

MONDAY'S HOMETOWN CRIER (KINGMAN)

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HORSEMEN HELP BLM...

Old Technology Rules when it comes to getting building materials into remote places. Wayne Pitrat of Chino Valley (left) and Les Krause of Kingman (right) were two of four volunteer horsemen/packers with the Back Country Horsemen of Arizona who joined ten volunteers from the Arizona Wilderness Coalition to rebuild two enclosures at Lower Warm Springs and Middle Warm Springs in the Warm Springs Wilderness Area. Volunteers camped out during the four-day event. The purpose of the enclosures is to protect the riparian area around the springs. Construction materials and tools were packed in on horseback and old wire, posts and fencing materials were removed and packed out. Two resource specialists from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Kingman Field Office participated as well.

The 112,400-acre Warm Springs Wilderness is located in Mohave County, 30 miles southwest of Kingman, Arizona and 30 miles north of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, and is managed by the BLM Kingman Field Office.



The Warm Springs Wilderness encircles an immense and pristine desert landscape. One thousand feet above the surrounding desert, the 10-mile long Black Mesa dominates the wilderness. Its edges are dissected into a maze of winding canyons. Remnant mesas and isolated hills dot a vast encircling alluvial apron.

The diverse zoological and geologic features offer outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. Water at Warm Springs and other springs allow for extended camping trips. Horseback riding and hiking are further enhanced by the presence of an old historic trail and numerous burro trails. In the spring following a wet winter, this area unveils a notably colorful wildflower display, including ocotillos, blooming annuals, shrubs, and cactuses. "There was no way to get the materials and tools into the Wilderness location other than horseback," said BLM Kingman Wilderness Coordinator Bruce Asbjorn. "The work simply would not have been done had it not been for the Arizona Wilderness Coalition and the Back Country Horsemen of Arizona volunteers.

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ATF AUTHORIZES MANUFACTURERS TO STREAMLINE REQUIRED FIREARMS MARKINGS

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) issued a ruling authorizing licensed manufacturers who perform a manufacturing process on firearms for another licensed manufacturer not to place their serial numbers and other required identification markings on the firearm, provided the firearm is already properly marked with a serial number and all other requirements of the ruling are met.

During the manufacturing process, many firearms manufacturers contract with other manufacturers to perform various steps in the manufacturing process. Currently the applicable regulations require that each manufacturer performing a manufacturing process on a firearm, including a frame or receiver, place its identifying markings on each firearm. However, multiple identification markings can be confusing to law enforcement and potentially hinder effective tracing of firearms used in crimes. Further, unique marks of identification of firearms serve several purposes:

- They are used by the federal firearms licensees to effectively track firearms inventories and maintain all records.
- They enable law enforcement to trace specific firearms used in crimes from the manufacturer or importer, to individual purchasers, and to identify particular firearms that have been lost or stolen.
- They help prove in certain criminal prosecutions that firearms used in a crime have travelled in interstate or foreign commerce.

While manufacturers may request a variance not to mark, and thus avoid placing multiple markings on firearms, ATF has determined such requests are unnecessary if certain conditions have been met.

If a manufacturer desiring not to mark firearms submits information to ATF as outlined in ATF Ruling 2009-5, and is performing a manufacturing process on firearms that have been acquired from another manufacturer and already are properly marked, no variance is required and the manufacturer may engage in the manufacturing process without placing its identifying markings on the firearms.

More information on ATF and its programs can be found at www.atf.gov.

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