Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/22/2021 4:31:38 PM First name: Scott Last name: Peth Organization:

Title:

Comments: Right now, even though I live in the foothills of Jefferson County, 45 minutes west of Denver, I have to drive for an hour just to find a place to safely and legally target shoot in the mountains. Right now, there are only three areas that I am aware of that allow target shooting in Pike National Forest, and frequently, these areas are already so overcrowded I have to give up and go home. As the number of recreational shooters has grown substantially in Colorado, there needs to be MORE areas open to target shooting along the Front Range. I understand the problems involved with the proximity of shooting areas to other National Forest users, but if the decision is made to close one of these areas, the Forest Service needs to create another area in the vicinity to replace it. It seems like there is enough Pike National Forest land that this could be done safely. As far as fire danger, in order to mitigate the danger of wildfires caused from shooting, regulations such as restrictions on tracer bullets, exploding targets, etc. need to be put in place and strongly enforced.