Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/11/2016 12:00:00 AM
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Title:
Comments: Cibola National Forest Mountain Ranger Districts
Comment Form for use with
Preliminary Draft Plan, Wilderness Process Paper, and all maps

Document
Reviewed (draftResource
Plan, wildernessSectionPage #Line #Comment
Process paper,
Map)
Preliminary Draft…Res.Recreation10715-20, 29, How does OHV use contribute to
Management Plan 38-39physical, mental and spiritual health
of individuals. This destructive rec-
reation interrupts quiet mountain environments, frightens away wildlife
and provides very little escape from urban environments. This semi-
primitive motorized activity does not nearly fit a definition for semi-
primitive. It is motorized and has no place in the national forest. It does
not promote knowledge, resource conservation and appreciation of the
natural world. Keep ATVs and OHVs out of the forest.

108; 1091; 13OHV use is not a sustainable use of
National Forest.

Appendix Ihttp://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/cibola/land-Your treatment of Wild and Scenic
management/planning/?cid=fseeprd510481&width Rivers has been treated poorly -
430+ streams have been reduced to
7. This is an insult to USFS hydrologists
students and resesarchers, and volunteers who have studied FS riparian resources.

Inventory and EvaluationPhase I:920-27The summary total acres of wilder-
of Lands...WildernessEvaluation Resultsness character by mountain district is
Preservation Systemis appalling and indicates the bias of Landscape Team
Review. This amount is less than half of the recommended
total of acres of wilderness character in Phase II. The FS inappropriately
considers management tradeoffs due to their choice to limit Landscape Teams to
government agencies without inputs from science and conservation public communities. These Landscape Teams do not represent a "holistic landscape view" and the "diverse interest of the public" as indicated on the Planning website. The Alternative E with Backcountry Emphasis has only 94,300 acres, whereas the Cibola Citizen's Coalition proposed 288,300 acres of wilderness. This CCC proposal should be listed as a preferred Alternative F since there were over 1500 letters supporting this proposal.
Scores given for manageability were low in several areas and this is a bias made by Landscape Teams. The Forest Service is supposed to consider management phase (DEIS) of the Chapter 70 process. The FS should limit their evaluation to the criteria in the Forest Service Handbook.
The Cibola National Forest is an area that is under environmental stresses due to climate change, development, excessive and unmanaged grazing allotments. This is an opportunity for the USFS to protect and safeguard the very important resources that wilderness designation is meant to safeguard. Our Cibola National

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Forest, is close to several urban areas. Only wilderness designation will preserve the values of clean air and valuable water resources that are impacted by abuse of forest resources. Roadless areas in the San Mateo, Magdalena, Ber, Datil, Mt. Taylor and Manzano mountains should be recommended for wilderness to conserve wildlife habitat, enhance non-motorized recreation activities, and protect New Mexico's amazing natural heritage for future generations. We have far less wilderness than other western states in this country. These lands were designated as Inventoried Roadless Areas in 2001. Why are we now denying the time and effort spent on this inventory? There needs to be more wilderness, not less.

I recommend Alternative F - the Cibola Citizen's Coalition proposal. If this is not possible, Alternative E is better than any of the other alternatives offered.

Submitted by Linda Starr
August 31, 2016