

APPENDIX B:

**PHOTOGRAPHS OF CAVE CREEK CANYON
ARIZONA**

**ALL PHOTOS BY
RESIDENTS OF
CAVE CREEK CANYON:**

**MARGE FAGEN
KAREN HAYES
CHARLES RAU
WADE SHERBROOKE
HELEN & NOEL SNYDER
SALLY & WALTER SPOFFORD
BARNEY TOMBERLIN**

**SECTION A: ENTRANCE OF CANYON
SECTION B: SOUTH FORK AND RESEARCH STATION
SECTION C: UPPER CAVE CREEK BASIN**

**PORTAL MINING ACTION COALITION
P.O. BOX 440
PORTAL, ARIZONA 85632**

"This is one of the most beautiful places in America. I am familiar with the diverse richness of plant and animal life in Cave Creek Canyon, and with the world-renowned research done there by the American Museum of Natural History. It is inconceivable that mining activity be permitted in this unique area. Such development is not in our national interest."

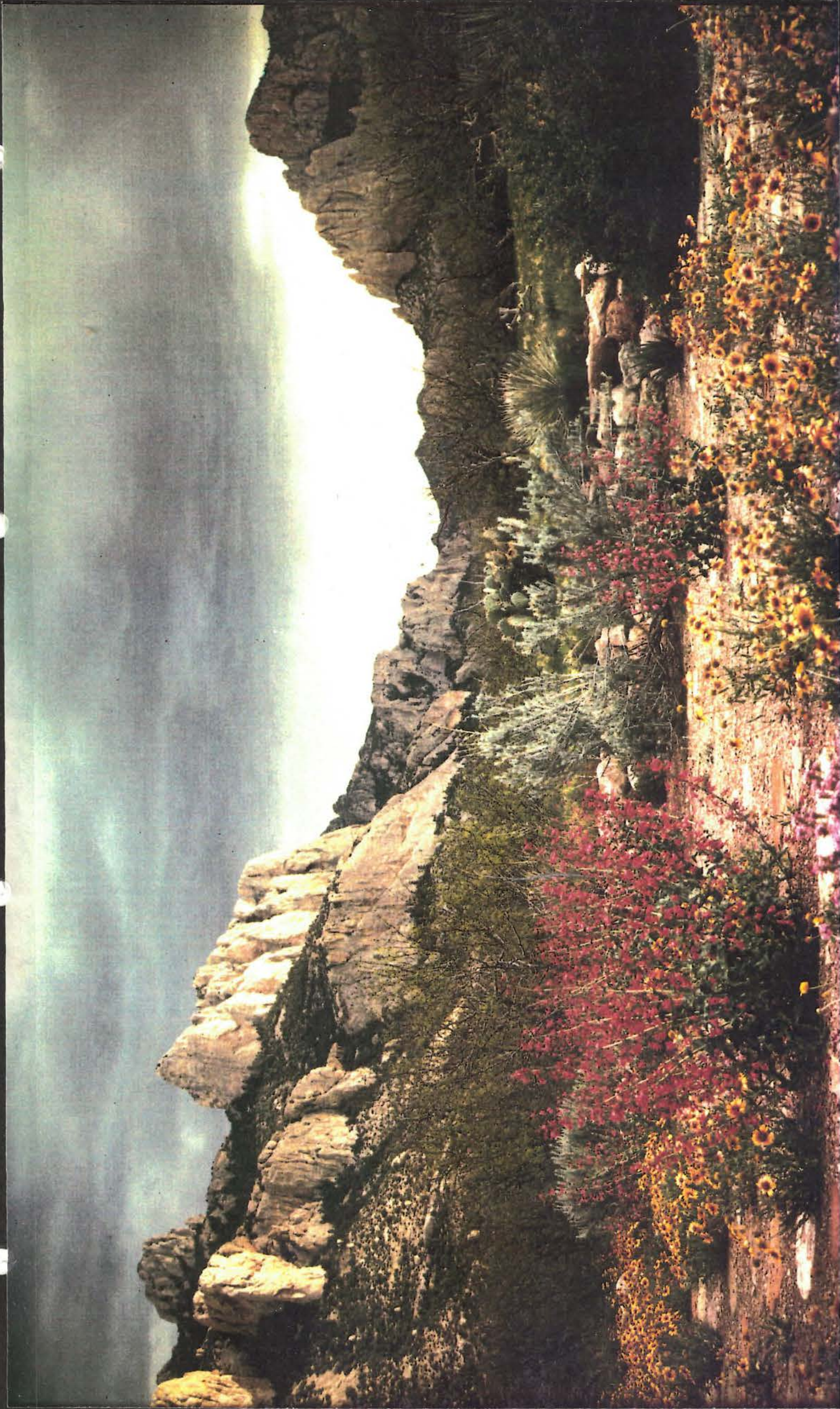
Oliver H. Hewitt, Biologist
Professor Emeritus
Cornell University
letter to Stuart Udall,
December 28, 1990

