

Appendix B: San Francisco/Blue River Photos – Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest

These photos accompany our request for closure to demonstrate both the outstanding ecological values associated with this area and the ongoing damage due to ORV use in riparian areas. The majority of photos were taken October 5, 2007 by Chris Kassar and all GPS points were taken using NAD 27 Datum. Photos # 26-30 were taken by Noah Greenwald during the week of October 1, 2007 while surveying for narrow-headed garter snakes. The photo point numbers match up with the red triangles found on the attached map of the area (Appendix C: Map #4- Apache-Sitgreaves NF Photo Points).



Photo 1. 12S 0671096// UTM 3675593 – Sign just west of Martinez Ranch at first crossing of route 212 with the San Francisco River. Sign: “Please stay on existing roads: VEHICLES WELCOME. This access maintained for protection of soil and wildlife.”



Photo 2. 12 S 0670804// 3675662 - Second intersection of route and San Francisco River heading west on FR 212. Note deep cut banks (~2 ft). increased erosion and potential for sedimentation.



Photo 3. 12 S 0670804// 3675662 –Looking back at second intersection of route and San Francisco River heading west on FR 212. Note ruts, deep cut banks (~2 ft). increased erosion and potential for sedimentation.



Photo 4. 12S0670614// 3675597 – “Route” disappears after 2nd crossing with San Francisco River.



Photo 5. 12S0670614// 3675597 – Route is non-existent here. Very hard low-use and difficult to follow.



Photo 6. 12S070511// UTM 3675328 – After 3rd crossing route is still very low use and non-existent.



Photo 7. 12S070364// UTM 3675363 - Fourth crossing of San Francisco River heading west toward the Blue River.



Photo 8. 12S070364// UTM 3675363 - Fourth crossing of San Francisco River heading west toward the Blue River. Very little sign of recent use.



Photo 9. 12S070364// UTM 3675363 - Fourth crossing of San Francisco River heading west toward the Blue River. Note healthy riparian vegetation.



Photo 10. 12S070364// UTM 3675363 - Other side of crossing 4. Deep cut banks and erosion.



Photo 11. 12S 0670101//3675441 – Crossing 5. Tracks in loose soil heading toward water causing erosion and rutting.



Photo 12. 12S 0669554//3675598 – Crossing 6. Note that river is turbid and about 2.5 to 3 feet deep.



Photo 8. 12S 0669554//3675598 – Other side of crossing 6. Note tracks, extreme muddiness and turbidity.



Photo 9. 12S 0669195//3675698 – After crossing 6 route continues parallel to the river through vegetation toward the Blue River.



Photo 10. 12S 0668485//3675844 - Intersection of Blue River with San Francisco River.



Photo 16. 12S 0668358//3675850 – Closure sign showing the Blue River above its confluence with the San Francisco as closed to motor vehicles. Sign is not accompanied by any other barrier (natural or artificial).



Photo 17. 12S 0668358//3675850 – Close-up of sign and river.



Photo 18. 12S 0668236//3675935 – View of Blue River to the north looking toward the Blue Range Primitive Area.



Photo 19 & 20. 12S 0668236//3675935 – Looking up the Blue River corridor heading north and looking toward the Blue Range Primitive Area. No signs of vehicle use. Note healthy and significant amounts of riparian vegetation lining the Blue River corridor.



Photo 21. 12S 0668337//3675270 - Crossing on the San Francisco River above confluence with the Blue River.



Photo 22. 12S 0668337//3675270 - Looking downstream at previous crossing of the San Francisco River.



Photo 23. 12S0668583//3675387 –Looking north toward the mouth of the Blue River from the San Francisco River.



Photo 24. 12S 0669393//3675699 – From archeological site above the San Francisco River looking at Blue Range Primitive Area.



Photo 25. 12S 0671055//3675602 - San Francisco River just west of Martinez Ranch. Note some healthy riparian vegetation and scenic viewshed.



Photo 26. 12S 0668112//3685237 – Tracks on the Blue River showing people have driven directly up the river channel, including multiple crossings. Photos taken in area surveyed for narrow-headed garter snakes, which hide under rocks right next to the water, making them susceptible to crushing by vehicles.



Photo 27. 12S 0668112//3685237 - Tracks on the Blue River showing people have driven directly up the river channel, including multiple crossings. Photos taken in area surveyed for narrow-headed garter snakes, which hide under rocks right next to the water, making them susceptible to crushing by vehicles.



Photo 28. 12 S 0668210//3685350 - Tracks on the Blue River showing people have driven directly up the river channel, including multiple crossings. Photos taken in area surveyed for narrow-headed garter snakes, which hide under rocks right next to the water, making them susceptible to crushing by vehicles.



Photo 29. 12S 0668210//3685350 - Tracks on the Blue River showing people have driven directly up the river channel, including multiple crossings. Photos taken in area surveyed for narrow-headed garter snakes, which hide under rocks right next to the water, making them susceptible to crushing by vehicles.



Photo 30. 12S 0668213 3685448 - Tracks on the Blue River showing people have driven directly up the river channel, including multiple crossings. Photos taken in area surveyed for narrow-headed garter snakes, which hide under rocks right next to the water, making them susceptible to crushing by vehicles.