



Yavapai County 2022 Legislative Proposal

Off Highway Vehicles (OHVs)

Presented by Yavapai County Supervisors

Donna Michaels, Ph.D., District 3

and

Harry Oberg, District 1





Labor Day Weekend 2021

2 OHV rollovers – 4 seriously injured

1 helicopter transport to the hospital

3 ambulance transports



Statements of concern from Jurisdictions *

Laura Jo West, Coconino National Forest Supervisor

letter dated July 21, 2021

- “The Forest Service [and other jurisdictions]...have been fielding concerns about **speeding, reckless driving, driving off trail/road, ...dust and noise**, and natural resource damage to our fragile desert environment and rangeland resources.
- **I would like to avoid a closure of OHV routes...however if we are unable to address these issues...I will take action to close access...**”

** All letters from jurisdictions are available with Yavapai County Administrator, Phil Bourdon.*



Amy Tinderholt, Coconino District Ranger

letter dated September 23, 2021

- “Red Rock Ranger District has witnessed **increased Traffic** and Off-highway vehicle recreation... over the **last decade**.
- Public and stakeholder concerns:...**use, speed, reckless driving, dust, illegal operation, resource damage, accidents...**”



Todd Willard for Dale Deiter, Prescott National Forest Supervisor

letter dated September 23, 2021

- “There has been a marked increase in **larger size UTV’s** during the past handful of years.
- Many issues relate to **large groups** (ten or more) UTV’s that often travel at **higher rates of speed...**”



Prescott National Forest News Release dated September 24, 2021

Closure to begin on **October 3, 2021**

- Implementation of a temporary **2-year Camping and Motor Vehicle Use closure** for the area near Perkinsville Bridge on the Chino Valley Ranger District

AZGF Primary OHV Management Issues

Public Safety

- Helmets
- Speed (newer machines capable of high speeds)
- Riding double, accidents



Education - Know before you go (new folks in the Forest)

Cross Country Travel and Wildlife/Range Habitat Damage

- Road proliferation and widening
- Damage to wet, fragile soils
- Damage to livestock tanks, meadow habitats

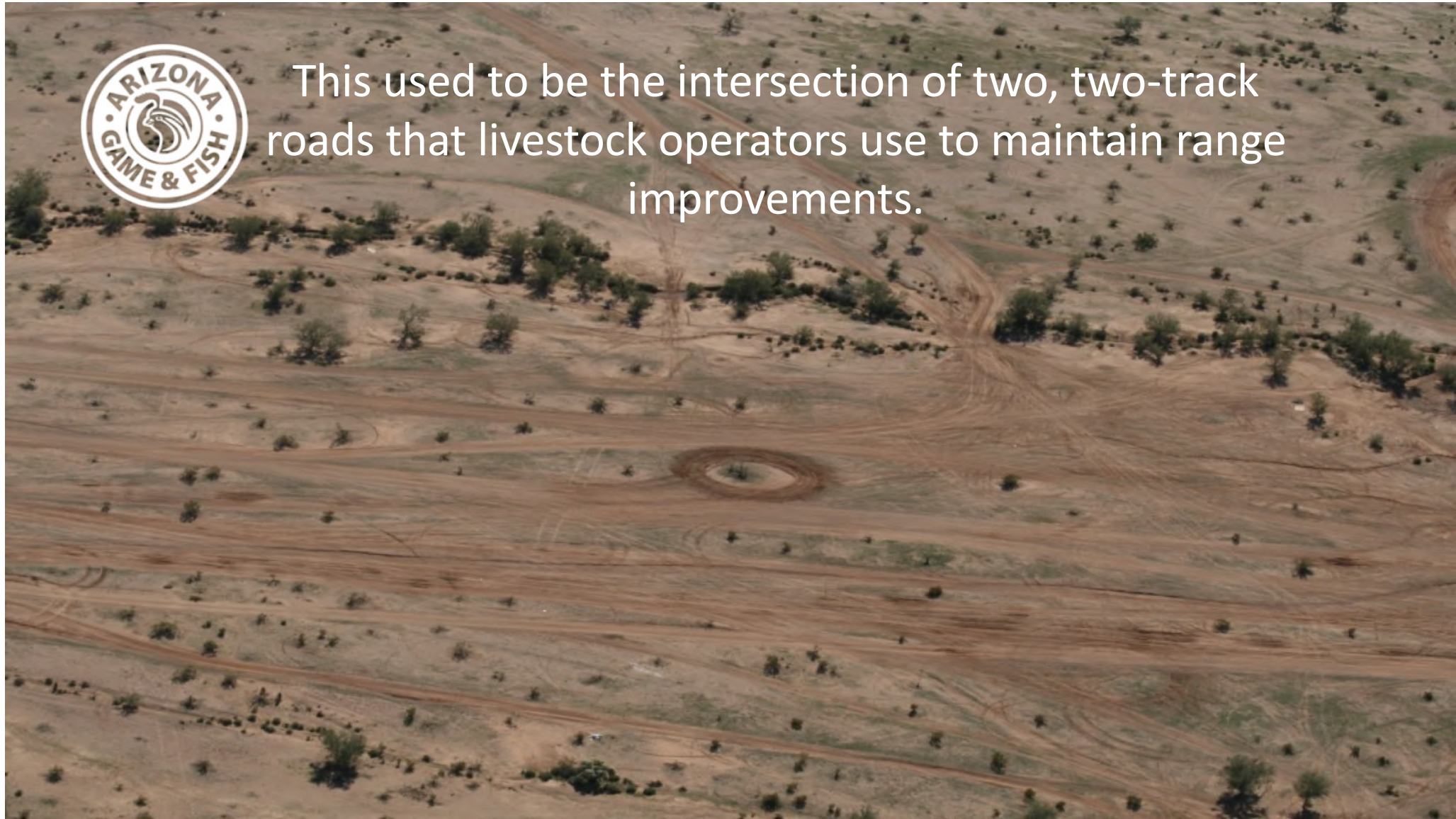
Increase in OHV use, limited resources to manage that use

