



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Apache-Sitgreaves
National Forests

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File Code: 2300

Date: August 17, 2012

Ms. Cyndi Tuell
Southwest Conservation Advocate
Center for Biological Diversity
PO Box 710
Tucson, AZ 85702

Dear Cyndi:

We received your letter dated August 14, 2012, regarding your concerns about the ATV Outlaw Jamboree (Jamboree). In our letter to you dated March 22, we stated that we would continue to work with members of your staff as well as the Apache County ATV Roughriders (Club) to ensure that protection of the resources you mentioned in your letter continues.

For your convenience, we've enclosed a copy of a letter from Mr. Mel Schweigert, President of Apache County ATV Roughriders, which highlights discussions during our meeting held yesterday, August 16. The letter states: "Based on our internal Club discussions during the past several months, we want to confirm that our central activities of the Jamboree, September 4 thru September 8, are conducted at the Blue Building under an agreement with the Town of Eagar. We have been in the process of trying to update our web-page and other publications to confirm that individuals who register for the Jamboree are not registering for rides."

After reviewing Mr. Schweigert's letter, I am comfortable the Jamboree is outside the scope of National Forest purview. With regard to any ATV/UTV rides that Jamboree participants and other members of the public may choose to take on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, it appears clear that these would not be commercial in nature or guided/organized by the Club. Therefore, I see no need to insist that the Club obtain a special use permit.

I'd like to reiterate that as discussed on numerous occasions, I would welcome direct communication between both parties. The atmosphere of successful collaboration has been demonstrated recently with the resolution of the Wallow West appeal, and the continuing successful dialogue surrounding 4-FRI with interested parties.

Sincerely,

JAMES E. ZORNES
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: Richard Davalos, Marcia L Pfleiderer, Ryan Domsalla, Tami Conner, White Mountain Conservation League, Todd Shulke, CBD

