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Cibola National Forest Mountain Ranger Districts Comment Form for use with Preliminary Draft Plan, Wilderness Process Paper, and all maps

Document Reviewed (draft plan, wilderness process paper, map)Resource SectionPage #Line #Comment CNFMRD:

Plan RevisionChapter 2:

Dispersed Recreation 1111-3The maximum allowable occupancy of National Forest System lands within the Cibola National Forest shall be 14 days (consecutive or not) within a 90-day period, except as allowed by permit. I understand the need to prevent 'squatters' in the National Forest. However, since the Cibola National Forest includes the Sandia Mtns., the Manzano Mtns., the Manzanita Mtns., Mt. Taylor, the Zuni Mnts., the Magdelena Mnts., The San Mateo Mtns., Gallinas, Bear Mtns., Datil Mtns., the Kiowa, Rita Blanca, McClellan Creek, Black Kettle National Grasslands this policy should not apply to the entire Cibola National Forest, but to each area separately and only if the 14 days are consecutive. There are many people who use the forest on a daily basis or several times a week, such as those who hike or bike from their homes through the foothills or in the Manzanitos or on the east side of the Sandias. This policy could also make backpacking the CDT a challenge for some. If "occupancy" is intended to only apply to camping, that should be clarified. Some areas in Colorado have a policy of 14 day camping limit and you must move 15 air miles before you can camp again. That policy takes care of the 'squatter' issues without causing issues for day users.