

11770 Steep AR NE
Deming, N.M.
88030
8-24-16

Elaine Kohman, Forest Supervisor
Cibola National Forest
2113 Osuna Rd 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 remaining in the Magdalena District is disproportional to the other districts.
2. The N.M. State Engineer oversees current water law 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 next wild fire and invites adverse insects.

4. under utilization of grass and forage leaves fodder for wild fires. 31% to 40% is under utilization
 5. I don't see any reference in the document to manage the resource and infrastructure damage done by increasing numbers of Elk in the Cibola. One suggestion might be to encourage the NM Dept of Game and Fish to issue substantially more Elk tags for the Cibola hunting units
 6. I would like to encourage the Cibola staff to allow grazing permittees to repair road 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.
- In my opinion, you can keep adding regulations, ~~guidelines~~ 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
- Sincerely
Joe Bill Neumann