



## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# Public Scoping Meeting Agenda

<b>Time:</b>	<b>Activity:</b>
5:00 – 5:30	Open House – view maps and posters
5:30 – 6:00	Forest Service Presentation
6:00 – 6:30	Question & Answer Session
6:30 – 8:00	Open House – discuss plan content



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## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# Public Scoping Meeting

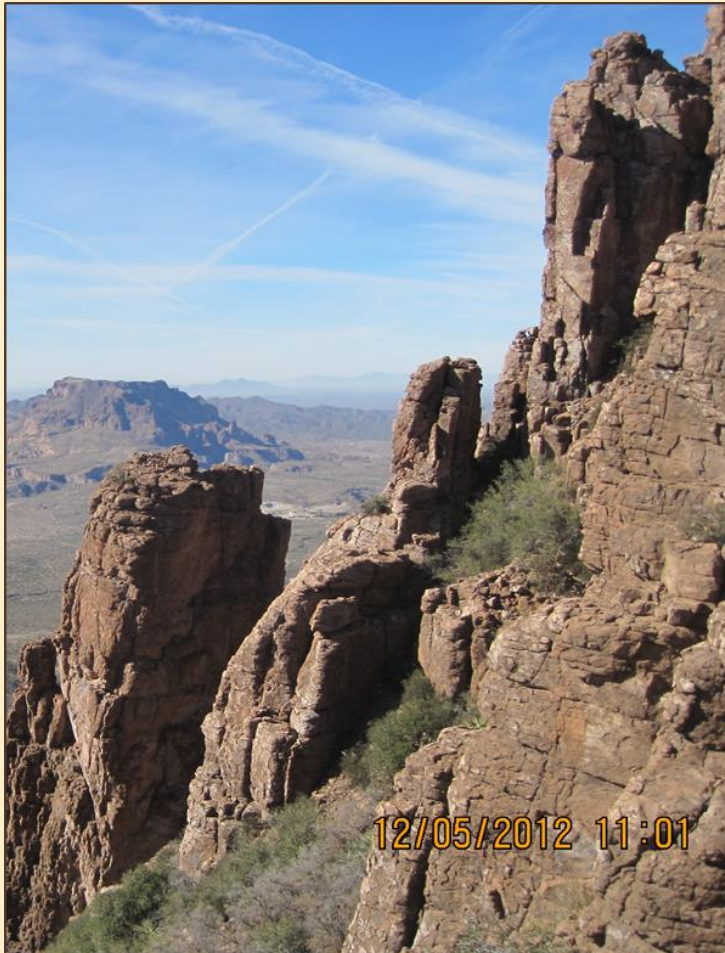


## Apache Leap Special Management Area

April 4, 2017

**Mary Rasmussen, Project Manager**  
**Tom Torres, Deputy Forest Supervisor**

## Apache Leap Special Management Area



### *What are Tonight's Goals?*

- Share the proposed plan contents
- Answer questions
- Gather your comments about the proposed plan

