

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/5/2021 1:32:47 AM

First name: Amy

Last name: Mitchell

Organization: Park County

Title: County Commissioner

Comments: Location 704 comments. The Badger Flats area is becoming extremely crowded as a designated motorized recreation and dispersed camping area. Establishing designated shooting areas is a good idea for safety and fire prevention. Closing the rest of the area to dispersed shooting will make the area much safer.

This area north of Hwy 24 is a migration corridor for elk and pronghorn. I see them migrate every spring. One solution would be to close it in the Spring but that is a waste of a resource and most likely dispersed shooting would occur during the closure.

Also, a ricochet can hit higher on Badger mountain where it is steep and can burn fast due to unhealthy trees and endanger the communication towers. Air assets are the only effective way to fight this type of fire as shown a few years ago when a fire was started due to shooting.

I do not see any berms on the plan. They will be required as this is very close to the highway. Some driving on the highway will be scared of the range to see guns so close to the road.

Also, the state Trust land to the east of this location is an allotment for cattle grazing and the long gun range facing in that direction will have potential to reach the cattle. This is the best grazing in Badger Flats with a still-flowing spring and must be protected. You should discuss with the State Trust Lands.

I believe the better location is just south of Hwy 24 south of Pulver Pavilion shooting into Pulver Mountain off FS706. North of the area a fee campground will be established with a concessionaire that could help manage the shooting range. This location will not impact the migration corridor and solve many of the other concerns listed above.