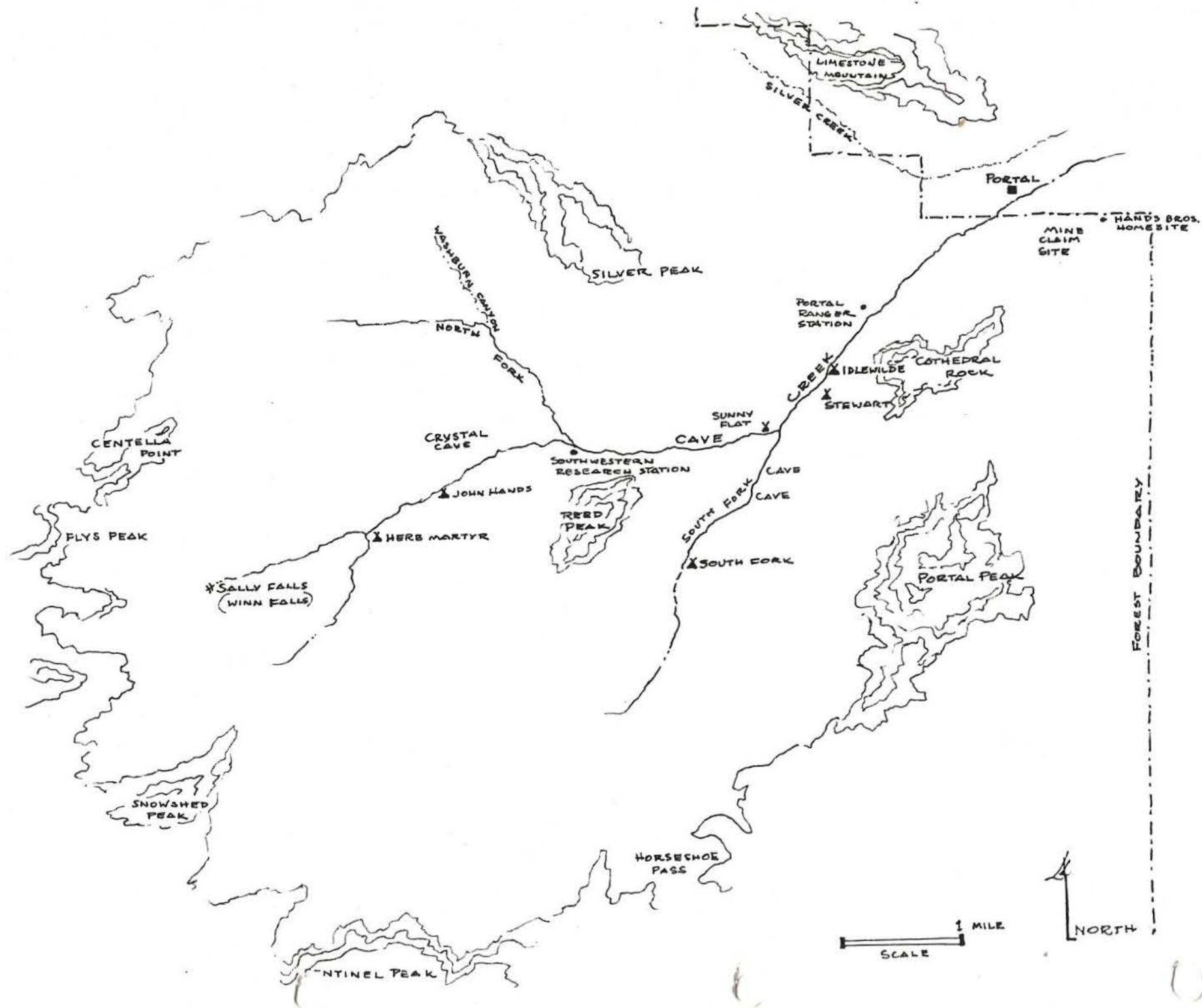
"From my earliest years in Arizona, I have enjoyed the beauty of the Portal area, as have thousands like me. This is one of the unspoiled areas of Southern Arizona, one of the few left in the state, and one of the most beautiful."

Edward B. Danson
Director Emeritus
Museum of Northern Arizona
letter to Mike Palmer,
State Representative
December 1, 1990

"I believe before any decision is reached in issuing a permit you should consider the following concerns. The operation would be detrimental to the community of Portal. Also, you should explore the environmental impact it would have on Cave Creek Canyon."

