

From: Barbara Roth [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2023 8:46:58 AM
To: Martin, Michiko - FS, NM <michiko.martin@usda.gov>; Dewberry, Kerwin - FS, AZ <kerwin.dewberry@usda.gov>
Subject: [External Email]Chiricahua Public Access Project

[External Email]

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Barbara Roth

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] July 12, 2013

To:
Kerwin Dewberry - Forest Supervisor
Coronado National Forest
300 W Congress St
Tucson AZ

Re: Establishing new roads in the Chiricahua Mountains at John Long Canyon and Horseshoe Canyon.

Dear Mr. Dewberry,

I am writing in response to the Chiricahua Public Access Project. For years I and other residents and visitors to the Chiricahua Mountains enjoyed the hike from Rucker Canyon into the quiet and wild area of Long John Canyon. Since the present access road through the ranch on the other side is closed to the public we felt it was a blessing. There is already a road to the rim of the canyon and I don't understand why tearing up the country side for additional roads would be beneficial to anyone. On the contrary, another wildlife corridor would be disturbed. With the steady increase of population around the Chiricahuas wild life is enough compromised.

I can't see how disturbing more wild areas will benefit people interested in the outdoors, nor the Forest Service spending money on detrimental projects. If the concern is to raise more money, it would be more sensible to offer annual passes to park at the fee based parking areas and provide convenient places to buy those passes. I will be the first one to buy one, since living in Portal I don't take my wallet when I drive up to Rustler Park or South Fork , etc.

The Chiricahuas are a relative small island mountain range and a resource for back packing, hiking, bird watching and also hunting, with more and more people coming from Tucson to seek quiet and an uncrowded wilderness experience. We all know what more roads will do.

If public access is your concern improve the already existing trail heads and work on established hiking trails and resurrecting hiking trails which existed in the past. Right now they are only maintained by volunteers.

I hope you will cancel the proposed Access Project.

Sincerely,
Barbara Roth