trails
Mnt Bike trails
 - My back yard
Great wildlife
-

Great views.

Available to motorized vehicles and horses, biking, hiking.

- Natural beauty- seclusion- lack of vehicles
 - Natural topography, undeveloped - wildlife - fresh air - a good place to walk
 - Near where I live but feeling of remoteness - 360° views of the natural landscape, enjoying also the tiny plants along the trail and viewable from the trail, went with a group but want to return with one or two friends to take my time and enjoy the details of nature
 - 1. Adobe Henge project by Farm and Ranch Museum sounds like a viable attraction for the area.
2. Dripping Springs for healthy hiking and recreation.
My family hikes The Farm and Ranch. We would like to see the Farm and Ranch property expanded to include Adobe Henge. So, we would know that it won't be sold for development.
 - Of all the peaks in the complex it's used for training and recreational flying. Save and practice [??].
 - Off-roading opportunities
 - Open Trails - ATV Access -
Diversity - Land formations - Historic Places - Trail variations
Bad (Quality)? - Trash, trash, trash
 - Opportunities to hike and enjoy NM's beautiful and remote areas - History and the spiritual aspects. I moved this past year from East Texas specifically because of the areas around the Organ and Doña Ana Mountains area. It provides so much opportunity to be in beautiful and calm nature areas that have a spiritual "pull" for most people in this area.
 - Organ Mtns Area - My second home; when younger I walked all over these trails.
 - Access
 - Beauty
 - Variety of landscape
 - Peaceful
 - Physical beauty and solitude.
 - Presence of fossils and petroglyphs that demonstrate presence of Native Americans.
Opportunity to see wildlife.
Opportunity to hike relatively pristine areas.
Accessibility from nearby urban areas.
 - Quality of life as my home and work place. Productivity of this desert and growth and health of the cattle it produces. The satisfaction of hard work returning to me the further satisfaction of the landscape prospering
 - Reasonable access, topography, geology, wildlife and very few people.
 - Recreation - The area provides hiking and biking trails that are easily accessible to people. Beautiful mtns. to see. Access to wildlife (from a distance). Allowing wildlife to nest. A place to go for quiet and away from people.
 - Recreation and city expansion
-

-
- Reminds me of:
 - Oasis
 - [illegible] beauty
 - amazing geology
 - some species are endemic to this area
 - remote and rugged beauty
 - Aguirre and Dripping Springs are important wildlife areas- especially for birding
 - dark nights and quiet
 - limited road access maintains all of the above notes
 - hunting opportunities for quail
 - lack of too much infrastructure maintains beautiful sunsets with the organ mtns. as a backdrop
 - Remote, solitude, painting, wildlife diversity, night-sky, birding, plants, hiking, exploring, rugged, quiet. - I can truly feel free out here.
 - Remoteness. Unique geology. Right amount of accessibility.
 - Sacred to our ancestors (Piro)
 - Solitude, Peaceful, Beauty of Landscape
 - Solitude, quiet, open vistas, visual interest that changes each hour, each day - hiking
 - Solitude, roughness, remoteness, dirt roads (for bikepacking)
 - Spectacular mountain scenery
 - beautiful plant life and wildlife
 - * lovely horseback riding
 - * good parking area for horse trailers, easily accessed by people to enjoy good place for visitors to admire the area
 - The archaeology is simply amazing!!! some of the healthiest pronghorn I've seen and great camping and great night skies.
 - The Bore Rock areas in canyons that meet and combine to allow multiple points for 4x4 access and the area is regularly changes by rain wash and rock movement due to the rain. This allows tremendous opportunities for off road trail challenges.
 - The close proximity to the urban areas to the Organ Mountains with the diversity of habitat, animals, birds and majestic views offer opportunities to enjoy those things locally.
 - The geology; History; The view; Dripping Springs Area for hiking and the waterfalls when there is water
 - The Magdalena Rim site is a superb site for foot launched soaring. It faces the prevailing winds, has a smooth, easy launch, and has landing zones that are easy to fly to. Its only drawback is access; a fence, beyond which we are not allowed to drive, is 700 yards from the launch. This makes it hard to get gliders and harnesses to the launch site.
 - The majesticness of the organs first and foremost. The openness with modern facilities nearby.
 - The Organ mtns were the first area that I got to explore and learn about nature, geology, and the outdoors in general. Today it is interesting to see how things are
-

both the same and also different, with limited mobility, I am glad that I have not been excluded from driving my Jeep to get closer to points of interest.

- The qualities are its peace + lack of motorized vehicles when I hike. It is pouted from these interference's. I can also experience the desert + the mountains- also birding
- The quietness. The beauty of the mountains - especially as sun sets on western slopes. The history of the Dripping Springs Trail and area. The ability of this area to relax and at the same time restore and invigorate me. The difference between the west and east slopes of the Organs.
- The vast amount of access is unmatched. I use the area for my research @ NMSU and recreation
- This area has mountains, dry lake beds, historical areas, wildlife, roads and trails, many entry points, and expansive options for discovery. We like to park a cooler, enjoy the scenery...etc and have a picnic. There are many people such as myself that have physical challenges and cannot (regularly or ever) access these lands w/o motorized vehicles. I have asthma arthritis, a permanent back injury + a knee that needs replacement. Closing these lands to motorized travel will mean I would be excluded from enjoying them.
- This area is close to my house. My family and friend do a lot of outdoors activities. We used a lot of the land for hunting camping or hiking. It's a great place just get away from the city.
- This area is easily accessible to where I live and is mostly undisturbed-- [illegible] so near a city/suburban area. I volunteered as a host at Dripping Springs Visitor Center for about 3 years, and was amazed at the [illegible/complexity] of the local cultural, + history aspects of this area. [Illegible writing], the cultural + historical factors, I enjoy experiencing relatively pristine ecological conditions of this natural area. This goes for both the western and eastern slopes of the Organs, as I enjoy hiking in the Aguirre Springs area also.
- To bring recreational and future city expansion.
- Trackways - habitat - makers of tracks
Paleobotanic Resource - plant impressions\compressions? Walchia (etc. ?) - Petrified Wood - diversity of material (Jeroy [?] was beleing it [??]) Irresponsible!!
Above was a major reason for setting aside area
How to integrate resource particularly to public
Desert Peaks Complex (also Doña Ana Mts) same thoughts
- Undeveloped, rugged, bio-diversity, wildlife corridor, habitat and connectivity, hunting opportunities.
- Unspoiled
- variety of foliage
variety of animals
views of surrounding area
historical sites
- volcanic implosion area - geological importance

-
- We have a group of 20+ 4 wheel (ATV) riders that enjoy BLM desert roads throughout the Doña Ana and Sierra Counties. We do this every Wed rain or shine. We always stay on your BLM roads!
 - Well kept - also see question #s - a natural place - non-motorized activity
 - Wild, gorgeous bluff, few people use, no roads, great wild vistas, quiet. Do not like night time glow from W.P. railyard.
 - Wilderness study areas, wilderness characteristics; wildlife density and diversity
I am a hunter, horsemen and avid public land user and most of my trips are in the Desert Peaks
 - Wonderful view. Walk the area let you see the wildlife, the diversity of plants.
-

Special Qualities– comments written in “Other” category:

- 4 wheeling and hiking
 - Geocaching
 - Diversity of opportunities and landscapes
 - Places where ATVs are allowed
 - Riding the roads and trails
 - Religious and spiritual renewal
 - 4WD Drive trails and 4 wheeling trails established.
 - work
 - Native American Sites
 - It's land we've fought to conserve since 1971.
 - No response
 - Sense of belonging
 - Sense of belonging
 - research
 - Flying Paraglider
 - guns, incl rifles
 - The geography of Magdalena Rim makes it a uniquely fine soaring site.
 - Quality of area for training with local search and rescue squad
 - Source of local pride
 - sense of community with others who use and appreciate the area
 - rock hounding, geocaching
-

Diminishing Qualities:

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- - crowds of people especially if noisy and not taking care of the natural environment
 - - noise of traffic and air craft (it's on the path to El Paso airport)
 - - views of development, roads, pipelines, structures, etc.
 - - Development - in any way
 - - BLM - if they sold the land - for mining
 - - to change the size [underlined] of the movement in any way
 - - Development of any kind - roads, buildings, etc.
 - - Loss of access where roads cross state lands
 - - Special interests - mining, gas / oil
 - - over-grazing
 - - over-crowding
 - - development within OMDPNM boundaries i.e. roads, buildings, extractive activities like mining
 - - noise
 - - development!!!
 - -Development such as house or industry.
 - -Restricted access.
 - -Overcrowding although I don't think this has been an issue
 - -DEVELOPMENT: sprawling, thoughtless real estate development; oil, gas mineral extraction; poorly managed grazing(overgrazing); cut of connectivity to other public lands
 - -lack of access and connectivity
 - -More restrictive management that would restrict certain uses such as mountain biking and special events
 - -Disposal of public lands
 - -Un-managed recreation and trail development/maintenance
 - -Diminished views, solitude, wildlife and botany
 - -Loss of access
 - -Commercial development around Union Pacific facility and Santa Teresa airport, paved roads there
 - -Unclear boundaries, signage unclear or absent
 - -Overgrazing, reduction of vegetation and habitat
 - -Trash
 - -Nonresident status for hunting license and related fees and permits b/c I'm Texas resident
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- -motor vehicle's bush whacking new trails/roads
 - uncontrolled shooting (i.e., too close to other users)
 - lack of law enforcement (for vandalism, public intoxication, random shooting.)
 - -Noise from nearby populated areas (vehicle traffic)-
 - I am very concerned about allowing dogs on the Dripping Springs property. I think this has the potential of dramatically changing the "nature" - experience of visitors, but also the ecology of the area
 - -Restricting access for bikes, 4 wheel drive
 - Change definition of roads that make rancher grade 2 tracks
 - Too much government regulation
 - * Increased traffic
 - * Restrictions on use
 - * Limiting access
 - * Commercialization
 - * Development of lands west of the Organs in close proximity to the mountains - continual disposal of public lands causes the residential areas to continually creep towards the mountains
 - * The fact that OMDP is on the "27 monument" review list put for by Sec. Zinke and Pres Trump is very concerning
 - * Mineral and other resource extraction is concerning
 - * damage to archeological areas
 - * access
 - ~Overuse by visitor populations
 - ~Physical access due to age, physical limitation
 - ~Lack of access if you don't have a private vehicle (auto, truck, bicycle or motorbike)
 - 1 - lack of motorized access
 - 1. Access restrictions
 - 2. The group I represent geocaches- we want to continue doing that
 - 1. Allow motorized vehicles
 - 2. closing access
 - 3. development by reducing area- especially in monument, special interest groups
 - 4. Over-grazing
 - 1. Allowing off road vehicles
 - 2. Allowing dogs on trails
 - 3. Development of housing and/or Commercial
 - 4. Use of drones
 - 5. Increase entrance fee
 - 1. Closed to public - 4x4 and shooting
 - 2. Heavily patrolled by Gov.
 - 3. overgrazing any areas. I don't believe grazing cows should be allowed in desert areas!
 - 1. Commercialization near the protected lands.
 - 2. Housing developments at or near - protected lands.
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- 1. Development intruding on the unspoiled areas.
 - 2. People trashing the environment they use. - not caring about where they have been.
 - 3. Turning over the use of the vast space for the exploration by the few.
 - 4. Over use by motorized vehicles, especially careless use.
- 1. human influence on the landscape
 - 2. cattle grazing (impacts the natural wildlife and plant life)
- 1. Locked Gates
 - 2. Off Road activity - motorized
 - 3. Development
 - 4. Loss of access - closed roads
 - 5. Smaller size of Monument
 - 6. Increase in Ranching - over grazing
- 1. Loss of access for motorized vehicles. (responsible use should be a given)
 - 2. the harassment by folks that feel that access should be by horse, hiking, or bicycles, etc..
 - 3. Folks that do not use the land so as to protect it; throw trash, ride off trails and roads
- 1. Mining; drilling; exploration
 - 2. grazing
 - 3. commercialization
- 1. motorized vehicles
 - 2. unruly dogs
 - 3. any man-made machinery that is not natural for area
 - 4. excessive noise
- 1. Noise from off-road vehicles/drones
 - 2. Development
- 1. Ryan Zinke
 - 2. Congressman Pearce
 - 3. unneeded and additional roads
 - 4. lights!!!
 - 5. any changes that would hurt wildlife... such as increase in cattle
- 1. Too much vehicle use - Roads / too many
 - 2. Loss of Solitude
 - 3. Over grazing damage to vegetation
- 1. Urban encroachment
 - 2. Noise from ATVs
 - 3. Limited access, including gates that don't open until 8:00 am.
- 1) Loss of access
 - 2) Development i.e. oil, gas, roads
- 1) oil+gas drilling threats
 - 2) pollution (light pollution + trash)
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3) Noise
4) losing access if sold to private buyers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Reduction of Monument 2) Restriction of access 3) Development 4) Mining 5) Degradation of habitat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access restrictions trash
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Airplanes and helicopters distract / detract (noise pollution) Throngs of people
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any administrative action that harms the wilderness characteristics of an area; adding more roads, development of mechanized recreation in currently non-mechanized areas. Not restoring land health will also hurt this area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any extraction resource industry, lack of access lack of proper maintenance/protection of habitat/trails off-roading overgrazing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any off-road activity or hunting would make this area special and not worth going to.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ATVs, light pollution, signs, trash, taking away trails and road
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being told I can't go there - for any reason!! Currently I'm flying PG every day possible, but formerly rock-climbed, hike, went 4x4, mountain biking, star gazing. We need to be able to drive as far as possible, then park, hike to launch, and fly away. typically land by car, but sometimes go cross-country, and land many, many miles away - to be retrieved by someone in a 4x4, who will only drive on established roads or 4x4 tracks. So sick of being told I can't go into some "wilderness area" - And I'm sick of having to sneak into places that used to be free, and are now verboten. :([frowning face drawn]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Border control, road development network for migrant introduction. Border patrol should be on horseback off road on this area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing off the areas to ATViing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing roads would diminish it's use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing the 4-wheel drive trails that currently exist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercialized development of any kind. Loss of Monument protection. Disposal or sell off of lands.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cutting off access for 4 wheelers (ATV) that use existing BLM roads in Doña Ana Cty would be devastating to our group.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased size of the area Development up to the edge or even into the area Too much use by public that harms biotic community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desecration of ancient sites, in particular the <u>petroglyphs</u>; Just leave it the hell alone, except to guard against encroachments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development coming, (mining, commercial development)

