

# CURRENT GOLD BUTTE NATIONAL MONUMENT DECISIONS

The table below compares and summarizes current management decisions in the Gold Butte National Monument by specific resources from various published documents. The various documents are publicly available online at the following websites:

- [1998 Record of Decision \(ROD\) for the Approved Las Vegas Resource Management Plan \(RMP\) and Final Environmental Impact Statement](#)
- [Proclamation 9559](#)
- [2008 Travel Management Plan](#)

<b>1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Approved Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement</b>	<b>Proclamation 9559</b>	<b>2008 Travel Management Plan</b>
<b>Air Quality</b>		
Ensure that actions occurring on BLM administered lands do not violate local, state, tribal and Federal air quality laws, regulations, and standards. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 1		
<b>Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)</b>		
Establish areas of critical environmental concern specifically for management of desert tortoise within the Northeastern Mojave and Eastern Mojave recovery units. (See Tortoise Recovery Plan). Manage a sufficient quality and quantity of desert tortoise habitat, which in combination with tortoise habitat on other Federal, state, and private land, will meet recovery plan criteria. Maintain functional corridors of habitat between areas of critical environmental concern to increase the change of long-term persistence of desert tortoise populations within the recovery area.  Protect areas with significant cultural, natural, or geological values by establishing areas of critical environmental concern. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 3-8		
<b>BLM Natural Areas/National Monument/National Conservation Area</b>		
	The protection of the Gold Butte area will preserve the cultural, prehistoric, and historic legacy and maintain its diverse array of natural and scientific resources, ensuring that the historic and scientific values of this area, and its many objects of historic and of scientific interest, remain for the benefit of all Americans.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 3	
<b>Climate Change/Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>		
Follow air quality management and other applicable guidance.		

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1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Approved Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement	Proclamation 9559	2008 Travel Management Plan
<b>Corridors</b>		
Meet public demand and reduce impacts to sensitive resources by providing an orderly system of development for transportation, including legal access to private inholdings, communications, flood control, major utility transmission lines and related facilities. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 19	Subject to valid existing rights, including water rights. All Federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of the monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, or other disposition under the public land laws, from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing. Subject to existing rights, including valid existing water rights.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 4	
<b>Cultural Resources</b>		
Identify and protect cultural and paleontological resources in conformance with applicable legislation and BLM policy. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 15	Protecting Objects of Value, preserve the objects of scientific and historic interest on the Gold Butte lands. Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the rights or jurisdiction of any Indian tribe. The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent permitted by law and in consultation with Indian tribes, ensure the protection of Indian sacred sites and traditional cultural properties in the monument and provide access by members of Indian tribes for traditional cultural and customary uses, consistent with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	
<b>Fish and Wildlife Excluding Federally Listed Species</b>		
Maintain or improve approximately 869,800 areas of current and potential bighorn sheep habitat toward full ecological potential. Through management and habitat enhancement projects, allow desert bighorn populations to reach levels consistent with other BLM policy. Make adjustments to the population estimates as needed, based on the results of monitoring. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 9	Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the jurisdiction of the State of Nevada, including its jurisdiction and authority with respect to fish and wildlife management, including hunting and fishing.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	
<b>Floodplains</b>		
Reduce erosion and sedimentation while maintaining or where possible enhancing soil productivity through the maintenance and improvement of watershed conditions. Maintain the quality of waters presently in compliance with State and /or Federal water quality standards. Improve the quality of waters found to be in noncompliance. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 1-2	Nothing in the proclamation will preclude the renewal or assignment of, or interfere with the operation, maintenance, replacement, modification, or upgrade within the physical authorization boundary of existing flood control, pipeline, and telecommunications facilities, or other water infrastructure, including wildlife water catchments or water district facilities, that are located within the monument.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	

