

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/23/2015 2:24:10 PM

First name: Jann

Last name: Smith

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments on Forest Plan

Hi,

My family rides ATVs & UTVs. This is our family outdoor activity. We enjoy spending the day outdoors riding. We always ride safely and on trails. We keep our vehicles in good working order. We are often looking for a new area to ride legally. Its a challenge to find areas to ride that are not overcrowded.

Travel Management has reduced the amount of roads and trails available to the public for motorized recreation. This will contribute to crowding on the trails as motorized recreation continues to grow. The Forest needs more trails open to meet this growing need. ATV/UTV trails nearer to the Albuquerque metro area are needed to give people places to enjoy the Forest using these increasingly popular vehicles.

Forest budgets are shrinking, putting trail maintenance at risk. The Forest doesn't have an adequate plan for how it will utilize public/volunteer labor and resources to create and maintain motorized trails. We are happy to help. We often pick up trash when we ride to keep the area safe.

Non-motorized users have been successful in reducing motorized opportunities by claiming "conflict" with motorized users. The Forest needs to develop a plan for how it is going to educate other users and properly set user expectations in shared use environments.

The Forest needs to make it clear and public where motorized vehicles are allowed to ride. Also the Forest should publicly asking for help from volunteers to maintain the trails.

Thank you,
Jann Smith
25 Berryhill Rd
Los Lunas, NM 87031