

Appendix 1: Citizen Conservation Proposal

GMUG National Forest Recommended Wilderness and Special Interest Areas

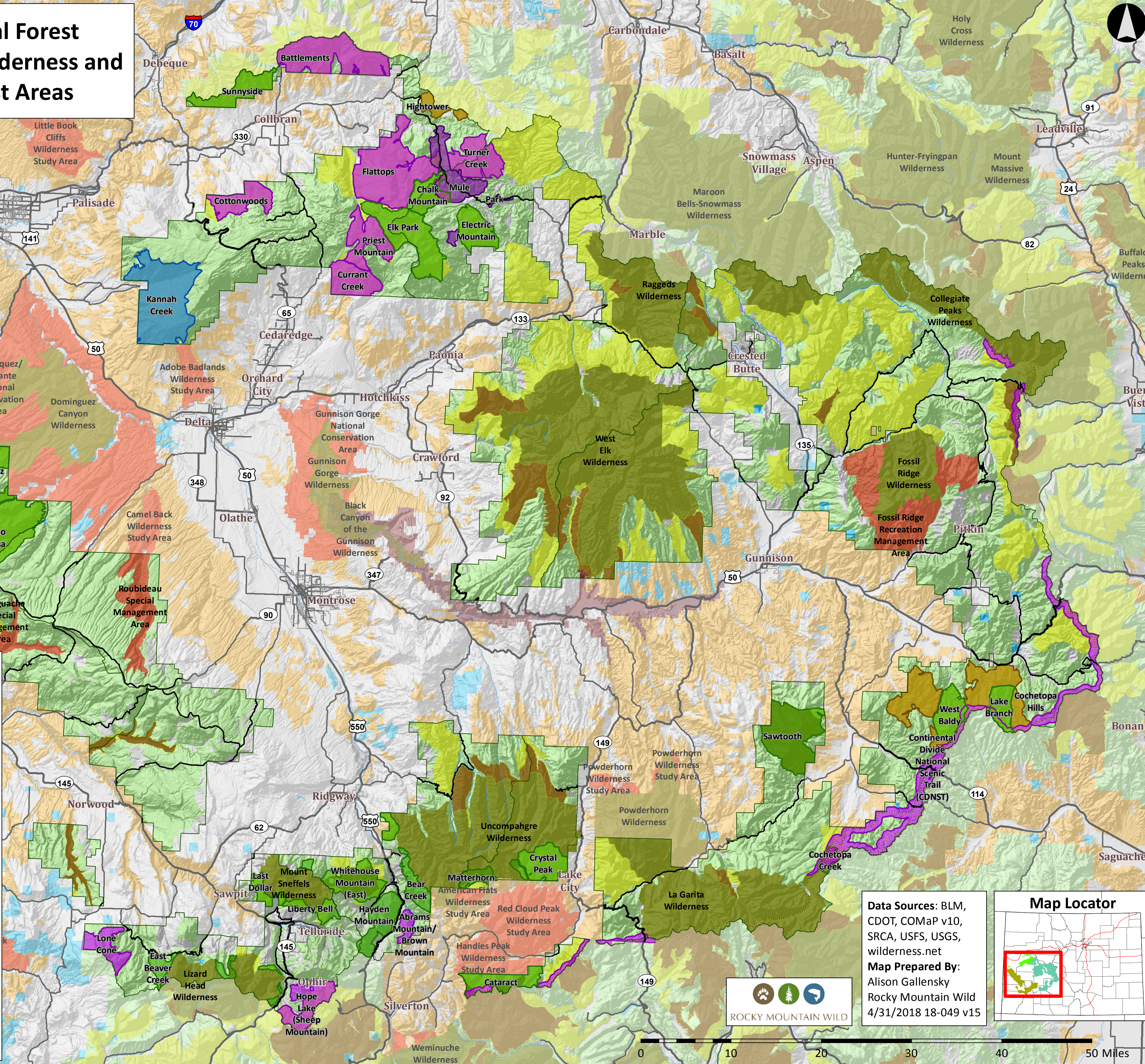


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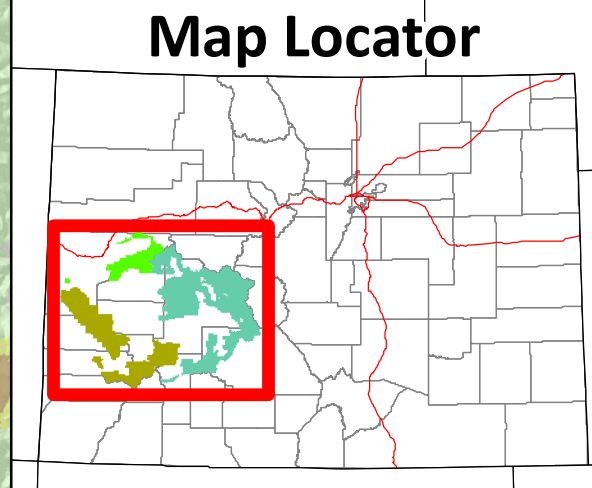
- Forest Service District
- CDNST
- Recommended Wilderness
- Special Interest Area
- Linkage Area
- Watershed Protection Area
- Important Bird Area
- Upper Tier Roadless Area
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Other Protected Areas
- Designated Wilderness

Land Ownership

- USFS
- BLM
- NPS
- State
- Other Public
- Private/Tribe



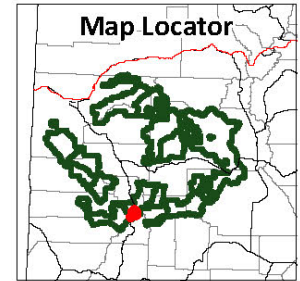
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness, USG
Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/31/2018 18-049 v15



Abrams Mountain Scenic Special Interest Area

Proposed Designated Area
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District

3,000 acres



General Description

At 12,801 feet, Abrams Mountain (aka Mount Abrams), is an iconic peak that rises steeply and directly above the city of Ouray and can be viewed for many miles while driving from Montrose toward Ouray. It is the centerpiece landscape feature for the City of Ouray and surrounding area. Gray Copper Falls and several other falls are outstanding scenic features just west of Brown Mountain. There are several historic mines on the slopes of Abrams Mountain and Brown Mountain. Elk, deer and bighorn sheep use the area. The area is not identified as a Colorado Roadless Area.

Scenic Values

Mount Abrams dominates the San Juan Skyway Scenic Byway for most of its length from Red Mountain Pass across Ironton Park. Its lush green slopes provide a spectacular backdrop to Ouray during the summer, and it is equally beautiful in the winter. From the summit, there are spectacular views to the south of the Red Mountains (1,2,3) and across the valley to Hayden Mountain.

Abrams Mountain is part of the long four-mile Brown Mountain ridge, which rises up and down several summits to a high point of 13,339 feet that is the official summit of Brown Mountain. Also known as Duco Mountain, it is identified by a benchmark on the summit. The spectacular Gray Copper Falls and trail is directly west of the Brown Mountain summit. The upper end of the Gray Copper Falls trail intersects with a popular jeep trail spur off the Corkscrew Pass road near the Vernon mine, but the Gray Copper Falls Trail offers visitors a beautiful hike to see the falls. The ridge and summit areas along Brown Mountain see very little use except for hikers who wish to traverse the ridge via a climber trail of sorts.

Gray Copper Falls is a primary destination and scenic feature of the area. The falls is a thundering cascade during spring snowmelt,



plunging off the cliff edge and creating a perfect frothing arc of water.

Several interpretive visitor overlooks are located along Highway 550 and feature vistas and information about the San Juan Skyway and its historic and scenic resources. These are located along the western fringes of the proposed Mount Abrams Scenic Special Interest Area.

Botanical Values

The Ironton Park Potential Conservation Area identified by Colorado Natural Heritage Program is partially contained within the proposed scenic area. The Ironton Park PCA is a B2-Very High Biodiversity Significance site identified for its uncommon iron fen and wetlands. This broad park occupies a level area where Red Mountain Creek has spread out into several channels, creating the largest wetland in the Uncompahgre Basin. The lower slopes of Mount Abrams overlap with the PCA boundary.

Boundary, Size, and Access

The Mount Abrams Scenic Special Interest Area is 3,000 acres and is well-defined by jeep trails in the surrounding valley bottoms and by Highway 550. The Engineer Pass jeep road defines the northern boundary along Mineral Creek, and the rough jeep trail in Poughkeepsie Gulch defines the east boundary. To the west, US Highway 550 traverses through the Ironton area below Red Mountain Pass. The southern end is generally defined by the BLM/Forest Service boundary.

The Brown Mountain jeep road (884) provides rough access on the west side to near treeline where it dead ends near the Lost Day Mine. This proposal omits the Brown Mountain jeep road, but consideration could be made to close the very rough road lower down. The Albany Gulch trail loop located above Ironton could be included to the extent possible given its proximity to Highway 550.

