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First name: Steven

Last name: Scheumann

Organization: Huachuca Hiking Club

Title: President

Comments: Sirs,

Members of the Huachuca Hiking Club (HHC) asked me to submit a comment on the February 2024 Arizona National Scenic Trail Comprehensive Plan Environmental. The HHC was formed in 1973. Over the years, our members have enjoyed a variety of outdoor recreational activities throughout Cochise County and southern Arizona, including hiking, backpacking, camping, and volunteering for trail building and maintenance and trash cleanup. HHC members got the Arizona National Scenic Trail's southern end established on the Crest Trail (the Yaqui Trail did not exist) in the Huachuca Mountains, then built and/or maintained parts of Passages 1, 2, and 3. The club currently assists with Passage 1d. HHC members have developed an extensive working knowledge of the Arizona National Scenic Trail passages in our area and would like the Arizona National Scenic Trail to continue as rustic trail.

The February 2024 Arizona National Scenic Trail Comprehensive Plan Environmental Assessment page 15 has an Information and Interpretation subsection that mentions kiosks and service marks but does not mention trail signage. Recommend the following be added at the end of the subsection's paragraph: "Trail signage frequency should be infrequent and unobtrusive to reflect the wilderness nature of the trail. The general trail signage level will only be enough so that an experienced western trails user with a current GPS track of the trail can successfully follow the trail during daylight. The general trail signage level can be modified in higher trail use areas by defining a different target trail user for the higher trail use area, then developing signage guidelines based upon the target trail user."

Yours,

Steven Scheumann

President, Huachuca Hiking Club