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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Noise: The shooting noise affects over 300 residents and businesses in this area. I would like for the forest service to consider the population density in the vicinity of the proposed shooting range. Sound should not travel more than 1/2 a mile from the range. If this cannot be accomplished with the design, then the offending guns type should not be allowed.

Capacity: With the Turkey Tracks site already at heavy usage, I am concerned if it will be able to handle the capacity once target shooters are funneled into this one site. Parking outside designated areas should be ticketed.

Trash and Environmental: An enormous amount of trash is left behind by target shooters for local volunteers to cleanup. Also there is damage done to trees, ground vegetation, riparian are, and compaction of soil.

Safety: Stray bullets entering residential areas, illegal weapons, night shooting, exploding targets, alcohol and drug usage, shooting across roadways, and lack of cell coverage to report incidents causes concern for my safety.

Property Values: I am concerned that my property value will decrease if the shooting range is not properly managed

Wildland Fires: The area around the shooting range has considerable assets at risk with 150 homes valued at \$100,000 to over \$1,000,000 in the event of a fire. MCVFD responds on average to 10 wildland fires per year at turkey tracks. Target shooting should be closed at stage 1 fire ban due to the high fire risk.

Impact on Local Resources: Emergency services must be given an opportunity to provide input to the proposed shooting plan. With the high number of calls to Turkey Tracks, I am concerned if local law enforcement, fire departments, and ambulance services will be available for local residents when needed. Also there is a tremendous amount of local volunteer effort required to keep the shooting range clean.

Management of Site: The site should have set hours of operation, onsite staff, fees charged to cover costs associated with the site, locked gates after hours, reservation system to avoid over crowding, onsite portable toilets, onsite dumpster, and onsite fire suppression equipment. A percentage of user fees should be used to reimburse local resources. Shooter education with signage as to what is expected from shooters using the range.

Spillover: Prevent spillover into surrounding areas (FR 343, Painted Rocks Rd, 9J Rd, Stump Rd,) To prevent spillover out the south side of the range and prevent OTV's and shooter conflicts, FR 343 should be closed at the south end of the shooting range to FR 343B. Also to have signage that ATV trails on the east side of Hwy 67 are also CLOSED to dispersed shooting. The surrounding areas around the proposed shooting range needs to be closed to dispersed shooting.

Other uses in the forest such as hunting, fishing, OTV's, mountain biking, hiking... either charge fees to cover costs associated with the usage or are very good at self policing. Target shooting has a negative impact on the forest and local resources.

Transparency: Provide transparency to make sure that the voices of the local residents, emergency services, and shooting community are all equally considered in the plans final implementation.

Alternative Sites: Why is the forest service planning to do a costly shooting range development at Turkey Tracks when there are plenty of areas in the Pike National Forest where a range complex could be placed far away from the population?

More times than not I have come across individuals shooting in the Turkey Tracks area and have been concerned. One incidence involved a group of military men that were shooting downhill. Little did they know that down that hill just past where they could see is our property line. We have children that play along that fence line, animals that run and play along that fence line, visitors that walk up the hill past the line to go on a hike. When I told them that our house was right then they did indeed state they were sorry and didn't know there was a house so close. These men are trained via the military to shoot guns safely and they didnt know their surroundings and

they were shooting downhill. This was one incident that I did have the opportunity to intervene in but there are numerous days that I can't get up there to explain that where and what direction they're shooting is dangerous.

Another disturbing thing that happened was our horse got shot in the stomach by a passerby or a stray bullet and was left to suffer and die. Whether it was from a resident, transient, passerby, stray bullet we'll never know. But in any case the public shooting is bringing more people in the area and I can't help but to think that this may have been a consequence of the shooting allowed so close to our home.

A different incidence was when we were ATV'ing in the area and on our way up the trail we saw some individuals shooting against the side of hill. We thought nothing really of it but then while on our ride while stopped we heard the distinctive sound of exploding targets. This was of concern because we were in a significant drought and there was a fire ban in place. There was even a sign at the entrance to the area that specifically stated that exploding targets were illegal. Either way, I didn't have cell service to report it but I was gonna head back down to the license plate. Well as to our surprise the car was high tailing it down the road to the exit and we could only see their dust. However, they were leaving the area so quickly because they had started a fire. Again because we didn't have service it took almost 30 minutes for us to get all the way back to our house to call it in.

After the Hayman fire I knew it would take a long time for the land to recover but adding this stress onto it is making it worse. I NEVER want our area to be full of trash and disrespected like it was and still is in areas of Old Stage road in Colorado Springs/ Cripple Creek. The amount of casings, large appliances (refrigerators & stoves), gas tanks, clay pigeons, beer cans, household trash etc is getting worse everyday and will continue to. I beg you to please reconsider for not only the safety of my family but for the community around here and the forest all of which have suffered enough loss and destruction.