Proposed Management

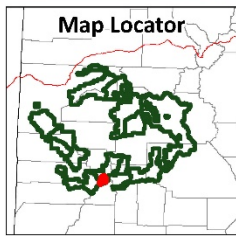
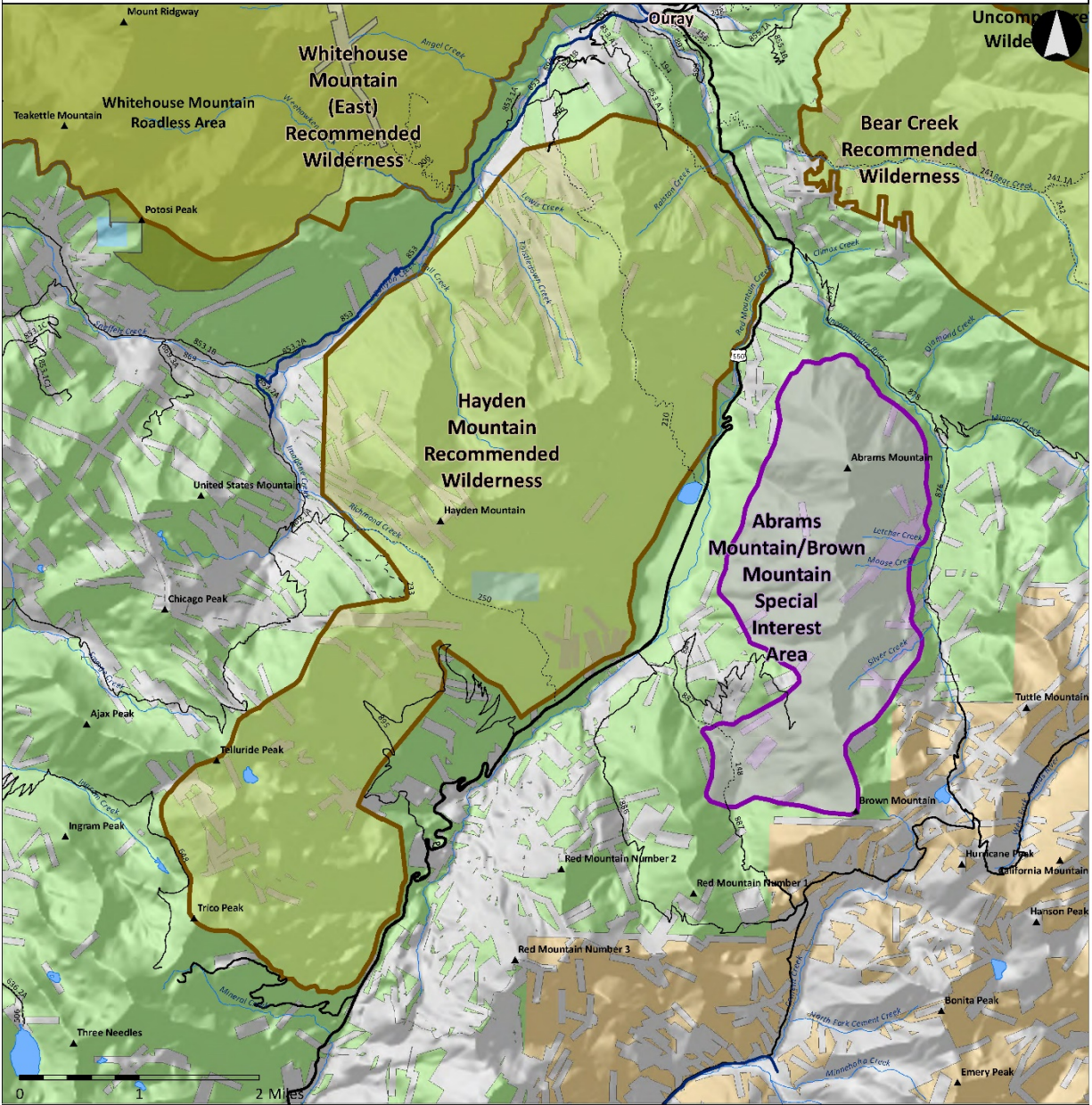
Specific management direction is proposed to ensure protection of scenic values as follows:

- The Mount Abrams Scenic Special Interest Area should be proposed to be withdrawn from mineral entry. It should also be found unsuitable for oil and gas leasing, and made discretionary no-lease.
- Management direction must include prohibition on road construction and limitations on tree removal consistent with management prescribed by the Colorado Roadless Rule, 36 CFR Part 294.43(b), 294.42(b).
- Motorized recreation is prohibited within the area. Best management practices are in place on all access routes and monitored regularly to ensure effectiveness.
- Recreational trail improvements are prioritized for the trail to Gray Copper Falls to bring it up to a sustainable trail standard.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
San Juan Skyway	San Juan Skyway Corridor Management Plan Progress Report, CDOT 2014
Supplemental Values	
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Abrams Mountain/Brown Mountain & Hayden Mountain



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

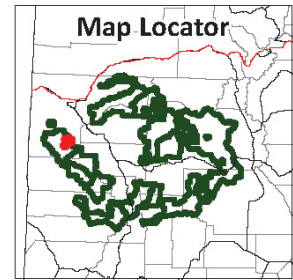
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Dominguez Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District

13,000 acres



General Description

Dominguez consists of the upper headwaters of Little Dominguez Canyon, where Keith Creek and Red Creek combine to form Little Dominguez Creek. It encompasses the upstream watershed of the adjacent portion of BLM's Dominguez Canyon Wilderness. The proposed national forest wilderness creates a topographically defined boundary for the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness that will be apparent on the ground to visitors and managers. Congress and wilderness advocates contemplated including Dominguez Roadless Area in the 2009 BLM wilderness designation, but deferred action at the Forest Service's request pending the GMUG Forest Plan revision and promulgation of the 2012 Colorado Roadless Rule.

Dominguez is characterized most dramatically by Wingate sandstone canyon walls that line the 200-foot deep Little Dominguez Canyon and its upper tributaries. Pinyon-juniper, scattered ponderosa pine and oak woodlands cover the mesas, while the canyon floor is dominated by pinyon-juniper and narrowleaf cottonwood. Scattered, massive ponderosa pines four feet or greater in diameter occur throughout the canyon bottom. Both Keith Creek and Red Creek have substantial perennial flows, and below their confluence Little Dominguez Creek creates a dense riparian thicket of willow, rose, and oak. The creek sculpts polished bowls where it plunges over the Precambrian granite bedrock typical of the Uncompahgre Plateau basement rock.

Along with its neighboring Kelso Mesa Roadless Area, Dominguez helps complete the landscape protection for the adjacent BLM National Conservation Area. Dominguez is comprised almost entirely of ecosystem types with scant representation within existing designated wilderness. It also provides entry to classic Colorado Plateau hiking opportunities beneath soaring sandstone canyon walls and along gurgling desert streams.

Naturalness

The heart of Dominguez consists of the two tributaries, Keith Creek and Red Creek, which descend from the Uncompahgre Plateau and quickly incise deep canyons. Precipitous rims of Wingate sandstone define much of the



length of these canyons and have precluded roads or other impairing developments. The Black Point Trail follows a dugway likely constructed into the cliff face for cattle access into Little Dominguez Canyon, but is impassable other than by foot or horse. Trails on the benchland north of Keith Creek were once constructed vehicle routes but are now closed to motorized travel. Some areas along the periphery of the roadless area have been terraced for range management purposes. The overall character of Dominguez is one where human imprints are substantially unnoticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Dominguez encompasses the uppermost reaches of remote Little Dominguez Canyon. The canyon receives little use originating from the lower end on BLM owing to the dense vegetation in the stream corridor, and similarly few hikers appear to drop into the canyon above from Black Point. The narrow, deep confines of Keith Creek, Red Creek and their combined Little Dominguez Canyon isolate visitors from all outside sights and sounds. The sweeping view from solitary sandstone outcrops on Black Point takes in the entire length of Little Dominguez Canyon, framed by the Grand Mesa in the far distance. The vista creates an overwhelming sense of isolation.

Several trails offer outstanding opportunities for hiking and horseback riding. The Black Point trail was perhaps constructed originally as a cattle driveway off the end of the mesa into the upper reaches of Little Dominguez Creek, but it is located at the end of nine miles of two-track 4WD routes and thus provides outstanding solitude. The trail offers easy and direct access into the heart of the roadless area. Two other trails -- the Badland Trail and Winter Camp Trail -- create a loop, skirting the canyon rim and ridge north of Keith Creek. The Winter Camp Trail continues onward to enter the adjacent Dominguez Canyon Wilderness, and can also be accessed at a BLM wilderness trailhead in Wagon Park. All trails are closed to motorized and mechanized recreation.

Size and Roadlessness

Dominguez is a 12,500-acre area adjacent to BLM's 66,280-acre Dominguez Canyon Wilderness. The boundary is defined by grazing and hunter access 4WD roads, including the Black Point Road, Dominguez Road, and Buck Springs Road. The area's eastern boundary is contiguous with the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area managed by BLM.

