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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments on Plan Revision

Coronado National Forest

ATTN: Plan Revision

300 West Congress

Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Ms. Ruyle,

Please accept the following comments on the new Forest Planning Rule. I've lived in Tucson for over 24 years and regularly hike, camp, site-see, and recreate in the Coronado National Forest. The Coronado is an incredible resource filled with many treasures and opportunities, and is the main reason I live in this area.

I am in support of a new method of forest planning that considers increasing population pressures, increased demand for use of the resources, and effects of climate change that will all stress the natural resources the Forest Service is entrusted to protect and preserve for the American people. A comprehensive and adaptive management approach is needed.

One of my concerns with this plan is that there is no mention of strategies to deal with potential changes in climate; no mention or identification of non-climate stressors (which exacerbate the effects of climate change) to natural communities on the Coronado NF, nor is there any discussion of management decisions/direction that would eliminate or mitigate these stressors. This omission stands in stark contrast with the agency's own federal directives to act quickly and comprehensively to reduce the impacts that climate change is already having on our forests and watersheds. Climate change must be included prominently as a management concern for the Coronado.

The rich and unique biological diversity of the Coronado National Forest must be protected, but the plan is lacking in this area. There is also a failure to address impacts as they relate to the increased population and subsequent increases in recreational pressure from the local citizens. For example, Redington Pass, the most impacted area of the forest in terms of uncontrolled, unmanaged recreation from ATVs, wildcat dumping, and target shooting, should be addressed as a priority management area.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Lainie Levick

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