



Mr. William Meyer #05-000572  
c/o Haydon Combe Ranch  
PO Box 689  
Florence, AZ 85132

Proposed Arizona Trail realignment - Teacup Ranch area (#16-112521, Pinal Co.) Amendment

Dear Mr. Meyer:

As you may be aware, Pinal County owns/manages much of the Right of Way (ROW) for the Arizona National Scenic Trail (ANST) within Pinal County. This ROW is on lands administered by the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD). We are contacting you in reference to the above amendment request because it is adjacent to an ASLD grazing lease which you have.

The proposed trail improvement project includes replacing two short segments of trail currently located on utility roads with construction of singletrack trail. The project includes 2.92 miles on ASLD lands and 2.41 miles on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. (See attached maps)

This project is being undertaken for several reasons:

- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) initiated moving trail on their lands in order to move the trail away from a livestock watering source.
- The initial trail in Pinal included several segments which were co-located on two-track roads (this was done at the request of the Arizona State Land Department when the trail corridor was first identified). Removing trail segments off of existing two-track roads provides the following benefits:
  - Improves the scenic quality of the trail consistent with the nature and purposes of a National Scenic Trail.
  - Improves user safety through better trail design and removing possible interaction with motorized users.
  - Improves trail sustainability through improved site selection and proper trail design and construction.
  - Improves overall user experience and satisfaction.

In addition to the above, relocating trail off of existing motorized accessible two-track roads is consistent with the goals and objectives outlined in the National Trails System Act, the ATA Strategic Plan and the draft version of the US Forest Service's Comprehensive Management Plan.

The ANST is one of only 11 National Scenic Trails in the U. S. The ANST is a tremendous asset to Pinal County residents and visitors alike. It is integrated into citizen driven planning documents such as the Comprehensive Plan and the Open Space and Trails Master Plan. It is also a key component of our economic development strategy, attracting users from not only Arizona but from throughout the U. S. and other countries. Pinal County is working diligently to maintain and improve this treasure so that future generations will have the same opportunity to enjoy and treasure Pinal County and the ANST as those of us have today.

**OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS DEPARTMENT**



**PINAL COUNTY**  
WIDE OPEN OPPORTUNITY

If you have any questions on this project, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely;

Kent A. Taylor CPRP, Director  
Pinal County Open Space and Trails  
PO Box 2973  
Florence, AZ 85132  
520-866-6910  
[kent.taylor@pinalcountyz.gov](mailto:kent.taylor@pinalcountyz.gov)

cc. James Rees, Right of Way Section ASLD