

EMPIRITA RANCH

HISTORY AND ACQUISITION

The Empirita Ranch was founded in 1941 after the breakup of the Empire Ranch. It was family-owned for many years before it was sold to The Pima County Regional Flood Control District (District). The District purchased the 360-acre historic Empirita Ranch Headquarters in 1992 with Floodprone Land Acquisition Program funds. Pima County acquired the 2,700-acre eastern portion of the ranch at the foot of the Whetstone Mountains known as the J Six Ranch in 2009 with Conservation Bond Funds in support of the biological and ranching conservation goals of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan. The majority of the ranch is composed of State Trust and Bureau of Land Management lands that connect the Empirita Headquarters and the J Six Ranch properties. These two acquisitions also help slow suburban development between Cienega Creek and the Whetstone Mountains. The Empirita Ranch is a historical cattle ranch that continues to operate as a working ranch.

WILDLIFE AND BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

A diversity of wildlife can be seen throughout the year on Empirita Ranch including the lesser earless lizard, black-tailed jack rabbit, rock squirrel, and the Vermilion flycatcher. Other potential wildlife include Couch's spadefoot toad, regal horned lizard, black-tailed rattlesnake, Merriam's kangaroo rat, white-throated woodrat, mule deer, coyotes, bobcats, and the horned lark. Cienega Creek runs directly through the Empirita Ranch Headquarters just south of Interstate 10. The property drapes onto the adjacent terraces composed of riparian and mesquite bosque communities, and includes some uplands composed of semi-desert grasslands. This property falls within the Southeastern Arizona Basin and Range Major Land Resource Area and the Biological Core designation of the Conservation Lands System, with significant Important Riparian areas.

ACCESS

Access to the property for any recreational activity requires a permit, which allows vehicular access along designated routes indicated on the map on the back of this notice. The permit system is made possible by an agreement with the Arizona Game and Fish Department. To request a permit, contact Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation at 520-724-5000 or visit www.pima.gov/nrpr/permits.

The Ranch Headquarters is closed to public use, and the designated access route will re-direct permitted users around it. If you are unsure which land jurisdiction(s) you will be entering, or have questions about access, please call Pima County NRPR Department at (520) 724 - 5000 in advance of your outing. Please acquire the appropriate permits and authorization if you will be entering State Trust land. It is your responsibility to know which land jurisdiction you are entering.

REPORTING PROBLEMS OR VIOLATIONS

- For Law Enforcement Emergencies, please call 911
- For Property Violations, call Pima County NRPR: 520-724-5000 M-F 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- For Vandalism or Wildlife Violations, call AZ Game and Fish OGT Line: 1-800-352-0700

