300 West Congress St. Tucson, AZ 85701 520-388-8300 FAX: 520-388-8305

File Code:

2800

Date:

November 20, 2015

Gayle Hartmann President Save the Scenic Santa Ritas 8987 E. Tanque Verde #309-157 Tucson, AZ 85749

Re: SSSR letter regarding Gunsight Pass road

Dear Ms. Hartmann:

The Coronado National Forest (CNF) acknowledges that the Gunsight Pass road closure, mentioned in your letter dated November 12, 2015, impacts recreation and other uses of public land accessed by this road. However, in the State of Arizona, access to public lands across private land occurs at the discretion of the private landowner unless a written easement or other legal instrument has reserved that public access right. In the case of the private lands immediately surrounding Gunsight Pass in the Santa Rita Mountains, the CNF is not aware of any such instrument.

It is the understanding of the CNF that the private lands containing a segment of the road leading to Gunsight Pass are currently owned by Rosemont Copper Company, who would have sole discretion on whether or not to allow the public onto their lands. Therefore, in order to gain access to this road, it is recommended that you make a request for public access from them at 520-495-3500.

If you have further questions, comments, concerns, or other road access issues, please feel free to contact the CNF Road Manager, Mr. Walt Keyes, at 520-396-0416 or at wkeyes@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

KERWIN S. DEWBERRY

Forest Supervisor