Supplemental Values

BLM found Little Dominguez Creek immediately adjacent downstream as eligible for wild and scenic river designation for its outstandingly remarkable scenic, geologic, wildlife and cultural values. These same features occur in the proposed Dominguez Wilderness on the upstream national forest. Scenic values include the creek, riparian vegetation and slick-rock canyon features. The geologic values consist of the Great Unconformity, a large gap in rock ages where the Precambrian basement rock is overlaid by much more recent Chinle formation. The occurrence of the canyon tree frog (*Hyla arenicolor*) is representative of the wildlife values, and the cultural values consist of evidence of 2,000 years of human activity.

Dominguez consists almost entirely of gambel oak and pinyon-juniper woodland ecosystem types. As a result, over 90 percent of Dominguez is comprised of ecosystem types with less than five percent representation within existing designated wilderness both at the federal level and at the individual forest level. These poorly represented ecosystem types are primarily Rocky Mountain Gambel Oak-Mixed Montane Shrubland and Colorado Plateau Pinyon-Juniper Woodland.

Dominguez enhances connectivity across a larger landscape by completing protection for the headwaters of Little Dominguez Canyon, one of the significant watersheds within the adjacent downstream BLM Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area and Dominguez Canyon Wilderness. Dominguez and its neighboring Kelso Mesa Roadless Area encompass most of the uplands bordering the National Conservation Area. Dominguez offers the opportunity for cross-jurisdictional management cooperation between the Forest Service and BLM to protect one of the largest, wildest landscapes in the upper Colorado Plateau.

Manageability

Dominguez is well-defined by roads and watershed divides. The eastern boundary abuts BLM’s Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area. The area’s primary wilderness feature consists of the deep canyons cut by Keith Creek, Red Creek and Little Dominguez Creek, all of which are protected by imposing canyon rims that preclude incompatible intrusions. There are no oil and gas leases within the area and no potential for oil and gas resources. There is no evidence of unauthorized motorized trespass into the roadless area off existing designated motorized routes that define the boundary.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, Aplet et al Indicators of Wildness 2000
Wild and Scenic River Eligibility	Dominguez-Escalante NCA Summary Report for W&S River Eligibility, BLM, 2010
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Severe Winter Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Mule Deer Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Dominguez



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Hayden Mountain Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District

10,000 acres



General Description

Hayden Mountain provides a breathtaking backdrop to the Million Dollar Highway, also known as the San Juan Skyway scenic byway. Hayden Mountain towers impressively above the west side of Highway 550 from Ouray to the summit of Red Mountain Pass. Hayden Mountain includes high snowcapped summits, quiet alpine basins, and sweeping aspen stands that erupt in riotous fall colors of orange, red and gold starting in September. The area's trails are a favorite destination of both local hikers and the many tourists who visit Ouray.

Hayden Mountain sits squarely between the Uncompahgre Wilderness to the east and the Mount Sneffels Wilderness immediately to the west. It's in the heart of lynx habitat in the northern San Juan Mountains. Wilderness designation would plug a key gap in the system of wilderness areas that otherwise encircle Hayden Mountain on several sides.

Hayden Mountain's roadless character, and associated wilderness values, has never been inventoried by the Forest Service. The area was omitted from the 1970s-era Roadless Area Review and Evaluations as it was within the Uncompahgre Primitive Area at the time, and was also never subsequently inventoried for analysis during the Colorado Roadless Rule process in the early 2000s.

Naturalness

Hayden Mountain is an undeveloped range of seven high points including several 13,000-foot summits amidst one of Colorado's otherwise intensively mined landscapes. It towers above the Camp Bird mine to the west, and the Idarado mine to the south. The area's precipitous slopes precluded any substantial amount of surface disturbance that significantly impairs the area's overall naturalness. Some historic mining activities are apparent in the southern reaches of the area. Several mine dumps and an historic cabin remain at the Senator Beck mine, but the mine is dwarfed by the expansive landscape and beauty surrounding it. An automated weather station operated by the Center for Snow and Avalanche Studies is located in the basin of Senator Beck mine. Other mining relics dot the shoreline of Ptarmigan Lake, including an historic mine shack. A locked gate precludes motorized use of the historic jeep trail from Imogene Pass down to Ptarmigan Lake. These are similar historic structures to those found in the nearby Weminuche Wilderness in Chicago Basin, or in the Holy Cross Wilderness. The jeep roads to Barstow Mine and Greyhound Mine along with the mine sites are excluded from the proposed wilderness. The jeep road between the mines and adjacent to Spirit Gulch is abandoned and undergoing natural revegetation and thus included within the proposed wilderness.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Hayden Mountain is classic, high alpine San Juan Mountain wilderness. The area's elevation provides sweeping vistas across rugged peaks and plunging valleys, reinforcing the sense of isolation and separation from civilization. The area is distant from signs of civilization, once away from the jeep trails that denote the boundaries along Black Bear Pass and Imogene Pass. Secluded alpine basins further enhance the area's outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Hayden Mountain is a preferred destination in summer for hikers seeking vast alpine vistas, fields of alpine wildflowers, and snowfields hanging on late into summer. Backcountry skiers and boarders venture into the high basins and steep slopes in winter, and find the last pockets of snowfields late into spring. Several non-mechanized trails offer ready access for hikers, including the Hayden Mountain trail that traverses the northern end of the area. Historic pack trails lead to secluded locations such as Ptarmigan Lake and the alpine basin surrounding the long abandoned Senator Beck mine.

Size and Roadlessness

Hayden Mountain is 10,000 acres, and excludes open motorized routes that form its boundary, such as the jeep trails over Black Bear Pass and Imogene Pass. The motorized route



up Commodore Gulch to the Barstow Mine is also excluded from the proposed wilderness.

Supplemental Values

Hayden Mountain hosts abundant herds of elk in its high basins and alpine meadows during summer. It provides an important summer concentration area for elk and offers seclusion away from region’s busier jeep trails.

About one-half of the Colorado Natural Heritage Program’s Mineral Basin Potential Conservation Area is located within the Hayden Mountain area. The PCA’s vegetation is a mosaic of rocky alpine tundra and wet alpine meadows with high floral diversity dominated by alpine avens. Late melting snowbanks provide the necessary habitat for San Juan whitlow-grass (*Draba graminea*). Two other drabas are found in small amounts in drier, rocky sites. This PCA is rated by CNHP as possessing B2-Very High Biodiversity Significance. Hayden Mountain also bounds the Ironton Park PCA, identified for its uncommon iron fen and wetlands. This broad park occupies a level area where Red Mountain Creek has spread out into several channels, creating the largest wetland in the Uncompahgre Basin.

Manageability

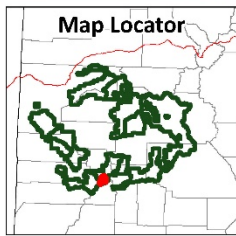
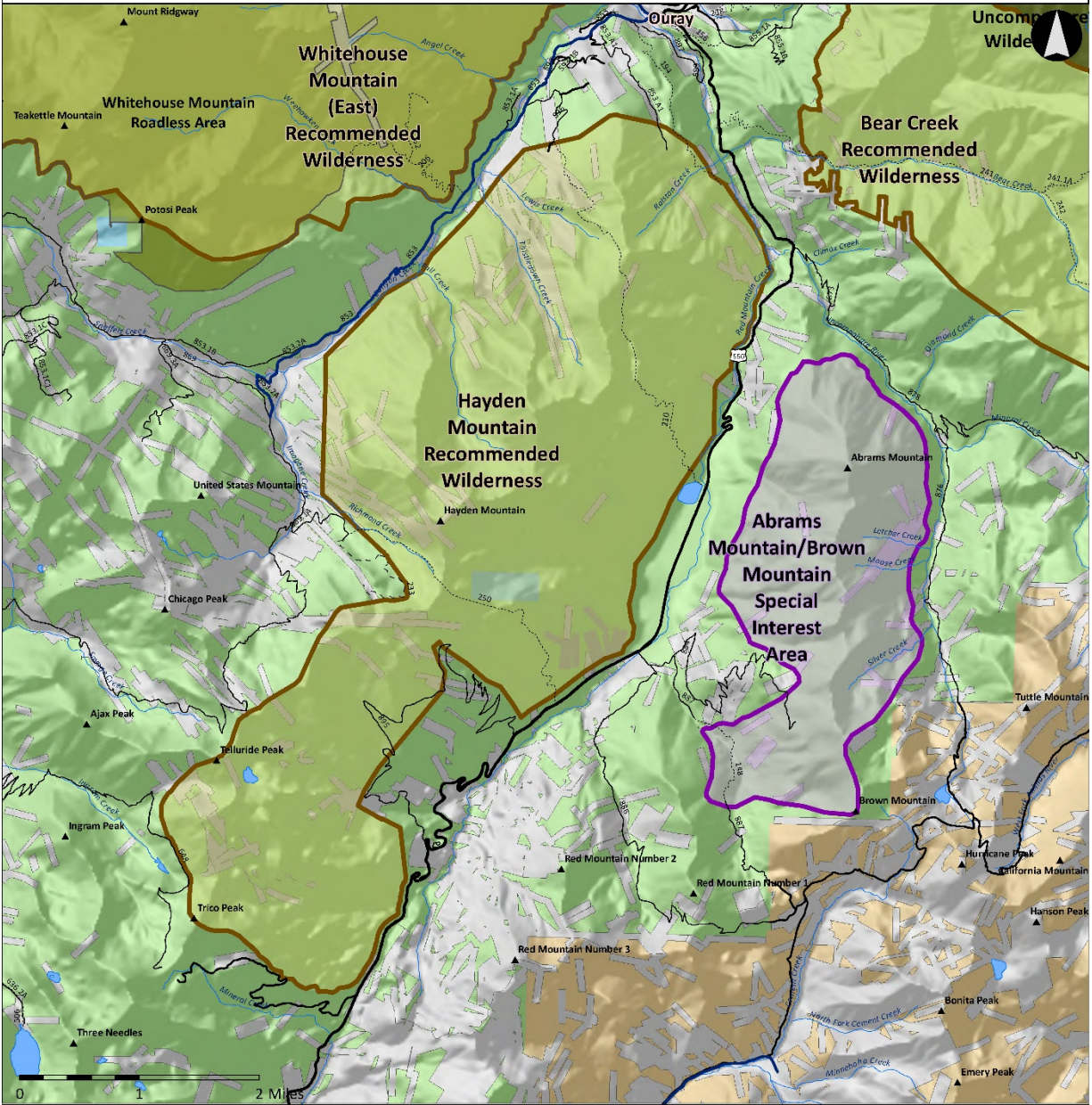
Hayden Mountain is generally well protected from uses incompatible with wilderness by its terrain and topography. The trails are closed to motorized and mechanized uses. The area is generally bounded by Highway 550 to the east, Black Bear Pass jeep trail on the south, Imogene Pass jeep trail on the west, and the Canyon Creek road to the north. The designated motorized routes up to the Barstow Mine and Greyhound Mine are excluded from the proposed wilderness, and form a portion of the eastern boundary. Hayden Mountain’s steep topography precludes winter motorized recreation. The area has no oil and gas potential. The Forest Service has acquired numerous patented mining claims from Idarado Mining Company and others, which removes the majority of the most desirable historic mineral veins from future location under the 1872 Mining Law. A number of patented mining claims remain within the area, but these have no historic vehicle access. The Forest Service continues to pursue acquisitions via land exchanges and purchases. Ouray County has strict zoning regulations that limit development on mining claims such as these in the alpine zone above 9,480 feet in elevation. Coalition members have recently become aware of some climbing routes within the proposed boundary. We are in discussion with the climbing community to find a compromise that works for recreation users.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72

