Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/20/2024 9:53:13 PM

First name: Ryan Last name: Sedgeley

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my support of the second alternative. Alternative two addresses the harm and potential for harm due to recreational target shooting the best. Developing designated shooting ranges in each district is a great step in the right direction. I would encourage the USFS to build additional shooting ranges in areas that see greater use and would not negatively impact other users due to noise or traffic.

Additionally, I think that all areas outside of designated shooting ranges should be closed to target and recreational shooting. This is an extremely dangerous activity that far too many people treat with reckless abandon. I have personally encountered people shooting in irresponsible and dangerous ways for too many times on USFS lands. Beyond creating dangerous conditions for themselves and others, recreational target shooting pollutes the soil and water with dangerous lead. Lead is a serious pollutant that negatively impacts both wildlife and people with disastrous effects. The sound pollution, vegetation damage, and trash left behind by shooters is another constant issue on USFS lands. Restricting shooting to designated ranges would minimize or abate most of the issues above. I would also encourage the rule to incorporate specific gun safety requirements while on USFS lands.

I would also encourage the USFS to create more effective enforcement of this rule if implemented. The lack of law enforcement would create a situation where enforcement will rely largely on voluntary compliance. Non-law enforcement staff or volunteers should work to educate recreational shooters. Law enforcement should work with the local federal prosecutor's office to allow the public to easily report violators that includes a way to upload photos of offenders and offender vehicles.

My comments are only in regard to