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Title:

Comments: I would like to object to this proposal. Many people choose to go to places like the "Turkey Track Shooting Area" because of the unique and self-governed environment. The proposal presentation mentions "regular injuries and close calls" in the public safety portion of the brief but does not substantiate these claims with data, facts, or figures (It may be mentioned in the "Integrated Management of Target Shooting Proposed Action" but I cant read it because the link does not work). As a person who frequents this shooting area as well as local media entities in El Paso County and surrounding areas, I have not witnessed or read of many (if any) incidents of injury or loss to human life. What people enjoy about this environment is the ability to become proficient in firearms and training in the way that they deem works best for them. Many formal ranges (like the ranges being proposed here) are littered with red tape and high prices. For example, there are no ranges in which you can practice drawing your weapon from a holster (as it is deemed unsafe), but this is a FUNDAMENTAL ability (which is taught in just about ANY handgun safety and operation course) that needs to be practiced in order to save someone from life threating scenarios. Additionally firing follow-up shots in rapid succession is not allowed at any range - which is another fundamental skill in order to protect human life. Places like this (Turkey Track) are the only places we can go to practice and master these techniques. Prices for a day at the range have also skyrocketed as popularity increases. Many people don't have the money to pay for the frequent range trips it takes to become confident and proficient in their firearms. An entry fee should be out of the question, as WE, the taxpayers, already pay for upkeep and maintenance to national and state forests. If this is a proposal to build public shooting ranges, it should be just that - public. We already pay taxes for upkeep and maintenance of public spaces (parks, trails, etc.), we should not be charged a fee for utilizing this PUBLIC space.