

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/9/2024 6:00:00 AM

First name: Steve

Last name: Farson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I appreciate the work to fix/improve the shooting and shooting range situation in the Pike National Forest.

I have a suggestion. It is shared by others.

The Harris Park shooting range has been a sore spot for many who live in the area. And there are thousands who live nearby. The gunfire is amplified by the surrounding steep slopes of the Mount Evans Wilderness. The shooting can be heard from five, even ten+ miles away. Many are impacted. Outside summer time is ruined. It also degrades the experience of those wanting to spend "wilderness" time in the wilderness. Even if nothing else, the nearby proximity of the Mt. Evans National Wilderness should have the Harris Park Range finally shut down for good.

Frequently, the range seems to draw those who delight in shooting up the nearby trees. I was hiking in the area recently (there are all kinds of trails and forest roads in the area) and I heard this shriek, then an explosion of tree branches above me. Yikes! It was from shooters at the Harris Park Range. A few years ago, Forest Service air tankers put out a fire in trees that were shot up from shooters at the range. That was a nervous time watching the tankers, hoping the bullet fire from guns would be put out.

I recall reading an article in a local paper (Fairplay Flume) a few years ago, I think from Brian Banks? of the Forest Service noting the Harris Park shooting range would be shut down... for the reasons noted above and others. But this hasn't happened yet.

Thanks for considering the preceding.