

United States Department of the Interior NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments Post Office Box 219 527 S. Main Street

Camp Verde, Arizona 86322



In reply refer to:

August 6, 2012

## Subject:Environmental Assessment for the Fire Management Plan for Montezuma<br/>Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments Available for Public Review

To Whom it may concern:

The National Park Service (NPS) is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment/Assessment of Effect (EA) for a Fire Management Plan for Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments. The purpose of this notice is to inform interested parties of the FMP/EA process to allow the public the opportunity to comment on the draft EA; addressing those issues and concerns that they feel have particular significance to either or both Monuments only.

The FMP/EA allows for implementation of a full range of fire management activities, including wildland fire and fuels management. Wildland fire activities would include fire suppression to protect park resources, infrastructure, visitors and employees. Fuels management activities would include prescribed fire, mechanical, and herbicide treatments. The main focus of these activities and treatments is centered on public and firefighter safety, communities identified as at risk from wildland fires (wildland urban interface), historic fire regimes, current condition class, and collaboration with other agencies, Native American tribes and stakeholders.

The public comment period closes 30 days after the date at the top of this letter. If you wish to comment on the EA, please go to <u>http://parkplanning.nps.gov</u>, scroll down to <u>Fire</u> <u>Management Plan EA/AEF</u>, <u>Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot</u>. You may comment on the document at the above address or you can send your comments to:

Dorothy FireCloud, Superintendent Montezuma Castle National Monument PO Box 219 Camp Verde, AZ 86322 Please note that names and addresses of people who comment become part of the public record. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Thank you for participating in the planning process to prepare a Fire Management Plan for Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments.

Sincerely,

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Dorothy FireCloud Superintendent

bcc:

IMDE Central Files