

BLM publishes Record of Decision to expand public access for the San Pedro NCA

The Bureau of Land Management has published a record of decision approving a resource management plan for the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area near Sierra Vista. The approved plan prioritizes active resource management and allows for a broad array of management tools for ecosystem restoration and conservation stewardship.

The plan includes the expansion of areas open to licensed hunting, provisions for a diverse mix of recreational opportunities for families to enjoy and continued grazing on existing allotments.

The decision to increase recreation opportunities and enhance conservation stewardship is in support of the Secretary's Order 3366, "Increasing Recreation Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed

by the U.S. Department of the Interior," and Order 3347, "Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation."

"The RMP gives us more flexibility to successfully manage the area's important resources," said BLM Gila District Manager Scott Feldhausen. "We look forward to working with our partners in the coming years to actively manage the area through shared conservation stewardship."

The BLM worked with federal, state, local and tribal governments and the public to develop a range of alternatives, including the BLM Preferred Alternative, in a Draft RMP/Environmental Impact Statement. Based on analysis and public response to the draft document, the BLM developed the Proposed RMP/Final EIS and publicly released it for

a 30-day protest period on April 29.

The BLM says all protests were resolved before the Record of Decision was signed.

The approved RMP and Record of Decision are available on the BLM ePlanning website at <https://go.usa.gov/xQKFU>.

The San Pedro Riparian NCA, part of the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System, was established by Congress in 1988. It is located in southeastern Arizona, about 70 miles southeast of Tucson. The southern boundary of the NCA borders Mexico; the northern boundary is just south of Benson. The NCA contains about 40 miles of the upper San Pedro River and approximately 55,990 acres of public lands located within Cochise County.



B I K E W A Y S

Bisbee Bikeways project underway

A new and exciting project is happening in Bisbee! Ecotopia, a local 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is spearheading its first project: Bisbee Bikeways. The bikeways will be a network of interconnected multimodal pathways that will safely connect Bisbee residents and visitors to necessary resources and recreation while increasing the overall health of the community and lessening its carbon footprint.

The project manager for Bisbee Bikeways has already donated eight months to the project and is dedicated to moving the project forward. Our established partners include the City of Bisbee, the Cochise County Planning and Development Department, the county engineer, Health and Social Services, the Arizona Department of Transportation and Freeport-McMoRan.

Studies have shown that cycling lowers rates of obesity, heart disease, cancer, mental illness, diabetes and arthritis, and increases cognitive functioning and happiness. Studies also show that substituting cycling for car transportation on trips of 3 to 5 miles helps reduce emissions from heat-trapping gases such as carbon dioxide.

Imagine children spending more time outdoors and less time looking at screens. Imagine feeling safe as you move from one Bisbee neighborhood to another on bike or on foot. Imagine our town being a shining example of rural health. Imagine our children's cognitive skills increasing, bringing up test scores and attracting more funding to our schools. Imagine being able to get to the grocery store, school, medical and dental offices, and local events safely. Imagine increasing health-based tourism in Bisbee.

To accomplish these ambitious goals, we need your help. We are seeking funding to create the Bisbee Bikeways master plan and pay for a preliminary engineering study for a Lavender Pit pathway. Your donations will enable this project to come to life.

In order to accomplish this ambitious goal we need your help. Your donations will enable this project to come to life. Please contact us for more information at (520) 860-4004, at bisbeebikeways@gmail.com, or through our website at www.bisbeebikeways.com.

Se Habla Español



Family Medicine Provider
Joanne Cardinal, MD
 Available at Copper Queen
 Community Hospital Bisbee RHC

Board Certified, Family Medicine Provider, Joanne Cardinal, MD has openings for new patients starting January 14th at Copper Queen Community Hospital Bisbee RHC.

Dr. Cardinal was raised in Nebraska. She graduated from University of Wyoming's Family Medicine Program. Dr. Cardinal is Board Certified in Family Medicine and was named the Wyoming Migrant Health, Physician of the Year in 2007.

Call 520-432-2042 for an appointment.



Family Medicine Provider

Joanne Cardinal, MD

CQCH Bisbee RHC
 101 Cole Avenue | 520-432-2042



www.cqch.org

For Healthcare, The Future Is Here.



Bisbee Community Chorus resuming rehearsals

The Bisbee Community Chorus is the community's longest consecutive-running musical ensemble. Sponsored by the Rotary Club, the chorus was formed in 1986 and held rehearsals in the old used car building on Highway 92.

The BCC has performed every year since, and a few of the original members are still singing. Music keeps people young—at least young at heart. After resting their vocal cords over the summer, chorus members will resume rehearsals on Thursday, Aug. 22, at the Covenant Presbyterian Church Annex on Howell Street in Old Bisbee. The first rehearsal will begin at 6 p.m. under the direction of Charles Bethea.

The Presbyterian Church Annex is a permanent change of venue for the BCC. It is directly across the street from the church, at 19 Howell Ave. in Old Bisbee.

The chorus is inviting anyone who likes to sing to join them. You don't need to be able to read music, but if you do, great, and if you'd like to learn to read music, you can. There are no auditions, so you needn't worry about that. The only requirement is that you love to sing and want to have fun with music. The chorus would especially welcome students who attend school in Bisbee.

The weekly rehearsals are on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church Annex. For the first rehearsal, on Aug. 22, people are asked to come 30 minutes early so we can distribute music, get acquainted and settle into sections. If you don't know whether you are a soprano, alto, tenor or bass, just sit in the section where you think you may fit, and if that doesn't work, you can shift to another section.