Land Use and Building Department

401 Main Street, Suite 304 Walsenburg, CO 80189 719-739-1220 Ext 506



HUERFANO COUNTY GOVERNMENT STAFF REPORT

Date: May 14, 2024

To: Huerfano County Board of County Commissioners

From: Carl Young, County Administrator

Re: Permit #20-027 Vacate County Road 565

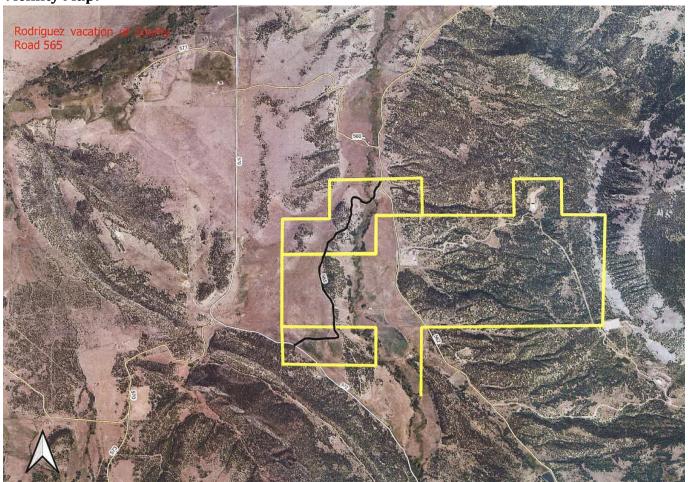
Request:

With this application Fred Rodriquez (the Applicant), on behalf of the Rodriquez Family Trust, requests the following:

Vacation of County Road 565, which runs from County Road 572 to County Road 562, in the north west quarter of the County.

The road runs through three parcels, owned by the Rodriquez Family Trust, Kostgove Ranch LLC, and Soledad3LLC.

Vicinity Map:



Process Summary:

- 1. Staff determines completeness, routes to relevant referral agencies and schedules & posts notices for public meeting /public hearing with PC and prepares staff report
- 2. Public notices and notices to referral agencies
- 3. PC public hearing and recommendation
- 4. BOCC public meeting and decision

Code References:

§ 2.15 Vacating of Approved and Recorded Plats, Roads or Easements

Applicants may apply for the vacating of any plat, road, easement or portion thereof so long as the plat, road, easement or portion thereof has been filed and recorded in the office of the Huerfano County Clerk and Recorder.

§ 2.15.03 Criteria for Action on a Vacating Application

All actions by the Planning Commission in reviewing and making recommendations on an application to vacate an approved and recorded plat or easement and by the Board of County Commissioners in approving or disapproving such applications, shall be based in general upon the provisions of these regulations and specifically upon the following criteria:

- 1. That the proposed vacating would not interfere with development of nor deny access via a public thoroughfare to existing structures within the recorded plat, adjoining properties, utility services or other improvements, nor deny access to structures, facilities or sites located beyond the plat or easement to be vacated.
- 2. That the proposed vacating would not cause undue hardship or inconvenience for any utility company, special district, neighboring landowner or tenant.
- 3. That the proposed vacating would not be likely to prove detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare of County residents.
- 4. That the proposed vacating would be consistent with all other provisions in these regulations.
- 5. That the proposed vacating would not cause undue financial hardship to Huerfano County nor deprive it of needed tax base.

§ 2.15.04 Vacating of Roads, Streets and Highways:

Any conflicting provisions contained within these regulations, notwithstanding the procedures for vacating roads, streets and highways shall conform to the provisions contained in Section 43-2-301, et seq. Colorado Revised Statutes.

Application Materials Required:

§ 2.15.02 Submittal Requirements

Submittal requirements for an application to vacate an approved and recorded plat or easement shall include a completed application, submittal requirements listed in Section 8.03, the appropriate filing fees and the following items:

- 1. A copy of the approved and recorded plat or easement and a vacated plat. Said plat shall be prepared as a final plat and shall be prepared by and have the seal of a registered land surveyor, duly registered to practice in the state of Colorado.
- 2. A legal description of the land to be vacated and the area, in acreage or square feet.
- 3. The Planning Commission may, at its discretion and upon written request by an applicant, waive any but not all of the submittal requirements listed above and the Planning Commission may also, at its discretion, add such submittal items as it deems necessary and appropriate to evaluate and recommend upon any application for the vacating of a plat, right-of-way or easement.