- Development like structures, wind mills, motorized vehicles, would diminish specialness.
- Development of any sort, whether commercial or not.
- Development of the land
ATVs and dirt bikes in the areas
- Development, commercial or industrial activity roads and vehicles
- development, lights, roads, people who do not take or realize the opportunity to find the area special and shrug their shoulders when developers seem interested.
- Encroaching development
Too much motorized vehicle traffic.
Vandalism. Litter.
Disintegration / loss of historic structures and pre-historic features.
- Enrichment of development
Too many facilities
Restrictions to access
- Fencing
Closing access
Intrusion of extractive industry.
Over grazing
- Garbage impact
- If it would be downsized.
- If the BLM shuts down trails or roads to 4WD or motorized vehicle traffic.
- If they would allow people to have more access so we can see what's further in. I know it would take more security and more people to maintain this area clean and save for us that like to walk around to find other sites.
- Increased development close to the area. Any vandalism to the rocks. Dog owners who don't clean up after their dogs. Motorized vehicles where they are not permitted. Use of the areas for mining.
- Increased grazing
OHV damages
Recreation shooting
- Increased usage
- Encroachment, development, lack of drivable roads
- Intrusion of extractive industry.
- It could get out off so people could lose access (fenced area in a park)
Natural problems - The slot canyon could be damaged and made inaccessible by heavy rain and water flow - someone need to take care of it.
There is graffiti and damage to the cave -
- It would diminish with limits to access.
- Lack of access roads -especially vehicular
Restriction of my activities
- Lack of access.
Litter

-
- Lack of accessibility handicap, vehicular
 - Lack of development for trails with instruction and advice for preparation to have hiking shoes and water. More personnel for activities and surveillance would attract more visitors and increase their enjoyment of their visit.
 - Lack of maintenance on trails
 - Degradation to trails, soils, and vegetation from users and livestock
 - Lack of connectivity between special places and between the city and communities.
 - Need to identify land ownership access issues
 - Lack of road signage
 - Lack of vehicular access
 - large increase in the number of visitor loss of access inability to access after-hours. development
 - Light Pollution
 - Noise Pollution
 - Any commercial development
 - trash
 - Limit dog access. Increased number of people. Continual hunting of coyotes.
 - Limited access for ATV/UTV
 - Shooting Trash and Garbage
 - Unmanaged Violators of Laws: BLM, State, Federal - Misuse - Licensing - Littering - Unsafe firearm practices - No speed limits posted on graded roads
 - Litter and Garbage
 - Litter and trash
 - Look at adequate access, some of it is blocked off on county road 1. Yet there exist BLM roads behind it. I.e., rattlesnake canyon. I don't think we necessarily need more roads, do they need to be improved. But having no access to public land and public road across by a 4-strand wire fence and locked gate is not desirable. There are thousands of monument acres that are inaccessible.
 - Loss of vehicle access since I'm mobility impaired. I use 4x4 to access areas so I can photograph areas and obtain spiritual renewal.
 - Making outdoors activities more accessible to just anyone. Building actual roads. Building parks and more amenities for large groups of people. It should stay the way it is.
 - more development and signs of man.
 - over-development of trails and/or interpretation.
 - while more trails should be developed or marketed to monument visitors, there should be balance between trail and off trail opportunities.
 - impacts to biological resources.
 - viewshed disturbances.
 - More motorized access to wild places
 - More privacy for ceremonies
 - Motorized Access in area. - restrict to present use.
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- Noise: shooting and vehicles
light
roads
cows
over development
 - Not fond of dogs on trail but realize there are others who like to have a place for dogs
 - Of course the Biggest is the air pollution and the lack of clear skies. people going outside the trails or arroyos, being told we could no longer travel the trails we have enjoyed the last 50 or so years.
 - On a monthly basis I walk the D.P trail system and Soledad/Bar Canyon trails. Therefore, I can be the eyes for the BLM on graffiti, vandalism occurring on a monthly basis that recent damage to the storehouse on Bar Canyon trail and back wall at the D.P Van Patten pond are disturbing. Bar canyon dam graffiti seems to be an ongoing problem during my 5 years doing trail walking
 - over development of land/roads leads to easy access/trash
 - Over development reducing in diminishing of reasons for monument creation.
 - Over use by people-leaving trash limiting access
 - Overgrazed land, destroyed habitat, destruction of historic sites and antiquities.
 - Paid access/camping
paved access
hunting limitation
 - People have recently started to sabotage some of the trails. Purposefully trying to pop tires, or injure riders. These trails have been established for years. People have also started walking on jeep trails. This is very dangerous because people could get hit and vehicles can crash. People not understanding what the trails are and what their uses are.
 - People trashing the spot. Or great numbers of people. The blocking of some of the sites I would like to continue see. Reaching special spots by roads even unimproved ones. So far have not seen any problems with the above concerns
 - Presence of folks engaging in shooting.
Off-road vehicles.
Trash.
Invasive species.
Encroachment of residential or commercial development.
Random cattle and ubiquitous "cow pies."
Vandalism of natural resources or cultural artifacts.
Lack of material explaining indigenous values, history and cultural artifacts.
 - Privacy for ceremonies
 - Ranchers blocking access.
Off-road vehicle damage.
Over-grazing impacts on habitat, and grazing emphasis by the BLM.
Visual impediments (towers, mining scars, erosion, power lines).
Continual threats to transfer the lands to states or private interests.
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- Reduction of the monument.
 - Resource Extraction
 - This is hidden in various ways. From building in a sprawling way, mining, and over grazing.
 - 1. - Urban Sprawl
 - 2. - Mining
 - 3. - Over grazing
 - Restricting access is a huge problem - If you have to hike too far - it defeats the purpose. This includes fences that have no purpose; that close roads. Restricting of our sport of paragliding/hangliding. We are very careful not to damage land and to not bother anyone - but we need to be able to get there, and to have permission to do our sport.
 - Restricting hunting would diminish
 - Restricting the access diminishes my enjoyment. When hoodlums trash the area it is disappointing.
 - Restriction of access to drive 4x4s through the canyons or trails
 - Road closures / accessibility limitations
 - Roads, too many 4x4; ATV's, motorcycle. Development
 - The closure of roads or trails to motorized vehicles.
 - The constant pressure on these lands from fossil fuel and other development interests, subject to political whim and lobbying money from special interests.
 - The efforts of Ryan Zinke to shrink or eliminate the Organ Mtns. National Park. Allow private industry to drill for oil and gas in the Park. Allow unregulated access to motorized vehicles.
 - The expansion of urbanization and development to the natural areas that will disturb the natural ecosystem.
 - This area is losing its specialness, in my opinion, due to excessive ranching. Fences, cow shit, surly ranchers... all takes away from the experience. There are ranchers locking gates on legal, and what should be publicly - accessible county roads (i.e., easements through private property). Their attitudes and sense of ownership (on BLM leased grazing allotments) diminish the specialness. And finally - damage to the land/plants due to cattle is simply unacceptable. Some areas (near water holes) have been decimated.
 - Too heavy concentration of people in certain areas.
Restricted access like locked gates during certain times.
 - too many roads or signage
lack of enforcement (re: trash)
too much noise from off roaders
*lack of fire-either prescribed or wild
 - Trash
shotgun shells
ATV tearing up vegetation
-

cattle blocking my access to Baylor Canyon
Noise

- **Trash**
too concentrated usage of certain areas
limited hours on gates
lack of enforcement of laws in place (especially dumping)
- **Trash**
Warden shooting, brass/shells
Lack of enforcement
Lack of land ethic by some visitors
- **Trash**
Destruction of plants or area
Destruction of
Loss of access to recreational areas
Development for businesses
Mining
Selling the land for development
Destruction of historical areas -previous use
Destruction of areas important to archeologists and those interested in paleontology
- **Trash - Does**
Closing it off - Could
Deny motorized access
- **Trash left by others**
- **Uncontrolled use of ATVs.**
The possibility of losing access.
- **vandalism of historical building**
trash/littering
insufficient parking for users (especially horse trailers)
lack of trail maintenance
- **Vandalism/misuse/trash**
lack of public information
signage
access
If roads are improved (for ranchers to water) you increase use- pressure on resource and wilderness
- **We have always shared the land w/ the public (even our private land). We pay for the right to graze the land and abide by the grazing allotment regulation as well as all regulations. Other visitors and users don't pay to use the land and many don't abide by the regulations. My fear is that the monument will be promoted as a play ground for urban people who will degrade [sic] the land and leaving their trash behind. The Monument Does Not Provide for New Trails and Paths within the Monument. No Bike Trails, No Walking Paths**

- What could diminish the specialness for me would be to restrict areas of access, more development, and litter and trash accumulation around the area.
- When I hike with the numerous local groups that are in the area, we are all concerned about oil or gas wells that might be allowed, changing the original purpose of the monument. I am concerned about the trash that we sometimes encounter - Hunters or young people leaving broken glass and weapon shells.

