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

We are deeply concerned that the establishment of a Wilderness area in the Magdalena Mountains will greatly impact our future ability to conduct our research at the lab. We have a number of instruments that are deployed in the National Forest as part of our use permit, which would not be allowed in a Wilderness area. In addition, installation of new instruments or maintenance of existing instruments would be hindered due to the limited access that a Wilderness area allows for. We also fly balloons, rockets, UAVs and manned aircraft from the Laboratory that could be restricted or prohibited by both the USFS and FAA rules if a Wilderness area were created. Again, access limitations may not allow us to retrieve flown instruments that land in the Wilderness areas, and the FAA recommends or requires aircraft to maintain altitudes no lower than 2000 feet above the ground when flying over Wilderness areas.

Current and future research at the Langmuir Laboratory requires flexibility in the management of the forest that a Wilderness area does not provide for. In 1980, Congress recognized the unique scientific capabilities of our Lab and established the Langmuir Research Site through Public Law 96-550 giving both Langmuir and the USFS the flexibility needed to manage the area for scientific research, as well as other uses such as hiking, hunting and camping.

Establishment of a Wilderness area will be in direct conflict with the purpose of the Langmuir Research Site and prevent or greatly restrict Langmuir Lab's ability to conduct it's work. Because of this, we are in opposition to forming a Wilderness area in the Magdalena Mountains, and in particular within the Langmuir Research Site defined by Public Law 96-550.