

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/23/2024 3:15:29 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been a guest at Circle Z Ranch in Patagonia, AZ. I thoroughly enjoyed my trail riding experiences at their beautiful ranch, which has been in operation for almost 100 years. I am very distressed to learn that the US forest service is potentially planning to dissect some of the trails on this ranch with high voltage transmission lines.

Of great concern to the ranch is the proposed transportation route and the siting area for a high voltage transmission line. This route is proposed on Forest Service land, a beautiful strip of pristine land between Circle Z's conservation property and the jutting Patagonia mountains. If allowed, this route would dissect several trails we have been riding on for 98 years, including Tom's trail, Yucca Canyon, Raul's trail, Maggie's Ridge, Stagecoach and Quartz trail.

I am voicing my concerns on the impact of this transportation route on our heritage trails and the visual pollution of the enormous power line. It will have a devastating impact on the Circle Z Ranch business. Tourists like myself will not find the same beauty in nature as currently exists.

I understand that Diana Nash from Circle Z Ranch has suggested alternative routes for the Forest Service to consider. She has met several times with City, County and State officials, as well as with the CEO of the mine, and Circle Z Ranch believes there is a better route that lies on the north aspect of the Patagonia mountain range, on an existing forest service road that would have very little visual impact and would not affect the Sonoita Creek watershed. That route would leave Circle Z Ranch's trails untouched.

Please investigate Diana Nash's proposal in further detail and make your decision to use that route instead, leaving the Circle Z Ranch as is, in all its natural beauty.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Please consider