September 26, 2022

Michiko Martin, Regional Forester USDA Forest Service

333 Broadway Blvd. SE Albuquerque, NM 87102

**Re: Tonto National Forest Plan Interested Person Request**

Regional Forester Martin:

Please accept this request for “interested person” status pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 219.57 concerning the following-described objections to the Tonto National Forest Plan Revision.

This request is made on behalf of the following groups by Sandy Bahr, lead objector:

 **Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter**

Sandy Bahr

Chapter Director

514 W. Roosevelt St.

Phoenix, AZ 850036

602-253-8633

sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org

**Western Watersheds**

Cyndi Tuell

 Arizona and New Mexico Director

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**Center for Biological Diversity**

Chris Bugbee

Southwest Conservation Advocate

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**Arizona Mining Reform Coalition**

Roger Featherstone

Director

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**WildEarth Guardians**

Adam Rissien

ReWilding Advocate

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**Maricopa Audubon Society**

Charles Babbitt

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As demonstrated by the above named group’s comments submitted on the Tonto Forest Plan Revision Draft EIS in 2020, and the objection to the Proposed Forest Plan Revision and Final EIS in September 2022, the above named groups have an interest in issues concerning forest management addressed by the proposed plan, including but not limited to livestock grazing, vegetation management, wilderness recommendations, Wild and Scenic River recommendations, protection of wildlife species and habitats, and water resources.

Each of the following objections, to which we request interested person status, raises one or more of these issues, and implicates the above named group’s interests in management of the Tonto National Forest:

**Jeff Burgess** - livestock grazing, we generally support this objection.

**Clayton Crowder, Arizona Game and Fish Department** - recommended wilderness, fish barriers, motorized access, wildlife translocation, motorized big game retrieval, Wild and Scenic Rivers.

**Bill Brake, Arizona Game and Fish Commission** - recommended wilderness, Wild and Scenic Rivers, motorized uses in recommended wilderness areas and Wilderness areas.

**Cory Quackenbush, Northern AZ Climbers Coalition** - wilderness issues related to permanent climbing gear/fixed anchors.

**Curt Shannon, Access Fund** - wilderness issues related to permanent climbing gear/fixed anchors.

**Greg Warren, Recreation Access Fund** – Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS), motorized uses, roads, Arizona National Scenic Trail, wildlife, water, recreation, Wilderness areas, and recommended wilderness.

**Dawn Meidinger, Pinto Valley Mining Corp** - mining issues, water, wildlife.

**Francis McAllister, Freeport-McMoRan Inc** - mining issues, water wildlife.

**Steve Trussell, Arizona Mining Association** - mining issues, ROS

**Jim Unmacht, Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation** – Wilderness areas, recommended wilderness areas, wildlife waters and wildlife crossings, fish barriers, wildlife, water.

**Rebecca Antle, Arizona State Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs** - motorized roads/trails, off-road vehicle use, recommended wilderness areas, target shooting.

**Richard Smith, Tonto Recreation Alliance** - recommended wilderness areas.

**Stanley Lutz, Salt River Project** - recommended wilderness areas, water/energy.

Please contact Sandy Bahr, lead objector, if you have questions about the information above.

Sincerely,

/s/

Sandy Bahr

Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter

Chapter Director

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