Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/6/2024 5:34:41 PM First name: jim/kathy Last name: thatcher Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for looking into the dangers of shooting in Natl forest esp close to subdivisions. We have lived in our home since 1985.. There have been increasing confrontations with close neighbors whom are retired military. Seven days a week they invite their army buddies up to shoot their powerful war related guns such as semi automatics and other extremely loud and damaging guns. Two neighbors had set up involved shooting ranges directly behind their properties which borders natl forest and there are at least 20 houses with in a mile range. The desks and other targets allowed the bullets to be shot directly towards a few popular walking trails. We complained to the local sheriff but found it is outside their jurisdiction. The forest service was contacted with pictures of the ranges and they came up twice to have the whole thing dismantled.. However it has been somewhat rebuilt and used but not as frequently.. Our big issue is when we confront them about the noise and danger how selfish and out of touch these shooters are. They point guns at us and one tried to run me over with a 4 wheeler. They get way out of control in the afternoons when they start drinking. Considering just how vast our Pike Natl Forest is, shooters just can't safely shoot in a 10 or 20 mile distance of a home. Even at this distance the noise is amazingly disturbing. Our horses are very scared of the noise and will probably and needlessly end up hurting themselves in their mad dashes when the bullets fly. It is literally impossible to moniter the shooters but your plans of possible designated places to shoot is brilliant. Just keep in mind that the semi automatics are REALLY REALLY loud and sound travels alot so please position these shooting ranges far from subdivisions and trails.. Otherwise someone else could be killed from that ricocheting or direct bullet as has happened already. The entire neighborhood agrees that this issue needs to be addressed. If you can provide shooters with a safe place to go that doesn't disrupt others lives then everyone will be happy. The rural areas are not so rural anymore....