Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/30/2021 6:48:29 PM
First name: cz
Last name: shelton
Organization:
Title:
Comments: I wish to comment on Management Plan #50121:
As a (now retired) BLM manager in So. Utah, and in various other states and capacities in public land management over the past 40 years, I have personal experience with many issues being evaluated in this plan. I will address a few. First, the process should continue to allow for public participation. Second, the Conservation Alternative should be fully and formally evaluated.
1. Climate should inform a number of issues - namely vegetation management and grazing: all should be come more conservative in light of predicted trends in the SW. For economic purposes, the Forest should allow voluntary relinquishment and retirement on grazing allotments; this can put direct $$ into ranchers hands by those interested in buying them out.
2. Dispersed recreation & Access/Roads: note the newly published paper out of USU (Monz, Sept.2021, Outdoor Recreation & Ecological Disturbance). Mitigate or close dispersed recreation sites that are causing ecological problems and revegetate them. No additional roads or access into Designated Areas or Natl. Register sites - protection should be paramount. Decommission unneeded roads.
3. Pollinators: the trend of allowing large numbers of commercial aviaries on public lands is an unacceptable threat to wild pollinators. Do not renew or issue permits for European honeybee aviaries. There is not adequate research to allow us to know that are NOT causing harm, hence we must assume they are a threat in large numbers, as currently occur on the Forest. Identify the plants and pollinators on the Forest that are at risk.We know that in 2019 Dr. Tim Graham netted and identified the Western Bumble Bee on the Forest; I professionally know Dr. Graham, and know that he has a high level of scientific and professional integrity. This bee must be listed as a MLNF Species of Conservation Concern.
Thank you for the ability to comment on this important resource management plan.