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Organization:

Title:

Comments: In regard to moving the current barn and horse corrals to the second (middle) pasture: I am strongly opposed to this option. There are already very few areas for a "concessionaire" to pasture their horses. By taking away the second (middle) pasture, the "concessionaire" will have to purchase special weed-free hay to keep their horses in shape for trail rides. The cost of weed free hay averages \$12/small bale. Supposing that 1 horse eats 1 bale of hay in 2 days (1/4 of small bale fed twice a day), and a concessionaire would need around 30-40 horses to offer rides and maintain healthy horses (rotating use), that concessionaire would feed approximately 450-600 bales per month, with a cost of \$5400-\$7200/month. This cost alone would result in the concessionaire operating in the red, as it doesn't include horse health costs (vaccines, de-wormer, shoes, tack), insurance, permit costs, or food for lunch and dinner rides, overnight rides or hunting rides. Granted, there could be some pasture available in the third (upper) pasture, but not enough to reduce the cost of hay by much.

My suggestion would be to either keep the barn and corrals where they are, or move the barn and corrals to the lower corner of the second (middle) pasture where there is easy access for trucks and trailers, thus leaving the second (middle) pasture available for the horses to be turned out at night and for them to graze the natural grass.