



Memorandum

# Board of Supervisors Memorandum

December 5, 2000

## Cooperative Agreement with the United States Forest Service

### Background

On September 26, 2000, the Board approved the following as part of the motion to accept the *Draft Preliminary Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan*.

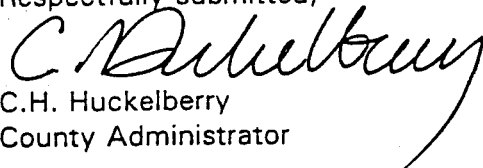
Authorize Cooperative Planning Agreements - The Chair of the Board would be authorized to sign and execute cooperative agreements regarding the planning process necessary to transform the draft preliminary Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan into a final Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan, including full participation in developing the: A) regional multi-species conservation plan, B) environmental impact statement, C) adaptive management plan, and, finally, D) implementing agreement. The following federal jurisdictions have agreed to execute cooperative agreements, and these will be forwarded to the Board during the comment period: Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Environmental Protection Agency, National Parks Service, United States Air Force, United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and United States Forest Service. Discussions with local jurisdictions are ongoing and it is anticipated that agreements for cooperative planning will be reached with the Cities of South Tucson and Tucson, and the Towns of Marana, Sahuarita and Oro Valley, as well as Tucson Water and the Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District.

The United States Forest Service has agreed to the attached cooperative planning strategy which will strengthen the overall Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan through consistent management practices across administrative boundaries once the Plan is completed and adopted. Agreements with other agencies will be finalized and forwarded to the Board in the near future.

### Recommendation

To further advance the process of developing the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan and conservation planning efforts throughout Pima County, it is recommended that the Board of Supervisors agree to cooperative planning with the United States Forest Service as outlined in the attached Memorandum.

Respectfully submitted,

  
C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator



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C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
between  
USDA FOREST SERVICE, SOUTHWESTERN REGION, CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST  
and the  
PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

This **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING** is hereby entered into by and between the USDA Forest Service, Southwestern Region, Coronado National Forest, hereinafter referred to as the Forest Service, and the Pima County Government, hereinafter referred to as the County.

**A. PURPOSE:**

This agreement is written to create a framework for cooperative land management planning between the Forest Service and County, including sharing of data and coordination of goals and objectives among the Forest Land Management Plan and Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan.

**B. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFIT AND INTERESTS:**

Whereas the Forest Service and Pima County are responsible for the management of natural and cultural resources that are distributed without regard to political jurisdiction, and

Whereas the Forest Service and County serve many of the same publics, and

Whereas resource management and public service are facilitated by coordinated, regional and cross-jurisdictional approaches;

The Forest Service and County find that it is mutually beneficial to share information on the location of natural and cultural resources, their management requirements, and the interests and concerns of the public, and to develop and implement coordinated plans for resource management.

**C. FOREST SERVICE SHALL:**

1. Compile data concerning wildlife, vegetation, riparian habitats, ranching and cultural resources on National Forest System lands within the County.
2. Compile information on Forest Land Management Plan standards and guidelines for National Forest System lands within Pima County.
3. Provide the compiled information to the County in the form of management summaries and other documents.
4. Provide staff to participate on Technical Teams, and assist the County in analyzing information provided by the Forest Service, and to identify opportunities for coordinated conservation planning and implementation respecting ranches, cultural and historic resources, riparian areas, critical and sensitive habitat and biological corridors.
5. Implement the existing Forest Land Management Plan, and prepare and implement a revised plan (if authorized by Congress), in a manner that responds to information provided by the County, and that coordinates opportunities for conservation of natural and cultural resources.
6. Standardize and integrate regulatory procedures and requirements to ensure inter-jurisdictional consistency, to the extent possible and consistent with law.

