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**From:** [Rob Hunter](#)

**To:** [ubcp@lists.xmission.com](mailto:ubcp@lists.xmission.com)

**Sent:** Friday, June 15, 2001 3:11 PM

**Subject:** (ubcp) Danger at Mexican Mountain

I went to Mexican Mountain yesterday (6-14-01) and have some rather distressing news to report. When I flew over the strip I noticed several large rocks on the runway. I did another pass and saw 4 rocks that I would not want to hit while landing but they looked avoidable. I didn't see any on the first 300 feet of the runway and I figured I would be on the ground and could steer around the rocks further down the airstrip.

Once on the ground and walking back along the airstrip my near disaster became apparent. I hadn't seen all the rocks. There were at least 10 rocks that were not on the runway during my last visit on 5-14-01. The largest rock was rectangular and about 8x6x12 inches. The others were about the size of bowling balls. They were sitting on top of the dry hard dirt. They were not partially embedded. They did not have any soot on them as if they had been part of a fire ring and were not in just one area of the runway as they would have been if they had been a part of someone's campsite and then scattered. They could not have fallen from anywhere. They were intentionally placed on the runway!

There was some grass and weeds about a foot tall that obscured my view of some of the rocks. I can't say whether or not the rocks were intentionally put in places where they would be hard to see, but that was the effect. Looking at my tire tracks in the dirt I came within an inch or two of three of the rocks that I hadn't even seen. I was lucky and suffered no damage to my airplane or self.

I will report this to the BLM but I'm not sure what they can do about it. Have any of you been there since 5-14-01? It would help narrow down the time of the vandalism.

Be careful out there.

Rob Hunter