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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please see attached.....

[TEXT FROM ATTACHED FILE]

Manchester Creek Trail Head

I came to the 11-15-23 United States Forest Service Dispersed Target Shooting Meeting due to Safety!

Thank you for setting up the meeting[hellip].greatly appreciated!!!!

Our front door is 80 yards from our property line along the National Forest where we have constant unsafe encounters with shooters. (We have many stories)

MAIN CONCERNS:

TOTAL DISREARD AND RESPECT FOR SAFETY:

Shooters have a total disregard/respect for other visitors, the forest, surrounding property owners and the National Forest rules.

It is no longer safe to hike, camp, jog, bike or walk a dog on the trails due to shooters and out of control speeding ATV[rsquo]s/dirt bikes.

Those following the rules can no longer enjoy the forest because of those who break the rules!!!

OUTDATED FOREST RULES/LAWS/REGULATIONS:

The current National Forest rules/laws/regulations in regards to dispersed shooting are obsolete in today[rsquo]s hyper gun society.

EX: A bullet can travel a mile or 1760 yards

Current rules require shooters to be only 150 yards from a house on private property, trails, camp sites, etc[hellip][hellip][hellip][hellip].this rule is NOT followed[hellip][hellip].we are unsafe from stray bullets on our own

property!

RULES/LAWS/REGULATIONS WITHOUT ENFORCEMENT ARE MEANINGLESS:

There is little to no penalty to the shooters so they become more embolden[hellip][hellip]to behave however they wish on Public Lands!

- * Penalties should be huge in dollar (thousands not hundreds). Double for second offense.
- * Penalties should include substantial community service where they are out cleaning up the forest[hellip][hellip]picking up shell casings/discarded trash/fire mitigation.
- * Each trailhead should dominantly advertise trailhead rules, violator number (do we call sheriff or National Forest), and penalties.

Tag a few violators and word will spread.

Target a problem trailhead each weekend, fines cover personnel cost.

There is a lack of personnel, especially on the weekends, to ensure everyone can safely use the forest.

Increase forest fees/penalties to cover the cost[hellip]..

SHOOTING RANGE PROPOSAL:

This along with strict enforcement seems like a common sense proposal to the shooting safety issues!!!

There are thousands of forest acers[hellip][hellip]there is no reason for shooting to occur anywhere near private properties, trails, campsites.

There should also be [ldquo]no motorized[rdquo] roads/trails at each trailhead so those who jog, hike, bike, walk dogs don[rsquo]t worry about getting run over by out of control speeding ATV[rsquo]s/dirt bikes.

Many non-motor users no longer use/enjoy the forest due to safety concerns[hellip][hellip]. too many close calls!!!!

IN APPRECIATION:

The efforts of all National Forest personnel is greatly appreciated!!!

Dealing with the public is no easy task.

Inadequate funding just adds to the issues.