Diminishing Qualities– comments written in “Other” category:

- Access restrictions
- Being told I can't go there - For ANY purpose I choose!!
- can't get access by vehicle!
- closing the existing four-wheel drive trails
- Commercial Encroachment
- Connectivity - lack of, barriers to
- Deny motorized access
- Equal's balanced access
- Gun (noise/litter), ATV's
- Helicopter rides, e.g., Killbourne hole
- hunter restrictions
- I am a senior citizen and would not have adequate access if these areas were cut off to ATViing!
- Jurisdiction with Fort Bliss, who takes care of graffiti/vandalism on borders
- Lack of diversity; i.e., only white people on the trails
- Lack of trail maintenance, management, planning from the BLM, and transparency and communication regarding the process of the above items
- Limit hours of access @ Aguirre springs/dripping springs
- Loss of Monument status.
- motorized vehicles to scare horses!
- Not allowing paragliding/hang gliding.
- Oil/gas development
- Once again: Development (Construction) of any sort.
- Over population of the area in general
- Overgrazing
- Restrictions on rock found, fossil, collective
- restrictions to geocaching
- Road or Trail closures for 4WD or motorized vehicles.
- Shooters and their waste
- Trash and dumping areas

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- Under-staffing that prevents maintenance
 - unmanaged and irresponsible motorized use and abuse: encroachment on non-motorized areas
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Information– comments written in “Other” category:

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- 4 wheel drive club
 - 4 wheel drive clubs
 - Area organizations, groups
 - Audubon Society monthly field trips, Christmas Bird Count, rock hound groups
 - BLM public are in Las Cruces District office
 - BLM staff
 - Books about area e.g. trails, ranches, ranchers, mining
 - exploring
 - Facebook
 - Facebook
 - Four Wheel Drive Club
 - Friends of OMDP
 - geocaching
 - Google
 - Google Earth
 - Groups I belong to - native plants society; back country horsemen
 - Hikes and tours by Southwest Environmental Center and Native Plant Society.
 - Just go and explore!! no plan, just go!! Discover!!
 - Las Cruces Bulletin lists activities in the area
 - Las Cruces Rec. Dept Munson hikers group
 - Living here 67 years!
 - Local 4WD club
 - Millennials use phones/text way more than websites + email- this is key to involving this group and others
 - mountainproject.com guide to organ mountains
 - Mt. Pro
 - My Education and NGOs
 - National Weather Service
 - National Weather Service (for safe paragliding)
 - Newspaper article
 - Newspaper articles and announcements
 - NM Fish and Game Publications
 - NMSU Outdoor Resource Center
 - Personal navigation / exploring
 - School Teachers, Professors
-

• Scientific references Journal articles
• Smartphones
• Social Media
• social media; Facebook; meet-up
• unplanned, just go and see what you find (my eyes)
• weather for planning photography
• websites (BLM, bike shops)

Things you like about living in this Community (Las Cruces, NM):

• "Ruralness" of this area. the opportunities to enjoy the natural world.
• * The close proximity to public lands and variety of outdoor activities * High scenic quality
• 1. climate 2. historic Mesilla 3. grand + stunning Organ Mtns 4. Culture 5. Hiking
• 1. Close to many places to do things- within a days drive round trip 2. Community theater 3. Sunsets are wonderful here
• 1. Diversity of land, people, vegetation and wildlife 2. Open-mindedness of the people 3. Weather
• 1. smaller community <150,000 2. easy access to wilderness 3. climate
• 100s of miles of bikeable trails and routes accessible from the city. Access to public lands and trails. Public lands aren't crowded. Friendly and affordable city. Open to ideas and opportunities to expand ideas. lots of potential variety of recreation opportunities. Convenient access to public lands and trails
• A small city in the desert with a lot of public lands, diversity of people, Great winters, falls, springs, summers, great outdoor recreation opportunities, close to a lot of public land hunting
• Access to natural environment which benefits in numerous ways. People in this area are friendly - interesting. Affordable quality life style, educational and cultural opportunities; progressive government.
• Access to public lands, dry air, friends, hiking opportunities, hunting opportunities.
• Access to remote areas (close to town). Year-round recreation. Taco's!

- Access to wilderness areas
desert vegetation, wildlife, vistas
dark skies
quiet
- Accessibility and variety of mountains, deserts within a reasonable distance. History of the area
- All the good hiking in area. Good hiking very close by
- Beauty, history, serenity
- Being able to explore public lands freely by 4WD vehicle and/or hiking [respondent circled words "living in" in questions instructions]
- Being in close proximity to open, undeveloped land for hunting, hiking, picnicking, etc.
- Big sky, sense of openness, the mountains. Hiking opportunities, climate.
- Born here, open access
- City still feels like a small town in some ways, I like the outdoors, so the community provides opportunities for that.
- Clear skies
Scenic vistas
Desert vegetation
- Climate
Easy access to trails, mountains, and solitude
Diversity and culture
Friends and Family are local
- Climate
multi or diverse culture/people
the landscape
- Climate
Wide open spaces
Like-minded people
- Climate, Mountains, Archaeology, History and Pre history.
- Climate, proximity to nature, neighbors who share love of nature
- climate, right size, easy access to public land
- Climate, size of city, activities, cultural and historical aspects
- Close proximity to wilderness areas, The view of the Organ Mtns - every morning!
- Cost/cultural aspects of life/weather
- Desert, outdoors, border culture, friendly
- Diverse, size, skills that are accessible
- Diversity of people, strong community. Diversity of landscape
- Diversity- multi/culturalism
- Diversity, recreational opportunity, beauty, Organ Mtns. Changes that have expanded community, light, blue sky, community to gather.
- Ease of access to public lands for hunting, biking, rock climbing, hiking, etc.
- Ease to visit to the rural areas- access open space what is over the hill

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easily-accessible community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy access networking/easy to make connections growing local businesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • easy access to desert. the ability of the community to ban together to preserve the land 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy access to quiet lands/escaping development. Friendly folks. Cultural diversity. The food 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy quick access to public land and solitude (hard to do?) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy to get around the city, easy to get out of city into natural areas/public lands, scenic, relatively good cost of living 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Paso - friendly - spacious - uncrowded - great climate - low humidity - natural, <u>raw</u> beauty 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Paso - sunny, size of community (small), mountains, desert, openness to access 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoying the outdoors, love the natural views of the mountains 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent climate, not too congested 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity of resources 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing BLM roads enable us to enjoy most areas of Doña Ana Cty. Enjoy the desert landscape, mountains, population size is right, cost of living, weather, and recreation available. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom to enjoy the outdoors. Views, trails, wildlife. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendliness of the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural diversity both ethnic cultural diversity and diversity of cultural activities such as outdoor activities and the arts. Small town feel in a fairly sizeable city
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendly People, relaxed pace, space 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendly people, the mountains / access to open space / wilderness, lots of potential as a creative person - lots of room to grow, beautiful <u>[double underlined]</u>, love the <u>hot</u> weather, <u>diverse</u> in people and landscape. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendly- climate 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendly, tolerant people. Diverse access to nature. Size of community. Dark skies- we can see the stars even in the city! Creativity 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendly, yet diversity 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally clean air and water access to the outdoor recreation areas. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally, access to opportunities for recreation, solitude, diversity of cultures, vibrant arts and science communities within Las Cruces area. Desert ecosystem. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • goo people, informal, helpful. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good friendly, small town feel, great access 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great to have outdoor recreation areas nearby 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green chili 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rugged terrain 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiking, History, Beauty, Remoteness, exercise and health. Also enjoy bringing friends and family who come here from other states. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History and Landscapes, Diversity of population 	

-
- Home, friendly and open people, best climate, diversity, natural beauty, open spaces.
 - How open, clean and friendly it is.
 - I came here for the weather and mountains, but while the mountains haven't changed the weather has.
 - I enjoy the solitude and the chance to get away from the city.
 - I have lived in El Paso - my adopted city - since May 30, 1976, and it's here where I hope I will die. "Living in"? 1. The beautiful Franklin Mountains, only 70% of which have been conserved as the Franklin Mountains State Park. 2. The presence of Castner Range, a landscape crying out to be conserved.
 - I like Las Cruces a smaller city, the people are very friendly, the food is good, the pace of life is comfortable, the weather is generally good. I even enjoy the wind.
 - I like that there are undeveloped, beautiful, and interesting and PUBLIC landscapes so close to home. I like that the community is engaged and actively trying to both preserve the best parts of living here while charting and working for a more positive future.
 - I like the close and easy access to a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities.
 - I like the historic information we can find as well as the beautiful land it is. Also I enjoy to see the wildlife.
 - I like visiting Las Cruces because it seems less crowded and of course because of the Organ Mountains. Also the whole Chihuahuan Desert in general.
 - I live here. I love seeing the mountains as I drive around town. I also like the cultural opportunities- fountain theatre, museums, Spanish, Audubon.
 - I live in El Paso and I do love the scenery. I've seen more wildlife here than Colorado and Oregon combined.
 - I love living in a diverse border region with a vibrant culture and economy connected through our Organ Mountains Desert Peaks.
 - I really like the large amount of public land that can be used for my recreational activities.
 - It's beautiful. Where I live is quiet. I can hike with others. Having access (visual) to flora and fauna.
 - It's home.
 - It's home and I love the desert but you are stopping it!! I can't walk miles and miles and miles.
 - It's so close to my home, I'm more inclined to go be active outside, with or without friends. The people here are genuine + easy to get along with.
 - Its natural beauty, within and outside, its diversity and friendliness of people. The weather. The Organ Mts is a symbol of our community.
 - Large enough to have amenities but not with big town issues. Low cost of living proximity to the outdoors. Low risk of (illegible writing)
 - Large population- small town mentality access to public lands for recreation, close, cultural activities, weather, cost of living, friendships of residents, access to great vibe of people and diversity. economic opportunities for small businesses.
-

- Las Cruces is in the midst of an area designated as a national monument. Its natural historical spiritual and cultural assets all make this monument unique and worthy of preservation for our posterity
- Las Cruces is large enough to find the type of people that you are looking for. Open spaces, weather, geology and history
- Living in the desert southwest is like no other from access to public lands, dark skies, and solitude
- Local agriculture is important and the community tends to support it
- Locally close access, to great outdoor opportunities, good size not too big or small. Great weather, people are friendly, mixed culture and ethnicity.
- Lots of natural, historic, geologic, wildlife, places. And I basically grew up in the region. L.C is great place for people & food. The weather is great
- Lots of open public land
- Lots of open space around the cities, can visit mountains in 30 min, desert is subtle beauty, must look closely to see the flowers
- Lots of public land (New Mexico), scenic qualities, historical features.
- Low cost of living. Fast commute- Little or no traffic. Quiet evening - stars
- low(er) population
opportunity to access wilderness areas
- Many people enjoy the outdoors for many different activities. We have worked together to share usage of lands.
- Mix in cultures, weather, general cultural attitude.
- Most beautiful place there is. Outdoors close to town quick escape, one w/nature. Diverse culture, diverse activity friendly people
- Mountains, not crowded, friendly, dry, desert, maar's, dark skies.
- Mountains, weather, diversity of people, friendly people, geology exposed (not hidden under plants), open spaces.
- My family homesteaded this area. I have traveled in the whole area before the town grew and consider being there my right.
- Not too much traffic; university town with diversity; most amenities available; hiking/hunting/bird watching opportunities close to town. Other than wind-great weather; wildlife areas large enough for resources
- Numerous opportunities to enjoy our outdoors, and a lot of people in the community that share common interests.
- Open public land and access/friendly people small farming and ranching community
- Open space - easy access to areas
- our mountains
- Outdoor opportunities, friendly people, progressive local government
- Outdoor opportunities. Friendliness. Good roads. Different cultures. Forward thinking.
- Outdoor recreation opportunities/public lands
- Outdoor, adventure-loving people. Scenic mountains and trails.
- Peace and quiet.