	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Imogene Pass Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ironton Park Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Mineral Basin Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ouray Canyons Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Abrams Mountain/Brown Mountain & Hayden Mountain



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
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- Legend**
- Major Road
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 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Hope Lake (Sheep Mountain) Special Interest Area

Proposed Special Management Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Norwood Ranger District

11,000 acres



General Description

Hope Lake (also called Sheep Mountain) consists of craggy peaks, glaciated valleys and high alpine lakes. The area has been long recognized for its wilderness character, with citizen wilderness proposals dating to RARE II in the 1970s. Several incompatible activities in the form of heli-skiing and the use of Hope Lake as part of Excel Energy's Ames hydroelectric project preclude full-fledged wilderness designation. However, the area's outstanding wilderness character can be maintained through protective management as a backcountry special interest area. Federal legislation proposing a Sheep Mountain Special Management Area was first introduced to Congress in 2013 as part of the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act.

Hope Lake is part of a larger 70,000-acre roadless area that spans both the Uncompahgre and San Juan National Forests. It links Colorado's largest wilderness area, the Weminuche, with the nearby Lizard Head and Mount Sneffels wilderness areas to the west and north. Lynx confirm the significance of this landscape connection by utilizing the undeveloped corridor for movement across the San Juan Mountains.

Hope Lake is free of significant modifications to its naturalness. Recent acquisitions in the Ophir Valley, facilitated by the Trust for Public Land, resulted in consolidation of several large blocks of patented mining claims on Yellow Mountain and along Waterfall Creek into public ownership, removing past and future threats of habitat-disturbing activities.

Recreation Values

Hope Lake is one of the largest undeveloped roadless areas in Colorado outside of wilderness. As in the case with other large, mountainous tracts, there are abundant opportunities to experience outstanding solitude.



The popular Hope Lake Trail winds several miles to an alpine basin surrounded by colorful slopes and peaks. In addition to its namesake alpine lake and several scenic hiking trails, Hope

Lake offers challenges to mountaineers attempting to summit Pilot Knob, Golden Horn and South Lookout Peak, among the area's many difficult peaks.

Biological Values

Hope Lake incorporates the eastern half of the Lizard Head Pass lynx linkage, one of the key connections for lynx movement across the San Juan Mountains. This linkage area provides movement opportunities between blocks of habitat as well as maintaining permeability across Highway 145.

Hope Lake takes in a portion of the Rolling Mountain Potential Conservation Area identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, which encompasses high alpine basins with rocky slabs and thin gravelly soils. Areas where the snow lasts until late in the year are habitat for two rare mustard species, San Juan whitlow-grass (*Draba graminea*) and Colorado divide whitlow-grass (*Draba streptobrachia*).

Boundary, Size and Access

Hope Lake includes 11,000 acres on the Uncompahgre National Forest, but abuts an adjacent 60,000-acre roadless area on the San Juan National Forest. The area is generally bounded by the Ophir Valley on the north, and Trout Lake and Highway 145 to the west. The rest of the area adjoins roadless lands on the San Juan National Forest.

Proposed Management

Two existing uses within Hope Lake conflict with wilderness management and thus motivate this proposed alternative management. One is the Telluride Helitrax permit for heli-skiing, and the other is Excel's operation of Hope Lake as part of its Ames hydroelectric project. Consolidation of public ownership has removed a significant threat to maintaining the area's wilderness qualities, with acquisition by federal and local entities of 163 acres on Yellow Mountain and about 300 acres around Waterfall Creek in the northern portion of the area bounding the Ophir Valley. The terrain is not conducive to snowmobiling in winter. The Hope Lake Trail is non-mechanized, and the previous road up Swamp Canyon has been decommissioned and closed to motorized use. The area has low or no potential for oil and gas development.

Recommended management direction in the Forest Plan includes:

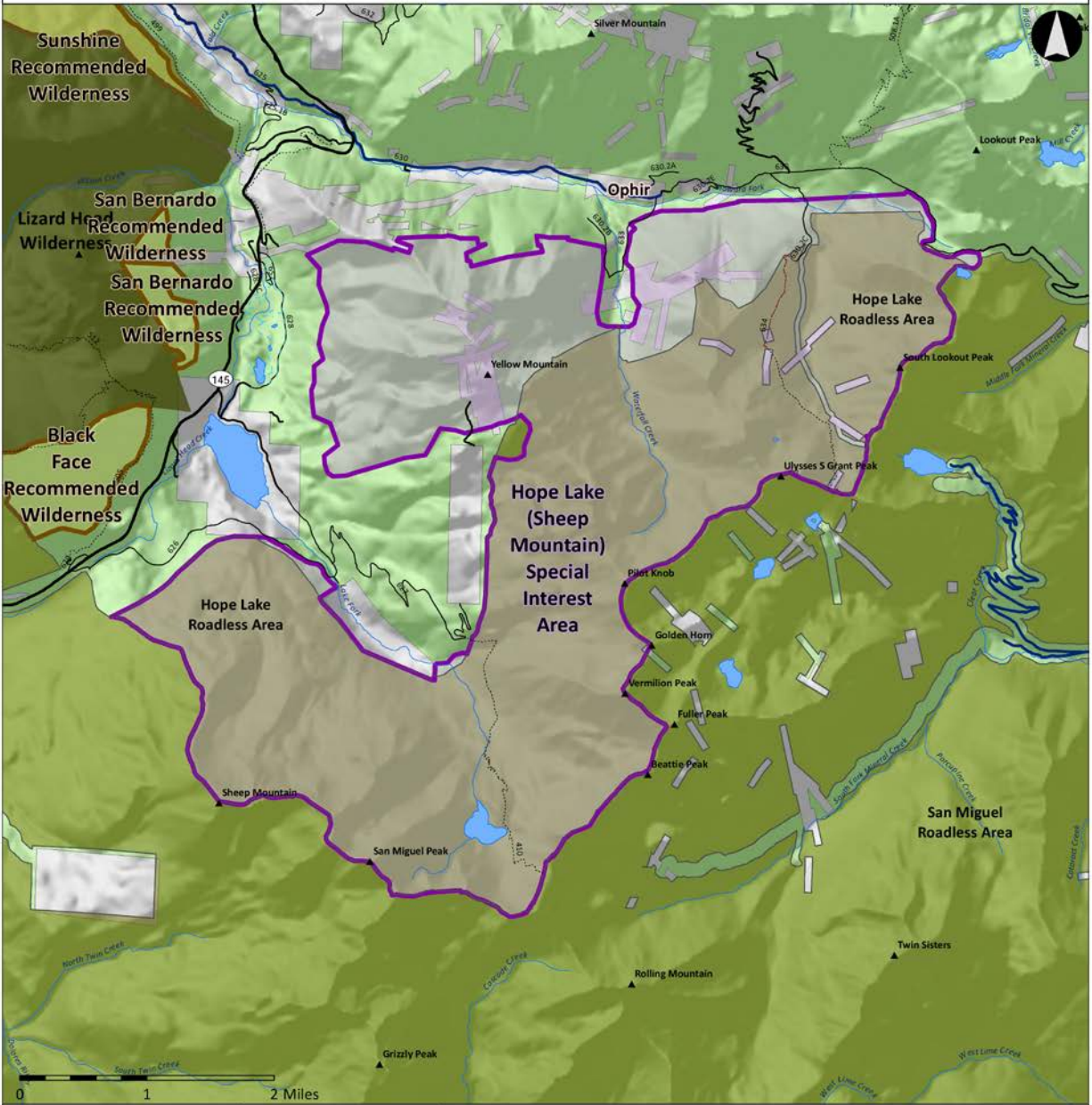
- Hope Lake must be administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing and mineral material sales, and a mineral withdrawal needs to be recommended for locatable minerals.
- Management direction must include a prohibition on timber harvest and new road construction.
- Hope Lake must be closed to winter motorized travel, and summer travel must be limited to non-mechanized activities.
- The area remains available for operation under the existing Helitrax heli-skiing permit.
- Excel Energy can continue to operate its Ames hydroelectric project, but without new roads or vehicle access to Hope Lake itself.

