

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/26/2021 8:48:50 PM

First name: Natalie

Last name: Fijalkowski

Organization: Briar Patch Ranch, LLC

Title:

Comments: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests

Attn: Plan Revision Team

2250 South Main Street

Delta, CO 81416

gmugforestplan@fs.fed.us

Dear GMUG Planning Team,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit feedback on the Draft Revised Plan of the Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison National Forest. We are private landowners with an in-holding in the national forest in the Ophir Valley.

We would like to provide our support for the comments and recommendations submitted by the Town of Ophir and Sheep Mountain Alliance.

Regarding the currently proposed plan, I do NOT support the Draft Revised Plan Preferred Alternative B as presented. Alternative D is preferred, however it still falls short in protecting our forests as valuable resources. Our comments are:

? The substantial increase of suitable timber proposed in all alternatives is unacceptable. The GMUG National Forest is invaluable for conserving biological diversity, providing superb non-motorized recreation opportunity in nature, and sequestering carbon to help counteract climate change and should not be considered a resource for increased timber extraction.

? We would like to see the Winter ROS of the east side of the Ophir valley changed to Semi-Primitive Non-motorized. Motorized over snow travel disrupts wildlife in the east end of the Ophir valley and negatively impacts our enjoyment of these lands.

? We support the Wilderness Area recommendations in Alternative D and urge that those be included in the final plan.

? We strongly support the concept of Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in the revised forest plan and suggest that those be retained and strengthened with additional plan components.

? We support the 246,000 acres of Special Management Areas (SMAs) in Alternative D.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be part of the GMUG planning process.