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Organization:

Title:

Comments: "Comments for Preliminary Statements of Needs for Changes, Cibola NF Plan Update"

As president of the New Mexico Pilots Association, I want to express our appreciation for the efforts being made to broaden the scope of recreational aviation access as an integral part of each forest plan.

I have attached a letter with our comments in more detail and NMPA will continue to work across agencies to assist in supporting not only general aviation but also the positive economic impact that access to back country forest lands and air strips will bring to our New Mexico residents and visitors to our state.

Thank you.

Cathy Myers, President

New Mexico Pilots Association

Excerpt from attachment copied here 9/21/15 for coding purposes.

"By including recreational aviation as part of the Cibola forest use planning, these areas become accessible by a different means of transportation and to a different group of folks who can now combine their love of flying with their desire to enjoy the New Mexico wilderness and national forests. By and large this particular group of enthusiasts are very protective of low impact access to these lands and can be relied on to further the protection of resources and wildlife. In addition, the plan for the USFS strips should address the already existing and future support by volunteer organizations for air strip maintenance and improvements to ensure safe access."