§ 8.03 Submittal Requirements:

In addition to those requirements specific to each land use application type, the following are required with all land use applications:

- 1. Letter of Intent providing a detailed description of the project. Letter should provide an explanation of why the application should be approved by addressing how the project meets criteria for approval and is in alignment with the Comprehensive Plan and/or other adopted planning documents.
- 2. Proof of Ownership of all affected lots. If applicant is not the owner, provide written evidence of authority to act on behalf of the lawfully demonstrated owner of the property.
- 3. Legal description of property.
- 4. Site plan drawn to scale. Plan to include existing and proposed location of all structures, uses, zoning district boundaries, and setbacks on the land involved in request.
- 5. If a public hearing is required, a list of names and mailing addresses of owners of record within the radius required for each permit type.
- 6. If a public hearing is required, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-65.5-103 (2) (a) The applicant shall identify the mineral estate owners and lessees and easement holders entitled to notice pursuant to this section as shown in the records in the office of the County Tax Assessor and Clerk and Recorder. Provide with application a list of the owners of subsurface mineral interests and their lessees within the required radius for each permit type and on the proposed site, if any, as shown on the records of the Huerfano County Assessor, and their complete mailing addresses.
- 7. If a public hearing is required, applicant must pay for the cost of publication of the mailed and published public hearing notices.

Application Materials Received:

- 1. Application
- 2. Authorization for Fred Rodriguez to Speak on behalf of Soledad3LLC
- 3. Warranty Deed with Legal Description [Proof of Ownership]
- 4. Power of Attorney for Virginia Rodriguez Trujillo [Evidence of Authority]
- 5. Management Agreement of the Rodriquez Family Trust [Evidence of Authority]
- 6. Request to Waive Plat Amendment Requirement
- 7. Letter of Intent
- 8. Area Maps

8.07 Referral Agencies:

The Planning Commission shall determine which, if any, of the following referral agencies shall review the initial and /or preliminary submission:

- a) Huerfano RE-1 School District [School district(s) in which the land encompassed by the proposed subdivision is located.]
- b) Each county, other than Huerfano County, and municipality within a three (3) mile radius of any portion of the proposed land-use.
- c) San Isabel Electric Association [All applicable local and state improvement and special districts, ditch companies and utilities.]
- d) Colorado State Forest Service, when applicable.
- e) Huerfano-Las Animas Area Council of Governments.
- f) Upper Huerfano Soil Conservation District.

- g) CDPHE and Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department [Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment and/or such county, district or regional health departments as may exist.]
- h) State Engineer/Colorado Division of Water Resources.
- i) Other referral agencies and potentially affected parties that the Planning Commission determines to be appropriate.
- j) Huerfano County Water Conservancy District [Water Conservation Agency.]
- k) Upper Huerfano Fire Protection District [Fire Protection District.]
- l) Huerfano County Economic Development.
- m) Parks and Wildlife.
- n) Tourism Board.
- o)—HOA or POA if property is within its jurisdiction.
- p) The property owners within 500 feet of County Road 565.

Received four responses from three agencies:

- 1. Two from Colorado Parks and Wildlife who had no problems with the vacation.
- 2. One from the Las Animas-Huerfano Counties Health Department with no problems with the vacation.
- 3. One from Upper Huerfano Fire Protection District that does have concerns with the vacation. (Please see attached correspondence).

Commission Action: On April 11, 2024 the Huerfano County Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the Huerfano County Board of County Commissioners the approval to vacate County Road 565 with the condition that Kosgove Ranch and emergency personnel have access.

Recommendation:

- 1. Approval without any special conditions.
- **2. Conditional** Approval with a description of the special conditions.
- **3. Denial** indicating for the record the reason(s) for such action with reference to the criteria set forth in the Land Use Code.
- **4. Continuation** until a future date to gather more information or obtain clarification or for any other relevant cause.