• People are friendly. Restaurants and food. Community spirit.
• Potential academic resource. Museum development.
• Primarily I like the idea I can get out of the city easily and enjoy hunting and hiking w/my dogs.
• Protected public lands, friendliness, stores, gas stations, services, scenery.
• Proximity to recreation areas for hiking, climbing. Especially day hikes with family as well as longer (all-day, overnight) trips into deeper country.
• Public lands weather diversity of culture and lands
• Quality of life, rich cultural diversity, natural aesthetic
• Recreational usage, beautiful landscape
• Relatively small in size; pleasant people who are gracious and friendly. Beauty of area is fabulous.
• Relatives + celebrations on spiritual events with the meaning of the area.
• Respect + courtesy is a given. My ancestors and I have always enjoyed living in this community. People are very welcoming, good people. (at least 200-300 yrs of ancestors).
• Rugged, but accessible. Remote, but close. Beautiful. Enjoy talking to ranchers. Hardly ever see rangers-g-men [?].
• Scenery + Natural beauty and people who for the most part are interested in protecting + preserving the environment
• simple to navigate, friendly place/university town
• Slow growth, openness, ATV access to public lands
• Small city where most people know each other.
• small population size natural beauty accessibility of public lands for equestrian use
• Small town feel, connectives among residents
• small town feel. I know my congressman, mailman, police. I can run into them in a restaurant etc. Opportunity for diverse outdoor activities
• Solitude, quiet, sunsets, seeing wildlife; thunderstorm, vistas and views.
• Strong sense of community. smaller town with relatively nice traffic, schools and easy access to mountains. low cost of living. beautiful mountains
• Sunsets, views, cultural diversity, food, the night sky, people, access to nature.
• That the ability to do so many affordable outdoor recreational activities is easy to access because it is so close to home.
• The ability to easily get into wild and remote places. And red enchiladas.
• The abundance of public land. The cultural activities, the bi-culture (Mexican & American)
• The access to public lands.
• The beauty of the mountains, night skies, climate

- The biggest benefit to living in this area is the vast diversity of ecologies and landscapes in the immediate area
- The climate, friendliness, opportunities and ownership of the Organs
- The climate, the wide-open spaces between and surrounding towns and cities, the relative lack of traffic compared to where I used to live.
- The climbing community is small but tight and happy to help get to know new areas. I also think the community acts like a small town. Lastly, the diversity is a welcomed shifting in perspectives.
- The complexity of the landscape and how we the current residents and the residents of the past used & experienced our desert peaks
- the desert: hunting, bird watching, hiking, horse back riding; shooting.
- The easy access to public lands so close to town. The ability to gain elevation so readily. The beauty. 4 Wheel drive trails
- The friendliness of the people. Accessibility of community offerings. The natural beauty. Relaxed attitude. The wide-open spaces.
- The friendliness of the people. The weather. The vastness of the sky. NMSU. Laid-back atmosphere.
- The incredible recreational and educational opportunities afforded to us by our public lands.
- The landscape, the history and culture of the area, how the area provides an opportunity to see and learn what the Chihuahuan Desert was historically.
- The natural lands away from developed areas, visiting archaeological and ancient cultural sites as well as rare, endangered, unusual plant species and ecosystems - both learning with knowledgeable guides and exploring on my own.
- The open lands, visitors, sunshine + blue sky
- the open spaces
- The people make these community good, friendly people. The lands of the Southwest.
- The people/culture and our national monument.
- The size of the town, cost of living. It is surrounded by open space, there is no crowded feeling.
- The tranquility and scenery
- The weather, access to outdoor recreation
- This community is a friendly based community. We are enriched with cultural preservation and it relates to our monuments.
- Variety of cultures and support for the public lands
- Variety of landscapes
- Weather = good hiking (4x4)
- Weather- arid, moderate temps active elderly population
- Weather, easy access to outdoors, low population density
- Weather, Organ Mt + outdoors in general
- What I like, like I said before, is the desert scenery.

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- Wide open spaces, beautiful landscape, escape from the public, wide spectrum of outdoor activities, sky island and desert landscapes.
 - Wild, accessible, warm in winter
 - Wildlife. Remote Beauty. Dark night sky, green chili
 - Would not be living in Lac Cruces if Organ Mountains Desert Peaks absent from area. Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks essential to quality of life here.
-

How Does Public Lands Affect your Quality of Life?

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- 100%
 - - My husband and I specifically left Texas to be in this area for all of the benefits that I listed in #12, above. Hiking, History, Beauty, Remoteness, exercise and health. Also enjoy bringing friends and family who come here from other states.
 - * Great for mental well-being and great opportunity to quickly disconnect
 - 1. Close to many places to do things- within a day's drive round trip
 - 2. Community theater
 - 3. Sunsets are wonderful here
 - A big part of the quality of life here.
 - A transition to rustic beauty
 - Ability to shift from the city to desert. Dark sky.
 - about 50%
 - Abundance of BLM, Forest Service and state trust lands easily accessible.
 - access
 - Access to open space
 - Access to traveling through the public lands to get to favorite places and discovering others. Opportunity to do low impact exploring
 - accessibility
 - All I have documented affects me deeply. If it's not there I will move to area that gives me what I have documented.
 - Allow for grand vistas in all directions. I live in a downtown neighborhood: at the end of my driveway I can view sunrises/sunsets for the Organs and the west Mesa area. I live 30 ft. from the roadbed of the El Camino Real.
 - allows for freedom to enjoy
 - Almost all my entertainment is on public lands
 - almost all of my activities are done on public lands
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- Almost all of my recreation is on the public lands. I cannot imagine living somewhere without plentiful public lands.
 - Almost unlimited areas to ride horses and participate in outdoor activities.
 - Area is part of my family's life. Cannon and don't want to live in enclosed, access restricted areas.
 - Aside from the continual controversy, living near public lands enriches every day life.
 - Being able to easily get to places like Soledad canyon, or to more remote areas with a little more work. Makes city life a lot nicer.
 - Can play outdoors anytime you want. connect w/nature more easily than just exist anywhere
 - chance to travel on it and hunt
 - Completely and wholly - the people here are friendly because we love this land, it sustains us (hunting, fishing, exploring), and I have built a business around promoting the specialness of this land.
 - Critical to quality of life- essential that areas are preserved but also that responsible access be encouraged...balanced approach is essential
 - Critical. Public Lands are for us all! How do we convince decision makers to keep them public.
 - Decreases stress in the community as people can spread out and decompress from daily life- help's us stay friendly. Open space
 - Easy to get away, great weather makes hiking and biking great
 - Education. I have learned a lot from these areas about wildlife and history.
 - Enhance them immensely
 - Enhances daily life, open space that allows one to breath
 - Enhances my sense of calm and peace.
 - Essential!
 - Exercise for healthy communities
 - exercise, relaxation
 - Fear that the Feds will take away my access - like they have many, many times before. :([frowning face drawn]
 - getting to interact, hike, climbing with other people in the community..
 - Give me access to do all the things I love
 - Good physical activities and mental wellness
 - Great impact on physical and mental health
 - Greatly affect quality of life. Provide an escape from modern life stresses, at only 10-15 minute drive
 - Greatly enhance it. Public lands are a big reason why I live in Las Cruces.
 - Healthier lifestyle
 - Helps with outdoor experiential learning, lab, education
 - Highly affect it
-

- Hiking in these areas help me clear my mind and relax. To enjoy the beauty of the natural areas and the wildlife.
- Home is my destination
- Hopefully, public lands protect + preserve the natural environment
- Hugely! Get off the couch! Get out there!
- I can enjoy outdoor recreation like hiking and running with friends.
I can get out in the public lands alone and enjoy solitude
- I feel it offers abundant opportunity to enjoy nature w/out really having to go too far.
- I think they improved the quality of life of the residents and visitors
- I would not live here if public land recreation areas were not available.
- I've lived nationally and internationally. This gives our family a sense of connection with our giving environment. It is spiritual.
- If access is controlled, by gates, fencing then that would limit visiting special trails.
- If properly managed so all are able to enjoy then we are able to enjoy them best.
- If there were no public lands in Doña Ana County I would not be living in Las Cruces.
- Important part of living in the area and maintaining the views. Opportunities for outdoor interactions.
- In a very positive and daily way.
- In every way. I can go from a cultured city to open, untouched wilderness in minutes.
- Increased population or visitors to the area decrease the quality of life.
- increases possibilities for recreation
- Integral part.
- It doesn't "affect the quality" of my life - it is a part of my life, as much as the air I breathe and the water I drink. It is in my dreams. It feeds my soul.
- It gives people a place to go for enjoyment
- It greatly enhances my quality of life. I love the freedom of being able to enjoy it at any time
- It has a huge positive impact.
- It is how our family can afford to be busy on weekends.
- It is nice to look out of the window or go outside and look at the mountains. I also appreciate that I can see the mountains from pretty much anywhere in town,
- it's why I live here.
- It's one of the primary reasons we moved to this community. These lands represent our heritage, provide for a healthy lifestyle
- keeps healthy lifestyle
- Knowing that I can walk or drive out into the desert any time for miles and miles with no restrictions gives me a great sense of freedom and well-being.
- Lots of room that is not private
- Made us move here. Beauty, access for hiking.
- More public less quiet

