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TR

From: Theresa Ryan tryan@eemail.com 

Subject: Skalkaho Park

Date: June 30, 2020 at 1:58 PM

To: Jeff Burrows jburrows@rc.mt.gov, Greg Chilcott gchilcott@rc.mt.gov, Chris Hoffman cahoffman@rc.mt.gov

Cc: Terry Nelson terryndar@hotmail.com, Charlie Moody pintlar1@gmail.com

Dear Commissioners,

I have learned there is a hearing tomorrow morning (Wednesday) regarding Skalkaho Park. I cannot be there as I am over 70 and obeying the Governor's instruction not to go out in public during this pandemic.

As you know, I have been recommending a hurricane fence around the South side of the park. The next property South will build a wire fence inside the hurricane fence for his cattle. Two fences are even better than one to keep trespassers out. This has been billed by the Land Trust as "A Jogging Park." Therefore bears and mountain lions and other wildlife that may be inclined to harm people should be discouraged from roaming the Park as they may perceive joggers as running at them or running away from them and attack. This will best protect moms running through the park with babies and toddlers in jogging strollers and older runners too.

The prior owner of this property complained to me several times that every time he repaired his wire fence, someone cut it back down. The owner to the south of this property has told me the same thing happens to him. A hurricane fence would be best to stop this constant criminal activity. Next best would be a wire fence made called Hot Cote. It is a wire surrounded with a hard coating. (See Photo below) This wire is more expensive than plain wire but not as expensive as hurricane fencing. You cannot cut it with wire cutters. It would be a small additional expense to ask for the benefit of a fence that resists the well known constant criminal trespass and fence destruction activity. The Bitterroot Land Trust has resisted spending any extra money to protect the neighboring properties from trespass claiming they don't have enough funds. Their yearly overhead to run their operation is a half a million dollars. So please don't buy any flimsy excuse. Require them to put up durable fencing that is resistant to cutting to protect the neighbors. It's the least they can do.

Best regards,

Terry Ryan

Owner, Roaring Lion Ranch (in the vicinity of this proposed park)

