

COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RESOLUTION NO. 2002-65

FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. 2002-92

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZONA, SUPPORTING ADDITIONAL PROTECTION FOR LANDS SURROUNDING WALNUT CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT, AND REQUESTING FEDERAL AUTHORIZATION FOR A SPECIAL RESOURCES AND LAND MANAGEMENT STUDY OF FEDERAL LANDS SURROUNDING WALNUT CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING HOW BEST TO PROTECT THESE LANDS FROM FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Walnut Canyon National Monument ("Monument") was established by Presidential Proclamation No. 1318 on November 20, 1915, and subsequently enlarged to protect certain prehistoric ruins of ancient cliff dwellings located in and adjacent to Walnut Canyon; and

WHEREAS, Walnut Canyon National Monument boundaries are contiguous to the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County and lands managed by the Coconino National Forest and the Arizona State Land Department as depicted on attached Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, a series of recent, long-range land use management plans prepared by the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County, Coconino National Forest, and the National Park Service - Flagstaff Area Monuments acknowledge the greater ecological, social, economic, and cultural system surrounding Walnut Canyon National Monument; and

WHEREAS, the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County have prepared and adopted the Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan (Regional Plan), which delineates Urban Growth Boundaries, designates areas suitable for development

within, and areas suitable for Public Multiple-Use and Open Space outside, the Urban Growth Boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Plan delineates growth and development of the City and County lands near Walnut Canyon National Monument and additional growth and development will impact lands surrounding the Monument in ways that may be detrimental to both resources contained on those lands and to the Monument itself; and

WHEREAS, lands surrounding Walnut Canyon National Monument are important to residents of the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County for providing values as listed in Exhibit "C"; and

WHEREAS, the public has expressed a desire to protect the existing Monument and to allow a continuation of certain uses on these lands, including, but not limited to, the uses as listed in Exhibit "D"; and

WHEREAS, the Flagstaff City Council and Coconino County Board of Supervisors have heard from the public their desire to protect these lands and resources in perpetuity while allowing current uses to continue;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF COCONINO COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. SPECIAL RESOURCES AND LAND MANAGEMENT STUDY: The United States Congress is requested to expeditiously direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to jointly conduct a Special Resources and Land Management Study (Study) of the Walnut Canyon Study Area, as depicted on attached Exhibit "B", and to supply funding for the Study, either through a separate appropriation or as part of existing Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary of Interior budgets. The purpose of the Study is to determine:

- The national significance of the resources of the Walnut Canyon area, as depicted in attached Exhibit "B", and if they would merit a special congressional designation;

- Recommend the land management agency and management designation (or multi-agency designation) best suited to ensure in perpetuity protection for the Study Area, and ensure continued opportunities for public access, enjoyment, recreation and economic benefit.
- Recommend special designation of all or portions of the Walnut Canyon Study Area (Exhibit B).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Flagstaff and the Board of Supervisors of Coconino County this 17th day of December, 2002.

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

By Joseph C. Donaldson
Joseph C. Donaldson, Mayor

By Deborah Hill
Deborah Hill, Chairman

ATTEST:

ATTEST:

By Margaret Brown
City Clerk

By Richard Schickel
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By John Lane
City Attorney

By Richard Schickel
Deputy County Attorney

- The range of alternative management options for managing and conserving these resources by either or both federal agencies, including but not limited to the suitability and feasibility of a boundary adjustment to Walnut Canyon National Monument, designation of the Study Area as a Preserve, designation of the Study Area as a National Park, designation of the Study Area as under perpetual management by the U.S. Forest Service including a permanent boundary, or any other designation that will accomplish both Federal protection in perpetuity and Public use and access for the Study Area.

SECTION 2. STUDY REPORT CONTENT: The content of the Study is based upon the following parameters and desired results:

2.1. Parameters:

- The Study is to be jointly initiated and administered by the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service, with the use of a well-qualified, neutral environmental consultant.
- Local managers and local governmental jurisdictions will collaborate in developing a detailed scope of work for the study under the guidance of the consultant referenced above.
- Once approved by Congress, it is expected that this Study would be completed in 15 to 18 months.

2.2. Desired Results:

- Recommend the most desirable and feasible means for the future administration and management of the Walnut Canyon Study Area (Exhibit B).
- Recommend whether existing fiscal resources or land management expertise are sufficient, or whether special appropriations would be necessary to ensure protection of the area.

Protecting Walnut Canyon

Walnut Canyon Management Area (approximate): green outline

Friends' proposal: solid orange

Proposed Walnut Canyon Study area: black outline

