



Sunflower Rail-Trails Conservancy, Inc.

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Clark County Board of County Commissioners
913 Highland Street
Ashland, KS 67831

Attention: Jim Daily; Clark County Board of County Commissioners
Via: U.S. Mail, Return Receipt

Re: Per notification of Fire, Health, and Erosion Hazards to Angle Road Bridge; Necessary Mitigative Action: SRTC
Short Grass Prairie Trail

With this correspondence, the Sunflower Rail-Trails Conservancy Inc. (SRTC) is notifying the Clark County Board of County Commissioners (Clark BoCC) of efforts to date and plans to resolve the issue of the debris against the railroad trestle where the Short Grass Prairie Trail alignment crosses the Little Sandy Creek at Angle Road coordinates 99.8352019 degrees N, 37.1350470 degrees N.

The SRTC has been in contact with adjacent landowners (Bill Shaw and Chris Wilkinson), the Ashland fire chief (David Redger), the future Ashland fire chief (Jesse Stebens), and are continuing attempts to contact others involved or potentially involved in this issue. From those contacts the following was determined as of this time, but plans are still under development:

1. The hazard is real, current and needs to be addressed promptly.
2. The best solution currently seems to be to either move the debris further north and then burn it at the new location or burn it in its current location which would also destroy the railroad trestle.
3. We are attempting to contact Randy Unruh who seems to be the only contractor in the area with the equipment necessary to be able to move the debris north. We want to get an estimate from him as soon as possible, he is currently working for Bill Shaw south of there.
4. The fire chief said that due to the dry conditions he did not think it best to burn it until snow covers the ground to prevent a wildfire.
5. We are currently searching for the appropriate person(s) we can contract with to oversee this burn.
6. We have been informed that the fires of 2 years ago also killed many trees further north and that these will probably be washing down and will cause the same problem in the future so in the interest of preventing as much as possible future issues of this nature we are developing contingencies.
7. As we receive answers to the issues above we plan to keep the Clark BoCC apprised of same as well as the adjacent landowners and fire chief.
8. We hope to fill in the above answers ASAP but certainly by the end of October. It looks like the burn cannot occur before the first snow (may it come soon) but we will have everything set up before then.
9. Any issues needing addressed can be sent to the SRTC address above or if more urgent can be texted or called to Richard Stein 620-255-9418.

Thank you for your patience in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Stein".

Richard Stein
President, Sunflower Rail-Trails Conservancy