- **347%** increase since 1998

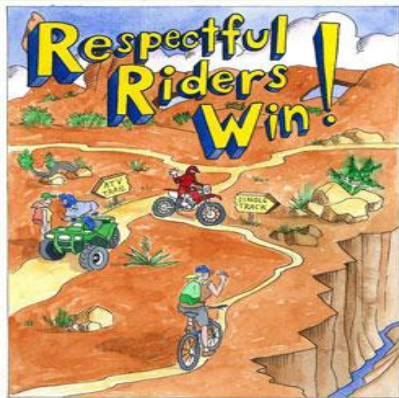




This used to be the intersection of two, two-track roads that livestock operators use to maintain range improvements.



Three Goals Yavapai County hopes to achieve



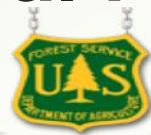
1. Education

2. Enforcement

3. Engineering



Jurisdictional Partners statements



U.S. FOREST SERVICE
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United States Department of Agriculture



Laura Jo West, Coconino National Forest Supervisor, “County Supervisor Michaels has **convened a working group** comprised of these agencies, stakeholders, and residents **to collaborate** to address these issues.”

Amy Tinderholdt, Coconino National Forest District Ranger, “We have appreciated your leadership to **encourage collaboration** among the Forest Service, residents, ranchers, stakeholders, Yavapai County Sherriff’s Office, Arizona Game and Fish Department and local municipalities **to assess concerns** related to impacts of increased vehicle and off-highway vehicle (OHV) traffic **on forest roads, trails and areas.**”



Todd Willard for Dale Deiter, Prescott National Forest Supervisor, “We appreciate the **coordination and attention** to Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) **management** on the Prescott National Forest.

Supporters of YC Legislative Proposal



Chelsea McGuire, "AZFB appreciates your leadership on this issue!"

Mike Gannuscio, President ACGA, "This proposal is important to ACGA specifically because many of our members have the same concerns and issues with OHV that are damaging their lands as well."



Supporters of YC Legislative Proposal



Dustin & Becky Ross, **3rd Generation Ranchers** in the Verde Valley, "Since taking office, Supervisor Donna Michaels has worked tirelessly to protect Verde Valley residents and natural resources. That dedication to constituents is something we've never experienced before."





Thank you for considering YC Legislative Proposal

Supervisor Donna Michaels, Ph.D., District 3
Supervisor Harry Oberg, District 1