- Most off the area surrounding Las Cruces are public land, so any adverse changes affects our use of the land. I love having access to the lands in Western U.S (vs private land like in TX).
- Mountain bikers frequently use the many biking trails throughout the FMS Park. Hikers will use the trails to be developed in a Castner Range National Monument.
- multiple opportunities to recreate, educate ourselves
- My trail walking impacts my quality of life by providing month exercise
- no public land --> no wilderness
- Offer many opportunities for outdoor recreation not possible in areas where public lands are sparse.
- OK as long as they are kept open to ATVs!
- One of the major reasons we moved here.
- Opportunities for different activities. Biological, geological, cultural resources
- Opportunity to see nature
- Our house sits very near & the view is beautiful.
- out of scale of 1 to 10: it's a 10!
- Peace of mind - exercise when I ride my horse; equestrians not damaging plants / soil!
- Positive contribution all around.
- Positive impact!! There is a lot to do in this area if you pay attention the opportunity for artists to be creative!
- People rally and support the public lands in the area. There isn't a lot of activism, and some of the strongest is in support of land. Also, people gather in the community of outdoor recreation are some of the best.
- Private access that nourishes many of these qualities. Seeing / hearing other communities use and describe their experiences creates shared knowledge and appreciation.
- Protect flora and fauna in the area from human encroachment. Preserve historic landmarks. Ability to explore and hike wilderness areas close by allow people to easily appreciate nature and solitude. (good for the soul!)
- Protection of the OMDPUM is critical for mainlining the aesthetic value of Las Cruces and surrounding communities; and provides access to public lands close to these communities
- Provide recreation, beauty, enrichment,
- Public lands are absolutely essential to my quality of life, I could not continue to stay here without access to public lands
- Public lands are central to the quality of life my family enjoys.
- Public lands are essential for me. I need to be able to see the land without buildings, development. Public lands just need to exist- be there forever.
- Public lands are essential to my life/well-being
- public lands are essential to the quality of life
- Public lands are open to all users

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- Public lands are quintessential to my quality life. I cannot live without wild, open spaces. Sacredness in wilderness.
 - Public lands are the center of our lifestyle.
 - Public lands are the MOST important aspect of where I choose to live.
 - Public lands around Las Cruces provide a much better quality of life, they should be kept in U.S. Gov't ownership
 - Public lands eliminate much development, so the areas remain natural. A good [underlined] thing.
 - Public lands enable the community to get outdoors in the land and enjoy the beauty.
 - Public lands greatly increase quality of life. I lived in Val Verde County, Texas for five years, which is known for hunting and fishing, but most of it is private, expensive, and non-accessible. El Paso area offers so much access to public land and I've done a lot of hunting here.
 - Public lands have become an essential aspect to my life and it dictated where I looked @ going to school and will always be a part of choosing where to live.
 - Public lands make it possible to engage in and enjoy so many different outdoor recreation activities.
 - Public lands, low cost and accessible, are critical to the community and keeping the feeling of being in this together and being responsible for each other's well being.
 - Recreation, dark skies
 - Restricting access
 - Rule and restrictions have keep me from traveling in the lands that my family developed and enjoyed for generations.
 - See above
 - Since I live in Texas, as you know Texas has little if none (Public Lands) that's why protecting these Public lands is so important.
 - So many places you can go without fences. Helps me to keep physically active and healthier.
 - Solitude is nearby for veteran who are dealing with PTSD
Hunting opportunities close
 - The fact that there are so many public lands that people can access is wonderful -
 - The high level of access to public lands allows for a lifestyle revolving around being active and outdoors.
 - The Organ Mts. drew us here, but we have found area people and a community that is involved with issues of conservation and preservation of wild areas.
 - The proximity of reasonably accessible lands that are protected from major development is important to me. Knowing these are nearby and protected gives me a sense being closer to nature.
 - The public land ARE the quality of life. Without them there would be NO quality of life.
 - The public lands are major contributor to support many of the agriculture uses. This also helps further maintain the open nature of the public lands.
 - The public lands are the reason I stayed here after my retirement from the USAF
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- The public lands are where I find all the above. [reference to Q12, reading:] Clear skies; Scenic vistas; Desert vegetation
 - The public lands are where the scientific / paleontological resources are
 - The public lands encourage multiple use. Restricted access segregate groups and limits usage.
 - The public lands enhance the beauty of the natural aspects: sunsets, views, the night skies and close access to nature.
 - The public lands greatly enhance our community with beauty, recreational access. With public lands people have places to go to either specifically, be with others or be without others.
 - The public lands greatly increase my quality of life because they are so close to my home and are very accessible.
 - The wide expanses of the horizon makes one feel relaxed, serene.
 - They're amazing but if you can't get to it, what good is it. I rode dirt cycles where Picacho Hills and Sanoma Ranch!
 - There is cultural preservation in some monuments that coincides with the community's cultural preservation.
 - These lands allow for escape from daily life issues (jobs, health issues, etc) relaxation and evaluation of our lives. To find spiritual renewal- to listen to the spirits!
 - They are a huge part of the quality of life. Without them I probably wouldn't live here. The protection of public lands provide piece of mind and sense of community. The public lands inspire myself and others to be good stewards of the land and learn about them.
 - They are a necessary part of the area. If it was all development in the area, this would be a bad place to live. Not limited to finding pockets of private lands. Public land w/out mineral/gas development is critical.
 - They are at the heart of our exceptional quality of life.
 - They are essential to the uniqueness of the area. They unify and provide focus and purpose for the area.
 - They are essential. Texas has mostly private land - pay to enter - our public lands have less economic value (ranching, mining) so we have a better chance to keep them public
 - They define it. Without these places to go, I wouldn't live here.
 - They enhance it
 - They epitomize the connections with the past and have mysteries to solve.
 - They have a huge effect on what we do! If the lands are lost, we cannot fly
 - They improve the quality of my life. They offer recreational opportunities. You can "get away from it all" on public lands.
 - They keep my quality of life high
 - They make it much better.
 - They provide access to the natural beauty of the mountains.
 - These lands have helped me to be the person that I am today. These lands provide opportunities to create memories, to increase my education and to make me realize
-

how important our Natural resources are. These lands provide the tools necessary for me to teach and educate my children.

- To me, they define much of what I love about this community
- To my point of view Public Lands don't affect the quality of life at all.
- tremendous recreation opportunities for equestrian use
- tremendous, Just don't shut us ATV'rs out!
- Tremendously, without the public lands we would be less appealing as a place to live and visit
- Very directly. If public lands weren't available both for easy and more challenging use, I would not be as likely to remain living here. Public lands here are important for my exercise and my soul.
- Very important! Access is key.
- Very positively! Love it! Wouldn't trade places with anyone!
- We love the public lands we live in peace
- What my wife and I do for recreation is camp, explore, and often just to be in the outdoors

BLM Planning Positive Impact on Values:

- - Fight to make it happen
- - Be proactive daily
- - keep hiking trails preserved.
- - Acquire more public land - always.
- -keep road access open
- -keep difficult OHV area open
- -reduce the overall size of the monument.
- -consider (approve) an off-road rally (race) such as the Mint 400 or Parker 250 or "Best in The Desert"
- * partnerships w/ public schools (OMDP does a very good effort on this already)
- * access (increased)
- * more \$\$\$ for BLM staff
- * recreational opportunities
- * more programming events
- * make trail connection to the Rio Grande
- Protect / Don't Squeeze out the ranching community/culture.
More signage and kiosks on I-25, I-10, and Hwy 70 for those not familiar with the area
- 1. enhance quality and restoration of natural flora and fauna
- 2. increase recreational opportunities and infrastructure
- 3. increase education and research
- 1. Never allow hunting or 2. off road vehicles in hiking areas
- 1. No mining, drilling, commercialization
- 2. public access to all areas

- 1. Restrict the use of ATV, taking into consideration those who have special needs and need to use these vehicles to access the space.
- 2. Post signage about use of ATVs and pets
- 3. Restrict the # of visitors per day
- 4. Address the needs of the native American population
- A community clean-up prospect. Facebook page for clean up?
- Acquire in-holdings. Reopen roads that ranchers have blocked. (Or close them to ranchers too once they re-enter public lands.)
Reduce the "utilization" factor on grazing permits to restore the health of the habitat. Reintroduce native species such as Desert Bighorn Sheep, transplant more antelope, and consider reintroducing bison and Gould's turkeys (Organs).
- Allow public lands and monuments to be easily accessible by those of us that actually care about these lands
- Allowing natives special days of ceremony and help the balance of nature as well as individuals and leave it undeveloped
- Be able to get trash cleaned up. Improve access to a few locations.
- Be open to small access changes to accommodate recreation.
- Be vigil so that special interests do not become "the managers" - Manage use better, meet with public to update what BLM is doing
- BLM in schools
- BLM managers could avoid (at any cost) any threat of natural gas/oil drilling that could occur on public lands
- BLM needs to work more on litter and trash.
- Building better access roads to sightseeing areas - handicap access roads -
- Commit to diversity
- Commitment to diversity and education*
community outreach on importance of these lands and preserving them
- Consider all peoples uses to manage and not outsider brought in by political uses. Don't limit use to so small of an area that damages the area. Don't push everything into 9 small area.
- Continue access. I-25 sign to help visitors. Turn social trails into official trails. Add bookstore and gift shop. Add stagecoach rides to Dripping Springs.
- Continue for multi-use but recognize not all areas are appropriate for all uses
- Continue more public access
- Continue open discussions with public and keep public aware of where they are in the process
- Continue to allow open-range camping. This is huge for me
- Continue to manage the land as multiple use. Insure ranchers are able to feasibly graze the land so that they can continue to be the steward of the land. Abide by the monument proclamation and limit the new trails and paths.
- Continued focus on multi usage, not giving preference to special interest groups

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- Coordinate w/ schools. "Last Child in the Woods"; Kids that aren't able to engage with nature do not do as well emotionally
Designated area of intense multi-use near population centers
 - Creation of RMP to help protect our resources.
 - Decrease overall size of OMDP monument to a manageable size. BLM does not, and will not in the foreseeable future, have the funds to properly manage. - Through volunteers, take an active role in trash management
 - Destination and access
 - develop greater restrictions of access to sensitive areas (biological, cultural), while allowing good access to other areas, Continue / create educational and outreach opportunities, maybe working w/schools and env. groups. More connection with groups to help BLM w/ management, personnel needs
 - Do not sell them! (It) Address the issues, all may be different, that people have. Perhaps different groups of use can come to meetings together? Reduce conflict. Allow wilderness areas.
 - Don't close cherry stem roads. Keep the lands open. With with groups like local 4WD clubs on projects like clean-up of trash-vandalism
 - Don't tell us we can't go there for all the reasons we want to go - be it climbing, hiking, 4x4, hunting, flying. Astronomy, whatever. camping.
 - Don't take 500,000 acres from us. We love the mountains but closing everything else from us.
 - Educate users about the damage trash has on the land
 - Either remove cattle, or staff up and monitor/enforce. Over grazing, locked gates, and the sense of entitlement are unacceptable. Yes, I have been kicked off of public lands at gunpoint.
 - Emphasize protection of wilderness characteristics, watershed health, and diverse recreation outside of wilderness.
 - Engage the communities specially the youth and schools
 - Engagement, long range plans, self-guided opportunities
 - Ensure all members of community and medically challenged are able to use the facilities for recreation. As our population changes in age, develop better methods for learning and using lands. Better access via Internet for details and information about areas.
 - Ensure Leave No Trace policy respected. Education. Have an impact on decision makers. Ensure no reduction of amount public land.
 - Equitable rules and access
 - good trails, good signage / When someone has a plan such as Bob Diven, help him rather than destroy his idea. BLM needs to take leadership in keeping the land rather than selling it.
 - Have a plan for use of lands that seriously take into account how overuse or balanced use can achieve best results. What are the "limits to growth."
-

- Having these public forums is valuable. By a wide margin, the people of NM want the monument left alone, as it currently exists, especially in terms of size and lack of development.
- Help keeping the area clean and up to date
- Help maintaining the area clean and save for the visitors.
- Hold special events in the evening for public open gates earlier than 8 am in the summer, and add camping
- I suggest developing an area for ORVs & parking lot them in selected area. There is a high correlation between ORV presence and trash. If ORVs had their own area, perhaps they would not trash it or would clean it up.
- I think BLM does a good job
- I'm very impressed at how the BLM is currently managing these areas! Less politics and special interests! That is my hope for this beautiful area. This is public land and I'm proud of it!
- I've been so focused on land conservation in El Paso County that I really don't feel qualified to speak of the lands to the north, across the state line.
- I've never heard of BLM lands until today so I cannot comment. I do find this all very interesting and I will now be doing some research on all this and hopefully I will be of more help next time. I think that if more information about BLM was put on [end of response]
- improve road access and parking at trailheads for multi user groups - especially horse trailers
publish about recreation areas to the community
manage multi user groups with regard to safety and trail usage i.e. bikers, equestrians
- Encourage / fund research
Provide interpretation / education facilities and materials
Public vehicle access to reasonable trail heads
- Increase access and open more places for motorized vehicles.
- Involving the public in the management, co-management & stewardship, opportunities to involve youth in open space. Involve the public into all the decisions
- Just don't change it too much. Lots to great places to see.
- Keep access and information open and available.
- Keep access open.
- Keep access roads maintained
Keep access open to all areas
- Keep all roads and two tracks open
- Keep existing access available
- Keep in touch with the surrounding communities re: planning and recreational development of monument lands.
- Keep information flowing on value of the area and the opportunities to experience the lands.
- Keep it affordable and accessible to the community.

