

Forest Plan Amendment

Forest Plan Consistency Review

The Coronado National Forest (CNF) Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) is a strategic planning document that was issued in April 2018 and is used by the CNF to guide management decisions for the next 15 years. Decision documents for projects on the CNF must describe how a project is consistent with management direction provided in the Forest Plan. Where a proposed project would not be consistent with plan direction, the Responsible Official may amend the Forest Plan concurrent with the approval of the project so that the project will be consistent with the Forest Plan. The amendment proposed for the Hermosa Critical Minerals Project is applicable only to Project activities.

Alternative 2 – Proposed Action and Alternative 3 – Modified Proposed Action were evaluated for consistency with the Forest Plan. This evaluation identified specific Forest Plan components that would require an exception to ensure the proposed actions are consistent with the Forest Plan.

Implementation of either Alternative 2 or Alternative 3 would require a project-specific plan amendment to except certain Forest Plan components for relevant project activities on National Forest System lands. These exceptions are summarized below. In all cases, the exceptions would allow the Project to deviate from the Plan components at the fine scale, but there would be no substantial impacts at the landscape scale.

Forest Plan Resource Area	Alternative 2 – Proposed Action Forest Plan Amendment Exceptions	Alternative 3 – Modified Proposed Action Forest Plan Amendment Exceptions
Vegetation Communities	1 exception	1 exception
Madrean Encinal Woodland	1 exception	1 exception
Madrean Pine-Oak Woodland	1 exception	1 exception
Wetlands	3 exceptions	3 exceptions
Riparian Areas	3 exceptions	3 exceptions
Biophysical Features	1 exception	1 exception
Watersheds	1 exception	1 exception
Natural Water Sources	4 exceptions	4 exceptions
Public Access	1 exception	1 exception
Recreation	2 exceptions	3 exceptions
Scenery	3 exceptions	4 exceptions
Special Uses	0 exceptions	4 exceptions
Roaded Backcountry	3 exceptions	4 exceptions
TOTAL	24 exceptions	31 exceptions



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