**D. THE COUNTY SHALL:**

1. Compile data concerning wildlife, vegetation, riparian habitats, ranching and cultural resources on non-Forest Service lands within the County

2. Include the Forest Service as a participant in the Government Working Group and appropriate Science Technical Teams engaged in development of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan.
3. Provide staff to assist the Forest Service in analyzing information provided by the County, and to identify opportunities for coordinated conservation planning and implementation respecting ranches, cultural and historic resources, riparian areas, critical and sensitive habitat and biological corridors.
4. Prepare and implement a Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan in a manner that responds to information provided by the Forest Service, and that coordinates opportunities for conservation of natural and cultural resources.
5. Standardize and integrate regulatory procedures and requirements to ensure inter-jurisdictional consistency, to the extent possible and consistent with law.

E. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD BY ALL PARTIES THAT:

1. TERMINATION. Either party, in writing, may terminate the instrument in whole, or in part, at any time before the date of expiration.
2. PARTICIPATION IN SIMILAR ACTIVITIES. This instrument in no way restricts the Forest Service or the Cooperator(s) from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
3. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS. The principal contacts for this instrument are:

***Forest Service Project Contact***

John McGee  
Coronado National Forest  
300 W. Congress  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Phone: (520) 670-4552  
FAX: (520)-670-4567  
E-Mail: jmcgee@fs.fed.us

***Cooperator Project Contact***

C. H. Huckelberry  
Pima County Administrator  
130 Congress, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Phone: (520)-740-8661  
FAX: (520)-740-8171  
E-Mail

***Forest Service Administrative Contact***

Jerry Conner  
Coronado National Forest  
300 W. Congress  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Phone: (520)-670-4527  
FAX: (520)-670-4567  
E-Mail: jconner@fs.fed.us

***Cooperator Administrative Contact***

Maeveen Behan  
Pima County  
130 W. Congress, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Phone: (520)-740-8162  
FAX: (520)-740-8171  
E-Mail:  
mbehan@exchange.pima.co.az.us

4. NON-FUND OBLIGATING DOCUMENT. This instrument is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligating document. Any endeavor involving reimbursement, contribution of funds, or transfer of anything of value between the parties to this instrument will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures including those for government procurement and printing. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This instrument does not provide such authority. Specifically, this instrument does not establish authority for noncompetitive award to the Cooperator of any contract or other agreement. Any

contract or agreements for training or other services must fully comply with all applicable requirements for competition.

5. RESTRICTION TO DELEGATES. Pursuant to Section 22, Title 41, United States Code, no member of, or Delegate to, Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this instrument, or any benefits that may arise therefrom.
6. MODIFICATION. Changes within the scope of this instrument shall be made by the issuance of a bilaterally executed modification.
7. COMPLETION DATE. This instrument is executed as of the last date shown below and expires on September 30, 2002 at which time it is subject to review and renewal, or expiration.

THE PARTIES HERETO have executed this instrument.

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

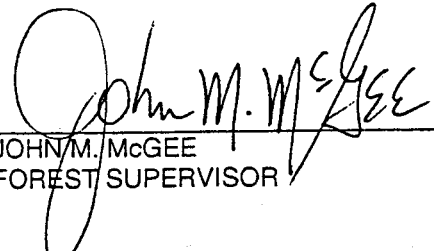
USDA FOREST SERVICE  
SOUTHWESTERN REGION  
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST

SHARON BRONSON, CHAIR  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE

JOHN M. MCGEE  
FOREST SUPERVISOR

DATE



11.27.00

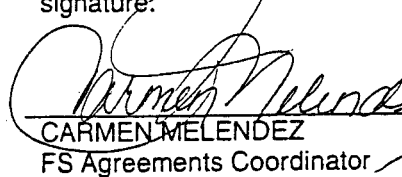
 11/30/00  
C. H. HUCKELBERRY  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DATE

The authority and format of this instrument  
has been reviewed and approved for  
signature.

 11/30/00  
PIMA COUNTY ATTORNEY

DATE

 11-27-00  
CARMEN MELENDEZ  
FS Agreements Coordinator

DATE