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<b>1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Approved Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement</b>	<b>Proclamation 9559</b>	<b>2008 Travel Management Plan</b>
<b>Fuels/Fire Management</b>		
Provide fire suppression on approximately 3332,000 of public acres, based on suppression areas/zones and resource management needs. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 30		
<b>Geology/Mineral Resources/Energy Production</b>		
Where lands remain open to entry provide for orderly exploration and development of valuable minerals on Federally owned mineral estate whether or not the surface estate is in Federal ownership. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 27	Lands within the monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, or other disposition under the public land laws, from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws and from disposition under the laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 4	
<b>Hydrologic Conditions</b>		
Maintain the quality of waters presently in compliance with State and /or Federal water quality standards. Improve the quality of waters found to be in noncompliance. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 2	Nothing in the proclamation will preclude the renewal or assignment of, or interfere with the operation, maintenance, replacement, modification, or upgrade within the physical authorization boundary of existing flood control, pipeline, and telecommunications facilities, or other water infrastructure, including wildlife water catchments or water district facilities, that are located within the monument.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	
<b>Invasive Species/ Noxious Weeds</b>		
Maintain or improve the condition of vegetation on public lands to a Desired Plant Community or to a Potential Natural Community. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 3		

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1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Approved Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement	Proclamation 9559	2008 Travel Management Plan
<b>Lands/Access/Rights of Way</b>		
<p>Meet public demand and reduce impacts to sensitive resources by providing an orderly system of development for transportation, including legal access to private inholdings, communications, flood control, major utility transmission lines and related facilities. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 19</p>	<p>No new rights of way shall be authorized within the monument, except as necessary for the care and management of the objects of value.</p> <p>Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5</p> <p>If the Federal Government subsequently acquires any lands or interests in lands not owned or controlled by the Federal Government within the boundaries, such lands shall be reserved as a part of the monument and objects identified in the proclamation that are situated upon those lands and interests in lands shall be part of the monument, upon acquisition of ownership or control by the Federal Government.</p> <p>Proclamation 9559 Pg. 4</p> <p>Except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes, motorized vehicle use in the monument shall be permitted only on roads designated open to such use as of the date of this proclamation, unless the Secretary decides to reroute roads for public safety purposes or to enhance protection of the objects identified in the proclamation. Non-motorized and mechanized vehicle use shall be permitted only on roads and trails, consistent with the care and management of the objects identified in the proclamation.</p> <p>Proclamation 9559 Pg. 4-5</p>	
<b>Lands with Wilderness Characteristics</b>		
	<p>Manage to align with and be consistent and compatible with resource protection of the objects and values, identified in the proclamation.</p>	
<b>Livestock Grazing</b>		
<p>Provide for continued grazing of domestic livestock on public lands, consistent with law, regulation, established standards and guidelines and policy on areas open to livestock grazing. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 13</p>	<p>Livestock grazing has not been permitted in the monument area since 1998 and the Secretary shall not issue any new grazing permits or leases on lands within the monument.</p> <p>Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5</p>	
<b>Migratory Birds</b>		
<p>Manage special status species habitat at the potential natural community or desired plant community according to the need of the species. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 10</p>		

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<b>1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Approved Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement</b>	<b>Proclamation 9559</b>	<b>2008 Travel Management Plan</b>
<b>Native American Concerns</b>		
Identify and protect cultural and paleontology resources in conformance with applicable legislation and BLM policy. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 13	Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the rights or jurisdiction of any Indian tribe. The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent permitted by law and in consultation with Indian tribes, ensure the protection of Indian sacred sites and traditional cultural properties in the monument and provide for access by members of Indian tribes for traditional cultural and customary uses, consistent with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (42 U.S.C. 1996) and Executive Order 13007 of May 24, 1996 (Indian Sacred Sites). Nothing in this proclamation shall be construed to preclude the traditional tribal collection of seeds, natural materials, salt, or materials for stone tools in the monument for personal noncommercial use consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	
<b>Paleontology</b>		
Identify and protect cultural and paleontology resources in conformance with applicable legislation and BLM policy. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 13	Protect the objects of value, manage and care for the objects identified in the proclamation.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 3	

