South Platte
Enhancement Board

August 28, 2024

Ryan Nehl, Forest and Grasslands Supervisor
2840 Kachina Drive
Pueblo, CO 81008

and via electronic submission

RE: **Integrated Management of Target Shooting on the Pike National Forest #57807**

Dear USFS Planning Team,

The South Platte Enhancement Board (SPEB) was created as a part of the South Platte Protection Plan, as the selected alternative following the assessment of the South Platte River for possible Wild and Scenic designation. Two of SPEB's primary charges are the protection of the Outstanding Resource Values (ORV's) of the South Platte River and ensuring that the South Platte Protection Plan (SPPP) is implemented and maintained. Details on SPEB are available at our website: https://southplatte.org/

Eligible Area. The Eligible Area (area covered by the SPPP & SPEB's oversight) is: (1) From Elevenmile Dam (downstream from the fence on Denver Water's special use area on the South Platte River) downstream to the high water line of Strontia Springs Reservoir; and (2) the South Platte River upstream to Insmont, from the North Fork from its confluence. These two river segments total 72.3 linear miles of stream.   Lands adjacent to the South Platte and the North Fork that the Enhancement Board determines have values of sufficient association to the river segments.

SPEB respectfully submits the following comments on the **Integrated Management of Target Shooting on the Pike National Forest #57807 project:**

SPEB's comments are limited to potential impacts to the South Platte River, and ¼ mile on each side of the river, rather than the full scope of the DEIS. The existing restrictions against recreational shooting near the river corridor supports protection of the ORV's, and SPEB supports continued dispersed shooting restrictions in these areas. SPEB understands and supports the need for responsible and managed recreational shooting on public lands where appropriate.

On Behalf of the South Platte Enhancement Board,

Andy Hough
2024 SPEB President