Gus Arzberger
Arizona State Senator, District 8
letter to Jeanne Wade, District Ranger
Coronado National Forest
November 15, 1990







At right: entrance to
Cave Creek Canyon
(part of mine site
at arrow)



Overview
Portal and mine site

"My husband and I spent most of the winters of the seventies at Cathedral Rock Lodge and learned to love that place and its abundant wildlife. Have you ever BEEN there? I am 89 and sitting in a wheelchair to type this letter. My memories and the pictures we took there will be part of my life as long as I can THINK!"

Irene Furdie
Faribault, Minnesota
in copy of letter sent to
everyone listed on
Portal Mining Action Coalition
newsletter

"Such a mine would be disastrous to the ecological balance of the area, cause a decline in tourism, destroy the area as a biological research resource, and reduce the quality of life of residents in and around the area."

Max Lent
letter to editor
Douglas Dispatch
December 14, 1990

"We have chosen this location to build our home and raise our family, never expecting to be impacted by such a selfish shortsighted project as a gold mine on federal land."

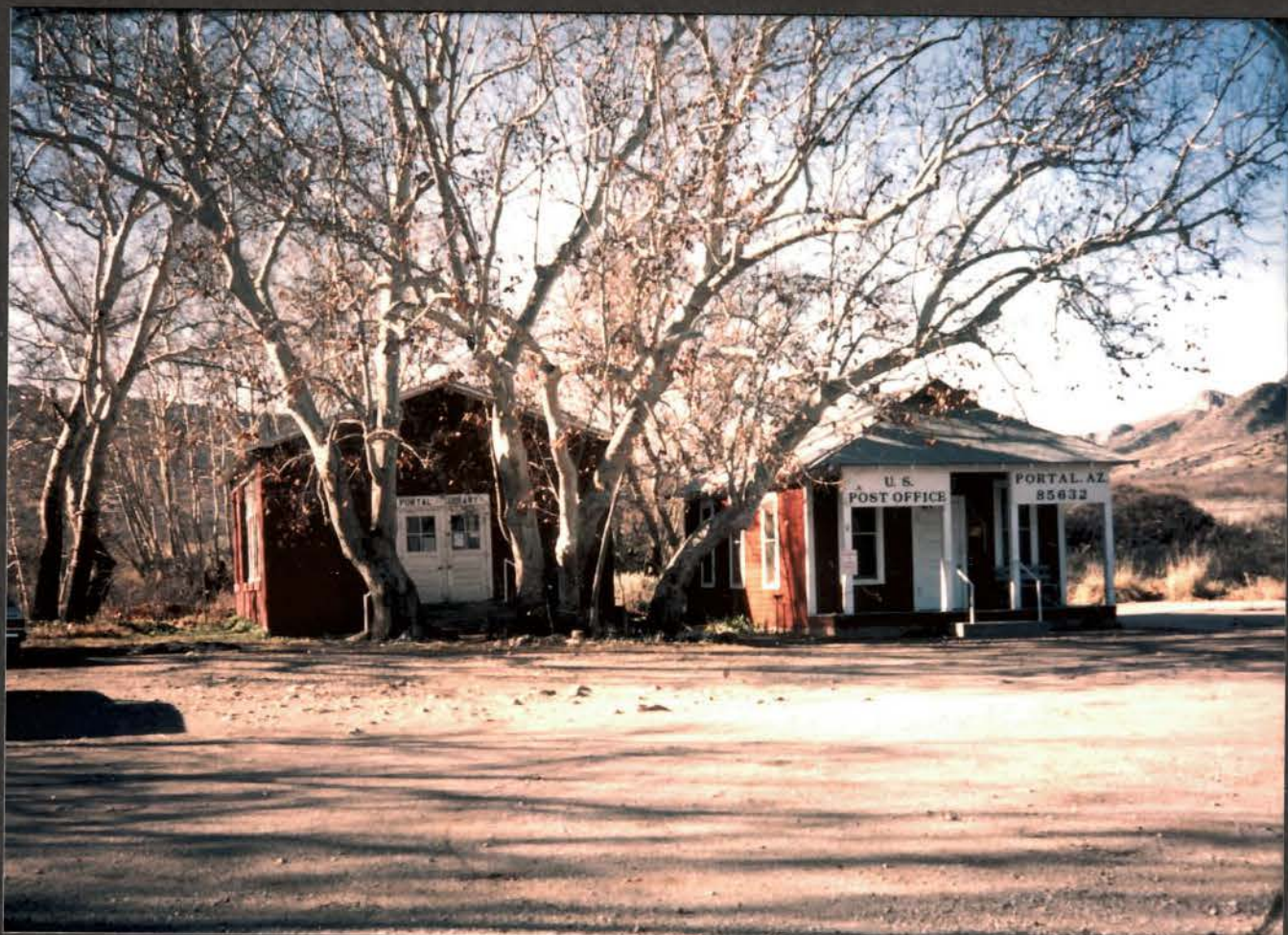
Kevin and Lynn Concagh
Portal residents living on
land immediately adjacent
to mine claim
letter to editor
Douglas Dispatch, November 9, 1990

