



KSB eNews Today

Celebrating Our First 50 Years

Issue: September 2, 2026

KSB Member,



WHY YOU SHOULD OPPOSE RESCINDING THE ROADLESS RULE

COMMENTS DUE BY SEPTEMBER 21

Photo of Sycamore Canyon Wilderness by Brady Smith, Coconino National Forest

[Click image to enlarge](#)

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has proposed repealing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation, with public comments due by September 21, 2026. Keep Sedona Beautiful urges you to oppose this change.

The Roadless Rule protects nearly 1.2 million acres in Arizona, including roughly 140,000 acres on the Prescott National Forest and about 50,000 acres on the Coconino National Forest. These are the backcountry lands that surround residential areas in the Verde Valley.

USFS argues that repeal is needed to fight wildfire, noting that more than 40% of roadless areas carry high or very high fire hazard and that only 5% have received fuel treatments since 2014. But the Roadless Rule does not prevent this, as it currently allows fuel-reduction work near communities. In fact, [a report by Trout Unlimited](#) notes that the U.S. Forest Service has actively used these exemptions to mitigate fire risk, completing hazardous fuel treatments on nearly 2 million acres of roadless lands.

[A study in the journal Fire Ecology](#) found that between 1992 - 2024, wildfires were four times more likely to ignite within 50 meters of a road than in a forest without routes for motor vehicles. More roads will likely mean more fires, not fewer.

[Please consider submitting a comment](#) before September 21 asking the Forest Service to **keep the 2001 Roadless Rule in place.**



Picking Up Litter in Favor to the Land

KSB is openly recruiting more litter lifters.

Currently, there are two open routes awaiting just the right person to keep them clean:

- **Upper Red Rock Loop Road** from Red Rock High School to the low-water crossing sign just before Red Rock Crossing Road;
- **Red Rock Crossing Road** from Chavez Ranch to Crescent Moon (You do not need to go into Crescent Moon to pick up litter there. Our permit with Yavapai County specifies just the road itself);
- **Dry Creek Road** from State Route 89A to North Slopes.
- Additionally, **substitutes** are always welcome and receive the same rigorous training and safety equipment. Substituting is a wonderful gateway to becoming a part of KSB's longest-serving team of volunteers.

KSB assigns each litter lifter their own mile to clean. You get to be your own boss and clean it whenever you wish. We simply require that it be cleaned once per month at a minimum. The mile includes both sides of the road. We will provide you with safety training and safety equipment, such as a picker, vest and large plastic bags.



If interested, contact Wendy by email at ksb2@keepsedonabeautiful.org and leave your phone number for a return call.



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