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First name: Brad
Last name: Emerson
Organization:
Title:
Comments: November 21, 2020

Mr. Doug Ruppel
Douglas Ranger District
1192 West Saddleview Road
Douglas, AZ 85607

Dear Mr. Ruppel:

I am submitting these comments in regard to the Chiricahua Public Access #57856 project.

As a property owner in the immediate area, I oppose and object to the Horseshoe Canyon portion of this proposal.

The reason for my objection is that the work as proposed will not in any way increase public access to public land here.

There is already motorized access through Horseshoe Canyon Road by way of both Sunrise and Zent Roads. While I understand that this road crosses private land, both past and current owners have allowed public access on what is generally regarded as a "public" road. This road has been open and publicly passable for many years.

In the event that such access becomes an issue in the future, which is not foreseen, an alternative easement exists as you have described. However, there is no reason to construct a new road there at the present time.

In addition, the properties that the current road crosses are both owned by new owners. Neither has objected to or tried to close the current road, and they may also be amenable to an easement.

Constructing a new road poses many problems including damage to the environment and increased risk of flooding on Sunrise Road.

In addition, I am requesting a public meeting to discuss this with affected stakeholders. Many of the residents here were not aware of this proposal due to limited outreach efforts. I believe that if we could get the affected parties together, we can reach a solution that will be agreeable to everyone.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brad Emerson