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Comments: Comments on project 57807:

-- Many of the conditions described in Table 3 under "Conditions based adaptive management of target shooting" exist today: Trash, night shooting, fires, etc... in violation of existing signage / posted rules indicating management actions to date have been ineffective. All the existing signage/rules and management actions are in place today but, are not successfully managed, how will the new expanded facility adequately staff and manage the conditions without adverse impacts to the surrounding forest and residents?

-- How will you implement Management Action to "Increase patrols of the area by law enforcement or forest protection officers" when DCSO only has two resident deputies covering this area and response times for calls requiring assets from vicinity of Castle Rock / Sedalia (proper) is typically measured in hours. Additionally, we've been told by USFS management there is currently only one forest service enforcement officer covering a vast area, again with extremely long response time to calls. Will you hire more USFS enforcement officers for this area to support the range? Will you coordinate with DCSO to provide greater resident deputy presence in this area? Will you establish a memoranda of agreement with the Teller County Sheriff for greater patrol presence of the range? What is the plan for funding the management activities required for the expanded shooting facility? Will actions be taken to close the area if funding is reduced or eliminated?

-- Numerous "Indicator measures" described in Table 3 of the "INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF TARGET SHOOTING ON THE PIKE NATIONAL FOREST" document require the presence or at least frequent site patrols of enforcement Officers to identify when those Indicators are present. (e.g., Weapons used are appropriate to the design of the range (or portion of range); Shooting at night; Use of drugs or alcohol at shooting range; Overflow parking does not impede traffic or impede emergency response; Use is restricted to designated shooting lanes (users do not conduct dispersed shooting within the range area); Lack of visitor conflict regarding site availability or use; Amount of trash, especially shooting waste (ammunition or improvised targets) at a site; Shooting confined to the lanes, galleries, and site boundaries; Shooting damage to trees, shrubs, and other natural features near the site; Pollution sources including but not limited to: sediment, hazardous materials, chemical and fuel spills, trash, human waste, ammunition, lead shot, and modes of access such as vehicles, etc...). What is the plan to provide the necessary saturation of official presence to identify when "Indicator measures" are present? And, what exactly is the process for reporting the presence of "indicator measures" and adjudicating the appropriate response(s)? Who decides when current Management Actions are insufficient and who has the authority to increase Management Actions up-to and including converting the site to a supervised facility, and adding a fee system and concessionaire if necessary? Have objective measures been established or will they be established?

-- Your plan leads me to believe the range will be open to shooting 365 days /year and during ALL hours of daylight. Is this correct? Conditions today show there are almost nightly violations of shooting during periods of darkness. How will the USFS change things to ensure compliance with this rule?

-- Fires. Every season there are numerous fires in & around the Turkey Tracks range which are principally responded to by Mountain Communities Volunteer Fire Department (MCFD). Has this plan been formally provided to MCFD, and what was their feedback? As a community, approximately 10% of our property taxes, augmented by annual donations go to fund MCFD. Is there going to be a USFS contribution to MCFD funding in order to support fire safety efforts on this expanded shooting complex?

-- Noise. We live in Trout Creek Ranch Estates, which is just over one mile from Turkey Tracks as the crow flies.

The sound of discharging firearms is clearly heard within our development, even inside our homes. Expansion of shooting at Turkey Tracks will undoubtedly increase noise and potentially have a negative effect on our property values

-- Trash. Who is responsible for trash removal? How is this being paid for? What is the criteria for "excess trash" at the range which will result in closure? Again, this problem exists today and your plan fails to provide any detail explaining how expanding the range facility will mitigate the trash problem.

-- Range Safety. Your Turkey Tracks "Initial Site Designs" fail to show direction of fire for the 10 lane Rifle Galleries or the Pistol Ranges. It appears the Pistol ranges are either firing in the direction of Hwy 67 or across the Rifle gallery lanes. The 10 lane Rifle gallery lanes are either shooting back toward the access road OR toward the "Built Trail" in a north-westerly direction, potentially allowing for "high" errant shots to fall into the Trout Creek Ranch neighborhood...This is an unacceptable risk!