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

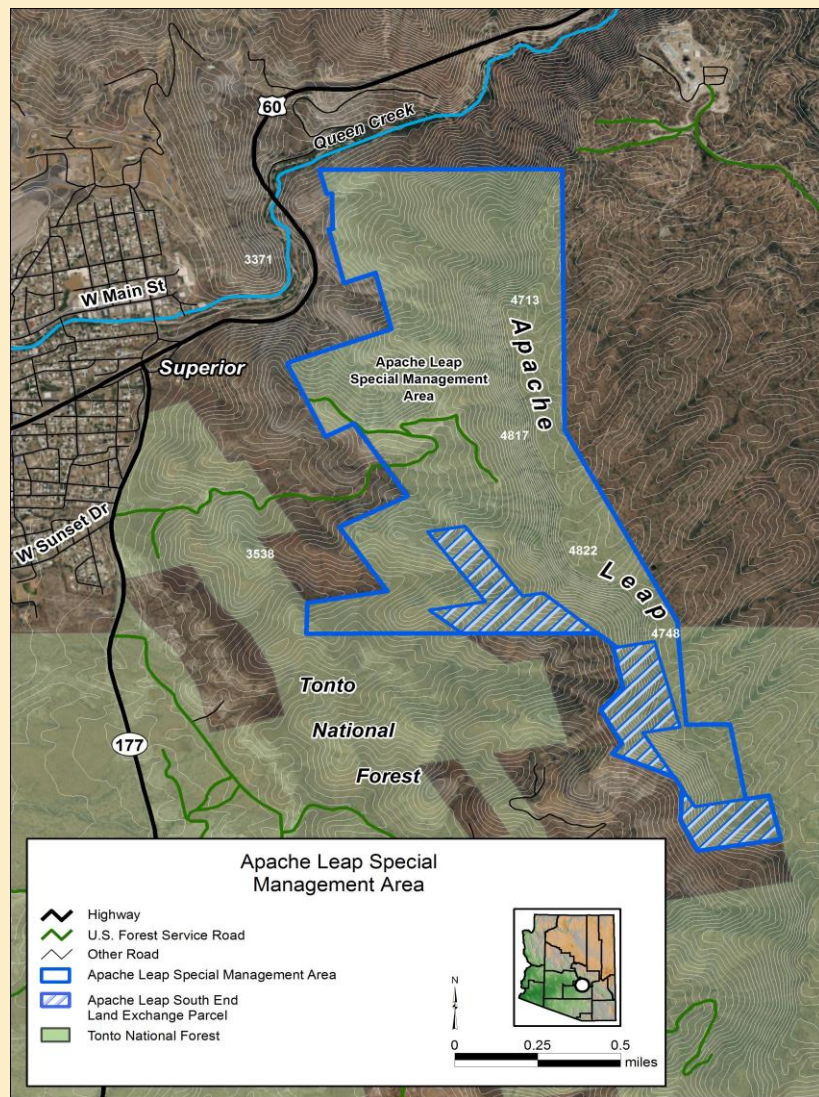
# *What happens next?*

With your comments we will:

1. Refine the proposed Management Plan
2. Identify issues for further study during the environmental assessment



## Apache Leap Special Management Area



# What is the Apache Leap Special Management Area?

- ❑ An area designated by Congress – in **Section 3003 NDAA** (National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015)
- ❑ Total Area of 807 acres:  
Tonto National Forest  $\approx$  697 acres  
Resolution Copper  $\approx$  110 acres

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

### *Purpose(s)*

- ❑ To preserve the natural character of Apache Leap
- ❑ To allow for traditional uses of the area by Native American people
- ❑ To protect & conserve the cultural and archeological resources of the area



## Apache Leap Special Management Area

### ***Authorized Activities***

**Installation of seismic monitoring equipment on the surface and subsurface** (to protect resources located within Apache Leap SMA)