- Additional land acquisition efforts should be pursued for remaining scattered patented mining claims, including those in Swamp Canyon.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Ice Lake Basin Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Rolling Mountain Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Lake Fork at Trout Lake Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Hope Lake (Sheep Mountain)



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By:
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Rocky Mountain Wild
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- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
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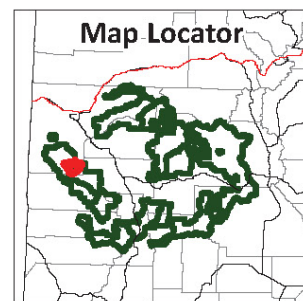
Kelso Mesa Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation

Uncompahgre National Forest

Grand Valley Ranger District

36,000 acres



General Description

Kelso Mesa is the largest roadless area on the Uncompahgre Plateau and encompasses the Middle Fork and North Fork of Escalante Creek, and intervening mesas. Large perennial streams flow off the plateau through an ecological transition that reaches to the lower elevations of the Uncompahgre Plateau. This spans a diverse set of landforms from shimmering aspen forests to red rock canyon walls. Kelso Mesa is adjacent to BLM's Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area and contains the roadless headwaters of Escalante Creek.

Kelso Mesa bridges an elevational range from 6,600 to 9,200 feet and is dominated by ecosystem types barely represented within designated wilderness in Colorado. Chief among these are gambel oak-serviceberry woodlands, which blanket north-facing canyon slopes, and pinyon-juniper woodlands that grace south-facing slopes. A riparian corridor of narrowleaf cottonwood and occasional blue spruce transitions to stands of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir on shaded slopes. The mesas above the canyon rims of red, cliff-forming Wingate sandstone are covered with thick oak woodlands and robust stands of aspen.

The combination of Kelso Mesa with the adjacent BLM National Conservation Area creates a quarter-million-acre region of wild, remote, undeveloped lands. They consequently offer outstanding recreational opportunities for exploring a region of dramatic scenery, ecological transitions and abundant wildlife.

Naturalness

Kelso Mesa is uncommon on the Uncompahgre Plateau for being such a large, roadless tract of gentle, undulating forests and sagebrush meadows. The area is bounded to the south by timber harvests on Love Mesa, but within Kelso Mesa there is no history of past timber management. Some prior two-track vehicle routes have been converted to non-motorized trails.



Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Kelso Mesa's large expanse and long canyons offer superlative opportunities for solitude. The Uncompahgre Plateau lacks the alpine peaks, mountain lakes and subalpine basins that draw multitudes of visitors elsewhere on the GMUG, and hence roadless areas such as Kelso Mesa receive less visitor pressure than most places on the forest. No other area of this size, remoteness and difficulty to access is found on the Uncompahgre Plateau. The sense of solitude is intimate while exploring dense aspen forests and dark stands of Douglas fir, but also expansive where sweeping panoramas open from rocky cliff tops and undulating meadows.

An extensive network of non-mechanized trails extends throughout the area, which creates outstanding opportunities for hiking, equestrian use, hunting and fishing. Several parcels of private land are located at bottlenecks that diminish public access to several of the trails originating on the mesa top near the Divide Road. However, the Middle Point Escalante Creek trail is readily accessible from the Middle Fork canyon's mouth near the national forest boundary, and a nine mile trek provides access to the system of trails coursing across the mesa tops. The North Fork of Escalante Creek is blocked at the bottom end by private inholdings on the adjacent BLM land, but the Short Point trail is accessible from the top via the Brushy Ridge Road and traverses the length of the North Fork. The area is popular in fall with hunters who pursue elk and deer on foot and horseback.

Size and Roadlessness

Kelso Mesa contains 36,000 acres on the Uncompahgre National Forest, and is located in Mesa County. It is a large, compact shape with boundaries well-defined by primary roads including the Divide Road, Love Mesa Road and Brushy Ridge Road at the upper elevations, and by the national forest boundary at lower elevations. Kelso Mesa is contiguous with the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area managed by BLM.

Supplemental Values

Kelso Mesa includes the headwaters of the Escalante Creek Potential Conservation Area identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. Escalante Creek's North Fork and Kelso Creek are incorporated within the PCA to include the upper watershed necessary for continued natural surface flow and resultant fluvial processes such as flood scouring, lateral flow, and channel meandering, to maintain a dynamic distribution of riparian and wetland plant associations along the drainage. The lower half of the PCA is within BLM's adjacent Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area. The PCA is ranked as Very High Biodiversity Significance by CNHP.

Kelso Mesa offers the greatest significant opportunity to protect large tracts of ecosystems significantly under-represented among existing wilderness areas at both the federal level and within the GMUG National Forest. Over 70 percent of Kelso Mesa consists of ecosystem types with less than five percent representation within existing designated wilderness at the federal level and at the forest level, primarily Rocky Mountain Gambel Oak-Mixed Montane Shrubland and Colorado Plateau Pinyon-Juniper Woodland. This is a direct consequence of Kelso Mesa's

geographic location spanning the elevational gradient from the national forest-BLM boundary to the upper reaches of the Uncompahgre Plateau.

Kelso Mesa enhances connectivity across a larger landscape by providing protection for nearly the entirety of the Escalante Creek watershed in conjunction with the adjacent downstream BLM Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area. With consideration of the immediately adjacent Dominguez Canyon roadless area to the north, the two national forest roadless areas largely complete protection for uplands bordering the National Conservation Area. Kelso Mesa offers the opportunity for cross-jurisdictional management cooperation between the Forest Service and BLM to protect one of the largest, wild landscapes in the upper Colorado Plateau.