"Several years ago our community was instrumental in getting this area zoned to ensure orderly development with minimal impact on our environment. Now we are faced with the possibility of a development that makes our efforts pointless."

Fin Richards, Portal resident
and former area rancher
Arizona Range News
December 22, 1990



Entrance to
Cave Creek Canyon
Mine site approx. $\frac{1}{2}$ mi.
from L edge of photo



Portal
post office and library



Mexican Long-tongued bat
(one of two threatened/
endangered. The other is
Sanborn's Long-nosed bat)



Gila monster



Ringtail cat

"I am a South African ornithologist and wildlife photographer, author of six books. You may imagine my disbelief when I heard that mining activity in the sensitive ecological region round Portal was being considered. Although my voice comes from a long way off, perhaps my plea for the preservation of this unique area will not fall on entirely deaf ears."

Peter Steyn
Newlands, South Africa
letter to Douglas District Ranger
January 3, 1991



entrance
Cave Creek Canyon



Moving cattle to
graze on Federal land
Cave Creek Canyon

Dynastis beetle



Costa's hummingbird



"While it has been described by knowledgeable travelers as 'The Yosemite of Arizona,' this broodingly beautiful region has so far escaped the overdevelopment that has destroyed the native charms of so many of America's scenic legacies. Instead, we are fortunate that geographic isolation, careful regulation, and the benevolent concern of the area's long-time residents have combined to secure for future generations what may well be a totally unique outdoor experience."

"Naturalists from the world over marvel at the number of different species they can identify in the relatively small area. As a result, visitors can often observe rare animals in their natural surroundings."

from brochure published by
Uniwestern Corp./Three Triangle Ranch
Portal, Arizona

"The impact would include the inevitable destruction of a large area immediately adjacent to the community, the use of massive blasting, the pollution of the ground waters which drain into the San Simon Valley and threaten the livelihood of its farmers and ranchers, the extreme danger to the wild flora and fauna of the region, not to mention aesthetic values and the total disruption of the way of life of the Portal community and the nearby valley residents, all of these fill me with despair. This simply must not be allowed to happen."

Robert J. Squier, Portal resident
Professor Emeritus of Anthropology
letter to editor - Douglas Dispatch
November 19, 1990



East side of Silver Peak
entrance to
Cave Creek Canyon



Javelina



Roadrunner



Muledeer



Coral snake



Vinegaroon

"I am writing as a Canadian who shares with a large number of Americans and people from many other parts of the world a feeling of shocked disbelief on learning that a gold mine is proposed for the Portal area of southeast Arizona. The proposed action can only be regarded as crass, savage vandalism."

Doug Sadler, Naturalist-author
Ontario, Canada
letter to Gordon Parker
President, Newmont Mining Corp.
January 7, 1991

"I purchased 37 acres of prime land in Portal and am currently building my permanent home there. A mine to be within sight of the community and less than one mile from my land will destroy its value, could damage my own health, and will certainly impact my ability to make a living in Portal. I currently derive income from seminars centered in the area, which study the diversity of the Chiricahua eco-system.

Does Newmont Mining Company (with U.S. Forest Service permission) have the right to downgrade my property values and allow contamination of my well water? Will this action cost me future income? Surely my rights as a tax-paying U.S. Citizen and those of other Portal residents must be protected. To allow this mine to be developed so close to an existing community and to degrade the very values for which we all moved there is a gross misapplication of our laws."

Sherry C. Nelson
Las Cruces, New Mexico
letter to editor, Douglas Dispatch
November 19, 1990

"I first visited the area in 1963. My high school biology instructor took me to the Chiricahuas to show me what a desert island was, explaining that the Chiricahuas were not connected to any other mountains and how that made them unique. (He) showed me the unique and rare wildlife. I believed that the Chiricahuas were a heaven on earth -- I still do. We explored Crystal Cave. I was in awe of the beauty of the cave and its crystals. I wanted to chip crystals from the walls and take them back with me to Los Angeles. My teacher stopped me before I did any damage. That was my first lesson in conservation and it has determined how I live my life today. Let's leave the area whole, clean, and pure."