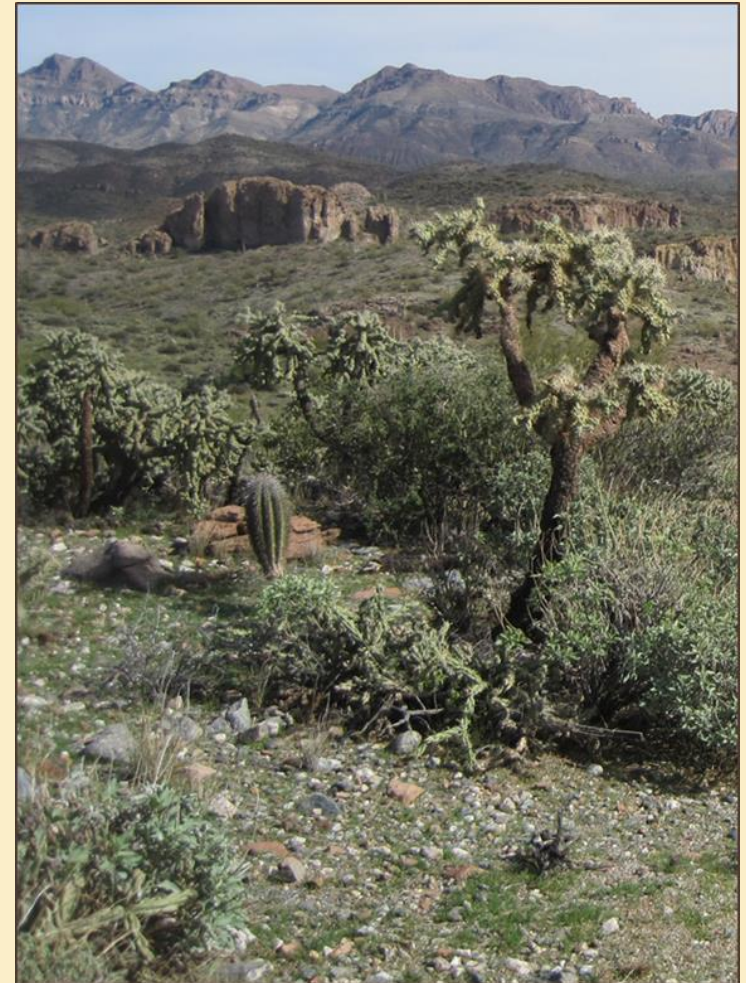
**Installation of fences, signs, or other measures necessary** (to protect the health and safety of the public)

**Operation of an underground tunnel and associated workings** (as described in Resolution Copper's General Plan of Operations, subject to any terms and conditions the Secretary of Agriculture may reasonably require)

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

### ***Consider ... whether additional measures are needed to:***

- Protect the cultural, archeological, or historical resources of Apache Leap**
- Provide access for recreation**

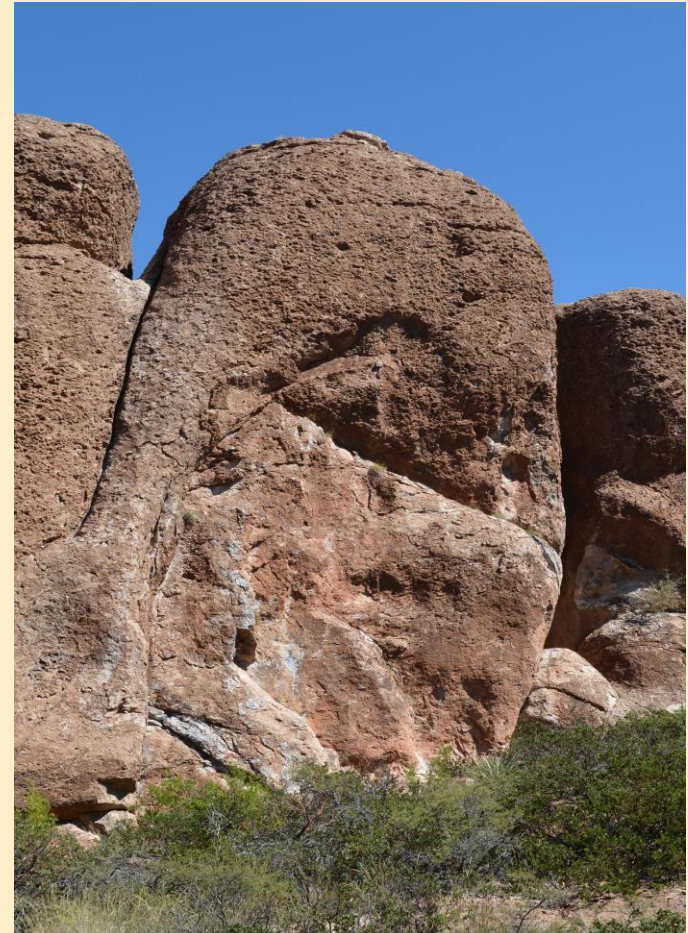




## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# *Prepare a management plan...*

- ❑ In consultation with affected Indian tribes, the Town of Superior, Resolution Copper, & interested public
- ❑ Not later than 3 years after enactment of the NDAA (12/2014)

