



Cibola National Forest Mountain Ranger Districts

Evaluation Criteria Definition Matrix and Comment Form



The Cibola National Forest plan revision interdisciplinary team developed draft questions and measures to address each of the five wilderness characteristic criteria listed in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 70- Wilderness. These are to be used to evaluate the Phase 2 Inventory areas for wilderness characteristics, and are outlined below.

Please use this form to comment on individual areas from the Phase 2 Inventory maps. Please use one form for each individual identification area, and note its identification number and location. If your comment is not addressed in the "considerations" column of each criterion, please include additional information in the "other" narrative section.

You can also comment using the Talking Points Collaborative Mapping Tool available at this website: <https://my.usgs.gov/ppgis/studio/launch/39829>. Please consider the evaluation criteria below when inputting comments on the online mapping tool.

Inventory Identification Number/Location:

NO WILDERNESS DESIGNATION for D25K6

Criterion 1- Apparent naturalness: The degree to which an area generally appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprints of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

Question 1a. What is the composition of plant and animal communities? The purpose of this question is to determine if plant and animal communities appear substantially unnatural.

Considerations	Narrative
How are concentrations of invasive plants and/or animals distributed across the land?	REALLY SCATTERED
Other (Include any additional information related to the question above)	QUITE EVIDENT INVASIVE PLANTS

Question 1b. What is the extent to which the area appears to reflect ecological conditions that would normally be associated with the area without human intervention?

Considerations	Narrative
Extent that current vegetation species composition and structure has changed from historical conditions (pre-EuroAmerican settlement). ¹	
Vegetation restoration treatments (e.g. thinning) or timber harvest areas and distribution across the land (broadly dispersed vs. concentrated). This also includes associated railroad beds, skid trails, and logging decks of timber harvest areas.	LUMBERING
Does the forest appear natural (consider elements, including but not limited to, vegetation, wildlife, soil, air, etc.)?	SOME PLACES NOT AS NATURAL
Other (Include any additional information related to the question above)	

¹ Species composition is the number and proportion of species present. Structure refers to the size, density, and arrangement of plants.