

January 12, 2018

Wickersham Ranch Owners and Neighbors,

I was able to drive the road on Wednesday with Darrell and get a good look at the condition and talk about repairs.

Darrell stated that there was a miscommunication between him and his operator regarding our intentions. There was also a bad decision made about using the Silva Ranch material as it is more suited to summer work. The only rock we had authorized for use in winter was our own rock which is clean and stable when wet.

Darrell apologized for the miscommunication and I'm confident he is genuinely interested in getting the road corrected.

In fact the condition was much more stable on Wednesday. The heavy rains had pushed much of the mud to the side, traffic had done the same and there were only a few really slick spots.

Darrell intends to address those spots today either by walking material in with the dozer (assuming it has stiffened up enough over the last few days) or moving it off to the side where necessary.

I advised Darrell that we want no more work done until spring. That means all the stockpile locations will remain where they are (with a couple moved to make wider road clearance.) But we want very little action on the road surface.

The rest of the road is in very good shape considering we had over six inches of rain. We want to take advantage of that stability and leave well enough alone until spring.

In spring I will drive the road with Darrell (once more) and we will mark specific locations for all rolling dips and remaining rock application on the guarantee that the work will start that day.

For now please use caution on the stretches of road where material was applied. It looks bad but it should hold and stabilize through the winter. Use 4WD on all sections and if you have a new vehicle with AWD please dial up the distribution so that all wheels are actually delivering drive.

When you drive, drive on the ridges. That helps to flatten them down and if everybody drives a slightly deferent track the road bed will self-repair. Of course stay off the shoulders wherever new work was done.

Thanks for your patience.

I can't go out this weekend so I will appreciate any reports on both road condition and whether Darrell actually did the repairs today.

Thanks for your patience,

mld