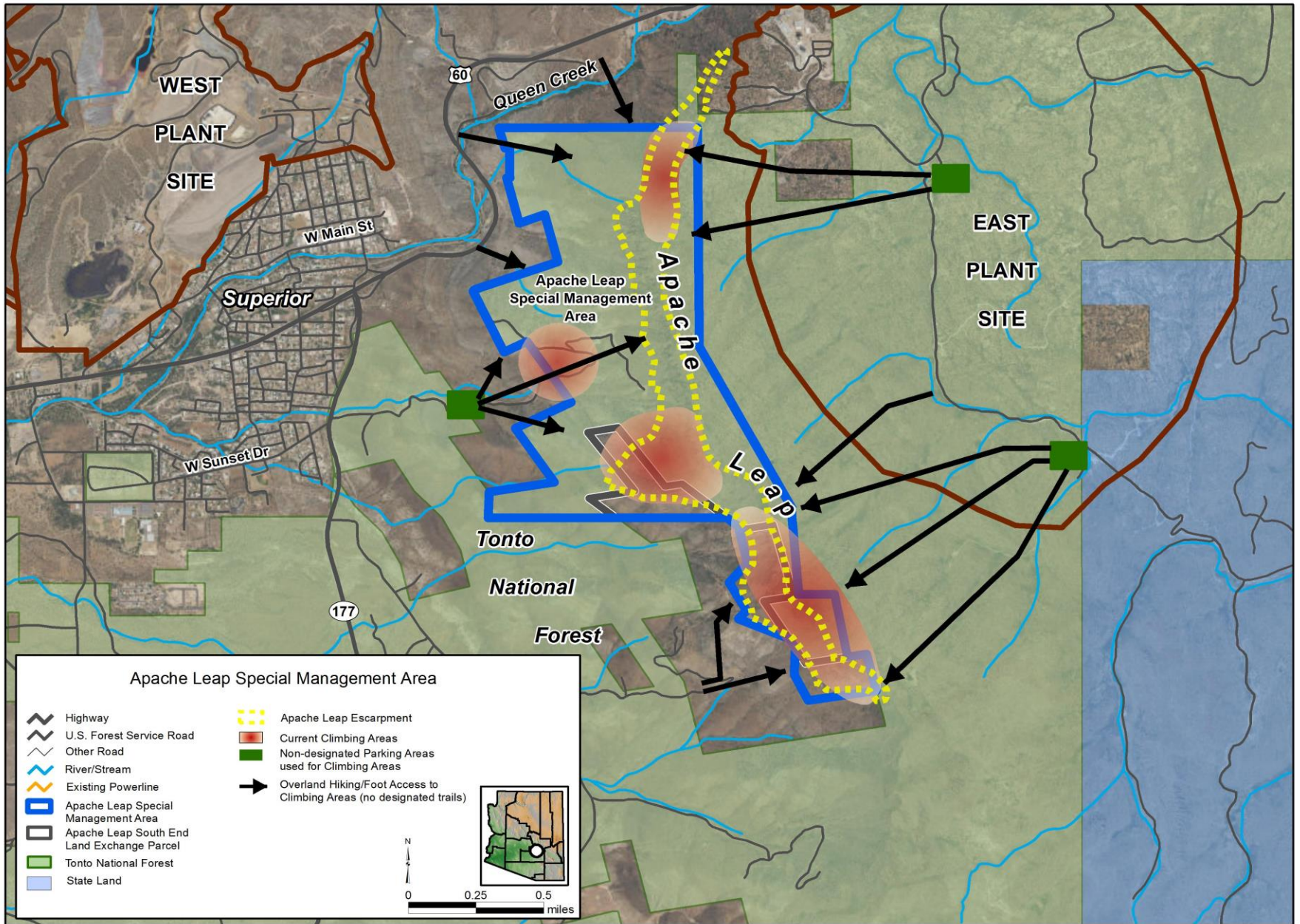


## Apache Leap Special Management Area

