

Changes Subsequent to the Public Hearing

Havasu Wilderness Proposal

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife recommend that 2,510 acres of the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge be proposed for designation as a unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System under the name "Havasu Wilderness Area."

The proposed wilderness lies wholly within San Bernardino County, California and encompasses 2,510 acres of desert upland habitat.

This recommendation represents several significant changes from the proposal presented at the public hearing. These changes are:

- (1) Deletion of lands on the Arizona side of the Colorado River (14,606 acres). Third party mineral rights are held by the Santa Fe Pacific Railroad Company on alternate sections of lands (7,400 acres) on the Arizona side of the river. These rights include all subsurface minerals and generally any surface rights needed to retract or utilize and minerals found on the lands. The pattern of the third party holdings precludes designation as wilderness of those sections held wholly by the United States, and thus, the entire area on the Arizona side was deleted from the proposal.
- (2) Name changed from "Needles Wilderness Proposal" to "Havasu Wilderness Proposal." The Needles are a geological feature found on the Arizona side of the river and which do not continue on to the California side. With deletion of the "Needles" portion, the name no longer is indicative of the area and to conform to normal wilderness unit names (merely

adopting the refuge name) the remaining proposal is identified as the "Havasu Wilderness Proposal."