Max Lent
letter to editor
Douglas Dispatch
December 14, 1990



Hands Brothers' homesite
on proposed mine site
on State Registry of
Historic Buildings



Ridgenosed rattlesnake



Hikers
on Limestone Mountain



Silver Creek basin
from north side
of Silver Peak

EDWARD O. WILSON
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
MCZ LABORATORIES
OXFORD STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASS 02138

17 December 1990

Congressman Sidney R. Yates
2234 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Yates:

I would like to add my voice in strict opposition to gold mining operations in the Cave Creek Canyon area of Arizona. This is a valuable conservation area, but it is much more than that. During the past thirty years it has become one of the premier sites of field biology in the world, drawing scientists from all over the United States and abroad. Some of our fundamental understanding of ecology and population biology has emerged from research conducted there, while generations of young biologists, including some of our most gifted, have been trained there. In short, it is a national treasure. I hope that you will oppose any local development, such as exploratory gold mining, that threatens the ecological integrity of the Cave Creek Canyon area.

Sincerely yours,

Edward O. Wilson
Mellon Professor of the Sciences

EOW:kmh

*Note: This
went from EOW
to all five legs to town
from*

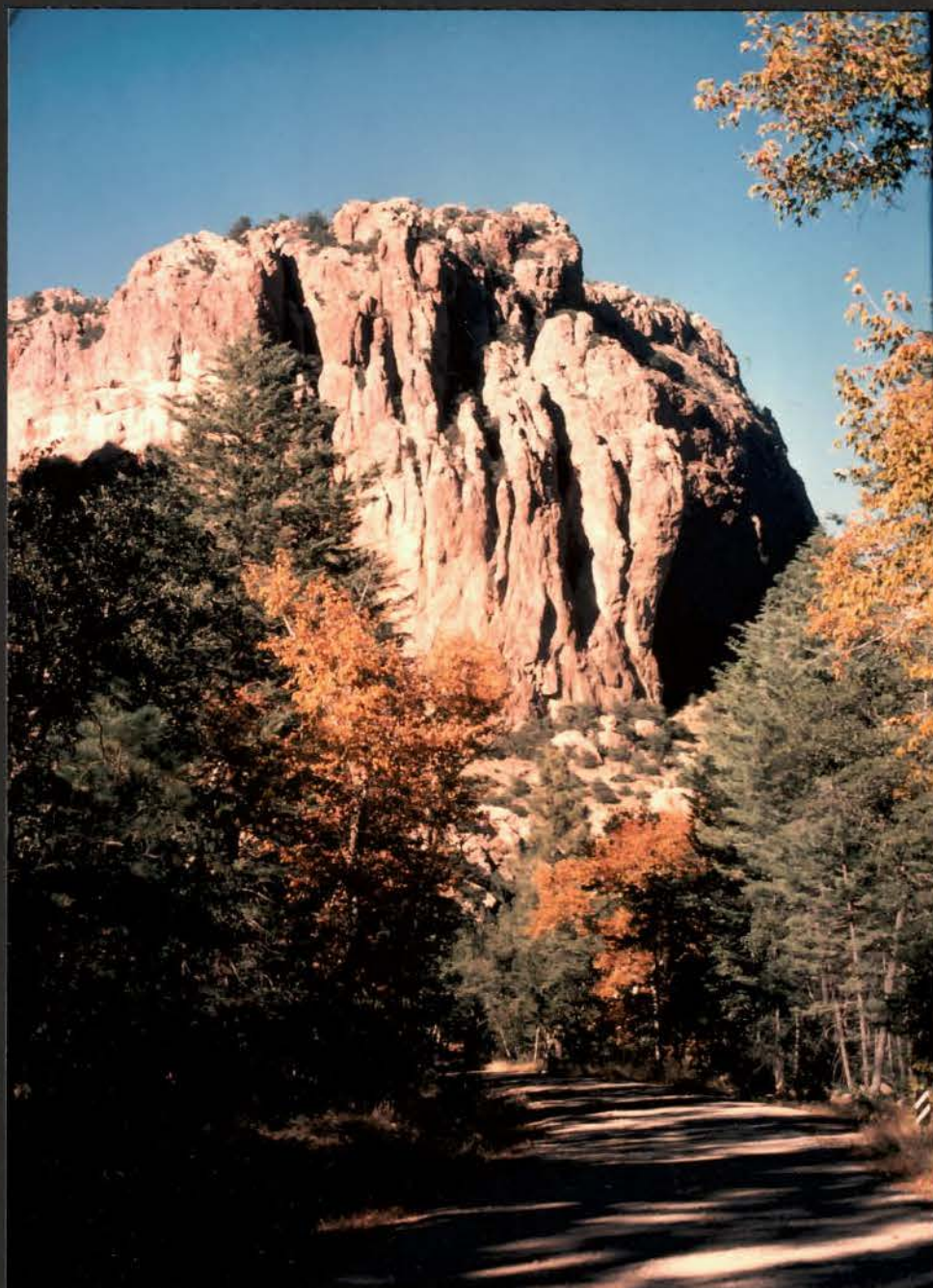


View of Silver Peak
from Portal Peak
entrance-Cave Creek Canyon



Peregrine Falcon

South Fork road



Crossing South Fork
Cave Creek



South Fork
Cave Creek Canyon

"If areas as unique as Cave Creek Canyon cannot be protected . . . simply because development is allowed on NFS lands, the policy ignores the power to objectively predict the effects of an action through responsible gathering and careful consideration of the facts at hand."

Cynthia A. Lippincott
letter to editor
Douglas Dispatch
November 30, 1990



seedling - Apache pine



Horned lizard

Blacktail rattlesnake



Claret Cup Cactus





Coatimundi



Apache Fox Squirrel



Elegant Trogon



Birdwatchers
South Fork
Cave Creek Canyon

"Cave Creek Canyon is regarded as one of the
top birding locations in the nation."

American Birding Association
December, 1990 Newsletter

"People come to the area for the birds, for
the bio-diversity of the area, for the Southwest
Research Station, for the magnificent scenery.
does anyone think tourists will come to see a gold
mine with tailings and polluted ponds?"

Judy Tisdale
St. Louis, Missouri
letter to editor
Douglas Dispatch
January 25, 1991

"The area is renowned for its abundance and
variety of plants and animals, and the picturesque
rock formations around which they live."

Editor
Arizona Daily Star, Tucson
December 3, 1990



Autumn in South Fork
Cave Creek Canyon



Ringneck snake



Birthday party
Sunny Flat campground



Hikers crossing
South Fork of Cave Creek



Wright's Mammalaria
cactus

Prof. Dr. Bert Hölldobler
Zoologisches Institut
der Universität
Lehrstuhl für Tierphysiologie
8700 Würzburg
Röntgenring 10

