

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/20/2015 12:00:00 AM

First name: Mark

Last name: Werkmeister

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Scoping Comments on the Proposed Action to Revise the Cibola LRMP

Dear Supervisor Kohrman,

Attached are comments on the Proposed Action for the Cibola Forest Plan Revision on behalf of the New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (NMOHVA).

Sincerely,

Description: Description: cid:image001.png@01CC91CE.0CDD6C30

Mark Werkmeister

NMOHVA Board of Directors

15 Camino de Verdad

Santa Fe, NM 87144

505-321-3155

trailwerks@comcast.net

Excerpts from attachment copied here on 9/23/15 for coding purposes.

"All three of these travel management decisions already made and the one still under consideration were made against a backdrop of clear, numerous, and documented requests by the public for motorized trail riding opportunities for motorcycles (specifically requests for single track) and ATV/UTV's. Clearly, the Cibola National Forest is significantly underserving a specific identified public needs for recreation. Specifically the public has requested a high quality designated motorized road and trail system that: The fact that the Forest Service has not adequately responded to these identified public needs is a significant issue that must be dealt with in the current Forest Plan revision."

"There is a large, and mostly untapped, public resource that can be used to help fill the gap between trail needs and the current agency budgets. The Forest Service has not identified how it will recruit, and utilize public/volunteer labor and resources to create and maintain motorized trails. This lack of an identified plan to utilize public/volunteer labor and other outside resources (including funding) specifically to create and maintain motorized trail systems is a significant issue that must be dealt with in the current Forest Plan revision."

"The Forest needs to develop a specific plan for how it is going to educate other user groups and properly set user expectations in a shared use environment. This lack of an identified plan to educate user groups and

properly set user expectations is a significant issue that must be dealt with in the current Forest Plan revision."

"The revised Forest Plan should include clear objective and goal statements of how the designated motorized trail system meets the need of enhancing public enjoyment and motorized user satisfaction of the Forest."

"NMOHVA submitted comments on the draft "Assessment Report of Ecological / Social / Economic Conditions, Trends, and Risks to Sustainability" (Assessment) on July 30, 2014. In those comments, we addressed a significant issue regarding the shortcomings of the Assessment. After a careful review of the recently released (Feb 9, 2015) version of that document, we note that the agency has still not addressed, in any way, our comments."

"Those same July 30, 2014 set of comments also identified an additional shortcoming in the agency's set of data being utilized in the revision process. The agency is relying heavily on the 2005 VAB Survey Report."