



Cibola National Forest Mountain Ranger Districts

Comment Form for Draft Desired Conditions and Vision Statements



Public comments submitted, including names and street addresses of commenters will be available for public review as part of the planning record. Individual commenters may request the Forest Service to withhold their name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act by checking the box below. We will accept anonymous comments.

I wish to withhold my name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. ☒ Yes

Date: September 25, 2015

Name: Bobby Gonzales

Phone (

Please use the table below to make comments on the draft Desired Conditions and Vision Statements document. Please be as specific as you can and include the page and line numbers; the resource topic; the management area involved; and your comment.

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| Introduction page before the table of contents. | First sentence | Violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act | The very first page of the draft includes anti-discrimination language regarding the Federal Civil Rights Laws and regulations against discrimination of any kind. Simply citing the policy and declaring the purported policy against discrimination does not constitute compliance with the law. The fact that you are attempting to render more that 60% of the public land off limits to vehicles constitutes a blatant disregard for Americans with disabilities and a direct violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act. I have never considered myself disabled but the extreme limitations placed upon the public land renders The National Forest |


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Revised 7/15/15



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| | | | <p>(a public facility) inaccessible due to excessive distances that is beyond my physical ability to walk. There are others that have much greater disabilities than I and I will seek them out to explore the possibility of class action assertions of our rights. Under Title III, no individual may be discriminated against on the basis of disability with regards to the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, or accommodations of any place of "public accommodation" by any person who owns, leases, or operates a place of "public accommodation". "Public accommodations" include most places of lodging (such as inns and hotels), recreation, transportation, education, and dining, along with stores, care providers, and places of public displays. Below is an example of what USFS should be doing more of, not less, with our tax dollars.</p>  |



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| 1 and 2 | 25-41 1-37 | Landscape Team Vision Statements in general | These teams were handpicked by USFS and Local Community Organizations. The Forest belongs to All Americans. Their view and vision do not necessarily represent the wishes of the vast majority of tax payers. The teams were picked to create the perception of public input while maintaining control of the process and final outcome to suit the agenda a powerful minority of individuals. |
| 1 | 30-34 | Magdalena and San Mateo Vision Statement | Despite the fact that both of these mountain ranges contain numerous active mining claims filed in accordance with the Mining Act of 1872 there is no mention of extractive industries or the right to maintain possession of these minerals. The 1872 Mining Act does not require the submission public comment to maintain and hold these federal mining claims. Areas where current and past mining is present must be excluded from consideration for wilderness designation. The fact that mining operations, ranching, hunting, and wood collecting has created roads precluded these areas from consideration because they do not meet the criteria necessary to be considered wilderness. Closing a road does not make the road go away it simply creates overconcentration and dilapidation of the areas that remain open. |



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| 55 | 24-26 | Soil conditions | It is interesting to note that the least occupied and visited are San Mateo Mountains has the highest percentage of unsatisfactory soil conditions. It is counterintuitive to think making area less accessible will improve the overall health of the forest. |
| 57 | 21 & 22 | Managing Wildlife population | The extent by which NMDGF and USFWS “manages” wildlife is limited to increasing or decreasing the harvest rate of hunters. In a true “wilderness environment as defined by the act everything else should be left to nature. Reintroducing species etc. is an interference with the natural evolution of the planet. Bear in mind that 10,000 +/- species have gone extinct before man walked upright on this planet. There is convincing evidence that man is a subset of the non-extinct species that currently exist. It is counterintuitive to think that 1) that we are a distinct group that is separate from nature; and 2) that it is man’s responsibility and duty to interfere with and stop the natural evolution of our planet’s species dead in its tracks now that we have arrived. One example wolves are not extinct or anywhere close to it; they have evolved. They now reside on every porch in America and in some cases roam the streets of our villages and cities. Every single dog breed in existence today |



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| | | | evolved and were bred out of the wolves over the course of approximately 25,000 years. I don't want my tax dollars or money I spend on hunting and fishing licenses, tackle hunting gear to be taxed and used to subsidize the reintroduction or preservation of species of any type. |
| 59 | 14 & 15 | Nonnative species. | Even our trees come from China. I have run across a few Chinese Elms in the Cibola forest. They spread like wildfire and should be controlled. |
| 59 | 23 | Trespass Livestock | There is ample room to provide for livestock grazing. Our nation's food supply should not be reduced by reducing the amount of livestock raised on public land. By reducing public livestock production you leave us at the mercy of the ultra-rich landowners that have already limited our access to public land by purchasing the entrance to the forest and closing them. |
| 61 | 13 & 14 | Thinning Trees | Thinning should include a responsibly managed effort to harvest of firewood. If the trees are going to burn in a catastrophic event, cause air pollution, then we should capture this heat and use it for our homes and businesses. Firewood sales is also an economic component of the surrounding communities. |