Enclosures:

Application Materials

Land Use Application #20-027 Plat Amendment

Attachment 1 - Application

Huerfano County Land Use Department 400 Main Street, Suite B Walsenburg, Colorado 81089 719-738-1220 ext. 103



GENERAL LAND USE APPLICATION

THE RESEARCH TO SERVE AND ASSESSED ASSESSED ASSESSED ASSESSED ASSESSED. TO ASSESSED ASSESSEDA	JURIER E MEGLEREUTI
4 4 5 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	Application File No.: 20-027
1. ACTION(S) REQUESTED:	
Comprehensive Plan Text of Map Amendment	□ Rezoning
PUD or non-PUD Subdivision Approval:	□ Variance
□ Sketch Plan	□ Conditional Use Application
□ Preliminary Plan	□ Conditional Use Application / Oil, Gas or Uranium
□ Final Plat / Subdivision Improvement Agreement	Exploration and/or Development
Subdivision Exemption	□ Sign Permit
□ Plat Amendment	□ Temporary Use Permit
□ Plat Correction	□ H.B. 1041 Text Amendment
Road Right-of-Way or Easement Vacation	□ H.B. 1041 Development Permit
□ Lot Consolidation	□ H.B. 1041 Flood Plain Exemption
 Re-hearings of Denied Application 	
Other Actions (specify):	
2. APPLICATION STATUS (for County use only): Date Application Received: 12-25-25-25 Received By Channel	Application Fees Required: 200 Date Application Fees Paid: 12-21-2020
Applicant's Mailing Address: <u>508 East 5th S</u> Applicant's Telephone and/or FAX: <u>(719) 738-22</u> :	22 OR (7/4) 250-2324
Applicant's E-Mail Address: fred Redpiquez 227	12 (e. gmail, com
Name of Land Owner: Rud Riguez Family	TRUST
and Owner's Mailing Address: 6/0 508 Fast	5th Street Walson burg Colorade 8108
and Owner's Telephone and/or FAX: <u>(719) '738</u> -	2222
. SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:	
and Area included within the scope of this Application:	N/A - Gquare Feet or G Acres
egal description of land on which action is proposed (ple	ase attach the legal description to this Application).
xisting Zoning District(s): <u>Agricultural</u>	and the same of the upplication!
roposed New District(s): N/A	
Tumber of Existing Lots: 3 Teact	THE PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY ADDRESS O

Huerfano County Land Use Department 400 Main Street, Suite B Walsenburg, Colorado 81089 719-738-1220 ext. 103



GENERAL LAND USE APPLICATION

Number of Proposed Lots:
Number of Proposed Dwelling Units: N/A
Proposed Average Lot Size: N/A
If a Variance Request, please state the reason for the Variance(s): $\frac{\mathcal{N}/\mathcal{A}}{\mathcal{A}}$
Is all or a portion of the subject land located in a potential flood plain area, or are there areas with slopes in excess of twenty percent (20%)? WYES \square NO
If YES, which of these conditions exist? Flooding where County Road 562 and County Road 565 meet.
Value of proposed new development: N/A
Will the proposed project require any State or Federal permits? YES VNO
If YES, please list all permits or approvals required:
If a H.B. 1041 permit is required, for what matters of local concern and state interest?
Please list any additional pertinent information:
5. CERTIFICATION BY THE APPLICANT:
I hereby certify that this Application is made with full knowledge of the design standards, all fees, procedures, public hearing and meeting requirements contained in the Huerfano County Land Use Regulations. Furthermore, I understand that all land use permits are non-transferrable, unless specifically approved by the Huerfano County Board of County Commissioners. The Board of County Commissioners may impose permit transfer fees as it deems appropriate. All documents submitted may be subject to internet publishing.
Signature of Applicant: Full Roduguez Date: 11-19-20
6. ACTION (by the authorized permitting authority):
☐ Final Approval ☐ Conditional Approval ☐ Denial
Name Signature
Title Date

Attachment 2 – Statement of Authority

Authorization for Fred Rodriguez to speak on behalf of Soledad3LLC pertaining to our joint petition and request to vacate County Road 565 in Huerfano County, Colorado

Larry J. Rodriguez, Maria L. Rodriguez, and Salomé Ann Rodriguez-Thorson, equal owners of the Soledad3LLC, which holds our deeded property at 1398 County Road 565, Gardner, Colorado 81040; hereby authorize our cousin, Fred Rodriguez, who resides at 508 E. 5th Street in Walsenburg, Colorado, 81089, to speak on our behalf pertaining to our joint petition and request to vacate County Road 565 (7 miles SW of Gardner, Colorado).