Manageability

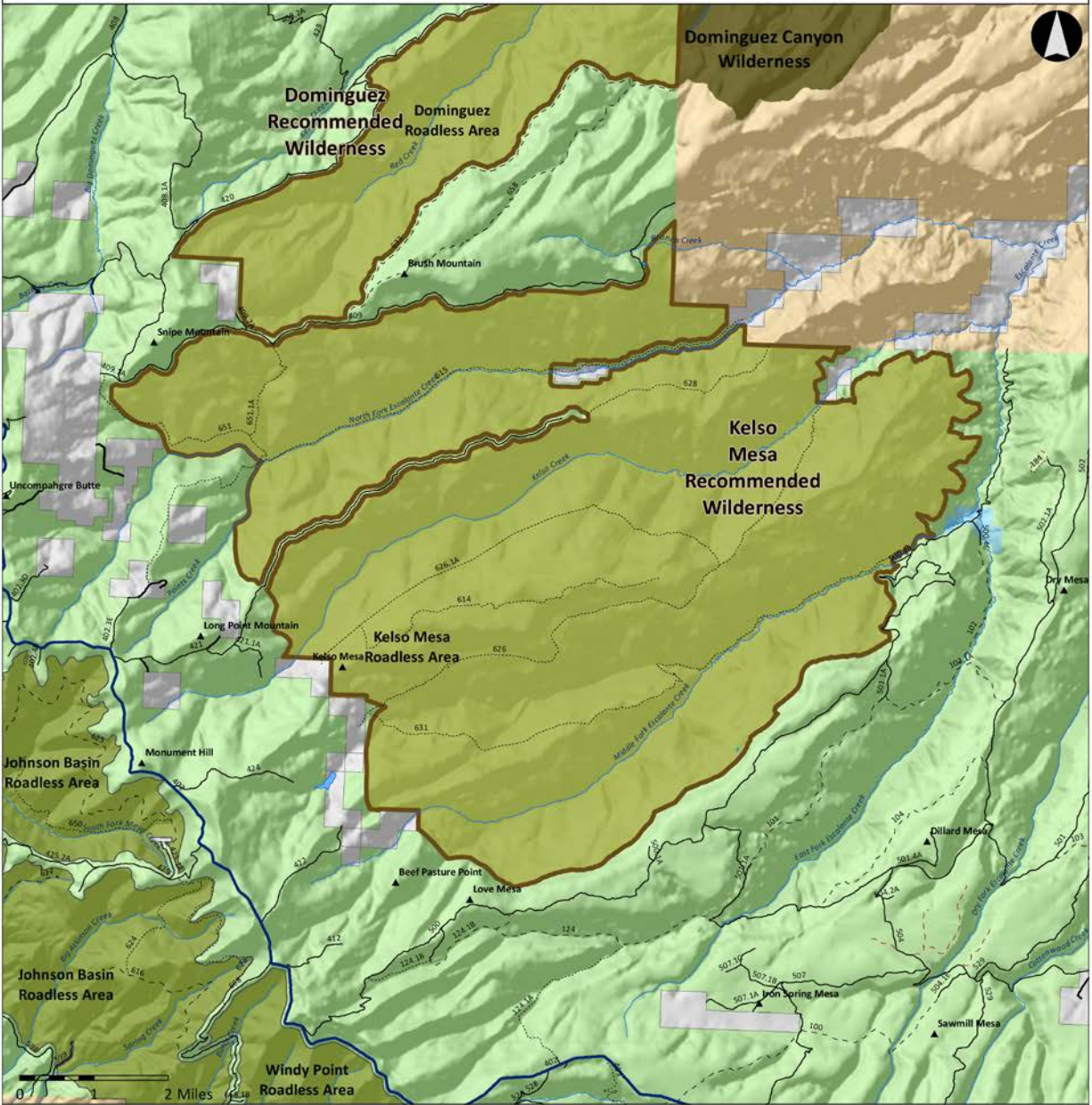
Kelso Mesa's boundary is compact and readily identifiable in the field along primary roads. Private land parcels block access into the lower ends of the North Fork of Escalante Creek and Kelso Creek thereby providing an added level of management protection against incompatible uses. Private land similarly blocks access from the upper reaches of Kelso Mesa and Short Point. This might restrict recreational access in places, but enhances manageability of wilderness resources. The area shares its lower elevation boundary entirely with BLM's Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area. Two private inholdings accessible only by trail are located at the lower reaches of Kelso Creek and the North Fork of Escalante Creek. There are no oil and gas leases within the boundaries and no apparent potential for oil and gas resources.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, Aplet et al Indicators of Wildness 2000
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Severe Winter Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Escalante Canyon Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Kelso Mesa



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

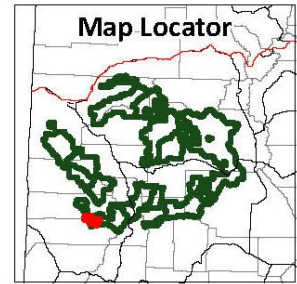
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

East Beaver Creek Wilderness Addition

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Norwood Ranger District

3,600 acres



General Description

The East Beaver Creek Wilderness addition would extend the western boundary of the existing Lizard Head Wilderness, protecting the scenic viewshed of Flattop, Middle and Dunn Peaks from the west. The area encompasses the lower, forested slopes of the San Miguel Range, preserving a refuge for quiet recreation away from the heavily used Woods Lake and Wilson Mesa areas. This hidden gem includes groves of mixed spruce and aspen, as well as open meadows, riparian areas and beaver wetlands that provide excellent and varied wildlife habitat.

As an extension of an area with recognized wilderness characteristics, the proposed addition is particularly desirable because it draws the edge of the Lizard Head Wilderness out to a natural boundary at Forest Service roads.

Naturalness

The East Beaver Creek area has experienced timber activity, but has for the most part revegetated naturally over the last 20 years since it was cut. The areas along access roads are heavily used by hunters in the fall, and for this reason a couple of informal dirt tracks were carved out with cherry stems. The current boundary has been drawn to specifically exclude human features such as the Gurley Ditch and a large clearing accessed by a rough track off of 619, where there are signs of a well-established seasonal hunting camp.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The East Beaver Creek area is adjacent to the spectacular western boundary of the Lizard Head Wilderness, just under the tall buttresses and curving slope of Middle and Dunn Peaks. From the higher points on the southern end, Dolores Peak's ochre rock comes into relief as well. The primitive Lone Cone Trail bisects the area, connecting Woods Lake to Lone Cone Station. It follows East Beaver Creek for several miles and is designated for horse or foot travel uses. Mechanized and motorized use is not an issue on this trail as it already crosses through the existing Lizard Head Wilderness Area.



Size and Roadlessness

As currently proposed, this addition would be about 3,600 acres. The natural boundary at Saltado Creek in the Northeast provides a buffer from the roads and motorized travel in the popular Woods Lake State Public Use Area. The area is bounded on the north and west by two Forest Service roads, 619 and 611, respectively. The western side roughly contours alongside Beaver Creek, following its transition from mid-elevation aspen and spruce forest on the north to rich riparian wetlands on the south side, while the southwestern boundary is formed by a primitive road, 616. All established roads have been excluded from the proposed area.

Supplemental Values

In East Beaver Creek there are many opportunities for exceptional views of high neighboring peaks of up to 13,000 feet. Abundant wildflower areas can be enjoyed in meadows throughout the area. The combination of mid-elevation and higher alpine areas nearby ensures that there is ample wildlife habitat connectivity through migratory corridors.

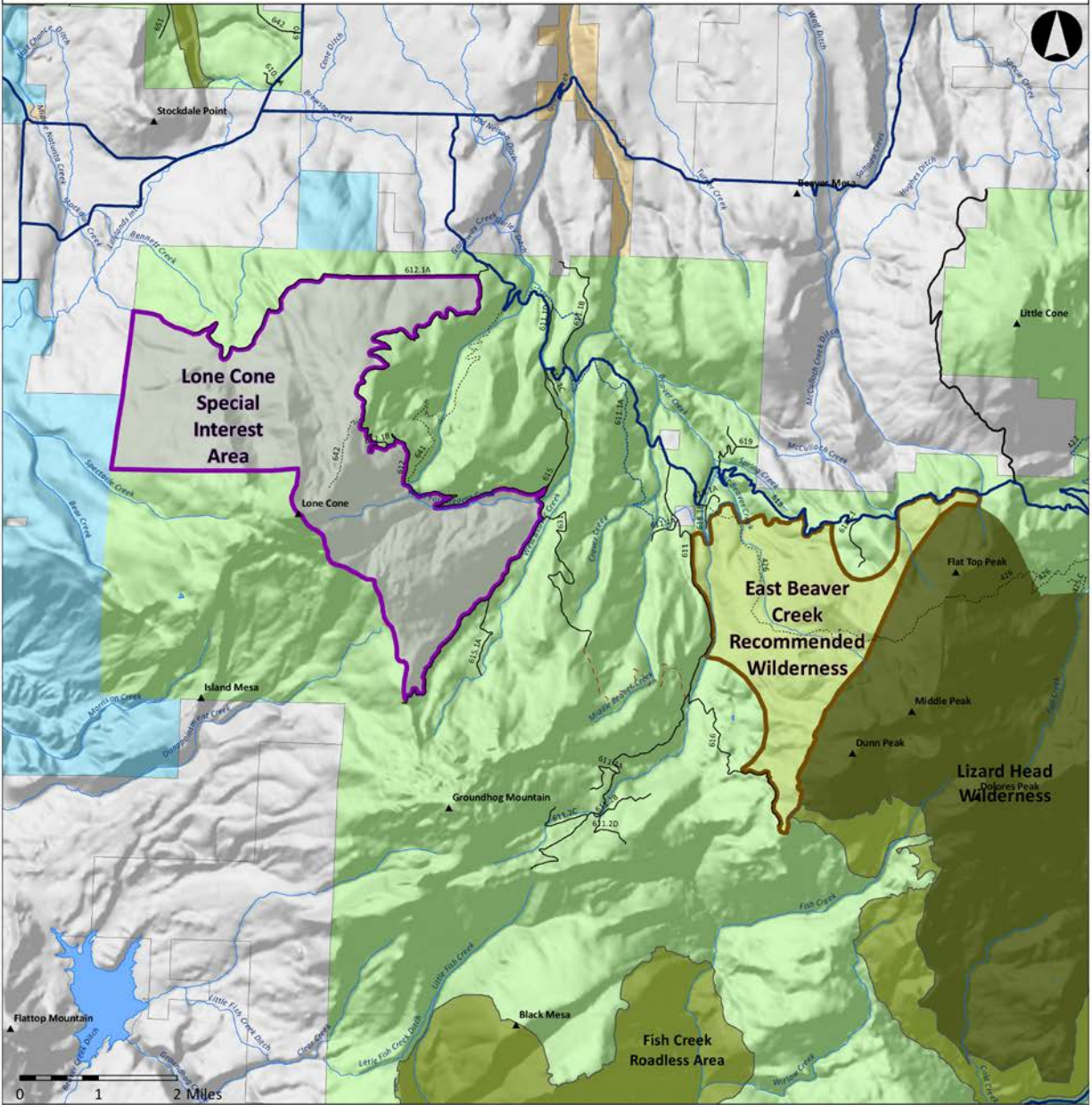
Manageability

The region's steep and inaccessible terrain would discourage off-road travel and remove the need for prohibition signage. The existence of the Lone Cone Guard Station would also be an advantage to any localized management activity deemed necessary. In addition, specific areas used by a local outfitter for winter snowmobile guiding have been left out of the addition.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
Supplemental Values	
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Beaver Creek/Lone Cone Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Lone Cone & East Beaver Creek