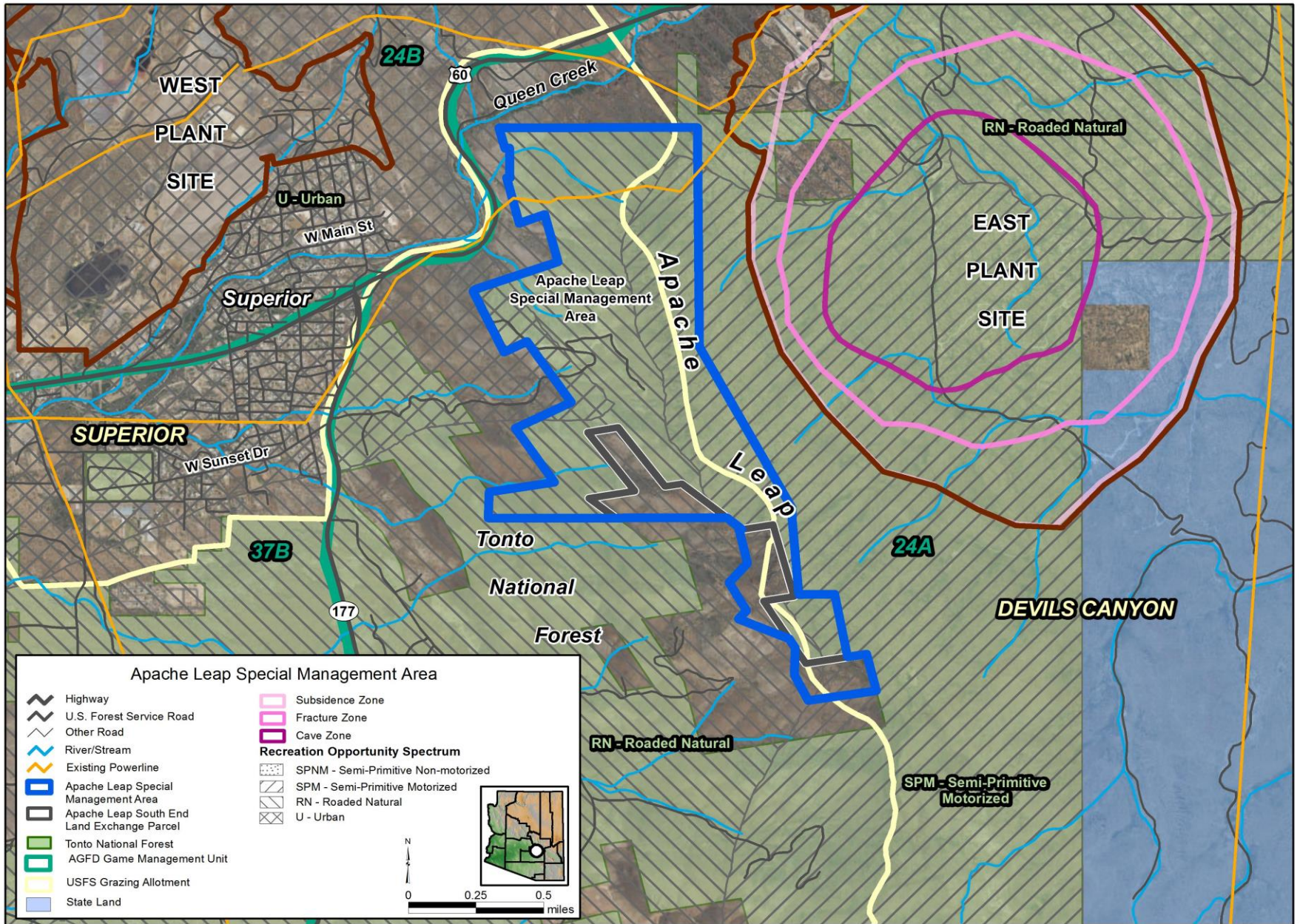
# What did we hear from stakeholders?



