Joe Bill Nunn

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8-29-16

Elaine Kohrman, Forest Supervisor

Cibola National Forest

2113 Osuna Road NE

Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Elaine,

Following are a few comments on the proposed Cibola Forest Plan.

1. I appreciate your willingness to reduce the original proposed wilderness acreage in the Magdalena District however, I feel additional reductions are called for across the district. The acreage remreining in the Magdalena District is disproportioned to the other districts.
2. The NM State engineer oversees current water laws in New Mexico based on prior appropriation and beneficial use. The Forest Service has no business getting involved!
3. Downed trees and logs laying all over the Forest floor ruins the scenic values that this plan promotes adds fuel for the mort wildfires and invites adverse insects.
4. Under utilization of grass and forage leaves fodder for wildfires. 31% to 40% is under utilization.
5. I don’t see any reference in the document to manage the resources and infrastructure damage done by increasing numbers of Elk in the Cibola. One suggestion might be to encourage more Elk tags for the Cibola hunting units.
6. I would like to encourage the Cibola staff to allow grazing permittees to repair crossings or make small scale erosion repairs with their own equipment and with the permission of the Forest District involved if the permittee is willing to provide these services. Many times correcting a small problem when it first starts is key to preventing a more severe problem from developing. It should be a simple process with a minimum of paper work and a quick decision.
7. In my opinion, you can keep adding regulations, guidelines, standards, management approaches to the Cibola Plan until you effectively ruin it for all the users. The Forest lands have survived for years under multiple use without the intense management details that this plan proposes. For example: most New Mexicans like a chili sauce that has a good flavor, texture, color, a little heat, and is easy to prepare, but if you keep adding ingredient after ingredient, you are likely to ruin it. Thanks.