

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/22/2021 8:03:47 PM

First name: Cory

Last name: Sutela

Organization: Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates

Title: Executive Director

Comments: Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates are a 501c3 nonprofit organization with a mission to build, share and protect inspiring trail experiences. MWTA has partnered with land managers throughout the Pikes Peak Region since 1991, advocating for an appropriate balance between trail recreation and the conservation values of the land we travel. Our board supports the integrated management proposal for target shooting in the P-SI NF. Our members consistently report a need for better management, citing 3 major concerns. 1. Unregulated target shooting creates dangerous conditions for trail users, as target practice may be taking place nearly anywhere including in close proximity to unprotected trails. 2. Serious degradation of natural resources. While it is completely heartbreaking to see the devastation of trees in the Jones Park/Frosty's Park area, it's even worse to know how widespread this practice has become throughout the forest in the last decade. 3 User experience. Most users travel into the forest in search of a nurturing natural experience. Un-managed target shooting significantly disrupts this experience, and because it occurs in a haphazard, distributed way (and impacts users for miles around at every location) it is increasingly difficult to escape the impacts. We wish to see target shooting managed in a way that reduces the negative impacts on trail users in these 3 ways. Please contact MWTA if you have any questions or suggestions. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this topic.