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Rico-west Delores Travel

Dear Mr. Padilla and dear Mrs. kill with the forest services,

It has been brought to my attention that town of Rico and the Rico Alpine Society (which has been dissolved last year and according to the secretary of state office states their organization of "80" members has been delinquent since 2012) is trying to ban any motorized recreation around the town. I am a business owner in Farmington, NM and I also am a motorized recreation user. We (my children, many nieces and nephews and my husband) are in Rico at my mother in laws property every holiday and through out the year on the weekends. With the stress of the business and daily stresses we drive to Rico to relax, ride our atv's up the mountain trails and then do some hiking. We have been doing these activities since I met my husband 12 years ago.

for a group of people that do not announce these so called town meetings to just try to sneak into the backside of other community members and take something away that will affect many others, other than us riders alone. We have never had an issue ever that I am aware of, whether that being injuries, rescues, illegal activity or any other issues. To punish families, kids and business owners is not fair in the least. This is unjustifiable.

we are very responsible. We register everyone every year to stay in compliance. We wear helmets and have taught our children from a very young age how to operate the atv's . They know how and are polite to anyone seen on these trails, we all let any walkers pass, or have pets with them as well. We are courteous in town and ride very slow and quietly up to the trails. We have never had an issue or incident.

Many business owners in the area were not aware of this proposed closing either. This will affect not only the store (buying snacks and waters and coolants) this will affect the gas station as well, we buy locally, pay locally including taxes and many other things go into this affect that has the potential of really hurting some businesses in a bad economic time.

Will the forest service be able to afford to hire someone or more then one person to watch and to see who is breaking the rules and when? I have noticed that The locals even have motorized items. (not all) There has been many times I see them chopping trees down, the cannot walk it down the mountain . Has anyone notified Durango mountain resort? I can almost bet they are not aware of this because they do snowmobile adventure packages and they come over into the edge of Rico, that is a lot of money for them to potentially lose.

In writing this letter with the hope that a thoughtful decision will be made, and the true town that includes people like us to be involved in these type of decisions, not ones where we are told after the new change and many people in the town of Rico are unaware and you all are probably being lied to when they say they have many supporters. when multiple people had no clue what we were talking about, I hope are words are heard. It will be a punishment that was not deserved. I appreciate your time in this matter thank you,

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RTST
life is all about breathing ;)

