

THE IDEA OF SETTING ASIDE AND PROTECTING UNTOUCHED LAND ISN'T NEW.
OVER A HUNDRED YEARS AGO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT EVEN SAID

[START TEDDY ROOSEVELT]

*IT IS ALSO VANDALISM WANTONLY TO DESTROY OR TO PERMIT THE DESTRUCTION
OF WHAT IS BEAUTIFUL IN NATURE, WHETHER IT BE A CLIFF, A FOREST, OR A
SPECIES OF MAMMAL OR BIRD. HERE IN THE UNITED STATES WE TURN OUR RIVERS
AND STREAMS INTO SEWERS AND DUMPING-GROUNDS, WE POLLUTE THE AIR, WE
DESTROY FORESTS, AND EXTERMINATE FISHES, BIRDS AND MAMMALS -- NOT TO
SPEAK OF VULGARIZING CHARMING LANDSCAPES WITH HIDEOUS
ADVERTISEMENTS. BUT AT LAST IT LOOKS AS IF OUR PEOPLE WERE AWAKENING."*

[END TEDDY ROOSEVELT]

THE FIRST NATIONAL PARK WAS SIGNED INTO EFFECT IN 1872 AND THE FIRST
STATE PARK FOLLOWED TEN YEARS LATER. BUT TODAY THERE'S BEEN
TROUBLE WITHIN OUR PROTECTED LAND, AND IT'S TROUBLE NOT TOO FAR
FROM HOME. I'M ALEX CROOKSHANKS AND THIS IS ENVIRONMENTAL.

[START NEWS CLIP]

[END NEWS CLIP]

LAST SPRING AUTHORITIES FOUND FACEBOOK MESSAGES BETWEEN TWO MEN
FOUND TRESPASSING ON PROTECTED LAND WITHIN FORT HARRISON STATE
PARK

[TEXT MESSAGE SOUND]

[START MAN1]

I'M STARTING A LITTLE MAINTENANCE FUND TO SPRAY SEDONA/FLAGSTAFF SO WE CAN RIDE IT ALL SUMMER. SHOULD JUST HAVE TO SPRAY IT ONCE, BUT IT DOES NEED TO BE DONE COVERTLY!

[END MAN 1]

[START MAN 2]

IN WITH FUNDS AND HELP

[END MAN 2]

THE MEN WRITING THESE MESSAGES, DAVIN HUFHAND AND JED KIDWELL, HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH CREATING AN ILLEGAL MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL. THE TRAIL WAS EXCAVATED AND BENCHED IN WITH SOIL SCATTERED AND COMPACTED, AND VEGETATION REMOVED -SOMETIMES EVEN WITH HERBICIDES.

[START BED 1]

THE TRAIL WAS CONSTRUCTED IN THE CHINQUAPIN NATURE PRESERVE. IT'S THE LARGEST UNDEVELOPED PROPERTY IN INDIANAPOLIS, STRETCHING OVER 100 ACRES AND IT PROTECTS A VARIETY OF NATIVE WILDLIFE INCLUDING THE BREEDING AND NESTING GROUNDS FOR BIRDS SUCH AS GREAT BLUE HERONS.

[END BED 1]

[START SOUNDS OF VISIT]

[END VISIT]

ILLEGAL TRAILS HAVE THEIR FAIR SHARE OF CONSEQUENCES ON SURROUNDING WILDLIFE. WHILE OTHER MOUNTAIN BIKE GROUPS WORK WITH

THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO FIND THE SAFEST PLACES TO CONSTRUCT TRAILS, WHAT HUFHAND AND KIDWELL DID COMPLETELY BYPASSED THIS PROCESS. PROTECTED LAND IS ULTIMATELY MADE FOR WILDLIFE AND WHEN YOU TRESPASS AND SEGMENT THIS LAND YOU NOT ONLY HARM SPECIES HABITAT AND IMPORTANT VEGETATION, BUT YOU CAN EVEN INTRODUCE DETRIMENTAL INVASIVE SPECIES.

OF COURSE THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME THINGS LIKE THIS HAVE HAPPENED.

[START BED TWO]

SEDONA ARIZONA IS CONSTANTLY REFERRED TO AS A THE NEW MOUNTAIN BIKE MECCA *HOLY NOISE* THE NUMBER OF MOUNTAIN BIKERS, BIKE SHOPS, BIKE TRAILS, HAS ABSOLUTELY SKYROCKETED IN THE PAST TWENTY YEARS ALONG WITH THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE GOING OUT TO CONSTRUCT THEIR OWN TRAILS. JEFF HARRIS WAS ONE OF THE MOST BELOVED TRAIL BUILDERS -WELL KNOWN FOR CRAZY TRAILS WITH EVEN CRAZIER NAMES

[START OTHER VOICES]

SKIDMARK, WASH UP LOVEY DOVEY, BOOTYLICIOUS.

[END BED TWO]

HE WAS CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL TRAIL BUILDING, DESTRUCTION OF FEDERAL PROPERTY, AND WAS GIVING A 2,500 DOLLAR FINE AND A YEAR OF RESTRICTED ACCESS TO THE SURROUNDING COCONINO FOREST.

EVERYWHERE THERE SEEMS TO BE AN EMERGING PROBLEM -TOO MANY BIKERS AND TOO LITTLE LAND THAT LEGALLY BELONGS TO THEM- AND THERE'S BEEN AN ONGOING EFFORT TO STOP THE BIKERS WHO DECIDES TO TAKE EFFORTS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS.

HUFHAND AND KIDWELL HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL MISCHIEF AND CRIMINAL TRESPASS, THOSE ARE A LEVEL SIX FELONY AND A CLASS A MISDEMEANOR.

THE PARKS ARE OBVIOUSLY FIGHTING BACK EVEN AGAINST MOUNTAIN BIKE GROUPS WHO SAY PROTECT THE PEOPLE NOT THE LAND

ONE POST ON THE FORT HARRISON MOUNTAIN BIKERS PAGE CALLED THE CREATION OF THE PRESERVE QUOTE APPALLING AND CONTRIBUTES THE INCREASE OF OBESITY IN OUR STATE TO THE LIMITED TRAIL SPACE AVAILABLE AMONGST PROTECTED LAND. THE POST HAS 27 COMMENTS. THE BIKERS SEE THE PERSECUTION OF HUFHAND AND KIDWELL AS A CRIMINAL ACT ITSELF WHILE THE PARKS FAIL TO SEE THEM AS ANYTHING OTHER THAN STRAIGHT UP CRIMINALS

IN THE FUTURE THERE WILL DEFINITELY BE MORE OF THESE ILLEGAL TRAILS A CONTINUED BATTLE OVER OUR PRESERVED LANDS.

[START MUSIC]

FO 91.3 WHJE THIS HAS BEEN ALEX CROOKSHANKS WITH THE RETURN OF ENVIRONMENTAL. FOR MORE EPISODES AND OTHER GREAT PODCASTS,

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