

LS_SDNM_RMP_1-17413

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Target Practice on Sonoran Desert Lands

Comment Number: 1

Comment Title: Target Practice on Sonoran Desert Lands

Issue: 10607

Comment:

I am in favor of restricting target practice in the Sonoran Desert in and around the greater Phoenix area. As one who currently lives in Pinal County on the outskirts of this development, I have seen a lot of abuses taking place on both Federal and State lands by hunters and target shooters. There has been a lot of population growth in these areas in recent years, resulting in a lot more hikers and mountain bikers using these lands. Often the hunters and target shooters will discharge their firearms well within the 1 mile range of their weapons from settlements and houses. This is both dangerous to people walking and hiking in the area, and disruptive to pets. There should certainly not be discharge of firearms taking place North of Gold Canyon in the Tonto National Forest area, because of all the development that has occurred in the East Valley the last 10 years. As a ranch hand once said to me: "Being pro gun does not mean that you have to be pro stupidity". Common sense rules need to be applied, independant of ideological dogma.