



September 3, 2020

Doug Ruppel, District Ranger
Douglas Ranger District
Coronado National Forest
1192 West Saddlevue Road
Douglas, AZ 85607

RE: Chiricahua Public Access Project

Dear Mr. Ruppel:

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) is a 501c-3 non-profit organization dedicated to wildlife conservation, habitat work, youth recruitment and retention, as well as educating sportsmen and women on issues important to their passions. AZSFWC consists of 41 member, affiliate, and associate groups that reach across the spectrum of hunting, angling, shooting, outdoor recreation and businesses from all across Arizona. Our member groups represent in excess of 10,000 sportsmen and women from Arizona.

AZSFWC appreciates the opportunity to comment on your proposed Chiricahua Public Access Project. We have long advocated for improved and enhanced access to sportsmen, women and all outdoor recreationists on our public lands across the state of Arizona.

AZSFWC and 28 of our member organizations (list attached) strongly support your proposal to open up motorized public access in the Chiricahua Ecosystem Management Area of the Coronado National Forest. We concur with the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) statement that all three of these routes are not only the best options for public access, but will also have the least impact on natural resources and surrounding lands, so we support the road reroutes in John Long Canyon, the North Fork of Pinery Canyon and Horseshoe Canyon.

AZSFWC also appreciates your continued cooperation with the AZGFD, in view of their statutory responsibility for managing Arizona's wildlife coupled with their commensurate expertise with respective habitat requirements.

Thank you for your resolve in enhancing public access to our National Forest lands!

Yours in Conservation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Unmacht", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jim Unmacht
Executive Director

AZSFWC letter of support for the Coronado NF Chiricahua Public Access Project – 9-3-20

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation
PO Box 75731 New River, AZ 85087



**AZSFWC Member Organizations Supporting the
Chiricahua Public Access Project**

Anglers United
AZ Antelope Foundation
AZ Bass Federation Nation
AZ Big Game Super Raffle
AZ Chapter Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
AZ Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation
AZ Chapter Safari Club International
AZ Council of Trout Unlimited
AZ Deer Association
AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
AZ Elk Society
AZ Flycasters Club
AZ Houndsmen's Association
AZ Outdoor Adventures
AZ Outdoor Sports
AZ Predator Callers
Christian Hunters of America
Mohave Sportsman Club
Mule Deer Foundation
Outdoor Experience 4 All
Southern AZ Quail Forever
Southwest Wildlife Foundation
SRT Outdoors
The BASS Federation
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Valley of the Sun Quail Forever
Yuma Valley Rod & Gun Club
1.2.3.Go...

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