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| 62 | 24 & 25 | Forest Products and the Federal Government's responsibilities to the Public | <p>Although you preface with "include but not limited to" you fail to list a relevant and very important product to our national and local economies. I did not have time to research Multiple Use and Sustained Yield Act of 1960 but based on your citation of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, I submit that you are only paying lip service to this act and are not in compliance with the act as written by Congress and approved by the President. The Background and Description conveniently omits Federal Laws that must be followed as a prime example to the Public at large. If the Federal Government cannot follow its own laws due to disregard, omission, and circumvention, how can they expect the public to follow rules and administrative regulations imposed upon them under rule of a laws that are selectively enforced and utilized? These omissions are not oversights; they are intentional and are designed for the sole purpose of dumbing down the general public.</p> <p>The Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 declares that it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government to foster and encourage private enterprise in the development of a stable</p> |



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| | | | <p>domestic minerals industry and the orderly and economic development of domestic mineral resources.</p> <p>The Federal Lands Policy and Management Act of 1976 reiterates that the 1970 Mining and Minerals Policy Act shall be implemented and directs that public lands be managed in a manner which recognizes the Nation's need for domestic sources of minerals and other resources.</p> |
| 67 & 68 | 6-41 1-34 | Minerals and Geology | <p>The plan cites the existence economically valuable minerals and past mining activity that has occurred throughout the Cibola Forest. However it barely acknowledges and glosses over the fact that there are laws on the books that provide for our nations demand for the resources needed to sustain human life.</p> <p>There is an ever increasing demand for natural resources in the US. Congress had the foresight to recognize this and through administrative authority, the planners seek to ignore the laws on the books in hopes of passing an additional laws that declares more land as wilderness and further restrict the public access to the land. Miners have</p> |



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| | | | <p>gotten a bad name mostly through propaganda and sensationalization of a few isolated cases. They should be otherwise referred to as resource providers.</p> <p>This study and plan development would be absolutely impossible were it not for the resource providers. Vehicles, fuel, computers to prepare the plan and accept comments, materials needed to study the environmental conditions, cameras, sampling equipment, paper, surveying equipment and on, and on, all come out of the ground and mostly from public land. Comment could not be sought or submitted and man (or woman) would not survive were it not for the resource providers.</p> <p>If the Trans Pacific Trade Agreement is passed as drafted these regulations imposed administratively will only apply to American Citizens. Americans will only be allowed to watch from afar as foreign corporations extract the resources and enrich themselves without regard to the environment and the health and safety of American citizens and workers. It is evident that there is a hidden agenda to take that which belongs to the public away from them to be used for others in the future. It is just too coincidental that the areas</p> |



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| | | | containing the most valuable deposits of the resources needed to sustain human existence are the areas being recommended for Wilderness. |
| 73 | 20 -29 | Designated areas. | <p>Areas are being designated without regard to public comments submitted verbally at scheduled meetings and in writing. USFS has declared numerous areas as "roadless." Simply closing a road with a plastic bollard or dirt berm does not make it roadless. Consider the terms and conditions of Revised Statute 2477 and subsequent case law that has been a result of numerous Americans asserting their rights.</p> <p>In this way USFS is falsifying the report associated with the plan. More than 60% of the Magdalena district used by the general public for generations is now being designated for as wilderness. As slow as Congress moves, for all intents and purposes, you have declared all of the areas recommended as wilderness in perpetuity because they will remain in limbo until Congress acts. The Ladron Mountains have remained a wilderness study area despite the fact that it is neither roadless or in pristine untouched condition for more than thirty years without congressional</p> |



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| | | | action. All areas designated as "roadless" will be challenged in the future. |
| 77 | 24 & 25 | Road Maintenance | Safe and well-maintained infrastructure is non-existent and absolute misnomer in the Cibola Forest. I clearly remember the USFS maintaining, grading and fixing the roads on a regular basis. This virtually never happens today. The only maintenance that occurs today is the construction of gates and berms to restrict access to the land. The lack of maintenance leads to unnecessary erosion and the creation of more roads to bypass areas that have been washed out. |
| | | | D3_5K7 and D3_5K7.b are not roadless. There are several roads that cross through these sections. BLM has designated the area as containing locatable minerals. There are ranching that occurs in the area. There is hunting and many other types of recreational activities that occur on a regular basis throughout the area. The recommended (designated for normal intents and purposes) area when accounting for the roads, ranching and recreational activities leave way less than 5,000 undisturbed acres and the |