Dated: 10-23-20	
	Salomé Ann Rodriguez-Thorson Soledad3LLC, Manager 33 Vista De Las Sandias Placitas, NM. 87043 (925) 784-9937
STATE OF: NEW MEXICO) COUNTY OF SANDOVAL)	
The foregoing Authorization was acknowledg by Salomé Ann Rodriguez-Thorson.	ged before me this 23nd day of October 2020
Witness my hand and official seal.	
My commission expires: 6-24-2/ Anute Notary Public	m Cicleixa



WARRANTY DEED (Gift Deed)

Virginia Rodriquez for the consideration of Ten Dollars, (\$10.00) in hand paid, hereby sells and conveys to John M. Rodriguez, Fred Rodriguez, Frank Rodriguez, Max Rodriguez, Kent Campbell, and John Allen Campbell, as Trustees for the Rodriguez Family Trust dated March _/9, 2009, whose address is P.O. Box 1186, Walsenburg, CO 81089, and its assigns, the following real property in the County of Huerfano, State of Colorado to-wit:

Township 27 South, Range 70 West of the 6th P.M.

Section 17: NE1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4, together with all mineral rights and water rights owned by Grantor

with all its appurtenances and warrants title to the same, subject to 2009 general real estate taxes due and payable January 1, 2010, together with all reservations, easements, covenants and restrictions of record.

SIGNED this _ | day of March, 2009.

Virginia Rodriquez

STATE OF COLORADO

) ss.

COUNTY OF HUERFANO)

The foregoing Warranty Deed was acknowledged before me this $\frac{1900}{100}$ day of March, 2009, by Virginia Rodriguez.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL.

Shered 10 Hanson

My Commission Expires: 8-22-2012

Section 2.15.02 #1 Proof of Owner 9hip

POWER OF ATTORNEY

- I, Virginia Rodriguez Trujillo, as Principal, appoint my son, John M. Rodriguez, as my lawful agent and attorney; if John M. Rodriguez is unable, unwilling or unavailable to act on my behalf, then I appoint my son, Fred Rodriguez as my lawful agent and attorney; Either shall have full power to act for me, in my name, to do any and all of the following:
- 1. Deposit with, withdraw and receive from any person or entity (including, but not limited to banks, trust companies, mortgage companies, credit unions, savings and loan associations, and industrial banks) any documents or assets which I now or hereafter may have or be entitled to;
- 2. Enter and re-enter any safe deposit box or vault and to deposit therein or withdraw therefrom any and all contents;
- 3. Purchase, sell, convey, transfer, lease, encumber, manage and otherwise deal with any real and personal property;
- 4. Make, endorse, accept, receive, sign, execute, acknowledge, and deliver deeds with or without warranties, deeds of trust, mortgages, leases, assignments, agreements, certificates, checks, notes, bonds, vouchers, receipts, stock certificates, stock powers, proxies, minutes, tax returns and any other instruments in writing of whatever kind;
- 5. Consent to or approve on my behalf any medical or other professional care, counsel, treatment, or service of or to me by a licensed or certified professional person or institution engaged in the practice of, or providing, a healing care or art. However, these powers are subject to the same limitations imposed upon a court-approved guardian contained in Section 15-14-315 C.R.S.
- Have the powers conferred upon fiduciaries by the Colorado Fiduciaries'
 Powers Act (as it exists at the time of the execution of this Power of Attorney);

7.	This Power	of Attorney	shall no	t be	affected	by my	disability.
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			Virginia Rodriguez Tro	Tille Trupllo
STATE OF COLORADO)		30	
COUNTY OF HUERFANO) s	SS.		
				23 A

The foregoing Power of Attorney was acknowledged before me this $\frac{Q^{QQ}}{QQ}$

Commission Expires: 8-22-2012

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL.

