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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Comments on Target Shooting Project

(Forest Service trail 343 off County Rd 78)

Ryan Nehl/Jennifer DeWoody

Our concerns are safety, noise, fires and all the trash left behind.

We dealt with Oscar before he left.

The number 1 issue safety, we have experienced stray bullets whiz by our heads standing next to our garage. Shooters are on the ridge top with no backstops - directly in line with our house. (Turkey track overflow is what we deal with a lot)

The noise, shooting can start at first light through the day, especially weekends, they turn on forest service rd. 343 off county rd. 78 which is directly across from our property. They start shooting, one person or a group starts. Can shoot up to several hours with several hundred rounds shot. When that group leaves there is usually another one that takes their place, up to 4-5 different groups a day sometimes. With each group, we get to listen to each round. Some guns are louder than others, we can hear the real loud ones inside with doors and windows shut. After several rounds we have to stay inside. It wears on you!!

Fires, there have been 2 fires that we called in due to shooters. The first was exploding targets or small propane bottles. The second was on the 3-phase power line running east west, they shot the insulators off one of the poles that caused a small fire when it hit the ground. We called Al McDowell, superintendent with CORE on that one to let him know where it was. The shooting of the insulators also caused a large power outage from Casey's Lumber to end of lines.

Trash - it seems like a lot of people are not responsible enough to pick up trash when done shooting. It is an eye sore to people that come out to enjoy the forest service lands. I can only imagine how much it costs the taxpayers to do the clean up on turkey track.

In closing, the shooting needs to be stopped anywhere close to private property. Your policy is not enough distance. We would like to see the west side of turkey track ridge shut down for shooting. We talked about that on 4/5/24 on the ride along you guys invited me to attend.