

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/4/2023 8:23:31 PM

First name: Amy

Last name: Mitchell

Organization: Park County Government

Title: County Commissioner

Comments: Specific comments to the South Park Ranger District, which is within my Commissioner District 1.

Please reject location NFSR 255A for the following reasons:

- Badger Flats has been transformed by the USFS over the last 5+ years with designated Motorized Vehicle Use Mapping and the designation of Badger Flats as a Motorized Vehicle Recreation Zone. This designation and the subsequent building of the parking area, installation of a toilet and the increased recreation resulting from the COVID 19 Pandemic, has attracted campers, hikers and OHV enthusiasts. The area is stressed and at capacity and adding another designated recreation zone - shooting - to Badger Flats will attract more individuals and disrupt the quality of the camping experience.
- A shooting Range in a heavily designated camping area is a bad and unwise idea. People hike cross country in the Flats which could impose a danger.
- Grazing allotments will also be impacted, adding additional stress to ranchers who have grazed this land for many decades.
- Road maintenance impact. The County Road and Bridge Department is unable to maintain County Road 31 with the current traffic it receives. The majority of the traffic is from people recreating in the area, including OHV on the county road. Adding a shooting range in that location will add traffic to a road that cannot be properly maintained by the County with current traffic numbers.

Please reject location NFSR 704 for the following reasons:

- This location will be devastating to the elk, deer and pronghorn as this is a major ungulate migration corridor. It is well-known, the vehicle/wildlife collision rate is extremely high on Highway 24 on the east side of Wilkerson Pass, proving the heavily-used migration corridor. Please ask CPW to comment on this location.
- The grazing allotment on the State Trust Land east of this proposed location will be negatively impacted. This grazing allotment has a naturally-occurring spring, good grass and is less impacted by recreation in Badger Flats, except the CR31 traffic, than the other allotments in Badger Flats. Adding a shooting range with a long rifle range could endanger livestock and wildlife and will most definitely cause animal stress with the noise traveling east on the wind.
- Negative reaction of travelers on Highway 24. I contend, those who are anti gun and afraid of firearms will become frightened at the sight of a shooting range along a State highway. It may be wise to have CDOT comment on this location.

Please approve location NSFR 865.

- This location disperses recreation to another part of the South Park Ranger District and will have the least impact on grazing allotments and wildlife.
- This location does not have dense camping that could be impacted by the shooting range. Pulver Pavilion will not be impacted by noise as the wind and bowl location will deflect the noise. The tucked-in location in the bowl provides the safest backdrop for shooting and will contain noise.
- This area can absorb the impact easier than the other two proposed shooting range locations.
- Though this location may not be able to accommodate a long rifle range, it will afford shooting enthusiasts a designated location to safely shoot with the least impact.