Notary Public)

Section 2.15.02 #1 Evidence of Authority

MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT OF THE RODRIGUEZ FAMILY TRUST

This Agreement entered into between the Rodriguez Family Trust (Trust) and John M. Rodriguez, (Manager) setting forth the duties and obligations of the Manager and agree as follows:

- 1. The Manager shall oversee all operations and expenditures related to the real estate held by the Trust.
- 2. The Manager shall have authority to negotiate water, land and mineral issues with interested individuals or corporations and shall conduct such negotiations in the best interests of the Trust.
- 3. The Manager shall have authority in matters involving livestock grazing, hazardous waste, and dumping or storage issues.
- The Manager shall maintain records of all transactions pertaining to the 4. operation of the Trust and will provide a copy of such documentation, concerning such operations as would allow a professional to determine accurately the nature of the expenditure and the amount thereof, upon request from the Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Manager shall have authority to assign to individual trustees, specific duties related to the ongoing maintenance and care of the Trust property and may further designate whether such contribution shall be by labor, material, or financial contribution or any combination thereof.
- 6. The Manager shall also promptly inform the Board of Trustees of any anticipated change in the operation of the Trust property or of any regulation, statute or rule asserted by any governmental entity that may require a change in the agricultural practices applied to the Trust property.
- 7. That the Manager herein shall serve with no compensation.
- 8. That the Manager shall be subject to the authority of the Board of Trustees.
- 9. That this Agreement may be cancelled by proper action by the Board of

Trustees as set forth in the Trust Agreen	nent.
John M. Rodriguez, Manager Frank Rodriguez, Trustee Hert Campbell	Trustee Par P. Rodriguez, Trustee Max Rodriguez, Trustee
Kent Campbell, Trustee	John Allen Campbell, Trustee
Dection 2.15.02 #1 Exidence of Authority	John M. Rodriguez, Trustee

Application for the Vacation of County Road 565

- 2.15.02 Submittal Requirements
- 2. "A copy of the approved and recorded plat or easement and a vacated plat. Said plat shall be prepared as a final plat and shall be prepared by and have the seal of a registered land surveyor, duly registered to practice in the state of Colorado."

I am hereby requesting that this requirement be waived.

Fred Rodriguez, Authorized Representative

Section 2.15.02 #2 Request for Waiver in accordance with #4 To: Huerfano County Commissioners Planning Commission

From: Fred Rodriguez, representative Rodriguez Family Trust c/o 508 East 5th Street Walsenburg, Colorado 80189

Re: Application to Vacate County Road 565

November 19, 2020

I am submitting this application requesting the vacation of County Road 565 located in the Pass Creek area. The road is 20 feet wide and 1.62 miles in length. This road is located in a flood zone and has been washed out three times. The vacation of this road would relieve the County of the continued burden to repair and maintain it.

County Road 565 is not access to any public lands therefore the vacation would not deprive access to the hunters and visitors that come to our County. The road is surrounded on all sides by privately owned lands.

County Road 565 runs through our family ranch that my grandparents established. The road passes within 20 feet of the ranch house. Unfortunately, the road has provided easy access to those who would seek to steal, trespass and destroy our family ranch. The Rodriguez Family Trust has had many items stolen including, rear tractor tires, radiators from our 4-wheel drive pickups and parts off the haying equipment. The family ranch house has been ransacked numerous times. Examples of damage include, copper wires stripped out of the walls, copper pipes coming from the propane tank cut, and a hole cut in the kitchen floor. The garage has also been ransacked.

The Rodriguez Family Trust would like to save our family home, but with this road open to the public it's hard to get excited about spending time and money to rebuild. My family would accept the task of maintaining the road after vacation. All private property owners along the road would continue to have access to their lands, but criminal activity would be deterred. On behalf of the Rodriguez Family Trust, I urge you to vacate County Road 565 so that we can preserve of our ranch for our future generations.

