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Comments: Please accept this letter as Park County's comment on desirability for option 2, with 68% of the Pike closed to dispersed shooting. I do believe it is warranted for a shooting range to be developed in each of the three Ranger Districts before the high percentage closure of dispersed shooting to be implemented.

With the proposed shooting ranges in the South Platte and Pike Ranger Districts being in Jefferson and Teller counties respectively, it is not appropriate for me to comment on those locations. There is a need though for a balance between all forms of outdoor recreation and the desire for areas of the Pike to offer peaceful enjoyment of the great vast outdoors without shooting noise pollution.

The ideal location for a designated shooting range within the South Park Ranger District is NSFR 865 off county road 90. This location moves designated shooting recreation activities from the Badger Flats motorized vehicle recreation zone and 350 designated camping sites along the 7.5 mile county road 31 to another area less impacted by noisy outdoor recreation. The NSFR 865 location will deflect noise well and cause little disturbance to those living in the area.

Park County objects to the location of NSFR 255A and NSFR 704 for the following reasons. NSFR 255A was closed to reduce the impact of the motorized recreation in the area. That road may have low use, but the the area in general is overrun with outdoor recreation. This closure provides a bit of a respite for wildlife that need to get away from the 350 designated camping sites, 1,000+- campers in the area and the swarms of OHV's that impact the area during camping season. Badger Flats should be restricted to camping, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, OHV's and serve all looking for a getaway. Additionally a long-used grazing lease exists in this area which keeps the tall grass under control and harmonizes well with the wildlife. Please do not concentrate ALL recreation in the South Park Ranger District to Badger Flats.

NSFR 704 is a resounding NO! This stretch of forest north of Hwy 24 between Hwy 24 and Badger Mountain is a major wildlife migration corridor, provides year-round ungulate habitat and is just east of extreme winter habitat for pronghorn, plus serves as concentrated winter habitat for deer and elk. A developed shooting range will completely disrupt this critical habitat causing undue harm to the wildlife whom are Park County treasures.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.