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# Havasu 4 Wheelers club fence off dangerous mines



A trip to Havasu's backyard wilderness just got a little safer. The Havasu 4 Wheelers, a 200 family member off-road club, recently fenced off several abandoned mines in the Standard Wash off-highway vehicle area, and in the Buckskins Mountains east of Parker Dam.

The work was part of an ongoing effort to secure open vertical mine shafts near popular back country trails. For six years, the club has worked with the Bureau of Land Management's Lake Havasu Field Office to close off the dangerous mines.

The mines are a remnant of Arizona's history of gold, silver and copper mining operations.

The club also received a grant for support equipment from Tread Lightly, an off-road nonprofit organization that promotes responsible outdoor recreation. The club members donated their own time, vehicles, tools, and equipment.

The BLM provided the fencing materials, with the volunteer work being coordinated with Assistant Field Manager Amanda Dodson. Twenty club members drove out early each morning in Jeeps with two towing trailers laden with tools and fencing materials.

The fencing process involved driving steel posts into the rocky ground and then stringing wire and warning signs.

Club members plan to regularly inspect local mine sites that have been fenced off for instances of vandalism or damage.