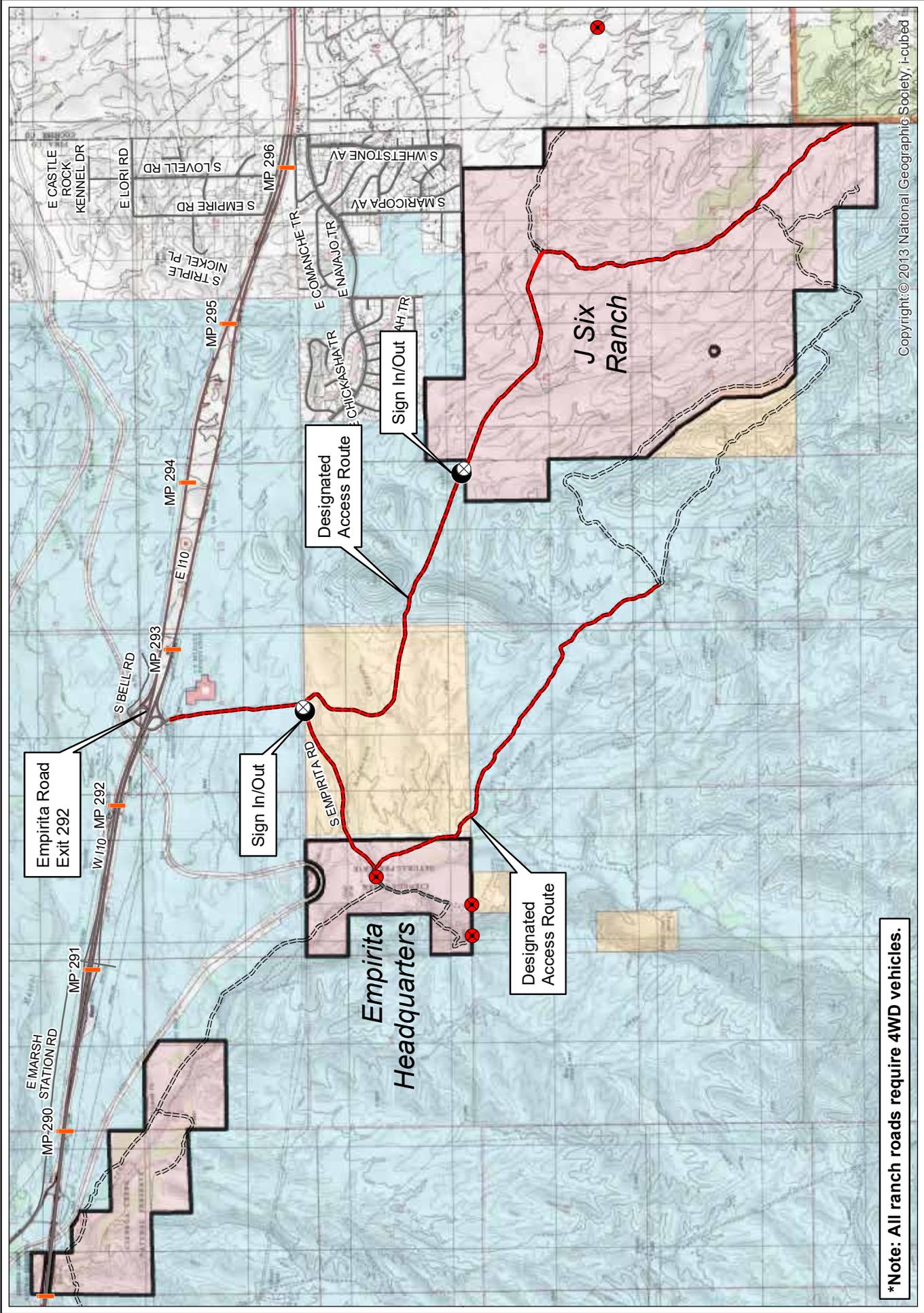
RULES

- Stay on the designated roads and trails; all off-road travel is prohibited.
- Please keep all gates closed unless wired open.
- Do not discharge firearms within a ¼ mile of occupied buildings or posted areas.
- Do not camp near water holes or livestock waters.
- Do not cut firewood.
- Do not remove or disturb any natural or cultural resources.

Thank you for respecting Pima County's Empirita Ranch. For more information and complete park rules, please see the NRPR website at: www.pima.gov/nrpr



3500 WEST RIVER ROAD
TUCSON, AZ 85741



***Note: All ranch roads require 4WD vehicles.**



Empirita Ranch

- Mile Marker
- Locked Gate - Access By Permit Only
- Locked Gate - No Public Access
- AZGFD Sign In Box

- Access Route
- Ranch Roads*
- Private Lands
- Ranch Boundary

- BLM Land
- Forest Service
- Pima County
- State Trust

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1 inch = 4,000 feet

0 2,000 4,000 Feet

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Property line representations and/or any other type of boundary, fence or point location contained within this data are not intended to be used for authoritative location purposes. Users should independently research, investigate and verify all information independently. Logically-delineated property boundaries can only be shown on a Registered Land Surveyor's map. A list of Arizona Registered Land Surveyors is available at www.sdsr.gov. This product is subject to the terms and conditions of the National Geographic Society's Terms of Use. See file: 31151img000098_020109