The BLM Lower Sonoran Office manages 1.4 million acres of public land in south-central Arizona, including the half million acre Sonoran Desert National Monument, located 60 miles southwest of Phoenix. The Monument contains biologically diverse national communities, including large Saguaro cactus forests and contains many significant archaeological and historic sites. Public lands within this field office are near developed and expanding communities and are heavily used. The lands are managed for multiple use and provide diverse recreational opportunities, mining, wildlife habitat, grazing, and wilderness, all overlaying a rich cultural past. The field office oversees six wilderness areas, four Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and one property listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Incorporated in 1881, Phoenix, AZ ranks as one of the fastest-growing cities in the nation. Because of the area’s beautiful weather, you’ll be able to enjoy most activities year-round. Check out the links on this site (http://phoenix.gov/visitors/index.html) and find out for yourself why Phoenix is such a dynamic city and learn about the city’s arts and culture amenities, sports and recreation activities, and dining and lodging opportunities.

Did you know...

- Phoenix covers more than 517 square miles and has a population of over 1.5 million, ranking it the fifth largest city in the country and the largest capital city in terms of population.

- Phoenix is a premier destination, with more than 300 sun-filled days a year and average temperature of 74.2 degrees.

- With an average age of 34, greater Phoenix is the fifth youngest metro region in the country with a diverse, well-educated labor force of over 2 million people.

- Greater Phoenix has consistently outpaced the U.S. population growth over the last 18 years. Projections show the region is expected to grow by nearly 60 percent by 2030, bringing the population to more than 6 million people.

- Greater Phoenix is a $181 billion marketplace that serves as a hub for innovation and entrepreneurs by providing international access for aerospace, high-technology, bioscience, advanced business services and sustainable technologies companies. Global companies such as Honeywell Aerospace, Freeport McMoran, Avnet, and Republic Services call Phoenix home, while companies such as American Express, USAA, SUMCO Phoenix Corporation, Charles Schwab, and Mayo Clinic have major operations here.

- In January 2000, after a yearlong, in-depth study of management efficiency by the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, Phoenix was the only city among the nation's 35 largest urban centers to earn an overall grade of “A.” Phoenix also was named the “Best Run City in the World” in 1993 by the Carl Bertelsmann Foundation and has earned numerous other awards for efficient government operations.