4060 Research Facilities

December 1, 1983

Proposed Oak Woodland RNA

District Ranger, Sierra Vista RD

On November 29, 1983 Mary Anna Wheat and I reviewed the Research Ranch for a possible Evergreen Oak Savanna (Mexican Blue Oak) Research Natural Area. You will find identified on the attached maps what we believe is a suitable area.

The area, near Canelo, encompasses approximately 350 acres, is entirely within the Research Ranch on National Forest lands, and has a natural appearance with no man-made intrusions. It includes nearly the entire drainage of a Turkey Creek tributary as well as parts of other drainages. Elevation varies from 4820 to 5100 feet. The soil is rocky and appears to have a relatively low production potential. The predominate tree species is Mexican Blue Oak (Quercus oblongifolia). Emory Oak (Quercus emoryi) is also well represented with somewhat fewer Arizona White Oak (Quercus arizonica). There are a very few scattered juniper, and some deciduous hardwoods along the bottom of the Turkey Creek drainage. Crown cover averages about 20 percent with a good ground cover of grasses and annuals.

Your recommendation in regard to including a proposed Canelo RNA in the draft Coronado Plan and any suggestions regarding the boundary, etc. will be appreciated.

J. M. BORENS, Jr.

Coronado RNA Coordinator

MBorens:sg:12/1/83

cc:

Larry Schmidt, RO SEW

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