



**Organ
Mountains-
Desert
Peaks
Wilderness**



Protecting Doña Ana County's Natural Heritage

Why Protect the Wilderness in the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument?

- Wilderness Protects Natural Lands In Doña Ana County. Only Congress Designates Wilderness.
- Wilderness Protects Habitat for Healthy Wildlife Populations. Most Areas Are Already WSA's.
- Wilderness Adds to the Tourism, Branding and Community Success of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument and Public Lands Experience within Doña Ana County.
- Wilderness Protects Key Watersheds in Doña Ana County from Degradation.
- The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Conservation Act Enhances Border Security Opportunities.

Proposed Wilderness Areas Are:

- **Aden Lava Flow Wilderness**: offers one of the best American opportunities to view lava flows and the many unique shapes and structures created by them. Area wildlife is specially adapted to the lava.
- **Broad Canyon Wilderness**: is home to countless archeological sites and the most extensive record of previous Native American habitation within the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region.
- **Cinder Cone Wilderness**: features an extremely high concentration of undisturbed cinder cone mountains and rich wildlife habitat prized by hunters and non-hunters alike.
- **Organ Mountains Wilderness**: their rugged terrain forms one of the steepest mountain ranges in the western United States. They are the picturesque backdrop to New Mexico's second largest city, Las Cruces, were mentioned in the earliest Spanish journals, and are a sky island with unique biology.
- **Potrillo Mountains Wilderness**: Extinct volcanoes, black lava fields, and mile after mile of desert grassland combine to give the Potrillo Mountains qualities found nowhere else in New Mexico.
- **Robledo Mountains Wilderness**: Named after Spanish colonist Pedro Robledo, these mountains sheltered Billy the Kid in the late-19th century. They include the Paleozoic Trackways National Monument and are potential habitat for desert bighorn sheep reintroduction.
- **Sierra de las Uvas Wilderness**: This diverse mountain range is a hunting hot spot harboring three different quail species, desert mule deer and pronghorn antelope. Cultural riches also abound.
- **Whitethorn Wilderness**: owes its name to prevalent white-thorn acacia, a key year-round food source for quail and a summer food source for desert mule deer. Weathered lava shelters small and large wildlife, and views stretch hundreds of miles.

Wilderness Allows Effective Land Management

- Ranching is a Legally Permitted Activity in Wilderness.
- Vehicles Are Allowed on "Cherry-Stemmed" Routes Providing Good Access.
- Border Patrol Can Use Vehicles to Travel in Wilderness to Pursue Suspects. Legislation Expands Border Security Buffer Zone.
- Doña Ana Mountains & Other Mountain Bike Hotspots Are Not Proposed for Wilderness.
- Hiking, Camping, Hunting, Climbing, and other Non-Mechanized Recreation Allowed.
- Land Restoration, Enhanced Wildlife Habitat & Improved Watershed and Flood Protection.

Learn More - Visit OrganMountains.org to see maps, pictures, historical reports and more!