- Preserve the area's natural beauty
- Respect/protect cultural resources
- Continue all current uses of area
- Allow rock climbing, hiking, mountain biking, hunting
- No new motorized uses
- Monitor uses & resource impacts
- Limit future development – keep natural character intact
- More access on west side; loss of east side access due to proposed mine



## Current Public Access and Recreation Uses



**Current Management Direction**



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## Apache Leap Special Management Area

*The proposed management plan establishes a broad framework for managing the natural character and values of the area.*



## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# *What's included in the proposed plan?*

Plan Component	Purpose
Desired Conditions	Describe how the plan area should look in the future
Objectives	Actions to achieve measurable progress toward a desired condition(s)
Standards/ Guidelines	Constraints on project and activity decision-making to help achieve desired conditions, avoid or mitigate undesirable effects, or to meet applicable legal requirements
Management Approaches	Describes management intent, possible management strategies, potential partnership opportunities & coordination activities, including area or resource monitoring
Land Suitability	Areas identified as suitable/not suitable for certain uses or activities based on desired conditions

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# Cultural/Historic Resources

CURRENT MANAGEMENT	PROPOSED MANAGEMENT
<p>Resources managed consistent with various laws, regulations and policies.</p>	<p>Continues current management direction along with:</p>
	<p>Additional emphasis given to identifying &amp; nominating cultural resources eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places</p>
	<p>Seeks input from Tribes for maintaining archaeological sites, traditional use areas, and natural resources</p>

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# Natural Character & Scenery

CURRENT MANAGEMENT	PROPOSED MANAGEMENT
Manage for some areas to appear natural and some areas to have significant deviations	Manage so the landscape appears natural with limited deviations
Construction of new communications sites, utility lines, transmission lines is allowed	Construction of new communications sites, utility lines, transmission lines should not occur
No seismic monitoring in place	Monitor for potential seismic impacts of proposed adjacent mining site



## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# Public Access & Recreation

CURRENT MANAGEMENT	PROPOSED MANAGEMENT
Roads & trails follow current Forest Service designations	
Opportunities for dispersed recreation are available to the public	
Manage for mix of 'Urban', 'Roaded Natural' and 'Semi-Primitive Motorized' levels on the recreation opportunity spectrum	Manage for 'Semi-Primitive Non-motorized' to protect natural character and values while allowing for recreational use
Overnight camping is allowed	Overnight camping is prohibited

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# Mineral Resources

CURRENT MANAGEMENT	PROPOSED MANAGEMENT
Area is open to mineral exploration and development	Area is withdrawn from mineral exploration and development; mining is not permitted
Abandoned mining infrastructure poses public safety hazard	Public safety hazards are mitigated within 5 years of detection

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# *Livestock Grazing*

CURRENT MANAGEMENT	PROPOSED MANAGEMENT
Grazing continues on Devil's Canyon allotment	
Grazing occurs on Superior allotment	Grazing removed from Superior allotment

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# *Wildlife, Vegetation, Wildland Fire*

CURRENT MANAGEMENT	PROPOSED MANAGEMENT
	Manage to provide habitat for various animal species (wildlife)
	Manage to promote natural ecological processes and limit undesirable nonnative plant species (vegetation)
Manage to protect human life, property, and natural and cultural resources Manage to sustain resources and natural ecological function (wildland fire)	

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# *What will the Environmental Assessment include?*



Evaluate and compare the effects of implementing:

“Proposed Action”


= proposed mgmt. plan

“No Action”

= current management direction

## Apache Leap Special Management Area

# What is the Project Schedule?

	Activity	Time Period
	Consult with affected Indian tribes, the Town of Superior, interested members of the public, and Resolution Copper for input on plan development	September 2016 – January 2017
	Prepare Management Plan	Jan – March 2017
	Public Comment Period on Management Plan Scoping for Environmental Assessment	March - April 2017
	Prepare Environmental Assessment	April – June 2017
	Hear and Resolve Objections	July – Nov 2017
	Issue Decision Notice	December 2017

## Apache Leap Special Management Area



***Questions?***

View looking east from Gonzales Pass  
towards Apache Leap

More information is available on the web at: [www.ApacheLeapSMA.us](http://www.ApacheLeapSMA.us)



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