



Ground Rules

The goal of tonight's meeting is to provide information and work interactively in small groups to generate ideas that can be used to develop a plan for managing the Apache Leap SMA.

We are not here to discuss the Resolution Copper Mine proposal or the land exchange. There are other opportunities to comment on these aspects of the NDAA.

We wish to foster an environment of mutual respect among all present tonight. Please listen patiently as others express themselves and contribute in ways you believe will be most helpful.

Questions are welcome after the presentation - please hold your questions until that time.

Planning Process

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2015 directs the Forest Service to prepare a management plan for the Apache Leap Special Management Area.

What is a Special Management Area?

Certain areas of National Forest System lands that contain special attributes merit special management. These Special Management Areas (SMA) are designated administratively or by law and are managed for their designation purpose. The NDAA designated the Apache Leap SMA and identifies the specific purpose(s) and authorized activities for the Apache Leap SMA.

The Tonto National Forest is preparing the Apache Leap SMA Management Plan under the direction of the NDAA. The plan will establish the desired conditions, objectives, standards, suitable uses, and authorized activities for the area. Upon approval, the management plan will become part of the Tonto's land management plan via the plan amendment process.

Planning Process and Schedule

September - December 2016	Forest Service to meet with representatives of the Town of Superior, Resolution Copper, affected Tribes, interested members of the public, and interested stakeholder groups for input on the Management Plan content
January - March 2017	Prepare Management Plan
March - April 2017	Public comment period for Management Plan Public Meeting in Superior, Arizona
March - June 2017	Prepare Environmental Assessment for Management Plan
July - November 2017	Environmental Assessment Objection Period
December 2017	Issuance of Decision Notice





The Purpose of the Apache Leap Special Management Area (NDAA, Section 3003)

> to preserve the natural character of Apache Leap;

to allow for traditional uses of the area by Native American people; and

to protect and conserve the cultural and archaeological resources of the area.





