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Organization: Jeeps West 4x4 Club

Title:

Comments: Comment regarding Cibola National Forest Plan Revision

Hello, attached to this email is a file with comments.

Regards, James Todt

Following is the complete text from the attached file--pasted into this text box by Forest Service personnel.

Comment Regarding Cibola National Forest Plan Revision

September 23, 2015

From: James Todt on behalf of the members of Jeeps West 4x4 Club located in Gallup, NM.

This comment is in regards to the Inventory Area designated as D2_5K2. We think this area should be excluded from consideration as a wilderness area for the following reasons:

*The area has been used for timber harvest which is still evident in some parts of the area.

*With ongoing drought and climate change, adding a single "island" of wilderness into this mixed conifer forest could be a really bad idea. Wilderness with heavy fuel content and lack of access could turn what would normally be an easily contained fire into a extensive fire that would spread through the rest of the forest.

*Forest Road 166 did not really end at the boundary of the designated area, it continued north through Foster Canyon until the early 1990's when District Ranger Hagerdon unilaterally erected a gate at the south end. This was a very scenic route and we would eventually like to see this road added to the MVUM. This road would bisect this inventory area.

James Todt

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