*Dear Sally and Truley,
just for your information, this
like was sent to all addressees
17.12.1990
checked in Robert Moser's Newolke.
Wendy,
Bert*

Dear →

Recently I was informed about a new and very disturbing threat to the unique and biologically exceptionally interesting environment of the Portal area in Arizona. I understand that Newmont Mining has applied to the Forest Service for a permit to drill four exploratory holes just inside the forest boundary. This would be an absolutely disastrous development for the whole area, which must be considered not only a treasure of beauty, but perhaps even more importantly, it is of immeasurable biological and ecological value.

Let me first introduce myself: I have been a Professor of Biology and Alexander Agassiz Professor of Zoology at Harvard University (Cambridge, Mass.) from 1972 - 1990. I have recently accepted a chair at the University of Würzburg (Germany) where I direct a research institute. I am still closely associated with Harvard and I am also an Adjunct Professor of Zoology at the University of Arizona, Tucson.

Since 1970 my collaborators and I conduct ecological research in the Portal area. I think I can assess the biological uniqueness of this particular environment very well. There are not many such intact and beautiful areas left in our western industrialized world, where ecological research has revealed a treasure of information. Many excellent scientific papers have been published by an international body of scientists who regularly visit the Portal area. Within a few miles we encounter a sequence of diverse habitats, from the desert to the alpine forest. Residential settlements and nature appear to be in harmony and the ecological systems remained relatively unspoiled. I do not exaggerate when I state that the Portal area is one of the world's research centers in ecology.

This all will be seriously endangered or even irreversibly destroyed should Newmont Mining succeed in obtaining the permit. For a short-term profit (which is anyway very uncertain) a true environmental jewel would be recklessly sacrificed.

I speak as a scientist, who does not live in Portal, but regularly visits this area to conduct research. I can, however, deeply sympathize with the Portal residents, who fear that the environment they have protected and cared for will suddenly be destroyed by the drilling, road building, blasting and the general change of the infra-structure which will invariably result from such an industrial invasion.

I know I speak for the international community of ecologists and environmental scientists when I plead: please help in protecting the unique environment of the Portal area. Portal must not become a mining town!

Sincerely yours

Bert Hölldobler

"Cave Creek Canyon (has) a diversity of plant and animal life that rivals any other area in the United States."

"Five life zones are found here -- the Lower Sonoran, Upper Sonoran, Transition, Canadian, and Hudsonian -- each with distinctly different communities of plants and animals . . . and is nationally known for its diversity of plant and animal life."

