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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My family moved to Colorado from Wyoming in 1966 at age ten. I spent all my life four wheeling, hiking, mountaineering, climbing, hunting, fishing, camping, skiing, and boating. Growing up in Colorado we were taught to respect the forest, mountains, and all its inhabitants.

As I have watched the population in Colorado explode in my lifetime I also was also forced to watch its impact on her forests.

I grew to love the Pike and San Isabel so much that I became a ranger on Pikes Peak to care for North Slope Recreation Area.

The years have gone by and I now adopted a saying, "People just don't know how to behave in the forest".

I came to this conclusion after witnessing the destruction and devastation of all the forests in Colorado by the general public. Most especially the pike and San Isabel.

I've seen it all;

off road misuse by all types of vehicles

theft and destruction of all types foliage and trees

trespassing

theft and destruction of public and private property

theft and destruction of all kinds of artifacts

illegal and abandon campfires

illegal camping

poaching

spray painting

fence destruction

unsafe and illegal shooting

illegal fishing

illegal hunting

The list is endless. The Pike and San Isabel is horribly under staffed.

Our current residents believe that all behavior is accepted as long as, "no one is watching".

I have been forced to witness the increase and speed in which our most precious resource is being obliterated.

The Pikes Peak and San Isabel Forests are too close to an exploding urban interface. The general public is now mostly from somewhere else. They were not raised or educated about the forest and human interaction with it.

As a frequent shooter at Turkey Tracks I am embarrassed of the abuse and outright obliteration of the forest caused by our new shooting public.

I support designated public shooting area. I also support areas restricted from shooting other than hunting.

I also support adopting a much more restricted use plan like Rocky Mountain National Forest.

Our Pikes Peak and San Isabel is showing the wounds of its proximity of a massive population center like never before.

Restrict her off road use. Restrict the number of routes to Pikes Peak both by foot and vehicle. Restrict her roads.

Restrict fire use. Restrict and permit camping. Bring back trash cans. Most importantly save the very reason people live here. Our most precious natural resource the Pike Peak and San Isabel National Forest.