

Oct. 12, 2021
attn: Objection Reviewing
Officer -

Sorry I had to
hand-write my
objection to the
Carson Forest Plan
FEIS & Draft ROD -

we had a power
outage, and couldn't
use the
computer.



I wanted
to submit
→

This objection in
a timely manner -
so I hope you can
read my writing.
Please call me at

[redacted]
or email at [redacted]

[redacted]

If you have any
questions or can't
read my writing,
again - sorry for the
inconvenience. Carson
Watch, Joante Berde

CARSON FOREST WATCH

% Joante Berde

ALBUQUERQUE NM 870

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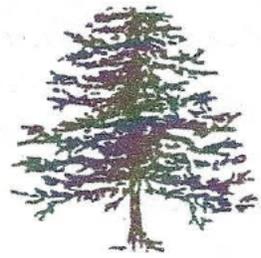
Objection Reviewing Officer -
SW Region - US Forest Service
333 Broadway Blvd. S.E.
Albuquerque, N.M. 87102

attn: Reviewing Officer

87102-349899



Your Community Voice in the Carson



Objection - Carson National Forest
Final Land Management Plan FEIS
& Draft Record of Decision

OCT. 7, 2021

Carson Forest Watch

Objection Reviewing Officer
SW Region - US Forest Service
333 Broadway Blvd S.E.
Alb., N.M. 87102

The following are reasons for an Objection to the Carson Forest Plan FEIS & Draft R.O.D. (James Carson Forest Supervisor)

- 1) we have been involved from the beginning of this Forest Plan Revision process & wrote comments on the Scoping & Draft and also attended public meetings at the Cimarron Real District Office on the Forest Plan Revision.
- 2) note we were also involved in the current Plan in the 1980s.
- 3) while we appreciate some of the emphasis on local community involvement and acknowledgment of uses of the forest & forest products - we remain concerned with some aspects of the FEIS & draft R.O.D. and would request improvement with a few important parts of the Plan.
- 4) Specifically - we are concerned that only 60% of the 13 areas that met criteria for wilderness designation were proposed in the FEIS. The Rationale for not including all areas with wilderness qualities & ~~characteristics~~ characteristics was not sufficient, especially with climate change and development loss of habitat loss of wildlife corridors, and numerous threats to biodiversity on a changing Planet - protection of all areas with wilderness quality is critical.

"We abuse land
because we
regard it as a
commodity
belonging to us.
When we see
land as a
community to
which we belong,
we will begin to
use it with love
and respect."

— Aldo Leopold

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- 5) we recommend the Carson take another look at the areas that were not included as wilderness - appropriate and recognize the importance of intact forest for watershed protection, wildlife habitat, and biodiversity, and add those areas that were "deleted",
- 6) we also were disappointed to see the "wetland secrets" not be designated. (as recommended by Amigos Bravos) - while the plan does mention measures & budgets & is not as protective as designating wetland secrets.
- 7) The increase in timber production and harvest levels is significant, and fails to disclose where and what trees would ~~be~~ be included in the annual Board Foot amounts. we are concerned regarding the larger diameter trees - esp. over ^{12"} 16" DBH that would constitute ~~part~~ of this annual timber harvest. Thinning of smaller diameter trees is prudent in areas of the forest - esp. in Ponderosa Pine. However, the plan fails to disclose specifics and leaves these details to future NEPA projects. This hides the cumulative impacts of the new, larger annual rate of harvest. It also does not show where the areas of harvest are located so that the public can determine how past timber harvesting will combine with future harvesting to impact watersheds, wildlife, and forest diversity.
- 8) The Old growth section needs further details - maps showing how old growth has changed from 30 years ago, etc. Climate change & warming and changing snowpack & soil moisture & rainfall patterns are all affecting the trees on the Carson and the FEIS fails to document how the significant increase in trees harvested will affect tree mortality from climate change & drought. We believe the proposed harvest amounts are not a sustainable amount when climate change & long-term near-drought impacts are factored in.
- 9) we do support community Stewardship (XCTRP) projects that thin smaller trees adjacent to communities doing written numerous letters of support of local groups doing such projects over the past 10-15 years on the Carson.
- Sincerely, Joante Berde
for Carson Food Watch