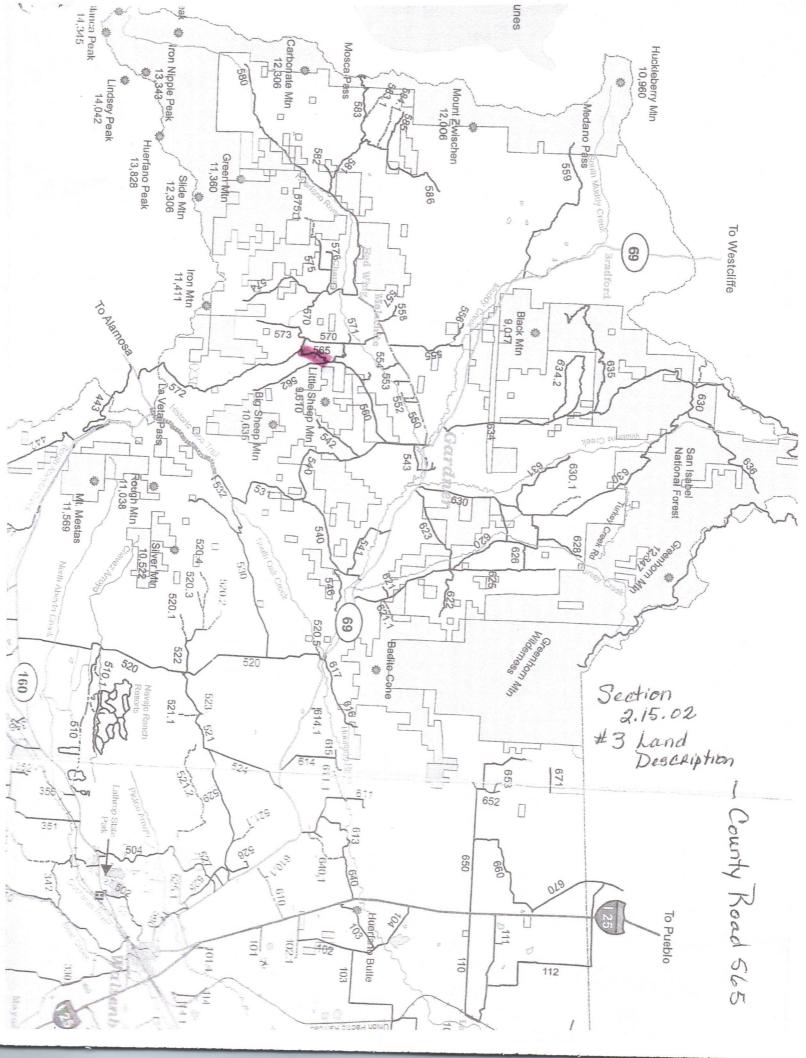
Thank you for your consideration,

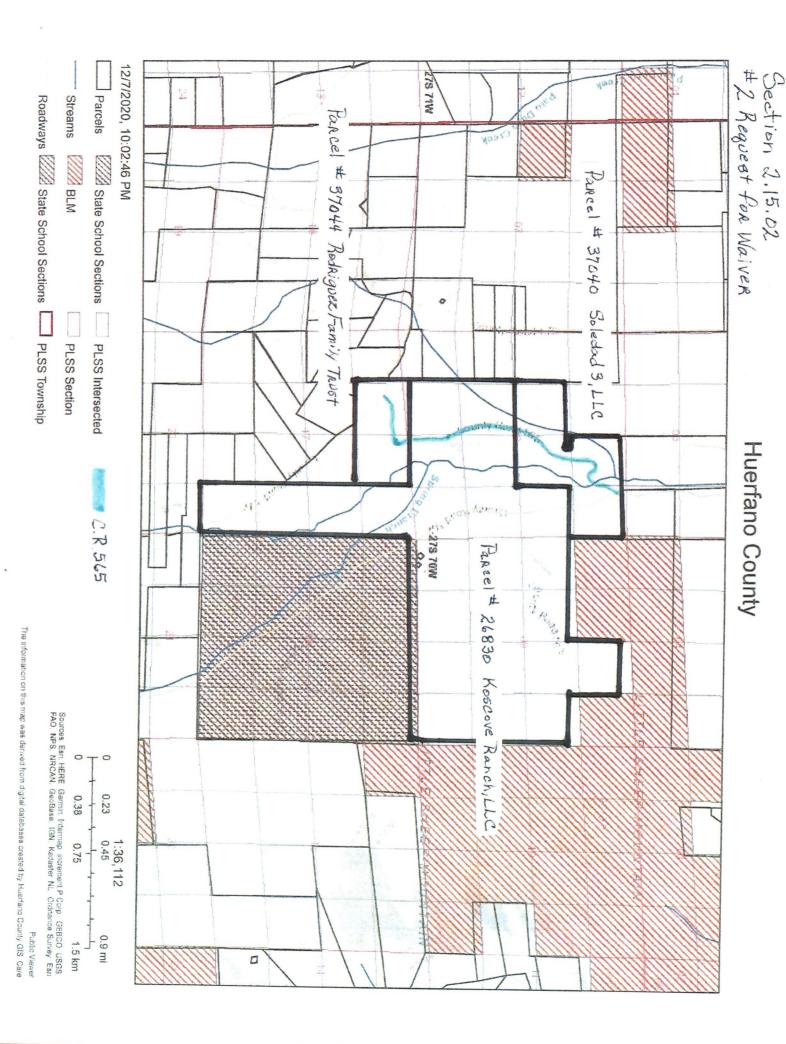
Fred Radiguez 11-19-20

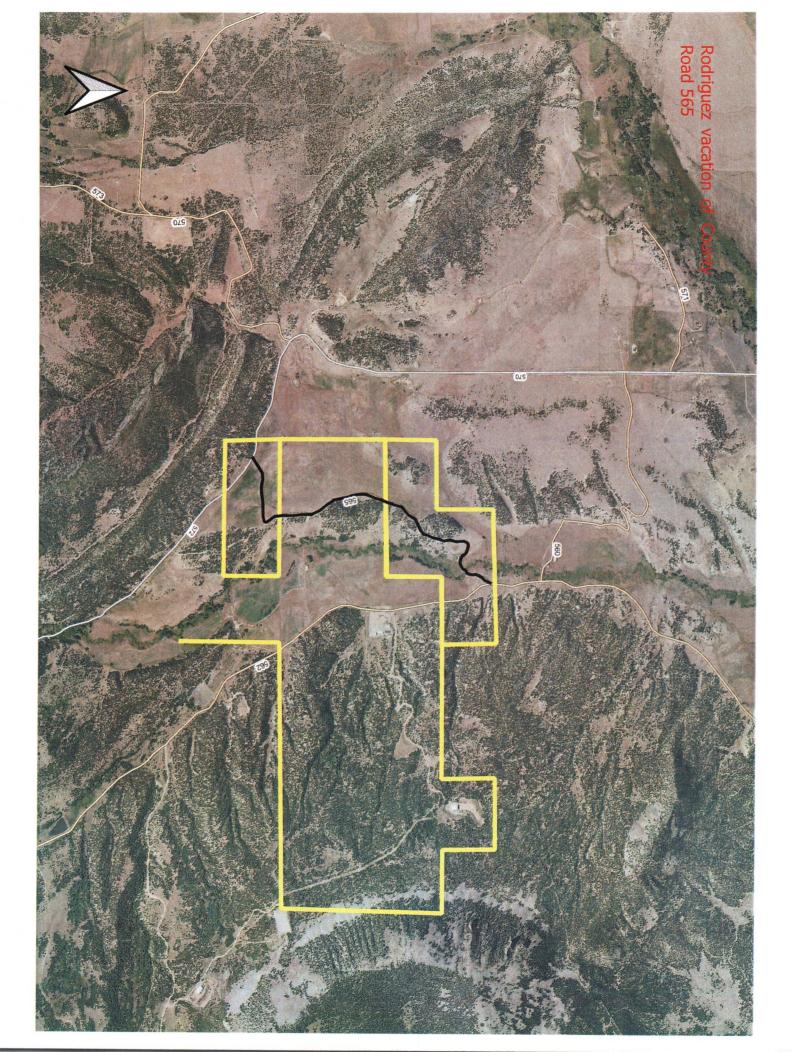
Fred Rodriguez, representative

Section 2.15,02 #3 Narrative

Attachment 3 – Maps







Attachment 4 – Agency Comments



Cheri Chamberlain < cchamberlain@huerfano.us>

Re: Vacation of 565

1 message

Brown - DNR, Mike <mike.brown@state.co.us>
To: Cheri Chamberlain <cchamberlain@huerfano.us>

Cc: "Gerk - DNR, Spencer" <spencer.gerk@state.co.us>

Tue, Mar 5, 2024 at 5:36 PM

Hey Cheri,

I don't foresee any wildlife related impacts from the request you sent but just to be sure I also included my local Wildlife Officer in this response to make sure he doesn't have any concerns. Thanks for reaching out on this.