- Keep it as "wild" as it is. Discourage off-road vehicle use. Make locals more aware of some of the less-used areas. (primitive) trails. Make use of volunteer groups for cleanup maintenance.
- Keep it clean
- Keep it open for 4x4 and hiking which is only accessible by walking. Rough and ready.
- Keep open access
- Keep open access for users such as hikers, mountain bikers, climbers, and other non-motorized users.
- Keep the lands and area clean and natural, open to all; Structure or control access using different means, hiking, bikes, motorized vehicles, or horses.
- Keep the special areas public public and accessible to all people and keep the habitat value so that the characteristics of our region are maintained and stay prominent - plants and animal, rock and mountains w/out development. Promote and encourage volunteerism and education about our public lands.
- keep them as they are
- Keeping the area clean by doing clean up's in this natural areas. I've seen a lot of plastic bottles that are all around the area.
- Less ranching activity
collect all fees due
- Limit land grabs by developers and politicians. Remember that these lands are for the many and not just the few
- listen to a variety of public + users, protect the monument into perpetuity.
-create areas for specific uses to reduce conflict in uses.
- Listen to all groups so that everyone can enjoy it.
- Listen, listen and listen to the community. Hear the community, all with [sic] keep the community involved. Partner up with groups that are part of vision.
- Maintain access and enjoyment for all. This does not mean road improvements. This includes hunting, non-improved camping hiking, mountain biking, free public land to our tax payers and community.
- Maintain nature as much as possible.
- Maintain non-invasive traditional uses. Maintain reasonable access. Listen to all stakeholders. Open and transparent public process. Expedite trading out State Trust Lands within the Monument.
- Maintain open motorized access and usage the roads and trails
- Maintain the hunting traditions
- Maintain the OMDP as it was 1st designated, there is still so much I haven't seen.
- Maintain the size & configuration of the monument.
- Make it clear, through education + outreach that public lands are there for everyone + NOT for private exploitation.
- Make sure land use restrictions are no stringent in areas 2, 3, 4 than the surrounding BLM managed lands. In particular ensure continued hunter access.

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- Make sure that the public has access. There are so many areas blocked by locked gates. This does not mean paved roads
 - Make sure we do not lose access by our vehicles or keep us from launching from our sites.
 - Making sure that the lands stay open for public use
 - Many nice trails could be better marked. Signage on the interstates could be improved but increased traffic could pose problems. Might need more people to monitor trail use.
 - Monitor illegal dumping and vandalism
 - Monthly to quarterly systematic monitoring and enforcement against damage to the landscape, ancient cultural sites, native plants, teach people to follow the Leave No Trace principles, all of this requires more staff and contract staff
 - more info on-line/pamphlets
more (or some) beginner/ADA paths. I see other Nat'l Monuments with a series of short .5 to 1 miles long paths that can be used by everyone.
 - More mountain bike trails to spread the users over more land. Dripping Spring to Aguirre Spring trail.
 - More mtn bike trails. No signs. Keep it diverse. Keep #2 wild (respondent did not indicate what #2 was)
 - Mountain biking is a highly available activity which might get more people from the community. So more mountain bike trails finish paving Baylor canyon road. Perhaps a more complete trail system in the Organs.
 - no restrictions, and the community being warned about any news or new rules about land use.
 - not answered
 - Not become too overly restrictive on specialty use e.g., bolting for climbing. It does not need to be clearly defined what is and is not acceptable
 - Not increase grazing, mitigate the problems already there. Prohibit 4WD "events" from damaging the landscape and its solitude
 - One simple thing. Maps and road signs on the ground [last 5 words underlined] to help get around. Especially areas 2 and 4.
 - Parking areas at trailhead. road improvements. responsible ranching allotments.
 - Patrol or police for misuse, vandalism
Signage and set aside wilderness areas (WSA) for permanent protection
 - Plan for more intensively used areas but most areas remain undeveloped and roadless- limited but important roads
 - Please don't restrict access to those who recreate in these remote areas, especially if the sport is non-invasive.
 - Possibly more policing
 - Preserve what we have. Keep out commercial and business development.
 - Prevent erosion. Get legislate noise suppression ([down pointing arrow] sounds from motors).
 - Prohibit motorized vehicles keep access open to equestrians
-

- Promote interaction between various groups hikers, biking, equestrian and 4 wheel drive
- Promote recreation for many different user groups. Try to find a way to get people to work together to reduce conflict. - As a side note. I think some limited bolting of rock climbing anchors should be allowed. This will make descending routes safer and would limit potential vegetation damage from scrambling down gullies. Specifically, I am referring to allowing bolting of rappels at the top of mountain peaks.
- Promote the positive attributes (better quality of life, outdoor activities) of having the surrounding land open to the public by being U.S. Gov't. owned for a better quality of life in Las Cruces.
- Promoting educational programs and invite the community to learn more about these beautiful lands. Programs that teach about identify and learn about plants, wildlife, etc. How to take care of them and how they contribute the environment.
- Protect the natural and cultural resources to maintain and enhance the natural (biological) diversity. Protect especially unique, sensitive, or valuable areas from any destructive uses.
- Provide areas for diverse needs of the public including those who seek peace and quiet and wild undisturbed areas. Not all needs can occur in all places
- Provide for, and manage, multiple uses in a way that 1) maximizes each sub-populations access, and 2) Creatively minimizes conflicts that these sub-populations (org users, trail hikers, equestrians) have in multiple-use areas.
- Provide info on points of interest
- Provide maintenance @ high use sites such as Kilbourne Hole. Education would be a plus, Designate limited # of roads for use.
- Provide the public w/ free quality maps. No creating of new roads (dirt or paved). No paving of roads. Please do not rebuild the DSNA VC and facilities. More community outreach about what BLM is / does.
- Purchase all state lands in OMDPUM and not offer any monument lands as surplus
- Reach out multiple times to each of the different groups during the process. provide clear expectations about the legal limits on what can be accomplished. Provide learning opportunities to residents so they can understand the opportunities and challenges for creating a multi-use plan.
- reach out to monument opponents to increase discourse, reach out to new supervisors and CLC city managers
- Reduce conflicts between the different types of uses
- reduce inholdings within BLM lands.
retain most property.
share more information about things people can do in the monument or places they can go.
develop a limited number of new trails in areas without any trails now.
limit visual impacts from new development.
reduce impacts of current and future development /use/traffic.
preserve wilderness character.

develop interpretive materials online to help others learn about the resources/objects and become more invested in their public lands.

- Regularly BLM cannot visually check the lands in this monument, so outreach to getting more volunteers to be their eyes.
- Remember that public lands belong to all - Maintain access for all - but not necessarily everyone going everywhere - But everyone should have options to go a number of places. Reduce conflicts. - Manage open range - (but allow cattle grazing with careful planning. Keep mining and real estate development away from public lands.
- Resist developers who want to build on public (BLM) land. Limit use of motorized vehicles. Increase fines for litterers. Emphasize sustainability efforts. Set aside some non-recreational areas.
- Restrict vehicle access on undeveloped roads; Keep light down; develop primitive trails
- Rock climbing- bolting policy
- Shift the conversation from extraction to a reciprocal action. The history of the United States has been one of taking from places and I fear that the recreational conversation is the new form of extraction if we aren't careful. We must develop or own/new land ethic.
- Signage advertise more and have rangers to introduce people to historical and geological information.
- Sponsor more clean-up activities! Contact ATV groups for organized clean-ups.
- Stop extractive industries from operating in and near BLM lands and national monuments.
- Support access and provide protection of this precious resource
- The most important thing BLM could do is to develop a stable plan of management for this area that is not under threat of being changed frequently or dramatically. On the other hand, a continuous input from stakeholders is important to maintain the quality of the "nature" experience.
- They should continue to protect the lands for hiking and loving the land.
- They should provide adequate parking for horse trails so we can get into the backcountry. Keep different users separated if necessary to reduce conflict.
- To be fair - we should not make ranching impossible - They were here for years. But they should share the land. BLM should be the watch-dog to make sure we don't restrict public use any further and not allow future major development.
- To grant access to specific scenic spots make it more accessible.
- To keep it the way it is.
- To manage the area to provide access to the most people possible. To promote responsible usage. To contact various user groups to organize "clean up" days
- Top priority or "mission" to protect the existing land. Preservation. Agree on need to resolve conflicts or differing community needs (wilderness vs motorized vehicles).
- When BLM participates for example in a 4WD trail ride, trash PU or signage project. We get to know one another and better understand each other's needs and how to work together.

