

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/10/2024 3:18:07 AM

First name: Joseph

Last name: Harris

Organization:

Title:

Comments: A more effective strategy would be to inform the public that the current management system cannot continue and that environmental damage and failure to follow the rules will be prosecuted. I have personally gone to the open shooting areas on Rampart Range and cleaned them up to prevent this from happening. Not all shooters go there to make a mess or damage the environment. I personally used it to prepare my rifle for hunting season and always carried any trash and shell casings out with me. I know the USFS does not have the resources to clean the areas, nor should they be responsible for cleaning them, but there are organizations that USFS could work with to get volunteers out to assist. Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation would be a very good option and their members would jump at the opportunity to protect what little public shooting areas we have. These areas are vital to outdoorsman for honing our skills for the ethical harvest of wildlife. The troublemakers are the people who do not participate in hunting and do not understand the impacts they have on everyone else. I encourage USFS to reconsider their options and try to educate the public in a more effective manner through a public ad campaign and advertise volunteer opportunities to work with USFS to clean the areas, repair environmental damage to the maximum extent possible, and post new signage at all shooting areas with rules of conduct and enforcement mechanisms.