

11770 Steeple A Rd N E  
Deming , New Mexico 88030  
November 15 2014

Cibola National Forest Plan Revision  
2113 Osuna Road N E  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87138

These comments refer to proposed wilderness designation to forest or private lands in the southern End of the San Mateo mountain range of the Magdalena Ranger District.

I own a grazing permit for the San Juan Grazing allotment. My family has operated that allotment for many years. We are very familiar with the lands in that allotment and their characteristics as well as existing roads, man made improvements, wildlife populations and the multiple uses of that property,

The allotment is located on the South east side of the San Mateo mountain range and in an area identified as D3ADJ8 and D35K17 on a wilderness inventory map handed out at your meeting in Socorro.

The allotment joins a portion of the existing Apache Kid Wilderness; however the terrain and characteristics of the land differ dramatically. The existing wilderness lays along the top of the San Mateo Range and is isolated and difficult to access. The San Juan allotment occupies the East side of the San Mateos and quickly slopes down to open flats and Interstate 25.

The following is a partial list of why the Forest Service lands on the San Juan allotment and the East slope of the San Mateo Mts. Do not meet the characteristics of a wilderness designation.

1. Vehicle traffic on Interstate 25 and N. M. highway 107 and highway 1 is easily seen moving during Daylight hours.
2. Vehicle lights on I-25 and NM Highway 107 are easily seen during darkness.
3. Glare from windshields of vehicles moving on I-25 is prevalent during the day.
4. Numerous buildings, associated glare and lights along I-25 that include two reststop areas, one Truckstop and convenience center, a N. M. Dept storage yard and numerous residences, barns and associated infra structure and buildings.
5. At least three cell towers and communication towers extending several hundred feet into the air and seen plainly during the daytime and especially at night due to their blinking lights.
6. Numerous above ground power lines crossing the area.
7. The already planned construction of two 500 KVA power lines known as the Sun Zia project to be constructed in the very near future.
8. Numerous man made water storage tanks, windmills, corrals, drinking tubs and pipelines, some of which lay on top of the ground for miles.
9. Miles and miles of fences.
10. A flying area used by military aircraft from Albuquerque can be seen and are very noisy during these training missions over the proposed wilderness areas.
11. Wood cutting areas are constantly used.
12. Numerous roads, approximately 38 miles of various classes of roads, that allow for multiple uses by USFS personnel, ranchers, sportsmen and hunters, sight seers, law enforcement, emergency responders and others on this allotment alone.
13. On a clear morning and with the blowing from the East, vehicle noise can be heard from I-25. The open nature of the terrain along with its many roads and closeness to paved highways allows this area to be a popular camping spot during hunting seasons. Those camps usually contain generators to provide power, atvs for riders of all ages and RVs of all sizes including large motor homes.

The inclusion of USFS lands on the East side of the San Mateo mountains in a wilderness designation will make it impossible for my family to operate the San Juan allotment due to restrictions on motorized vehicles and equipment, maintenance needs, supplemental feeding, livestock care and providing water for livestock and wildlife. Forest Service policies are already difficult to comply with.

Due to my extensive experience and familiarity with the terrain being considered for Wilderness designation on the east side of the San Mateo mountains in are D3Adj8 and D35K17; I can assure you that wilderness characteristics such as solitude, little or no imprint from humans, geological, paleontological etc. are not present and this area should not be considered for Wilderness inventory. The area should remain in its current multiple use category.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Bill Nunn". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Thank you," text.

Joe Bill Nunn