-
- Work collaboratively and embrace wilderness and watershed health while promoting economic nexus in recreational opportunities
 - Work on access in a few areas and monitor a regular livestock grazing a bit better
-

BLM Planning Actions that Negatively Affect Values:

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- Allow oil and gas exploration. Allow any development or sale of public lands. Allow any development or sale of public lands.
 - - Do not make changes -
 - Do not allow El Paso Electric to build a sub-station on BLM land - that is in close proximity to the neighborhoods. This would be terrible [underlined]. BLM must protect land and people and homes. No secrete [sic] deals.
 - Be careful about shooting ranges - need to be very far away from homes
 - Do NOT sell land.
 - - Limit access - close trails and roads
 - Restrict use thereof
 - Continue to operate with insufficient funding
 - Not attending focus studies; do they really care?
 - - motorized access detract / degrade by noise, physical impacts,
 - shooting / fracking impacts, noise, trash
 - - Permit mining, logging or other resource development
 - Protect land from overuse by ranchers (over-grazing; allow too much recreational motorized
 - Keep clear of political and resource conflicts
 - -[illegible word] away lands
 - Manage resources
 - -Close OHV areas
 - make ranching more difficult.
 - too much control over access
 - listening to crazy ideas from environmentalists!
 - -Fail to protect and preserve the land; restrict access
 - Prohibit guns and dogs
 - * Disposing of public lands west of the Organs that reduces the residential stand-off.
 - * Only listen to a single user group
 - * Overdevelopment
 - * resource extraction
 - * overgrazing
 - * ATV use
 - 1. Allow over-grazing
 - 2. Allow general off-road vehicles - We should allow some off-roading in a closely prescribed area
-

3. Allowing extractive uses
4. Sale of land - reducing size of land
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow overgrazing and natural destruction 2. Allow too much fragmentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. overgrazing 2. mining, drilling, commercialization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resigning of the OMDP, and over grazing of some of the areas. (no fracking, no mining) etc. would negatively impact. Don't sell lands to any industries, politics.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquiesce to political or economic interests that would degrade the eco-system and/or the size of the Monument.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add built structures Limit access Allow heavy traffic which will destroy vegetation and promote erosion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow any kind of development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow any one user group to drive management decisions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow developing and reject imminent domain
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow development of population growth. Closing existing roads to area sights
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow extractive industry.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow more mining, fracking and other destructive processes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow resource extraction / destruction.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow special interest groups in destructive use activities - rangeland grazing, mining, development, etc. to have a larger voice then the average stakeholder community. Reducing the size of land or turning public lands to state or local entities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowing development. No transparency. Restricting access unnecessarily. Allowing fracking and/or other extractive uses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowing dramatic changes to the environment (such as converting Dripping Springs to a dog-park) would diminish the value of this area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowing extractive businesses to operate on our public lands
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowing hunting or off-road vehicles anywhere. Allowing commercial projects or building. No selling of land for economic benefit.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowing more ATV into wilderness areas.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allowing over grazing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost anything Representative Pearce supports
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BLM could see the land for development. They could let some people lock out others. They could [illegible word] lands over the private or state.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Block existing access
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can't imagine you guys messing this up. Right?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close areas already open
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close areas not improve infrastructure quickly enough to get people to return
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close off areas to motorized vehicles. Keep the monument the size it is.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> close off/reduce/restrict access for "entry-level" recreationists
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close roads and limit access

- close roads-regulate the ranchers off the land
- Closing access
- closing jeep trails and other modes of use to public
- Closing off our access on trails and dirt roads!
- Closing off the area's where the only way senior citizens can see a lot of the areas is by ATVs or jeeps.
- Closing roads, especially old roads and trails which allow many users access. Loss of transparency. Avoid political intrusion.
- Create drafts with enough public input. limited notice or opportunities to participate
- Create new roads in OMDPUM; putting too many signs out; limited hours of operation for Aguirre Springs/Dripping Springs for bird watching
- Creating major changes to the land.
- Cuts in funding would be difficult.
- Cutting access to public spaces
- Decrease access, restrict the type of vehicles in certain places.
- Decrease size of or configuration of the OMDP NM
- Decrease size. Limit access. Allow extractive industry.
- Don't develop too much, the solitude and wild enthusiastic are what makes the area special.
- Don't let ATVs use hiking trails (and I like riding ATVs) I have taken down vehicle plates/info for BLM in the past.
- Don't sell or cede public lands. No extracting, drilling or development!
- Embrace too much mechanized or motorized use, decrease funding/support
- Establish faux 'wilderness areas' to restrict access to the places I enjoy.
- exactly the opposite of above. - Restrict access. Restrict use, sports, etc.
- Excessive restrictions, fees, etc.
- Exchanging/selling lands must be done in open. Public lands is operative word. Listen to what the public says & respect those comments
- exclude the reasons for living here - the outdoors
- Extraction industry development, closed access w/o good reason, even renewable energy, etc.
- Fail to include the public in decision-making; cater to a single voice rather than recognizing the many, many opinions; give up trying to make the places better and keep them special and unique
- Give (illegible writing) to certain public lands users over the interests of everyone
- give in to pressure.
- Have a lot of fees. The community is too poor to pay a lot of fees. Too much development
- If the politicians manage to limit the areas in favor of economic possibilities- the lands need to be protected from development
- If they let drilling/mining companies win, then we lose as a community.

-
- If they try to have all uses in all areas it would negative impact my need for wild/solitude.
 - If they ultimately do not have the resources to manage the vast monument.
 - Ignoring potential conflicts over different means of access or uses. Closed decision processes. Turn over responsibility for managing the land to state and private interests.
 - Increase grazing rights, not enforce the breaking the rules of the Antiquities Act, allow ranchers to move or destroy cultural resources
 - Increase in cattle grazing!!
 - Increased off-road vehicle use.
Increasing the grazing utilization.
Designating new areas that require fees or permits for use.
 - Increasing grazing areas, paving roads, any type of development, any type of extraction (mining, gas / oil), trading / selling off our lands, disregarding connectivity of the various land areas.
 - Industrial development on natural areas.
 - lack of road access and sufficient parking
not managing different interest groups and their interaction – i.e. bikers, equestrian
 - Lease these lands to extractive industries. Allow greater use of motorized vehicles on these lands.
 - Limit access to motorized vehicles. A lot of people can't hike far.
 - Limit access-closing roads
 - Limitations/ Regulation that is not currently implied
 - Limiting access to operate motorized vehicles oil cattle/livestock use
 - limiting access to those who need wilderness (w/o 4x4 vehicles, who cannot afford fancy cars)
 - Lock more gates; support more ranching; reduce the size of public lands.
 - Loss of access and increase commercial activity and motorize usage.
 - more access equals more trash
 - More resource development.
More extractive land uses.
 - Neglecting the area
 - Neglecting the area all together
 - never create restrictions that are not working with the local community.
 - New road development would be negative, but existing road improvement is desirable.
 - No more selling and trading unless the trade benefits federal monument. More housing development.
 - Not encourage access and not preserve this essential integrity of the National Monument
 - Not enforce the rules; littering, dangerous shooting, drunken vehicle bushwhacking really detract from the experience.
-

- Not engage the community and not giving 100% effort in executing the plan
- Not reach out to all people
Not use RMP process to increase engagement
- Not responding to feedback
Limiting access
- Oil and gas exploration would be a sad happening for the people of the area.
- Open public land to developers, oil and gas companies! No FRACKING. De-regulate laws on littering. Reduce hours/days of visiting. These are PUBLIC lands!!!
- Opening Ice Canyon (behind Dripping Springs Visitor Center) to the public= BAD MOVE
- Opening up unrestricted areas to all locations and uses such as extraction, grazing, ATVs
- Over building/development
Light pollution/over signage
- Over development of areas, and restricting access
- Over grazing
Not collecting grazing fees
- Over grazing, resource extraction, restriction of access.
- Overgrazing
- Overgrazing. Allow development.
- Overgrazing/ending the public input
- Overly restrictive policies. Over-development such as visitor centers and parking lots.
- Patrol and close off most areas
- Paving. Paved trails, signs
- Permit increasing vehicular traffic off-road. Significantly increase grazing uses extractive (mining, logging, etc.) user over development of existing trails
- Permit industrial uses such as oil/gas drilling permitting electric power lines, permitting consumptive uses
- Raise prices, cut off access.
- Rapid development without a lot of thought
- reduce protections within the monument. reduce the size of the monument.
increase industrial use of lands in or near the monument.
increase grazing improvements and signs on the landscape.
dispose of land.
diminish management of WSAs.
allowing a spider web of access routes or unplanned trails to proliferate.
- Releasing lands to more development (would need to be managed.) - It could be destructive and irreversible to let lands be used for private purposes. e.g., building, oil wells, mining
- Resource Extraction or selling land.
- resource extraction, overgrazing, oil and gas extraction, light at night, loud noises related to mining, clearing land for pipelines and other utilities.
- resource extraction; educate those who want to use

• Restrict access
• Restrict access
• Restrict access / closing roads
• Restrict access and close roads and trails
• Restrict access via not allowing us to fly from our site, close the roads we use to access the sites.
• Restrict access. Allow more development.
• Restrict access. Over develop
• Restrict hunting and access
• Restricting access makes it so we can't enjoy our natural resources.
• Restricting access to public lands.
• Restricting access. No transferring of public lands.
• Restricting access. Transferring public lands to private developers.
• road development
• Sacrifice wilderness characteristics and not try to restore land health
• Same answer as above. [copied from Q14] I've been so focused on land conservation in El Paso County that I really don't feel qualified to speak of the lands to the north, across the state line.
• Selling the land. Close access to the lands. Allow destruction of flora. Do not listen to specialized groups. Allow mining to become "big business" in the land or allow [end of response]
• Shut down of trails and access for 4WD trails. Charge fees like the state for access of what now is free.
• Social media more people would know what it is and contribute.
• tell me my access for any activity is prohibited!!
• The areas are so diverse that they need to be managed separately. Restrictions applicable to the Organ Mts are not applicable to the other areas.
• The most negative thing to do is to not listen to the people, or to hear the people and do the opposite.
• they can and have restricted use of the land to the point of stopping use. It has cost great lost to the Las Cruces Economy
• Too much development, too much additional roads. Pave in particular. restricting use in areas, too much of road use of ATV's
• too much development. turn the lands over to state or private entities. too much commercial use. over reaction to poor citizen behavior and imposing unreasonable rule.
• Treat the monument like a National park.
• Turn managed lands into multi-use areas. Sell off mineral rights on managed lands.
• turning the lands over to the State of NM to operate/maintain; or outright selling the land to private developers.
• Unlimited development

Manager for a Day:

-
- - Keep the size as it is.
 - - Work with local communities - instead of turning land management over to NM.
 - - No fracking.
-
- -Less/no livestock (specifically cows) grazing leases.
 - -Smart road management; eliminate some, gate some, improve others.
 - * Develop ecosystem services that interact with every land use group.
 - * Instating soil restoration to overgrazed lands. Like spraying the Marin Carbon Project.
-
- Make the monument more well known to visitors including a central information point in town where visitors are directed and can get a wealth of information on the opportunities for recreation on the monument. Staff should be able to suggest plans based on time in town and recreation likes.
 - * partnerships with community and schools
 - * prevent any [underlined] resource extraction from occurring
 - * make trail connections for paddlers from areas of the monument to the Rio Grande
-
- ~Always refer to your mandate
 - ~Listen
 - ~Create paths for open dialogue
-
- 1. Access to all Nat. Mont. areas.
 - 2. Maintain the size of OMDP
 - 3. Maintain good communication w/public and recreational groups
 - 4. Plan for future growth
 - 5. Maintain lands
 - 6. Set up a volunteer group to help BLM with maintenance
-
- 1. Allow for recreation.
 - 2. Keep open spaces open.
 - 3. Promote responsible use. (Enforcing of laws to prevent land destruction.)
-
- 1. Balance protecting the environment with giving people maximum freedom of use.
 - 2. having places to put trash.
-
- 1. clean up public lands
 - 2. protected places
 - 3. seasonal roads w/ occasional maintenance (I think that is what is says).
-
- 1. Eliminate large portions of the Desert Peaks portion of the monument.
 - 2. Protect - with all my might - the Organ Peaks portion of the monument.
 - 3. Bolster availability of BLM recreational staff to the public to help create or develop specific rec opportunities
-
- 1. Environmental protection
 - 2. Encouraging
-