0 1 2 Miles



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

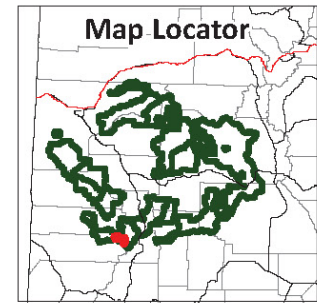
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Lizard Head Wilderness Additions

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Norwood Ranger District

3,060 acres total
(Black Face – 470
acres; San Bernardo –
180 acres; Sunshine –
610 acres; Wilson
(Silver Pick Basin) –
1,800 acres)



General Description

A set of wilderness additions is proposed to round out the boundary of the Lizard Head Wilderness. These reflect recent Forest Service land acquisitions, addition of lower forested slopes and protection of the scenic backdrop of the San Juan Skyway.

Half of the additional acreage is located in Silver Pick Basin and adds the west face of 14,017-foot Wilson Peak into the wilderness, a result of the Forest Service acquiring a handful of patented mining claims in the basin in 2015. A 700-acre addition takes in the aspen covered slopes below Sunshine Mountain. The scenic slopes astride Lizard Head Pass are incorporated in a 1,200-acre addition to the wilderness below Black Face and San Bernardo Mountain. Together these additions comprise a section of the proposed San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act.



Naturalness

The Lizard Head Wilderness additions exclude evidence of past human activity. The historic mining activity in Silver Pick Basin is substantially unnoticeable when viewed in the context of the larger landscape.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The Silver Pick Basin addition includes the primary mountaineering routes to the summit of 14,017-foot Wilson Peak. Mountaineering is one of the predominant outstanding unconfined primitive recreation activities within the Lizard Head Wilderness. The Black Face addition includes the Wilson Meadows Trail, which is a popular hiking trail originating from Lizard Head Pass. The wilderness additions enhance the existing outstanding solitude within the Lizard Head Wilderness by further buffering the wilderness core from outside incompatible uses.

Size and Roadlessness

The Lizard Head Wilderness addition is 3,060 acres contiguous with the existing 41,525-acre Lizard Head Wilderness. The proposed wilderness addition contains no roads.

Supplemental Values

The wilderness additions along Lizard Head Pass, particularly Black Face and San Bernardo Mountain, add protection to key elements of the Lizard Head Pass lynx linkage. This linkage area provides movement opportunities between blocks of habitat as well as maintaining permeability across the highway.

The Silver Pick Basin Potential Conservation Area identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program is located in part within the proposed wilderness addition. This PCA includes several rare plants, including the globally imperiled San Juan whitlow-grass (*Draba graminea*), and two state rare species, Altai chickweed (*Stellaria irrigua*) and arctic draba (*Draba fladnizensis*). This PCA is rated by CNHP as possessing B2-Very High Biodiversity Significance.

The Lizard Head wilderness additions make a modest contribution to increasing representation of otherwise poorly represented ecosystem types within the existing wilderness preservation system. The wilderness designation adds several hundred acres of Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, an ecosystem type with less than 20 percent representation in existing wilderness at the forest and federal level.

Manageability

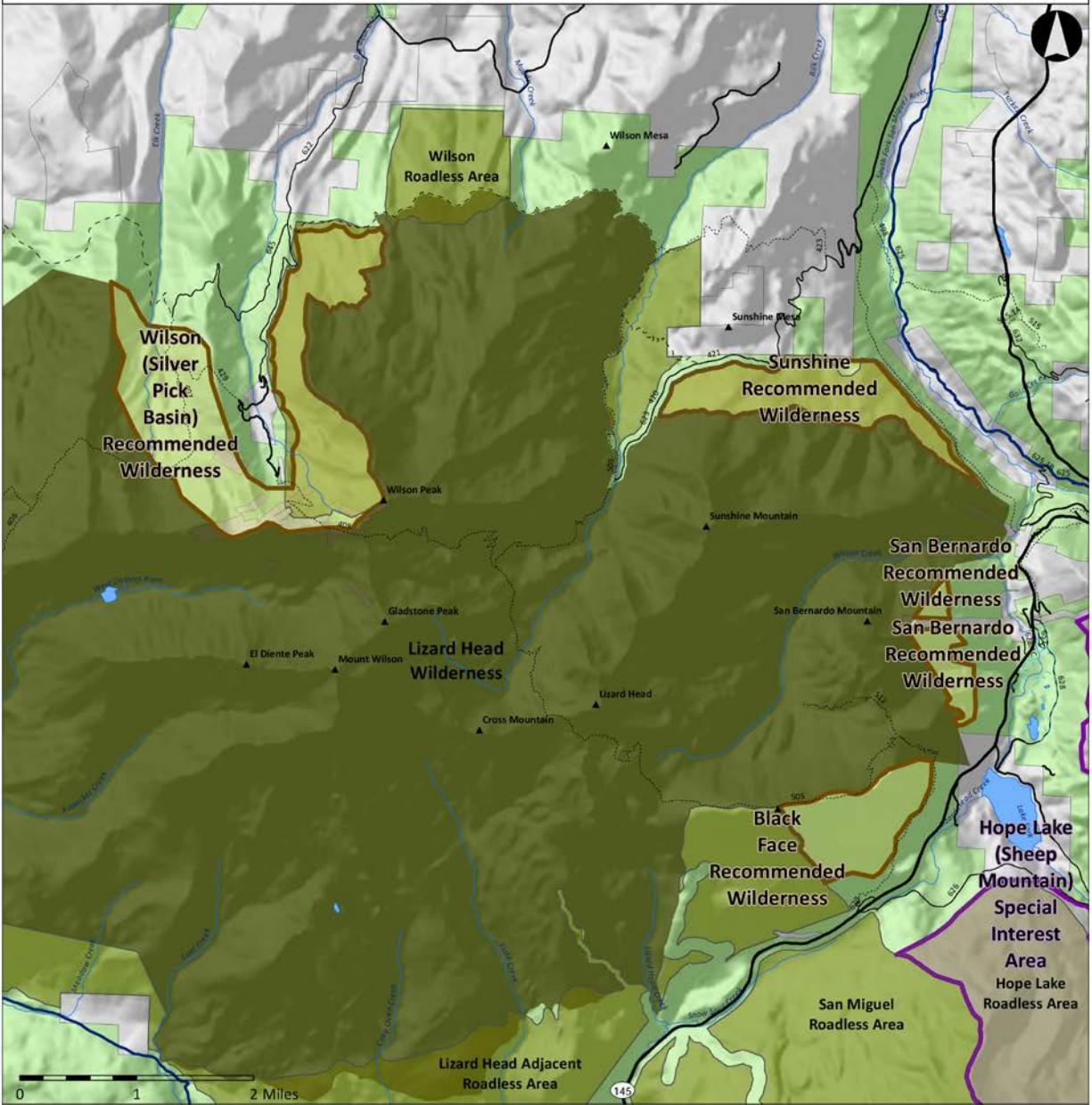
Boundaries for the Lizard Head Wilderness addition were drawn to exclude motorized and mountain bike trails and historic roads. The only trails remaining within the area are foot and horse trails. There is no known oil and gas potential, and low potential for hardrock minerals within the area. The 2007 draft Forest Plan recommended Wilson as wilderness.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	

Connectivity	USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Beaver Creek/Lone Cone Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
South Fork San Miguel River Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Silver Pick Basin Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Lizard Head Wilderness Additions



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By:
Alison Gallensky
Rocky Mountain Wild
4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - - - Closed USFS Road
 - - - Trail (snow)
 - - - Trail (motorized)
 - - - Trail (non-motorized)

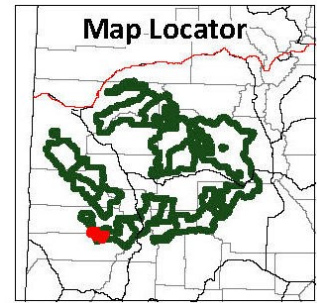
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Lone Cone Special Interest Area

Proposed Special Interest Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Norwood Ranger District

7,400 acres total



General Description

The Lone Cone SIA covers much of the northern and eastern slopes of iconic Lone Cone Peak, the most westerly freestanding mountain in the state of Colorado. At 12,613 feet, the unique and remote pyramid of Lone Cone is a striking regional landmark for many miles in all directions. It should be designated as an SIA to protect its outstanding recreational values related to mountaineering, backcountry hiking and primitive hunting, as well as its iconic profile as a scenic gem of southwestern Colorado. Uses that would compromise these values should be prohibited in the revised forest plan.