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| | | | <p>sections therefore do not meet the criteria and requirement for wilderness designation.</p> <p>D3_ADJ9 and D3_ADJ10 are both less than 5,000 acres and should not be recommended. Historically, valuable silver deposits have been discovered in the vicinity and great potential exist for other locatable minerals to be discovered. It would be a violation of acts cited previously in my comments above.</p> <p>D3_5K6 Has several roads and mineralization. After accounting for the roads there is not a total of 5,000 Acres available for designation.</p> <p>D3_5K5 Has several roads and mineralization. The existence of patented mining properties and claims is a clear indicator the mineralization. After accounting for the roads there is not a total of 5,000 Acres available for designation.</p> <p>D3_5K1 Has several roads crossing throughout the entire area. Numerous valuable minerals have been proven on the existing and past mining claims. Designating this area will be a direct violation of research Multiple Use and Sustained Yield Act of 1960, the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act of 1976, the 1970 Mining and Minerals Policy Act, and RS2477. It is a further infringement on the rights of current mining claim holder who</p> |



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| | | | <p>have exercised their due diligence in accordance with the 1872 Mining Act to maintain and hold their claims. The existence of patented mining properties and active mining claims is a clear indicator the mineralization. The areas has virtually hundreds of abandoned adits, shafts and prospect that are worth reevaluating as a result changed market conditions. After accounting for the roads, active mining claims, ranching and numerous recreational activities that occur on a regular basis this area is clearly not a candidate for wilderness consideration. Additional there is not a total of 5,000 acres without the previously described improvements with the area.</p> <p>D3_5K3 Has several roads and mineralization. The existence of patented mining properties and claims is a clear indicator the mineralization. After accounting for the roads there is not a total of 5,000 Acres available for designation. Furthermore there is not a distinct boundary drawn on the map that separate D3_5K5 and D3_5K3.</p> <p>D3_Lang Has several roads and mineralization. The existence of patented mining properties and claims is a clear indicator the mineralization. After accounting for the roads there is not a total of</p> |



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| | | | 5,000 Acres available for designation. Langmuir Research Site was originally established to research weather patterns and storm activity. In clandestine fashion it has grown exponentially in size and range. Apparently the research activity has expanded well beyond the original scope. The Public has been left uninformed regarding these changes to public land. It is hard to discern what Research site boundaries are and what are proposed. It is hard to comment on the planned intentions when they are obscured in this fashion. Due to the limited availability of time to complete my comments I must say in general the same conditions described for the Magdalena Districts exist in all the other areas being considered under this plan. Consider these previous comments to apply to those areas as well as they may apply. |



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| In General | All pages | | <p>A document is referenced throughout the draft in this fashion; “(Corresponds to Need for Change chapter, subsection etc.) It would be helpful if the document was made readily available. It could speak volumes and describe the underlying agenda of the USFS and its current administrative officials.</p> <p>I went to one of the public meetings and in hindsight I am insulted. They were polite and informative but they absolutely ignored the comments of most of those in attendance. We were told that we were being heard but the draft indicates you were lying.</p> <p>I use all of the forest lands for recreation with a keen eye for the resources that may be beneficial to society. I could not attend every meeting for every district because I have a busy schedule and many life responsibilities including but not limited to my work which is necessary to feed, house and support my family. I went to the meeting at the Open Space Center in Albuquerque. I opened my comments by pointing out the blatant disregard for Americans with Disabilities Act. Although the invitation acknowledge the need to accommodate this group, accommodations were dismal at best. The building was over packed and there was no way people with disabilities could have attended and be heard. It is sad but I believe that Americans with disabilities have just come to accept that a Public facility such as the National Forest and the meeting centers are simply off limits</p> |



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| | | | <p>to them. In closing I believe that it was the original intent of the Wilderness Act to Identify and Isolate area that are of extraordinary beauty and wonder. It was intended for the most special places in this nation. Designating areas to the extreme that this plans reduces the distinction and Wilderness takes on a new designation as areas that are off limits to the public without a real and distinct purpose. Thank you for allowing me to participate but I feel like the BLM has with their plans, USFS will ignore and disregard our comments and carry out the original plan that was preconceived prior to the request for public input.</p> |
| <p>Comments are most useful to the Cibola if received by September 25, 2015. Comment forms can be delivered to the local Ranger District Office or mailed to: Forest Planner, 2113 Osuna Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113; or emailed electronically to comments-southwestern-Cibola@fs.fed.us or entered on our webform at https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?project=46268.</p> | | | |