Mike Brown Area Wildlife Manager Area 11-Pueblo





P 719.561.5303 | C 719.250.4269 | F 719.561.5321

600 Reservoir rd. Pueblo, CO 81005 mike.brown@state.co.us | cpw.state.co.us

On Thu, Feb 29, 2024 at 2:36 PM Cheri Chamberlain cchamberlain@huerfano.us wrote:

To Whom It May Concern:

The Huerfano County Land Use Office is reviewing application 20-027 regarding the vacation of County Road 565. The application was placed on hold related to life altering circumstances. Please review the attached letter of intent and vicinity map. Please respond with any questions or comments by April 1, 2024. Thank you,

Cheri Chamberlain

Huerfano County
Building Inspector and Code Enforcement
401 Main Street Suite 304
Walsenburg, CO 81089
(719) 738-1220 ext. 117 (Office)

(719) 248-6715 (Cell) cchamberlain@huerfano.us



Cheri Chamberlain < cchamberlain@huerfano.us >

Re: Vacation of 565

1 message

Gerk - DNR, Spencer <spencer.gerk@state.co.us>
To: "Brown - DNR, Mike" <mike.brown@state.co.us>
Cc: Cheri Chamberlain <cchamberlain@huerfano.us>

Thu, Mar 7, 2024 at 1:59 PM

Hello.

Thank you for including me in this email. I agree with Mike Brown the Area Wildlife Manager and do not foresee wildlife related impacts from the vacation of County Road 565.

Thank you,

On Tue, Mar 5, 2024 at 5:36 PM Brown - DNR, Mike <mike.brown@state.co.us> wrote: Hey Cheri,

I don't foresee any wildlife related impacts from the request you sent but just to be sure I also included my local Wildlife Officer in this response to make sure he doesn't have any concerns. Thanks for reaching out on this.

Mike Brown Area Wildlife Manager Area 11-Pueblo





P 719.561.5303 | C 719.250.4269 | F 719.561.5321 600 Reservoir rd. Pueblo, CO 81005

mike.brown@state.co.us | cpw.state.co.us

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Cheri Chamberlain

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(719) 738-1220 ext. 117 (Office)
(719) 248-6715 (Cell)
cchamberlain@huerfano.us

Spencer Gerk District Wildlife Manager Walsenburg / La Veta





LIVE LIF

P 719.561.5300 | C 719.989.1027 | F 719.561.5321 600 Pueblo Reservoir Road, Pueblo, CO 81005 spencer.gerk@state.co.us | www.cpw.state.co.us



Cheri Chamberlain < cchamberlain@huerfano.us>

Re: Vacation of 565

1 message

Robin Sykes <rsykes@la-h-health.org>

Mon, Mar 4, 2024 at 4:47 PM

To: Cheri Chamberlain < cchamberlain@huerfano.us>

Hi Cheri

This Department has no objection to the proposed vacation of County Road 565.

Thanks

On Thu, Feb 29, 2024 at 2:36 PM Cheri Chamberlain cchamberlain@huerfano.us wrote:

To Whom It May Concern:

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Cheri Chamberlain

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(719) 738-1220 ext. 117 (Office)
(719) 248-6715 (Cell)
cchamberlain@huerfano.us

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Robin Sykes, REHS Environmental Health Director Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department 412 Benedicta Avenue Trinidad, CO 81082

Office: 719-846-2213 Ext 623 Cell: 719-680-3516 Fax: 719-846-4472

https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/la-h-health







Cheri Chamberlain < cchamberlain@huerfano.us>

Re: Vacation of 565

1 message

darrell adler <darrelladler@yahoo.com>

Wed, Mar 13, 2024 at 12:27 PM

To: Cheri Chamberlain < cchamberlain@huerfano.us>

UHFPD does see issues with the vacation of cr 565 that may impose risk to public health and safety and would advise to keep the road open to be better prepared.

On Thursday, February 29, 2024 at 02:36:44 PM MST, Cheri Chamberlain cchamberlain@huerfano.us wrote:

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The Huerfano County Land Use Office is reviewing application 20-027 regarding the vacation of County Road 565. The application was placed on hold related to life altering circumstances. Please review the attached letter of intent and vicinity map. Please respond with any questions or comments by April 1, 2024. Thank you,

Cheri Chamberlain

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cchamberlain@huerfano.us

Attachment 5 – Notice of Public Hearing

Attachment 6 – Public Comments Received