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- 1. First survey visitors i.e., age groups
 - 2. If the survey shows a majority are not seniors with \$10 Senior pass, try to capture \$5 user fees whose payment is largely voluntary i.e., self-identify
 - 1. Hire more staff
 - 2. Presence on public lands (increased)
 - 3. Mapping
 - 4. Education - kids and adults
 - 1. Keep access open
 - 2. Limit types of recreation allowed in certain areas
 - 3. Market the jewels we have in BLM lands around here
 - 1. Leave the public lands for public use + not exploitation
 - 1. Maintaining historic uses -commercial and recreational - but not allow further degradation of habitat or less access to the general public. Make sure staff is well supported by taxes or entrance fees.
 - 1. Open door policy for public input about access policies changes
 - 2. Public education for responsible use
 - 1. Recreational use- balance national resources and input of use
 - 2. Litter removal and enforcement
 - 3. Limited and enforcement of off road ATV use
 - 1. Work w/ all the people who use the lands so they get along and obey the law; this is better - Facilitate people to responsibly use the public lands
 - 1) Prohibit exploration and/or development.
 - 2) Enlist network of volunteers for trail maintenance, natural & cultural history interpretation.
 - 3) Prevail on politicians to provide funding for staffing
 - 1st would be to protect the lands and teach the people to respect these lands.
 - Access
 - Maintenance
 - Preservation
 - Access
 - Access for minorities!! Prioritizing of education to our community and youth.
 - Access to water by having subgrounds for hikers and [end of response]
 - Accommodate multiple use of resources while ensuring that all resources are conserved for current and future generations.
 - Address the multiple areas where ranchers have blocked access to the public such that they enjoy "private" access to public lands.
Remove the daytime use only restriction at Dripping Springs. What is the point of that?
 - Allow plenty of access, don't over develop it. Some way to get deeper into the areas even if it is unimproved roads would be good. I still hike but I am 74 (it will be more and more difficult)
 - Back Country Conservation Areas. Habitat improvement, wildlife improvements.
Monitoring grazing practices with more scrutiny. Find and maintain access to all areas.
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- Balance of protection with a few newly developed access points
 - Better road access would be good as long as not eventually over-done. The scale is too far on the no roads side as opposed to too many roads and therefore too many people.
 - Carefully manage The Monument to first and foremost protect the natural and historic resource, and balance other uses to not be in conflict. It is a National Monument.
 - Clean up trash and enforcing illegal dumping laws
signage
Designating wilderness area
 - Conflict management might be aided by days of use for specific use hikers and horses odd days and motorized certain days. Ways to calculate how much for who/which groups. Declare a public health crisis due to lack of access to BLM lands. Stop encroachment.
 - Continue open spaces
Add law enforcement
 - Continue to allow access and uses we've had for years to include farming, ranching, 4 wheeling, biking, hiking, etc. Let us enjoy our lands.
 - Continue to engage with all the public
Intense grazing managing- preserve the grassland
 - Develop destination areas
resolve access gaps
trail development areas
determine funding
master trail-protect designation
school programs developed
 - Develop more outreach/partnership with community to continue public support for protecting the land and resources
 - Enforce the idea of public ownership of the public lands and the inherent (illegible writing) of the public over the privileges granted to lessees.
 - Ensuring continued programs to educate the public/get input from the public. Keep the open spaces and add to them.
 - Even handedness of providing for interests to improve access to blocked off public land.
 - Finding common ground among stakeholders.
 - Focus on road improvement
Obey laws; not littering
Facilitate people's ability to responsibly use land
 - Gosh, good question. Facilitate people's ability to responsibly use the land with utmost freedom.
 - Grazing and Hunting
 - Help the monument benefit as many people as possible. While preserving the very special places
 - Hire more staff.
-

- I do not have enough information to make these decisions. I do know that priorities would be different for different areas. Management needs to be granular not "one size fits all"
- I would control road travel - limited roads to necessary uses. And some large roadless areas. Not everyone can go everywhere.
- I would ensure that there were areas kept maintained for all types of recreation.
- I would make sure that if a private entity had access by road to BLM lands that the public also had access. If the public does not have access why then does the private entity.
- I would take it slow, with development.
- I wouldn't want the job! Tough to work w/o much of the budget
- I'm glad that I don't have to do that!
- Identify key access areas that need to be added or restricted so that the monument can be utilized by people of all interests and physical limitations. develop education programs for elementary schools so that kids can understand and appreciate what a gem we have as well as get their family involved and using the lands.
- Identify the access gaps and develop a strategy to resolve them.
- Identify where each area lies along a continuum from highly protected - protected - multiple use/ [illegible]- marginally protected- unprotected
- improve communication with public (BLM has not respond to email)
make to monument rules more accessible
slow roll on developments
trade for more WSMR lands to increase the Organ Mountains
- Improve infrastructure of roads to get to areas, signage and park/personnel
- improve road access and parking at trailheads for equestrian use
manage multi user groups with regar to safety and trail usage - bikers, equestrians
- Increase Hispanic/youth trial use by 50% in one year
- Insure responsible access for future generations.
- Keep existing access available. Don't block us out of Area 5.
- Keep going in the present direction with greater emphasis one wildlife preservation lower industrial use.
- Keep it people friendly-esp. for locals who are there every day, positive interaction
- Keep land open and planning cooperative. Restrict negative influences. Rest the land. Acquire more public land. Plan well for growth.
- Keep lands open and available for the public. Sell No more land. Purchase private land to prevent development continuing up mt. ranges. Keep out of politics.
- keep open access as it was before monument designation
- Keep the areas free of litter! Keep access to all! Horses, hikers, ATVs Jeeps!
- Keep the Organ Mtns as a monument, but don't take the rest of it away! There are plenty of sites and fun for all !! :) [smiling face combined with exclamation points]
- Keeping the area clean and safe for visitors.
- Keeping the area clean and save [safe?] for visitors

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- Land protection.
 - Landscape maintenance
 - landscape/wildlife preservation
 - Learn, first, what areas are designated for what use. Contact and invite specialized groups to meet at BLM. Stop development plans. Look at various uses of the lands. Begin to (develop) put in plans for future use, future acquisition of lands.
 - Leave it exactly as it is
 - Let people know all that is available. Recreation, grazing, horse riding, hunting, 4 wheel drive, and I-25 signs to invite people.
 - Listen to participants needs and wants. Do not assume anything. Make the effort to get feedback. Tonight is a great example. Thank you!!
 - maintain access. Work on litter and vandalism
 - Maintain public access to lands. Connect public BLM lands to other local public lands via trails for biking and hiking. Facilitate public input to land issues.
 - Maintain size & access to all the lands. Maintain clean and safe facilities. Provide and maintain camping area for trailers & motor homes.
 - maintaining hiking trails, building new trails
 - Make a few areas that are easy to access, but that have lost of enforcement and education opportunities
 - Make areas more accessible for disabled.
 - Make lands "sacred" - keep them out of hands of private interests who want to use them for their own benefit.
 - Make sure the natural/cultural resources are left better than I found them.
 - Make wilderness for large area. Develop a few areas for general public
 - making sure no reckless behavior is carried out on BLM Public land.
 - Manage to preserve the lands in their present state (if not an improved state) for perpetuity. In other words, develop a sustainability plan.
 - More access to all areas. Increase the places where motor vehicles are allowed to go.
 - More public information + education regarding the missions and purpose of BLM and Public lands. Show examples of the tragic results of mismanagement and destruction of our lands.
 - More publicity to general public describing areas open to the public. Priority - to increase responsible [underlined] public participation and knowledge of BLM resources.
 - Multi-Use keeping lands open for the people to use the lands
 - No hunting and have a specific area designated for off road vehicles that would not impact wild life. Have public input on all matters or change before change made.
 - Partnerships
 - Plan for community growth. Having a managed plan will allow home and business growth insures that will maintain views and [end of entry]
-

- Praise and support and encourage the volunteer docents. Educate and Inspire the people of the county to be good stewards of this land. Plan for future growth of the county. Get kids involved. Increase cooperation with NMSU students, departments.
- Preservation
Low impact use
- Preservation of land and less building near the land.
- Preservation/Conservation, in accordance with the needs of the future to experience wilderness.
- Preserve all current access. No fences. No guards. Just leave us alone!!
- Preserve and enhance naturalness and ecosystem function.
increase reasonable, balanced access.
ensure compliance with permit rules for grazing and other operations.
- Preserve and protect habitat for plants and animals. Keep light-footprint access to special places. Educate and involve children and residents.
- Protect land, plants, animals, vistas
- protect the land from damage - the land is everything on it, under it, above it in all direction - damage is anything not part of the natural ecosystems
- Protect wilderness character, enhance trail and signage outside of wilderness, and promote watershed health / restoration.
- Protect wildlife and wild spaces for generations to come
- Protecting public access, permitting industrial development cautiously.
Create a campground on the west side of the organ mts.
- Protection, keep it wild
- Provide education for public on features of Monument
- Provide horse trailer parking and exclude motorized vehicles
- public education
- Quit wasting money on fancy signs in places nobody sees. Get your people out of the office so they can actually see what's going on.
- Reach out to groups to build community by establishing clean up days, or signage projects that benefit everyone.
- Recognize all of the potential users
- Reduce # of roads by designating certain roads that still provide access to most areas.
Facilitate responsible access.
- Reduce size of monument. Increase policing.
- Reduce size to Organ Mountains. Everywhere in SW New Mexico there is significance, of cultures lost, and cultures established
- Roads - Enforcement of BLM laws and rules.
- Round table discussions
Promoting multi-use
- Same answer as above. [copied from Q14] I've been so focused on land conservation in El Paso County that I really don't feel qualified to speak of the lands to the north, across the state line.

-
- See #14 above.
"Introductory-level opportunities for hiking, strolling, bikes, etc."
 - Set aside most visited and dramatic areas about 25% of lands for monument status (heavily managed)
 - Setting priorities that would preserve the lands - to the degree possible - in a state unaffected by humans. Roads / fences / ranching / development all detract.
 - Somehow get the public land ranchers to understand that they are getting a bargain in their grazing & that the land belongs to all cultures of U.S & does not belong to them.
 - Staff would spend the day out in the field
 - Stewardship and education of the next generations regarding land appreciation.
 - Take out the trash
 - The academic community, the scientists do not come to meetings like this. Figure out how to get them out. Do seminars/talks for the public to teach about scientific resource.
 - There should be communication with the people who use the land. Some places should be accessible for disabled and for dog use- and some places limited to those uses
 - To keep a balanced perspective of the different interests in the local community for use of the land.
 - To listen to all groups and make decisions that would give all interested parties a fair share for all activities
 - To maintain the areas the way they are.
 - To preserve the natural habitat, protect the lands from industrial exploitation.
 - To support the wishes of the public that obviously want the monument to stay as it is today. Also - hire more staff
 - To work w/native Americans, to allow them space and time for their private ceremonies. After all they were here first!
 - Trail and accessibility
 - Transparent management. Open discussion to settle different interests.
 - Use all means available to inform and educate the public of the benefits and opportunities in getting to know the protected lands.
 - watersheds. overgrazing. public knowledge and perception about benefits of the special places. using resources @ NMSU to gather evidence for decisions.
 - Wilderness, watershed health, and recreation.
 - wildlife and plant protection
 - Wildlife preservation
 - Work to create partnerships with user groups. Create/maintain education programs for users/potential users. Make the programs interesting + entertaining so as to encourage involvement
 - Working with city/county/recreation organizations and businesses to ensure transparent operation as well as community involvement. Ensure purpose for BLM and mission statements are complied with. Plan for fifty years and ensure staffing is adequate.
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- **Would have bottle of wine in my lunch bag. Protect more public land- Increase wilderness land use planning with future in mind.**
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