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Title:

Comments: Thank you for coordinating the public meetings and this open comment forum. Many positive and constructive issues were raised and addressed during the public forum. There are many others that also deserve all of our attention. First. Safety. Safety of the public and fire safety. Unfortunately, for every responsible shooter there are several irresponsible shooters. We have seen this irresponsibility over the years especially at turkey tracks with the numerous fires that have been caused. Some of these fires were caused by the use of incendiary rounds, while other were caused by shooting flammable items such as propane bottles. While I understand there are design plans in the works to help minimize the risk these activities bring with them, it is my opinion that the only way we are going to able to make any range safe is to have it staffed. That brings the question as to who is going to fund it, how will it be funded, and how will it be staffed. Second. Liability. Clearly there are significant risks associated with any shooting facility. Who is going to carry and pay for the liability insurance that is required? Since all the sites are on public lands, should something go wrong, will the Forest Service be held responsible? Third. Pollution. Noise and lead. The state of Colorado provides noise restrictions. How will the surrounding neighborhoods be guaranteed that noise will not exceed that stipulated by Colorado State law. Lead. All of the surrounding communities are on well water. How will lead abatement be addressed? Fourth. Representation. While the public forum had representatives from many agencies, I did not see one representative speaking on behalf of the local communities that could be impacted by any range. Inclusion of representation from the local neighborhoods is required. Fifth. Many of the proposed plans speak to design and construction elements that are geared toward addressing some of the above issues. As discussed in the public forum, many of these design elements (that address noise abatement for example) are extremely expensive. What is the budget for these projects and is this budget sufficient to to address all the concerns above to the standards required by the law? I believe we would all like to find a good solution for people to have a good, safe and fun time shooting. However, like many things, a few bad apples are spoiling it for others. That leaves the challenge and expense that this group is trying to address. I welcome further constructive open discussions to try and reach an amicable solution for all.