

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/21/2015 1:59:38 PM

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Comments: I do not support the massive expansion of wilderness areas proposed for the Cibola forest.

Specifically, I feel the designation of such areas in the Magdalena and San Mateo ranges will drastically reduce the number of legal visitors to them, encourage illegal usage due to their remote nature, and therefore rob our residents of the ability to use and enjoy these areas. Instead of making more of our lands non-mechanized, we should be transitioning the wilderness areas to non-motorized usage and maintaining our existing trails. Our citizens and our areas will both benefit from a new interaction due to our public stewardship and conservation.

Due to their remote and dry environments, the San Mateos and Magdalenas are difficult areas to backpack and explore for more than one day. There are no reliable sources of water, so you must bring in what you and your family want to drink. The potential new wilderness expansion there and designation in the Magdalenas will close off existing trails to MTB usage and appear to impact the ability to enter some areas on rough dirt roads. A bicycle or, at minimum, a 4X4 track for ingress to a deep site or trailhead allows you to explore more our wonderful forest. Even now, the interior of the San Mateos are difficult to visit without horses unless you want to stay on the road system in a forest and I certainly don't think that is the best way to experience them. For example, there is no feasible manner for me and my family to hike from the Withington wilderness to the Apache Kid wilderness. Expanding the San Mateo wilderness further will allow only those wealthy and committed enough to own horses to utilize this resource. Once these existing trails are taken away from cyclists, I predict you will also see less maintenance of the trails, making them more dangerous to follow and use on foot or horseback.

Instead of this expansion, which is also possible for the areas near Albuquerque and Datil, I propose that you focus on opening up our wildernesses to NON-MOTORIZED use. As you can see by the many, many comments, our community of mountain bikers care deeply for forests and their access via trails. We want to see our beautiful forests and we want to have access via trails and are willing to maintain them. Designate them in a manner that they cannot be further developed if that is so desired, but don't lock off these remote areas to only those who can manage to access them via horse.