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First name: Nancy

Last name: Sluys

Organization: Back Country Horsemen of the Virginia Highlands

Title: President

Comments: The Back Country Horsemen of the Virginia Highlands are in favor of bringing broadband internet to the area however we do notice that with this project there will be some temporary impact to several equestrian/multi-use trails in the Mount Rogers NRA. We request that great care be taken in crossing these trails where they meet hwy21, that excavated areas be thoroughly tamped to prevent horse's hooves from breaking through the surface potentially causing a safety issue. We also request that we be notified as to the exact dates of the work so we can help inform the public of any temporary closures. Proper signage warning trail users of ongoing work would also be helpful. I have included a map showing the location of the trails that will be impacted. They are the Henley Hollow Trail, Virginia Highlands Horse Trail, Iron Mountain Trail and Perkins Knob Trail, also impacted will be the access to these trails via FR14.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nancy Sluys

President- Back Country Horsemen of the Virginia Highlands