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Comments: Sirs,

I am greatly concerned about the shooting areas associated with the proposed plan. Most specifically those around 4-Peaks, Sugarloaf, Superior and 7-Springs. as well as others that occupy the areas from Saguaro lake (area) to Sunflower and beyond.

While it is true that SOME shooters are offenders of littering and disrespect for the land, these are by no way the majority of responsible shooters that police up their casings and bring out metal, reusable targets. Factually, while i understand the Forest service may be hampered by a lack of law enforcement presence in these areas, this should in no way limit or remove the ability of responsible shooters in these areas.

Offenders should be punished to the fullest extent of the law, however, restrictions on those that follow the law are not only un-American to the cause, but also smack of the easy way out of a more complex situation. Simply put, some shooters prefer the desert to the range. Range areas (Rio, etc..) do NOT allow for advanced training with firearms as the desert areas do. This is because the more advanced drills and target use require "movement", which is generally prohibited at a static range. Additionally, the forest should remain open for the general use and offenders should be punished, not closure of the land because of a few who do not follow the law.

While it may be the easy way to simply propose to close these areas, they will only encourage shooters (and riders) to seek access elsewhere within the forest areas. Since it is impossible and impactable to "close" the forest, it is much more effective to encourage responsible behavior and encourage shooters to report offenders as they are witnessed. The Forest is not a National Park, it is a place for recreation, land use, camping, industry (logging, etc..) and general enjoyment. It is not governed by the same rules as a National Park, nor should it be, however, closing off specific areas or attempting to limit access because of offenders is tantamount to making the forest the same as a notional park, with regard to access.

I respectfully request that you look at alternatives to closure or further restrictions as the majority of shooters and riders should not be punished for the actions of a few. Realistically, if more offenders were to be prosecuted, it would send a CLEAR message to those considering such activities. Posting at area entrances stating the penalties for such activities and that the area is patrolled would go a long way to discouraging such activities. Closure or further restriction is NOT the answer, we, as a population would never consider such an approach for dirt roads or public areas outside the forest as it simply would not make sense. So it should be here as well.

Please feel free to contact me at any time, should you wish to discuss some ideas that I have regarding this forest plan.