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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a homeowner near the shooting area known as Turkey Tracks.

There was a time my home was an idyllic place, in the forest where we enjoyed mountain life. This is no longer the case and it saddens me greatly. There is no pleasure at all in being outside our home as every day, barring days that the weather is too bad or the range has been closed, all we hear is gunfire from morning until dark. It is like living in some country where a war is going on, there is automatic weapon fire, sometimes non-stop, it is incredibly stressful.

My family owned this house long before people started the daily shooting at Turkey Tracks and I fail to understand why we have no rights or say at all. I can not sit on my deck in the morning and enjoy a cup of coffee, nor sit and relax on my deck in the evening. There is no enjoying nature outside anymore at all on most days due to the ceaseless automatic weapon fire. Love of nature is what brought my family to this area and yet there seems to be no concern for people who want to enjoy the beauty and peace of the mountains. We could never have imagined when we purchased this property so far from town in the peaceful forest that years later we would be forced to stay inside with the tv on to distract from the constant noise of gunfire outside. The argument that always seems to come forward is that if they aren't allowed to shoot at Turkey Tracks, they will just go somewhere else in the forest, and I wonder when did the rights of a person who wants to shoot a gun totally obliterate my rights as a homeowner to get some enjoyment out of living in the area, especially when I was here first. They can shoot all day, and often into the night, leave tons of garbage and endanger the entire forest and that is ok. As I am sure you are aware, fires have been started several times due to things people are shooting at or trying to blow up. I have been at my home and seen the smoke rising and wonder is it bad, do I need to leave, will there be an alert. My home has the black sticks of trees left from the Hayman fire, which thankfully spared my home. They stand as a reminder of the devastation fire brings, and yet we have people being allowed, or at least not stopped from blowing stuff up in the forest at this range, and starting fires. To top this off they bring all manner of things to shoot at or blow up and leave tons and tons of garbage which other concerned people in the community who actually care about the forest, come and clean up. I am not against guns, what I find absolutely baffling is that all this is allowed with no management at all. Every sport I know of has some type of rules. Surely at the very least there could be actual hours that the range is open, perhaps a few days of the week that it is closed. Some management of what is brought in to shoot at and what types of ammunition are allowed I ask you to imagine how you would feel if your next door neighbor invited a bunch of friends and shot automatic weapons all day long non-stop, caused explosions with who knows what and occasionally set the yard on fire and left mountains of garbage and when you complained the powers that be say well they just need to do it, too bad for you. I do hope that some compromise can be reached which takes the lives of the nearby homeowners into account. Thank you