



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Tucson Field Office  
3201 East Universal Way  
Tucson, Arizona 85756  
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In Reply Refer To:  
AZA-023961  
2800 (210)

Mr. Ramon Valadez  
Pima County Board of Supervisors Chair  
130 W. Congress Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Dear Mr. Valadez:

Re: Pima County Board of Supervisors' Proclamation celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Las Cienegas National Conservation Area and honoring Congressman Kolbe

I am writing to express the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) support for the Pima County Board of Supervisors' Proclamation celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Las Cienegas National Conservation Area (NCA) and honoring Congressman Kolbe for his important role in the NCA's designation.

Representative Jim Kolbe introduced the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area Establishment Act of 1999 in the House of Representatives. The bill was unanimously passed in September 1999, becoming law in December 2000, establishing the more than 42,000-acre Las Cienegas NCA. The NCA's designation would not have been possible without the efforts of Representative Kolbe.

The legislation charged the BLM with conserving, protecting, and enhancing the NCA's unique and nationally important natural, cultural, and historic resources while allowing livestock grazing and recreation to continue in appropriate areas. It created a shared conservation stewardship framework that still exists today through partnerships between the BLM, Pima County, the Cienega Watershed Partnership, the Empire Ranch Foundation (ERF), State of Arizona, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, grazing permittee, and academia.

The NCA continues to be a special place to many as it has something for everyone. With continued strong partnerships, the NCA's future as a continued Arizona treasured landscape is bright.

Sincerely,

**JAYME** Digitally signed  
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**LOPEZ** Date: 2020.11.20  
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Jayme Lopez  
Field Manager

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