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Comments: The addition of new facilities at Cave Creek is unwarranted. Visitors at Cave Creek have ample facilities in nearby locations. Construction (e.g. restrooms, benches, trash cans, trails) at Cave Creek will contribute to habitat loss. Again, all facilities mentioned above are within walking distance to Cave Creek and are accessible to everyone including those with special needs. The forest service has done a wonderful job maintaining current facilities.

However, a donation box at the entrance is a wonderful idea if that money contributes directly towards maintenance of currently established trails. It might be beneficial to implement a new volunteer program for public awareness of habitat loss and how it impacts species of concern (including near threatened, threatened or endangered species) that inhabit Cave Creek. Organisms that will be affected by habitat loss include small mammals, herpetofauna, birds, invertebrates, and flora. A new volunteer project could include the removal of non-native and invasive species.

Please consider the fact that constructing of new facilities will inevitably lead to habitat loss, and to significant disturbance to wildlife during construction, both of which will negatively affect wildlife. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on this matter