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1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Approved Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement	Proclamation 9559	2008 Travel Management Plan
<b>Recreation/Special Recreation Permits</b>		
<p>Ensure that a wide range of recreation opportunities are available for recreation users in concert with protecting the natural resources on public lands that attract users. Primary management emphasis will be on resource-based uses, not facility-based uses.</p> <p>Limit recreation facility development and special designations to those necessary for resource protection.</p> <p>Retain the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum inventory classifications and opportunity settings as a long-term management goal for all actions.</p> <p>Support the Nevada Division of Wildlife in an effort to maintain and improve hunting opportunities in Clark County.</p> <p>Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 21</p> <p>ERMA's: Manage public lands not included within Special Recreation Management Areas, as the Southern NV Extensive Recreation Management Area, emphasizing dispersed and diverse recreation opportunities. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 23</p> <p>In Critical Tortoise Habitat:</p> <p>Commercial activities may be permitted on a case-by-case basis if consistent with the recovery of desert tortoise. Events needs to be defined. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 4</p> <p>ACEC, Gold Butte Part A (critical tortoise habitat).</p> <p>Desert tortoise critical habitat specific to SRP activities and events.</p> <p>Designate as "limited to designated roads and trails" for all motorized and mechanized vehicles.</p> <p>Commercial activities may be permitted on a case-by-case basis if consistent with the recovery of the desert tortoise. Prohibit off-road vehicle speed events, mountain bike races, horse endurance rides, 4WD hill climbs, mini events, publicity rides, high speed testing and similar speed-based events.</p> <p>Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 12</p>	<p>Except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes, motorized vehicle use in the monument shall be permitted only on roads designated open to such use as of the date of this proclamation, unless the Secretary decides to reroute roads for public safety purposes or to enhance protection of the objects identified in the proclamation. Non-motorized and mechanized vehicle use shall be permitted only on roads and trails, consistent with the care and management of the objects identified in the proclamation.</p> <p>Proclamation 9559 Pg. 4-5</p>	<p>Designation of 906 miles of routes identified within 11 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) on 552,554 acres.</p> <p>The decision identifies 812 miles of routes designated as open to motorized use and identifies 94 miles of routes designated as closed to motorized use consistent with the Las Vegas RMP. Routes identified under this decision will be monitored to determine if modifications to the route system are necessary to protect cultural, biological, and other resources. Monitoring is a critical component of transportation management and monitoring results will inform any necessary revisions to road designations. Therefore, the BLM will involve the public in developing the monitoring strategy, in collection of data, and in reviewing of monitoring results. Modifications to route designations would follow regulations authorized in 43CFR 8342.3, would be based on the results of monitoring, and would require a new environmental analysis, public scoping, and a new decision record.</p> <p>Decision Record for Route Designations for Selected ACECs Located in the Northeast Portion of the Las Vegas District Pg. 2</p>

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1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Approved Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement	Proclamation 9559	2008 Travel Management Plan
<b>Travel Management</b>		
Provide opportunities for off-road vehicle use while protecting wildlife, habitat, cultural resources, hydrological and soil resources, non-motorized recreation opportunities, natural/aesthetic values and other uses of the public land. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 24	Except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes, motorized vehicle use in the monument shall be permitted only on roads designated open to such use as of the date of this proclamation, unless the Secretary decides to reroute roads for public safety purposes or to enhance protection of the objects identified in the proclamation. Non-motorized and mechanized vehicle use shall be permitted only on roads and trails, consistent with the care and management of the objects identified in the proclamation.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 4-5	Designation of 906 miles of routes identified within 11 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) on 552,554 acres.  The decision identifies 812 miles of routes designated as open to motorized use and identifies 94 miles of routes designated as closed to motorized use consistent with the Las Vegas RMP. Routes identified under this decision will be monitored to determine if modifications to the route system are necessary to protect cultural, biological, and other resources. Monitoring is a critical component of transportation management and monitoring results will inform any necessary revisions to road designations. Therefore, the BLM will involve the public in developing the monitoring strategy, in collection of data, and in reviewing of monitoring results. Modifications to route designations would follow regulations authorized in 43CFR 8342.3, would be based on the results of monitoring, and would require a new environmental analysis, public scoping, and a new decision record.  Decision Record for Route Designations for Selected ACECs Located in the Northeast Portion of the Las Vegas District Pg. 2
<b>Soils</b>		
Reduce erosion and sedimentation while maintaining or where possible enhancing soil productivity through the maintenance and improvement of watershed conditions. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 1		
<b>Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Plant Species</b>		
Manage special status species habitat at the potential natural community or desired plant community, according to the need of the species. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 10	Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the jurisdiction of the State of Nevada, including its jurisdiction and authority with respect to fish and wildlife management, including hunting and fishing.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	
<b>Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Animal Species</b>		
Manage special status species habitat at the potential natural community or desired plant community, according to the need of the species. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 10	Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the jurisdiction of the State of Nevada, including its jurisdiction and authority with respect to fish and wildlife management, including hunting and fishing.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	

