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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I live in the affected area of northeast Teller County, near the Turkey Tracks shooting range. I am a serious hand loader and target shooter. I have the following specific concerns and suggestions:

1. I agree that (unfortunately) safety, cleanliness, and forest health have suffered dramatically from undisciplined dispersed shooting in recent years, resulting in a need for more governmental regulation of shooting on public lands. I applaud the effort to constrain inappropriate shooting-related behavior on public lands.
2. I am concerned that the shooting ranges will not accommodate long-range shooting, which is rapidly becoming a popular sport. I suggest adding one long-range (100-1,000 yards) range, centrally located in the regulated area.
3. I am concerned that the proposed regulation will be overbroad, constraining Second Amendment rights beyond what is necessary to reduce or eliminate the relevant safety, cleanliness, and forest-health issues. I suggest that the Forest Service specify measurable, computable rules that use GIS software to determine where shooting will be prohibited, based on population, construction, and public-use density metrics, focusing public discussion on setting the parameters of the rules to effect the appropriate balance.
4. I suggest that the Forest Service create a public-education program focused on safety, cleanliness, and nature preservation. Completing the program periodically should become part of the firearms licensing process.
5. I suggest that the Forest Service increase dramatically existing civil and criminal penalties associated with unsafe shooting, shooting-related littering, and shooting-related destruction of public natural resources.
6. I suggest increased enforcement of existing laws. Even at places like Turkey Tracks, where violations are ubiquitous, I have never seen Forest Service law-enforcement officers enforcing existing laws. I recently called the local sheriff after nearly getting shot there by a young man firing an AK-47 indiscriminately while standing on the road behind the shooting lanes, obviously indifferent to the safety of his fellow citizens.
7. I suggest charging the public a daily-use fee at the shooting ranges, and using the fee to fund constant supervision by a law officer (not merely a public employee) during shooting hours. The law officer should enforce range discipline, including laws about e.g. littering and destruction of public property.