U.S. Forest Service
Coronado National Forest
visitor pamphlet

"This is one of the great biological mixing areas in the country."

Noel Snyder, Biologist
Wildlife Preservation Trust
International
Portal resident

"This area has been the site of productive fieldwork by dedicated investigators of the biota for two generations. The degradation of the area around Portal will destroy forever an area for which we have obtained invaluable base line data about the rich plant and animal populations and behavior."

Karl V. Krombein, Senior Scientist
Dept. of Entomology
National Museum of Natural History
Smithsonian Institution
letter to editor, Tucson Citizen
January 5, 1991

"This would be the end to a unique biological resource that has been the source of numerous scientific discoveries and hundreds of research papers."

Thomas Eisner, Biologist
Cornell University
New York Times, December 4, 1990

"Not only is the area unique for research but it has drawn thousands of naturalists interested in observing the truly phenomenal array of animal life. The diversity of Cave Creek Canyon is unparalleled anywhere else in the contiguous 48 states."

Margery G. Spofford, Ph.D.
Biologist
Cornell University
letter to Senator Patrick Moynihan
January 7, 1991

"Newmont's activities would interfere with and damage the research objectives that the American Museum of Natural History has pursued here since 1955."

Wade Sherbrooke, Ph.D.
Resident Director
Southwestern Research Station
(American Museum of Natural History)
Portal, Arizona

"There's no question mineral exploration or mining would have a disastrous effect on scientific experiments going on in the area."

James H. Brown
Regent's Biology Professor
University of New Mexico
and member of Scientific Advisory
Board, Southwestern Research Station
in The Albuquerque Journal
December 31, 1990

"Cave Creek Canyon is home of the renowned Southwest Research Station, besides being a mecca to amateur naturalists and other tourists who visit the area to study, collect, photograph and otherwise enjoy its natural wonders."

Julian P. Donahue
Los Angeles, California
letter to editor
Douglas Dispatch, December 19, 1990



Main fork - Cave Creek



Southwestern
Research Station



Collared lizard



View of Reed Peak
from above
Research Station



Silver Peak
from upper
Cave Creek basin



STANFORD UNIVERSITY, STANFORD, CALIFORNIA 94305

PAUL R. EHRLICH
BING PROFESSOR OF POPULATION STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

December 11, 1990

Congressman Sidney R. Yates
2234 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

Dear Congressman Yates:

I would like to add my voice to others protesting plans for gold mining operations in the area of Coronado National Forest. Having worked in Cave Creek and the Chiricahua Mountains, I am very familiar with the unique biological resources of the area. Indeed, with the presence of the American Museum's Southwestern Research Station, and the enormous interest that the area has for birders, I believe that it is playing a key role in enhancing public appreciation for the biology of the arid lands of the American southwest.

In short, this area is a precious national resource, valuable to research scientists and just plain citizens alike. It is inconceivable to me that any benefits that might be gained from gold exploration could possibly be as great as the enormous natural values that stand to be destroyed. The United States is not suffering a crisis of gold shortage; it is suffering a crisis of the destruction of natural ecosystems. I hope you will do everything in your power to block this ill-advised "exploration" program.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