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<b>Wastes (hazardous or solid)</b>		
Prevent hazardous materials contamination of public lands. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 29		
<b>Water Resources/Quality (drinking/surface/ground)</b>		
Maintain the quality of waters presently in compliance with State and/or Federal water quality standards. Improve the quality of waters found to be in noncompliance. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 2	Subject to valid and existing rights, including water rights. Nothing in the proclamation will preclude the renewal or assignment of, or interfere with the operation, maintenance, replacement, modification, or upgrade within the physical authorization boundary of existing flood control, pipeline, and telecommunications facilities, or other water infrastructure, including wildlife water catchments or water district facilities, that are located within the monument.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	
<b>Wetlands/Riparian Zones</b>		
Provide widest variety of vegetation and habitat for wildlife, fish, and watershed protection; ensure that all riparian areas are in proper functioning condition by achieving an advanced ecological status, except where resource management objectives require an earlier successional state. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 2	Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the jurisdiction of the State of Nevada, including its jurisdiction and authority with respect to fish and wildlife management, including hunting and fishing. Subject to valid and existing rights, including water rights. Nothing in the proclamation will preclude the renewal or assignment of, or interfere with the operation, maintenance, replacement, modification, or upgrade within the physical authorization boundary of existing flood control, pipeline, and telecommunications facilities, or other water infrastructure, including wildlife water catchments or water district facilities, that are located within the monument.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	
<b>Wilderness/Wilderness Study Area</b>		
Ensure that characteristics on certain lands that caused them to be inventoried and designated as Wilderness Study Areas are maintained and not diminished or lessened in any way that might constrain or limit Congress final wilderness designation decision. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg 26.  Designated Wilderness is managed under the Wilderness Act.	The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) shall manage the monument pursuant to applicable legal authorities, which may include the provisions of section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1782) governing the management of wilderness study areas, to protect the objects identified above. Of the approximately 296,937 acres of Federal lands and interests in lands reserved by this proclamation, approximately 285,158 acres are currently managed by the Secretary through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and approximately 11,779 are currently managed by the Secretary through the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR).  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 4	



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<b>Woodland / Forestry</b>		
Maintain woodland and conifer forest where possible for all-aged stands, with an understory vegetation forage value rating at moderate or better. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 12		
<b>Vegetation Excluding Federally Listed Species</b>		
Maintain or improve the condition of vegetation on public lands to a Desired Plant Community or to a Potential Natural Community. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 3		
<b>Visual Resources</b>		
Limit future impacts on the visual and aesthetic character of the public lands. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 3		
<b>Wild Horses and Burros</b>		
In herd management areas not constrained by desert tortoise restrictions, manage for healthy genetically viable herd of wild horses and/or burros in a natural, thriving ecological balance with other rangeland uses. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 14		
<b>Night Sky, Light Pollution</b>		
Follow visual resource management and other applicable guidance.		
<b>Cave Management</b>		
Protect significant cave resources including cultural, scientific, biological, geological, hydrological, educational and recreational values; and manage each cave for its primary unique resource opportunity. Las Vegas RMP ROD Pg. 26	Protect the objects of value, manage and care for the objects identified in the proclamation. Proclamation 9559 Pg. 4	
<b>Military</b>		
	Nothing in this proclamation shall preclude low-level overflights of military aircraft, the designation of new units of special use airspace, or the use or establishment of military flight training routes over the lands reserved by this proclamation consistent with the care and management of the objects identified in the proclamation. Nothing in this proclamation shall preclude air or ground access to existing or new electronic tracking communication sites associated with the special use airspace and military training routes, consistent with the care and management of such objects.  Proclamation 9559 Pg. 5	

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