

N SEDONA RED ROCK **NEWS**

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Letters to the Editor

Rojo Grande land deserves better

The proposed development of the 172-acre El Rojo Grande Ranch is a desecration of one of the most beautiful places in the Verde Valley.

This new proposal includes installation of over 600 trailers. Just imagine that — 600 trailers. With those 600 trailers will come 1,000 to 1,200 new residents. With those residents will come greatly increased water usage in these dry times, as well as an immense amount of effluent going into Dry Creek, and making its way to Page Springs, Cornville, Cottonwood and Oak Creek. With those residents will come over 1,000 more cars coming into Sedona, requiring additional traffic control measures — lights or roundabouts — on State Route 89A.

Formerly the Wrigley Ranch, the property currently acts as an

animal sanctuary, with numerous wild animals including deer and elk making it their home. A study by Northern Arizona University identified 83 varieties of birds alone using this riparian property. Surrounded on three sides by national forest, it should be treasured and protected. Scraping those 100-year-old trees off the Earth and destroying the natural habitat can never be undone.

We realize development is coming, but there are other groups looking at this property with different eyes. They are looking to develop it with a reasoned plan that will add to the wonders of the Verde Valley, instead of destroying it.

There are wonderful ideas afoot for the development of this land. Instead, we are facing a dense development of trailers and RVs, which will just amount to urban blight.

Why would we pick the very worst idea out there?

Beverly Black
Sedona