



The Juniper Journal

Hiking Trails and the WEMO DEIS

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) recently released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a 90-day public comment period. This document may or may not define hiking trails in the Juniper Flats Area and other places in the desert that they manage. The document is large and we are reviewing it to see what has happened to our Hiking Trail Proposal in Juniper Flats. We'll share our findings with our membership once our review is completed.

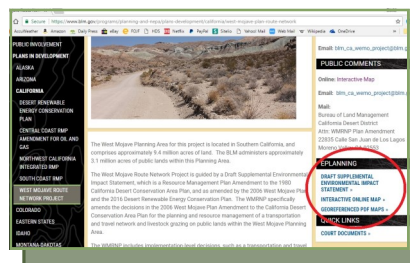
However, there is action each of you can take right now. If you have not yet written to us at fojf2@yahoo.com, please write a quick email to us in support of our Hiking Trail Proposal. For more information on this, check out our website at www.friendsofjuniperflats.org and on the home page click on the "Hiking Trails Project" link. Your letters and emails in support of hiking trails help us show the BLM the tremendous support for this project.

If you don't want to wait for our review, please read the DEIS at this

website:

<https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/plans-development/california/west-mojave-plan-route-network>

On that website page, click on the "Draft Supplement Environmental Impact Statement" link in the right

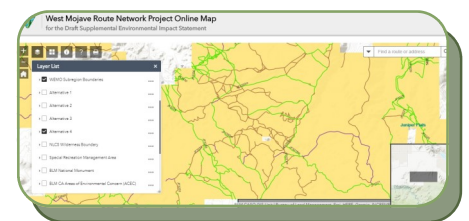


column, then look for "Documents" in the left column and click on the link which will take you to the "West Mojave Route Network Project Draft LUPA and SEIS" link. There you will see 14 available PDF files to open.

You can also check out the "Interactive Online Map" link (just below the DEIS link) to view what routes will be open / closed to vehicles and where you might find a

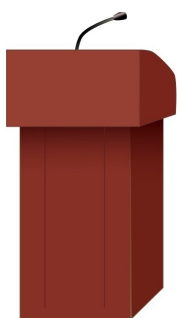
hiking trail. Touch the bottom line of the map area and pull it down to see a larger view of the map area. Zoom into the "West Mojave" area, repositioning the map as needed. Look for the "Juniper Flats" area and zoom into it as much as you like to enlarge this section of the map, giving several seconds for the routes to appear.

On the top left side, you can click the layers and toggle between the alternatives. Alternative 4 has the hiking trails in purple. We would like to see comments supporting these trails and sections of trails. You can comment on each section of trail right on the map by clicking on the section.



Note: We've experienced problems with this website. Please email us at fojf2@yahoo.com if you have any questions or problems.

DAC and DRECP



A couple of important meetings were held during the past month, the Desert Advisory Council (DAC) and the BLM meeting on the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP). Both meetings had at least indirect implications for Juniper Flats.

The DRECP meeting was held at the Marriott Courtyard hotel in Hesperia on February 28th, a meeting which was part of the BLM notice of a 45-day public scoping period. The public was encouraged to provide input on how desert land designations in the DRECP process might affect development of solar, wind or

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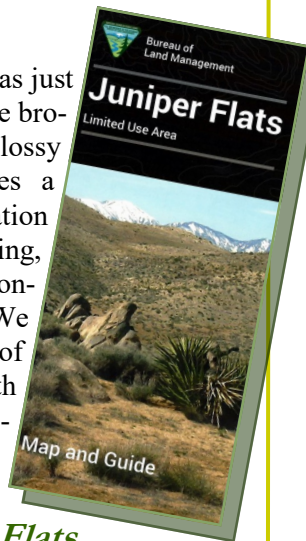
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We're on the Web!

- (1) www.friendsofjuniperflats.org
- (2) friendojuniperflat.wordpress.com
- (3) Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Juniper-Flats-1988946144701669/>

New JF Brochure

We are delighted that the BLM has just published the new Map and Guide brochure for Juniper Flats. It is a glossy multi-page foldout that includes a couple of maps and information about the flora and fauna, camping, picnicking, and the other recreational opportunities of the area. We received a few advance copies of the brochure and are working with the BLM to order additional supplies for distribution.



Group Hikes in Juniper Flats

Offered by our partners at Mojave Group, Sierra Club. Meet at the Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Rd. in Apple Valley

4/7/2018 Saturday 10:00 AM - Wildflowers Hike

4/21/2018 Saturday 8:00 AM - Bowen Ranch Hike

More details at:

<https://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/node/3>, or
www.highdesertscoop.com/hike-calendar



Not a member yet?

We invite you to join the Friends of Juniper Flats to help with our goals of protecting, preserving and restoring Juniper Flats. Dues are only \$5 per year. Just send your check for your membership to the address shown above, along with your name,

address, phone number, and email address.

Donations in any amount are also welcome.

DAC and DRECP

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other renewable energy resources.

The Desert Advisory Council meeting was held on March 20th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Victorville and with attendance by Friends of Juniper Flats members. The DAC provides advice and recommendations for the BLM to consider on resource and land management issues. During the public comments period, our attending members were able to address the Council Members about Designation of Hiking Trails, Special Recreation Permit process for planned group activities, and recreational shooting issues in the Juniper Flats Area.

During the break, our members had an opportunity to talk with Law Enforcement officers and we are happy to announce that BLM is planning more law enforcement patrols, including evenings and weekends.

We feel our attendance at the DAC meeting went well overall, contributing to better communication and understanding of our goals and keeping issues affecting the Juniper Flats Area on the radar.

Historic Ranches

Our Blog website includes stories about historic ranches located in the Juniper Flats area. If you haven't already checked out these stories, please do so at:

<https://friendojuniperflat.wordpress.com/category/history-of-juniper-flats-area/>

Donations

Your annual membership dues are greatly appreciated but they don't go very far in helping FOJF attain its conservation and restoration goals for the Juniper Flats area. By far, our funding comes from generous donations from our benefactors. Some donors during the 1st Quarter 2018 were:

Dan Epplett
Barbara Hampton
Dave and Linda Hansen
Karl and Lucy Hettesheimer
Julia Jackson
Lin Khabir
Allan Kumlin

Dale and Fran Lorz
Neil Nadler
Melody Nichols
Gary Null
Sun Yoo
Tom and Jenny Wilder

A Call for Volunteers

In addition to appreciating donations, FOJF can always use more volunteer helpers. You can assist with vehicle incursion route repairs, sign installations, fence repairs, making organization contacts, and "computer work" such as developing information flyers and newsletter articles.

Please contact us if you would like to volunteer your time.

Secretary and Treasurer - We are especially looking for volunteers to fill our Secretary and Treasurer positions. Please contact us for more details.