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Letter: Iconic destination

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Editor:

Twice in the last month, the Granite Dells have been mentioned as one of Prescott's premier destinations — first in the Courier's article on the Constellation trails, (Jan. 8) and then by Expedia. (Jan. 12).

All this attention points to what is already obvious to many Prescott residents: Minutes from downtown Prescott is one of Arizona's most unique and spectacular natural settings.

For many local families, including my family, trips to the Dells are a weekly event.

And increasingly, visitors come from afar. Hikers, climbers and bikers come from all points to meander along the shores of Willow and Watson lakes, put up a top rope on one of the hundreds of climbs or test their mountain- biking skills. Despite all this, however, the City of Prescott is considering an annexation and zoning change to allow for massive development in the northern portion of the Dells.

Arizona Eco Development has submitted a conceptual proposal that would level much of the Point of Rocks area.

The Peavine trail passes directly through this area, and it is plainly visible from the Constellation trails.

Instead of one of nature's most spectacular displays, the increasing numbers of Dells users would then be passing through and gazing upon thousands of houses and an exclusive resort.

The Dells is iconic, a critical piece of Prescott's identity, and should be preserved for generations to come for the use and enjoyment of all Prescott's residents and visitors to Prescott.

Matt LaVoire

Prescott

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