



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Avi Kwa Ame National Monument

Frequently Asked Questions – Las Vegas Field Office

At a glance

- 506,814 acres of lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and National Park Service.
- considered to be among the most sacred places on Earth by the Mojave, Chemehuevi, and some Southern Paiute people. It is also important to Tribal Nations and Indigenous Peoples including the Cocopah, Halchidhoma, Havasupai, Hopi, Hualapai, Kumeyaay, Maricopa, Pai Pai, Quechan, Yavapai, and Zuni Tribes.
- popular uses of the area include hunting, camping, hiking, OHV use, photography and other recreational activities.
- home to expansive Joshua tree forests and provides important habitat for species such as the desert bighorn sheep, desert tortoise and Gila monster.
- includes historic locations such as segments of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail, Walking Box Ranch, military training exercise sites during World War II and the Cold War and mining remnants for turquoise, gold, silver, copper, lead and molybdenum.
- Contains previously designated areas on BLM managed land including Piute Eldorado Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Crescent Townsite Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Ireteba Peaks Wilderness, South McCullough Wilderness, Spirit Mountain Wilderness and Wee Thump Wilderness.

What is a national monument?

A national monument is a designation given to a protected area of Federal land. National monuments encompass landscapes of beauty and diversity containing objects of historic and scientific interest. There are 29 national monuments managed by BLM. In Nevada, BLM manages two other monuments: Basin and Range National Monument and Gold Butte National Monument.

What authority does the President have to designate national monuments?

The Antiquities Act of 1906 grants the President authority to designate national monuments in order to protect “objects of historic or scientific interest.” While most national monuments are established by the President, Congress has also established national monuments to protect natural and historic features.

Why was this area designated as a national monument?

Designation of Avi Kwa Ame as a national monument will preserve a diverse array of natural and scientific resources, ensuring that the cultural, prehistoric, historic and scientific values of this area endure for the benefit of all Americans. The living landscape holds sites of historical, traditional, cultural and spiritual significance; is the setting of the creation story of multiple Tribal Nations; and is inextricably intertwined with the sacred significance of Avi Kwa Ame. The area contains numerous objects of historic and scientific interest, and it provides world-class outdoor recreation opportunities, including hiking, camping, birdwatching, motorized touring, stargazing, hunting and pursuing amateur geology, all of which support a growing travel and tourism economy in the region.

Who will manage the monument?

The national monument spans approximately 506,814 acres of lands managed by the BLM, Bureau of Reclamation and National Park Service. The National Park Service and the BLM will manage the monument; the National Park Service will continue to have primary management authority over the portion of the monument within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, and the BLM shall have primary management authority over the remaining portion of the monument. The Bureau of Reclamation will transfer administrative jurisdiction of their lands managed within the boundaries of the monument to the BLM.

Consistent with direction in the proclamation, Tribal Nations will co-steward the monument. Co-stewardship refers to a broad range of working relationships and can include co-management, collaborative and cooperative management and tribally led stewardship which can be implemented through cooperative agreements, memoranda of understanding, self-governance agreements and other mechanisms.

Will there be any fees required with visitation to the monument?

Monument designation does not prompt a fee and there are no plans for fees at this point. If fees are considered in the future, a robust public involvement will take place.

Will OHV use be impacted within the national monument?

Off-highway vehicle use will continue on roads and trails documented as existing as of the date of this proclamation. BLM has completed a management plan for the Piute Eldorado Area of Critical Environmental Concern as well as Ireteba Peaks Wilderness, South McCullough Wilderness, Spirit Mountain Wilderness and Wee Thump Wilderness. BLM will use this information to complete a transportation plan to designate the roads and trails on which motorized and nonmotorized mechanized vehicle use will be allowed.

Will hunting be impacted in the monument?

Hunting, trapping, wildlife watching, aerial surveys, wildlife infrastructure installation and maintenance and a wide range of other wildlife management activities will continue to be allowed within the national monument.

Will existing mining be affected within the national monument?