PRE:pv



Upper Cave Creek basin
view from
Basin Trail



Montezuma quail



Golden eagle

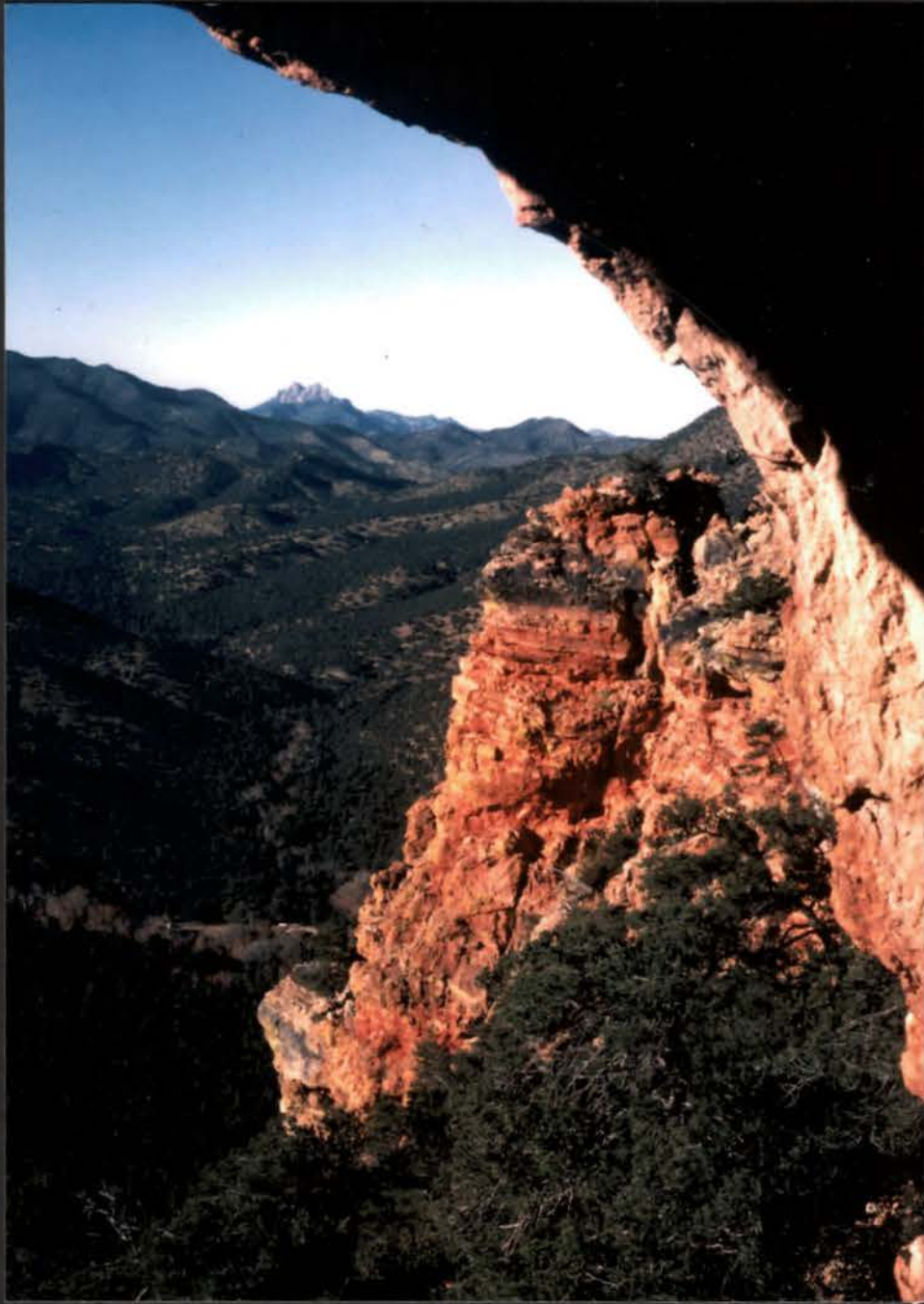


Portal hiking club

Spotted owl



Gray fox



View from Reed Peak
Southwestern Research
Station lower left

Crystal Cave



Spelunker
Crystal Cave





Cave Creek basin
Reed Peak upper center



Thick-billed parrot



View from Centella Point
looking northeast
across Cave Creek Canyon



Bobcat

A joint statement by F. Dale Robertson, Chief,
U.S.D.A. Forest Service
and M. Rupert Cutler, President
Defenders of Wildlife

"The Forest Service and Defenders of Wildlife share the belief that mankind should live in harmony with the land, managing natural resources to conserve their value in perpetuity. As environmental science has come to underscore the importance of maintaining all wildlife species, so has the Forest Service come to focus increasingly on protecting plant and animal diversity."

in Defenders, March/April, 1989
published in cooperation with
the U.S. Forest Service

NOTE: In this publication the Forest Service cites
Cave Creek Canyon as one of the top ten
wildlife viewing areas in the United States.

"As one of the largest industrial purchasers of refined gold and silver, I am aware of mining operations. At Texas Instruments Materials and Controls Group we clad gold and silver on base materials for electrical contacts, electronic connectors and writing instruments. There is currently more than enough gold available in the world for commercial, medical and investment requirements. Why destroy an ecological, sensitive and historical public land . . . ? I submit that the area in its present undisturbed state is more valuable to the public and future public than the potential discovery of a 'valuable precious metal deposit.'"

Paul K. Moffat
Cumberland, Rhode Island
letter to F. Dale Robertson, Chief
U.S. Forest Service
January 28, 1991

"We are not opposed to all mining everywhere. And we are not opposed to the multiple use concept under which the Forest Service manages public lands."

Karen Hayes, Portal resident
Portal Mining Action Coalition
letter to Newmont Mining Corp.
(and in letters to editors)
January 13, 1991

"I agree Portal is special. (The multiple use) designation must be tempered by judgment about areas that are unique and special, and the Portal area fits this criteria."

Congressman Jim Kolbe, Arizona
Arizona Daily Star, Tucson
December 25, 1990