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Comments: To: Jason Robertson and Jennifer DeWoody

Ref: Integrated Management of Target Shooting on the Pike National Forest #57807

I am taking the time to respond to the proposed target shooting management plan. As an avid target shooter and hunter in Colorado since 1961, I regretfully agree that there needs to be regulation of shooting in the Pikes Peak and San Isabel Forest.

As Colorado population has grown, so has the irresponsible use of our most precious resource, our public lands. I have watched most of the areas I cherished as a child environmentally destroyed over the last sixty years. It appears that we now live in a society where most want to exercise their freedoms and not understand the responsibility that goes with that freedom.

As a past Park Ranger I have witnessed this behavior on a daily basis. This behavior I summed up as, "people don't know how to behave in the forest". The irresponsible behavior is not limited to firearm usage although it and forest fires have the deadliest consequences. Other types of common illegal behaviors include:

Illegal use of all types of vehicles not using forest roads

Non authorized hiking trail construction

Campfires during open fire restrictions

Illegal harvesting of trees and shrubs

All types of wildlife infractions

Permanent Camping

Marking of trees and rocks

Littering

Unleased and unrestrained dogs

This all being exposed. I not only support alternative two but wish that the management of the Pikes Peak and San Isabel Forest consider other restricted use. This precious natural resource is the very reason we live in the area. Unfortunately, there are significant numbers of forest users that do not wish to comply with forest rules and regulations. As a result of the population increase and the close proximity to the forest, also known as the urban/wildlife interface, it will be necessary to further restrict the use of it. The Rocky Mountain National Park standard should be adopted as soon as possible to preserve our most precious natural resource, the Pikes Peak and San Isabel National Forest.

In full support of alternative number two.

Thomas Martin