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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please see attachment for my comments

[TEXT FROM ATTACHED DOCUMENT]

I am in favor of the [ldquo]NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE[rdquo]. This does not mean I am in favor of no changes on this subject. I believe target shooting in our National Forests is a hallmark of our freedom. There is always a cost/benefit aspect to our freedoms. Currently, there are ample laws and regulations regarding safe, trash free target shooting in our National Forests. When these are followed, there will be safety and freedom to target shoot. When not followed, there will be violations and damage to forest land and yes, maybe even the extremely rare instance of death. This is the nature of the cost of freedom. I favor the [ldquo]NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE[rdquo] because I do not want my freedoms to be further restricted as a result of the National Forest Service (NFS) not enforcing current laws and regulations in the CFRs. Better and more consistent enforcement of existing laws is required, not more laws. The Turkey Tracks shooting range is a good example of this lax enforcement of existing laws. I love the freedom to target shoot at Turkey Tracks, but I deplore the lack of enforcement to deter illegal dumping of trash and damage to land and trees in the area. This lack of enforcement not only encourages more of the same, but the damaged and trashed out forest land that results is used by some and even the NFS as an example of why more regulation and loss of freedom is required. Instead of taking the easy, and I dare I say lazy, method of more restrictions, I would plead for better enforcement of existing laws and regulations. I propose dropping this initiative (REVISE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF TARGET SHOOTING ON THE PIKE NATIONAL FOREST PROJECT) and start anew with a methodology to enhance enforcement of existing laws. If this means requesting additional funding for more NFS personnel to provide better enforcement, I would support this effort if it includes a method for the public to access the effectiveness of the increased enforcement and if the NFS provides statistics on hours of patrol, enforcement actions and details of its methodology. Please do not restrict my freedom as a law-abiding citizen because the NFS is not willing to take its enforcement of existing laws seriously. Nothing is perfect and yes there will always be violations by maybe 0.5% of the population but the job of the NFS is to minimize these violations via enforcement and protect the freedoms of the remaining 99.5%. Please protect our natural resources while also protecting my freedom.