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Comments: While I am a firm believer in The Second Amendment ,responsible gun ownership and use, and would welcome a defined shooting range within the Pike National Forest and believe it would be a well utilized addition, I am strongly opposed the location of this project and the close proximity to the residents of the Wilkerson Pass area.

My understanding is this would be an unsupervised range without set hours of operation or any plan to manage the activity.

An unmanned range open to the public increases the potential for wildland fires in an area which in the past, has seen fires started from unsupervised recreational shooting. The proposed location impacts a defined wildlife migration corridor, will certainly increase traffic in an area already seen to be a hazardous stretch of Highway 24, as well as impact the local residents with unwanted noise pollution and eventually impacting property values with a shooting range so close to a residential subdivision.

I would strongly urge the planners of this range project to evaluate the negative impact this location will have on the immediate residents of the area, and to recognize the opposition this location has received. While I would be in favor of developing a shooting range for public use I am sure there are multiple other locations besides the Wilkerson Pass area that would eliminate the negative impact the proposed location presents and yet still achieve the goals of this project.

Thomas Weldon

Wilkerson Pass Estates