



COMMENT FORM

Tonto National Forest Draft Plan and Draft EIS



This comment form is a means for you to provide your input regarding specific issues for the Draft Forest Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Tonto National Forest. Comments should clearly articulate the reviewer's opinions and concerns. Please provide information that will be helpful for the U.S. Forest Service to consider as we revise the forest plan.

For your comments to be considered under 36 CFR part 219 subpart B – to be eligible to submit an objection – we require that you include your name, email, and/or address. Please note that comments received on the Preliminary Proposed Plan, along with the names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record and subject to the Freedom of Information Act requests. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered in the NEPA process, however, anonymous commenters will not have standing and subsequently will not be able to participate in the objection process.

The draft plan and DEIS are available electronically on the Tonto NF plan revision website, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/tonto/landmanagement/planning>. Printed versions will be available at Tonto NF ranger district offices, at the supervisor's office, and at area libraries. Additional printed versions may be requested via email, SM.FS.tontoplan@usda.gov, or by calling 602-225-5200.

If you would like to receive future updates about the Tonto Plan Revision Process, please check this box:



Name: Steve McElintock

Postal Address: 3720 N. Rowen, Mesa, AZ 85202

Email: Steve.mc.elintock@gmail.com

Comment: After a rain or event that softens the trail bed, horses, hikers, and bikers should be encouraged not to use non-motorized trails for 24-72 hours after a significant rain or snow event. This practice would reduce the creation of ruts, holes, etc in the trail bed

On non-motorized trails, horses, hikers, and bikers have the potential to damage trails and they all have the potential to damage the trail bed.



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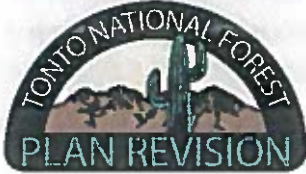


Name: STEVE WIMCCLINTOCK

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Comment: There should be consideration of adding solar-water pumps and troughs or catclimats along the trails to provide a constant water source for horses in particular as well as for hikers + bikers.



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Name: STEVE M. MCCLINTOCK

Postal Address: 3720 N. Rowen, Mesa, AZ 85207

Email: Steve.W.McClintock@gmail.com

Comment: Page 183, para 5: TNF employ a strategy of "adaptive management." Issue: introduction of E-bikes on non-motorized trails: (1) E-bikes should be considered motorized and not be on non-motorized trails; (2) non-motorized trail etiquette is hikers yield to horses, bikers yield to horses and bikers. Who would E-bikes yield to? E-bikes are silent and can move up to 20 mph – horses, hikers, and bikers are less safe with E-bikes on a non-motorized trail. (3) All the forest signage put in place over almost the last 75-100 years would have to be replaced – who will do this? What will pay for new signs? What will the signs + symbols depict as to who has the right-of-way and who yields. The re-education process for users of non-motorized trails will be enormous and it is estimated only 25% of users will understand the change over the first 5 years. (4) There should be no exception for disabled people to use E-bikes on non-motorized trails as this would be an open loop-hole and E-bike riders could get disabled identifiers (ID's) and there would be no way to enforce this.