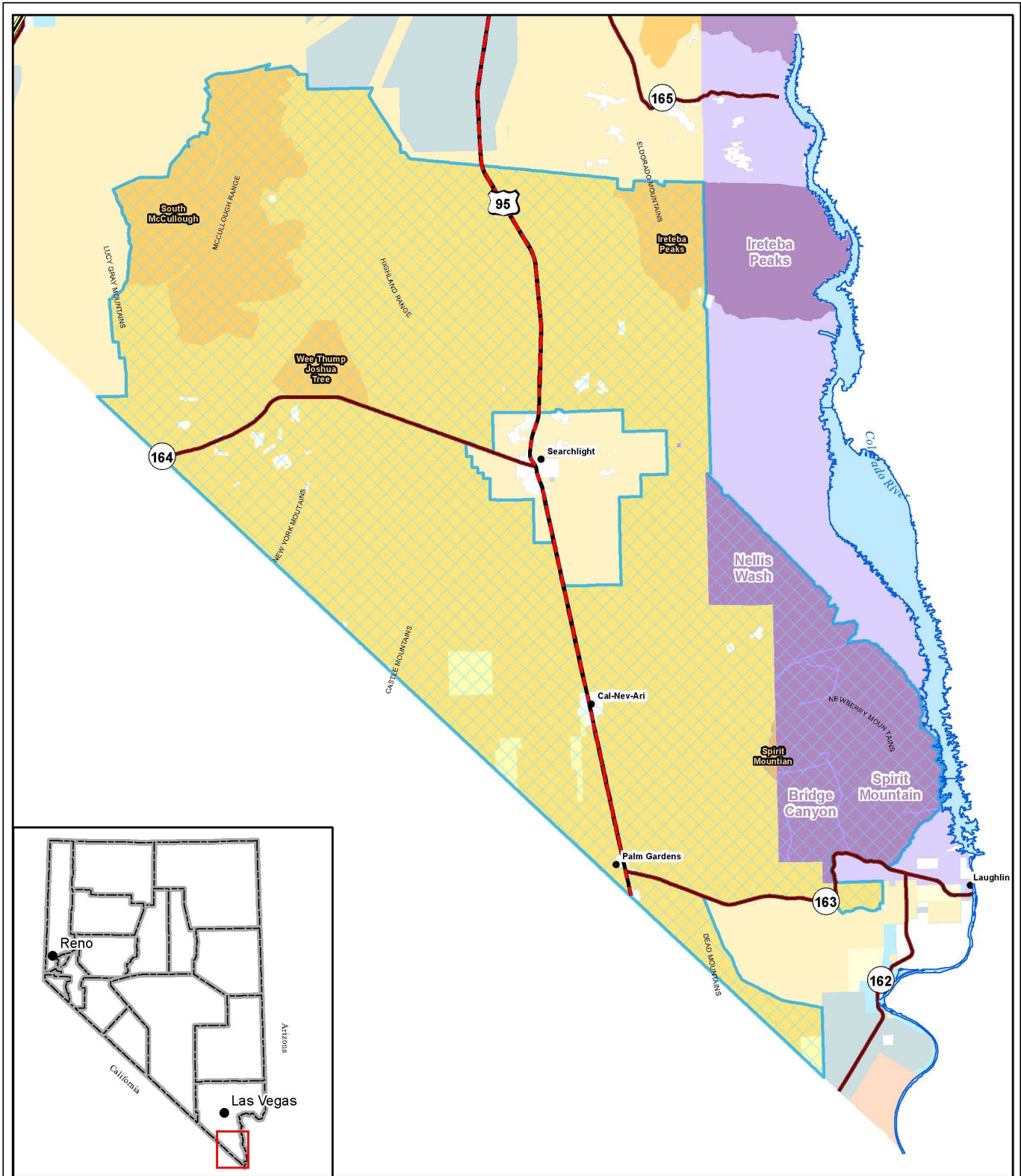
The national monument designation recognizes and respects valid existing rights.

Will flights be impacted in the monument?

The proclamation allows for military, commercial and private flights in and out of existing or future airports in the area.

Does this designation apply to private land?

All of the land in Avi Kwa Ame National Monument is currently owned by the Federal government. Existing State and private lands within the boundary are not included in the monument. Inholdings within the boundaries will maintain their current ownership status.



Avi Kwa Ame National Monument

Legend	
	US Highway
	State Highway
	Avi Kwa Ame National Monument
	BLM Wilderness
	National Park Wilderness
	Fort Mojave Indian Reservation
	Bureau of Land Management
	Bureau of Reclamation
	National Park Service
	Nevada State
	Local Government
	Private

