

Erin Nelson

From: Ed Dobson <edpzbluff@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 28, 2023 2:04 PM
To: Erin Nelson
Subject: Re: Extended remarks of Cody Little, Tsé Kóóh Outfitter

From: Cody Little <sanjuanrivertours@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 27, 2023 2:53 PM
To: <edpzbluff@gmail.com>
Subject: Made some corrections

I have questions, did local Diné families get the information about helicopters flying over their land? Did they get a chance to voice their opinion? Did someone go to the Mexican Water Chapter House and present their proposal or were our neighbors simply left out of the conversation?

Was Monument Valley approached? Navajo Parks and Recreation?

Obviously, flight paths will be over Diné Lands and to leave those folks out of the conversation is disrespectful and in no way champions our neighbors. Make room for them at the table.

It's said that the flight path doesn't go over the homes in Bluff but it damn sure goes over the homes of Diné Lands.

Judging by the lack of Indigenous voices in the meeting, I'd say our neighbors know nothing about this. That is wrong.

"Medical Emergencies..." Not a chance would I release a patient to a helicopter with no medical team on board. That would be considered Patient Abandonment, illegal and not best practice. Medical Helicopters are permitted to land wherever is safe for Pilot, EMS and the Patient. A helicopter pad in town is not necessary for medical emergencies.

Helicopters are loud and the sounds will echo off the canyon walls that surround Bluff. It will be loud. So loud. It will forever add a less than pleasant element to Bluff.

Flights over the San Juan River directly affect my business. Sure, the occasional private pilot, scientist and even the military fly over and in the canyon from time to time, very different than commercial helicopter tours operating daily. In fact, daily helicopter tours below the rim of the San Juan would affect my business to the point of having to close my doors. Folks come to Bluff to enjoy the unique remoteness of the area, the sounds and sights that come with it. Not to see helicopters providing intrusive tours over the river and land.

"Nature has it's rights."

Helicopter tours would disturb nesting eagles, falcons and geese in addition to all the other birds that frequent a unique Desert Riparian area for survival. After a couple long cold winters the Canyon Wrens no longer sing their song. Perhaps one day that will change but if helicopter traffic is introduced to the San Juan Canyon Corridor that will never happen. No bird will have a chance. Desert Big Horn Sheep would be kept from their Summer water source, water is life. The added strain to the Big Horn will not go unnoticed. Flights over domestic livestock will result in friction and frustration.

My shop is near the proposed helicopter pad, I didn't work for 30 years to be a part of Bluff only to have a commercial helicopter pad near my shop. I don't want helicopters flying over my property.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion.

Cody Little
Owner/Guide

Tsé Kóóh Outfitter

There is more in you of good than you know, child of the kindly West. Some courage and some wisdom, blended in measure. If more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world.

- J.R.R Tolkien, *The Hobbit*, or *There and Back Again*.

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Ed Dobson

Planning & Zoning Commission

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We are a volunteer commission that checks email every Wednesday. For immediate assistance, please contact office@townofbluff.org or 435-672-9990