The lower slopes of Lone Cone are covered in large groves of aspen, while higher slopes are dominated by spruce-fir forests. Mushroom foragers and hunters alike use the large tracts of wild land on Lone Cone to find food, while diverse wildlife species, including a satellite population of the threatened Gunnison Sage-grouse, occupy its diverse habitat. The peak is one of the westernmost areas of potential lynx habitat in Colorado.

Lone Cone's alpine zone contains sections of windswept tundra, craggy rock fields, talus slopes, and an enormous rock glacier known as "Devil's Chair," which pose a challenging route for mountain climbers. The summit and higher elevations offer stunning 360-degree views of mountain ranges in Utah and Colorado, as well as the Uncompahgre Plateau and Paradox Valley. Lone Cone is worthy of protection due to the potential for quiet recreation and for its outstanding wildlife and scenic values.

Lone Cone rises out of surrounding ranchland on Wright's Mesa, towering alone at the end of Road 44Z. The boundary between the Uncompahgre and San Juan National Forests divides the summit of the peak and also forms the boundary between San Miguel and Dolores Counties. Boundaries have been drawn to exclude all motorized trails in the Lone Cone area.

A Mountaineering Gem

The Lone Cone area offers outstanding opportunities for



recreation. As a very isolated 12,613-foot peak, it does not see the same numbers of peak-baggers as other local 14ers and 13ers do, but anyone exploring Lone Cone will discover a true Colorado mountaineering gem. There is a trail that leads to treeline on the northeast ridge, but it is not identified as a trail on the Forest Service’s website. Near treeline you can either ascend the northeast ridge which is a Class 3 and Class 4 scramble, or take the easier route across the Devil’s Chair to climb the north ridge, where there are a few cairns and a visible user path. For the most part though, climbing to the summit involves rock hopping and scrambling. There are a few limited forest roads that provide access to Lone Cone (mostly along the east or northeast and southeast sides). These are used by hunters and snowmobilers in season, but the Forest Service website states that it receives “light” use and the approach to Lone Peak is not on a designated or marked route.

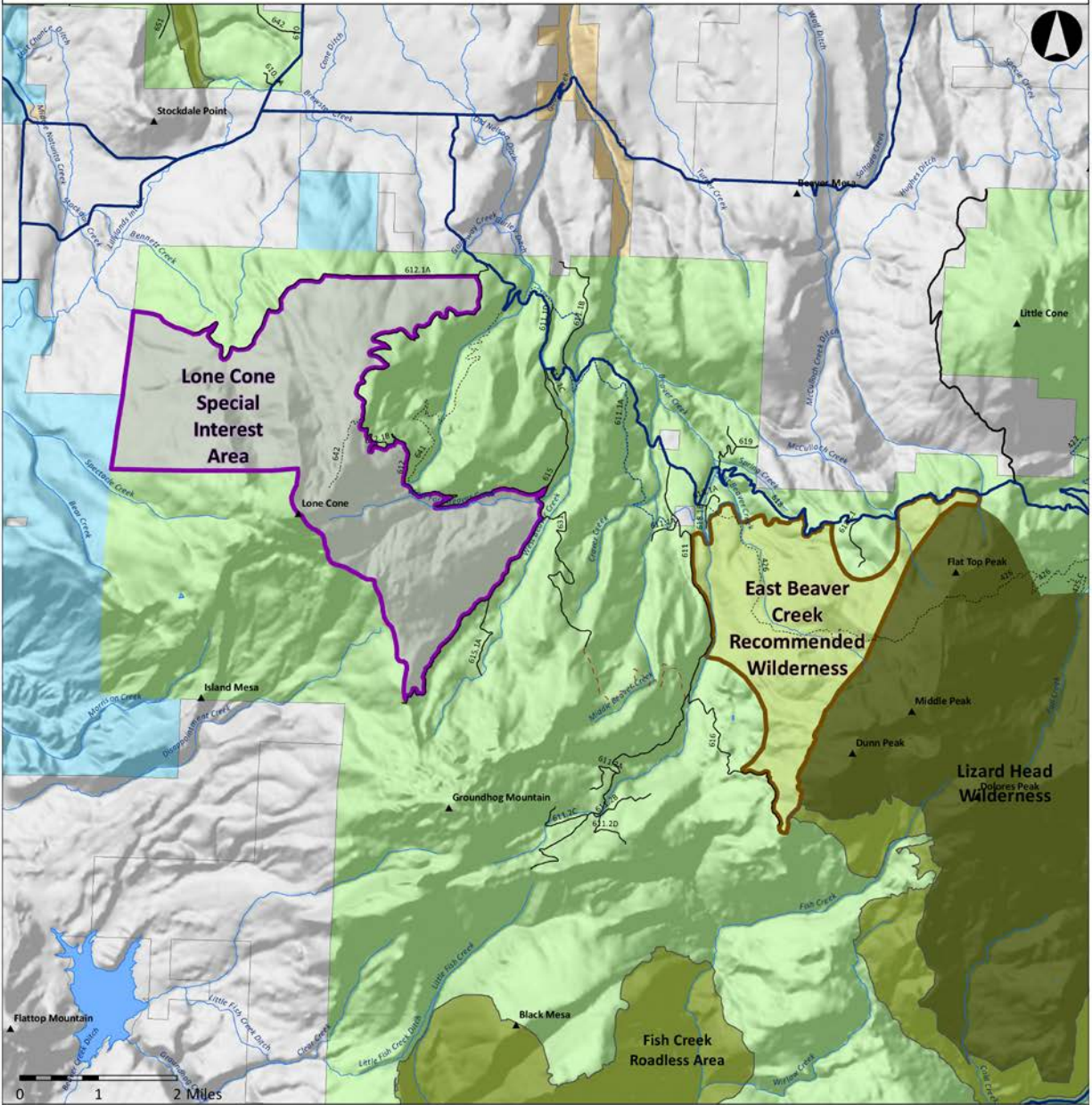
Manageability

While we are aware that the Forest Service is interested in doing some vegetation treatments in this area, the proposed SIA would not preclude that use. Rather, it would guide treatments to areas where they would be most effective and not compromise the SIA’s outstanding values.

Information Resources

Supplemental Values	Data Source
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage Grouse Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage Grouse Historical Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Beaver Creek/Lone Cone Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Lone Cone & East Beaver Creek



Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - - - Closed USFS Road
 - - - Trail (snow)
 - - - Trail (motorized)
 - - - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Last Dollar/Sheep Creek (Last Dollar/Liberty Bell) Addition to Mount Sneffels Wilderness

**Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Norwood Ranger District**

*7,500 acres total
(Last Dollar – 2,600
acres; Liberty Bell –
4,900 acres)*



General Description

The Last Dollar/Sheep Creek addition completes the Mount Sneffels Wilderness boundary above the town of Telluride. The eastern Sheep Creek portion incorporates the entirety of Mill Creek Basin into the wilderness, whereas the current wilderness includes only the basin's north half. The Last Dollar addition extends the wilderness boundary west generally out to the Last Dollar Road. Both additions add lower aspen blanketed slopes to the wilderness.

Last Dollar/Sheep Creek incorporates the remainder of several trails already partially within the wilderness, most significantly the Sneffels Highline Trail looping through Mill Creek Basin's alpine headwaters. The lower reaches of the Whipple Mountain and Alder Creek trails would also be added into the wilderness. Last Dollar/Sheep Creek additionally protects a conservation population of Colorado River cutthroat trout in Deep Creek's East Fork. This addition is known as the Last Dollar/Liberty Bell Addition in the proposed San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act.



Naturalness

Last Dollar/Sheep Creek consists of undeveloped lands adjacent to the existing wilderness. The addition lacks evidence of historic mines, roads, or timber management and is entirely natural in appearance.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Last Dollar/Sheep Creek extends the wilderness boundary to a lower elevation in many instances, but is still high above the San Miguel River valley and the town of Telluride. Thick aspen forests enhance the sense of solitude. Mill Creek Basin in particular is a high, isolated and remote alpine basin far from the sights and sounds of civilization with outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Multiple trails provide for outstanding opportunities for hiking and horse packing. The High Sneffels Trail offers a long looping hike from aspen forests outside Telluride to alpine tundra, passing through head-high fields of wildflowers in the summer. Outstanding backcountry skiing options are available in winter originating from the Last Dollar Road and ski hut along the western portion of the addition.

Size and Roadlessness

Last Dollar/Sheep Creek is 7,500 acres, and is contiguous with the existing 16,485-acre Mount Sneffels Wilderness. The proposed wilderness addition contains no roads.

Supplemental Values

The East Fork of Deep Creek within the proposed wilderness addition has been identified as a conservation population for Colorado River cutthroat trout.

Last Dollar/Sheep Creek makes a modest contribution to increasing representation of otherwise poorly represented ecosystem types within the existing wilderness preservation system. The wilderness designation adds about 1,000 acres of Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, an ecosystem type with less than 20 percent representation in existing wilderness at the forest and federal level.

Manageability

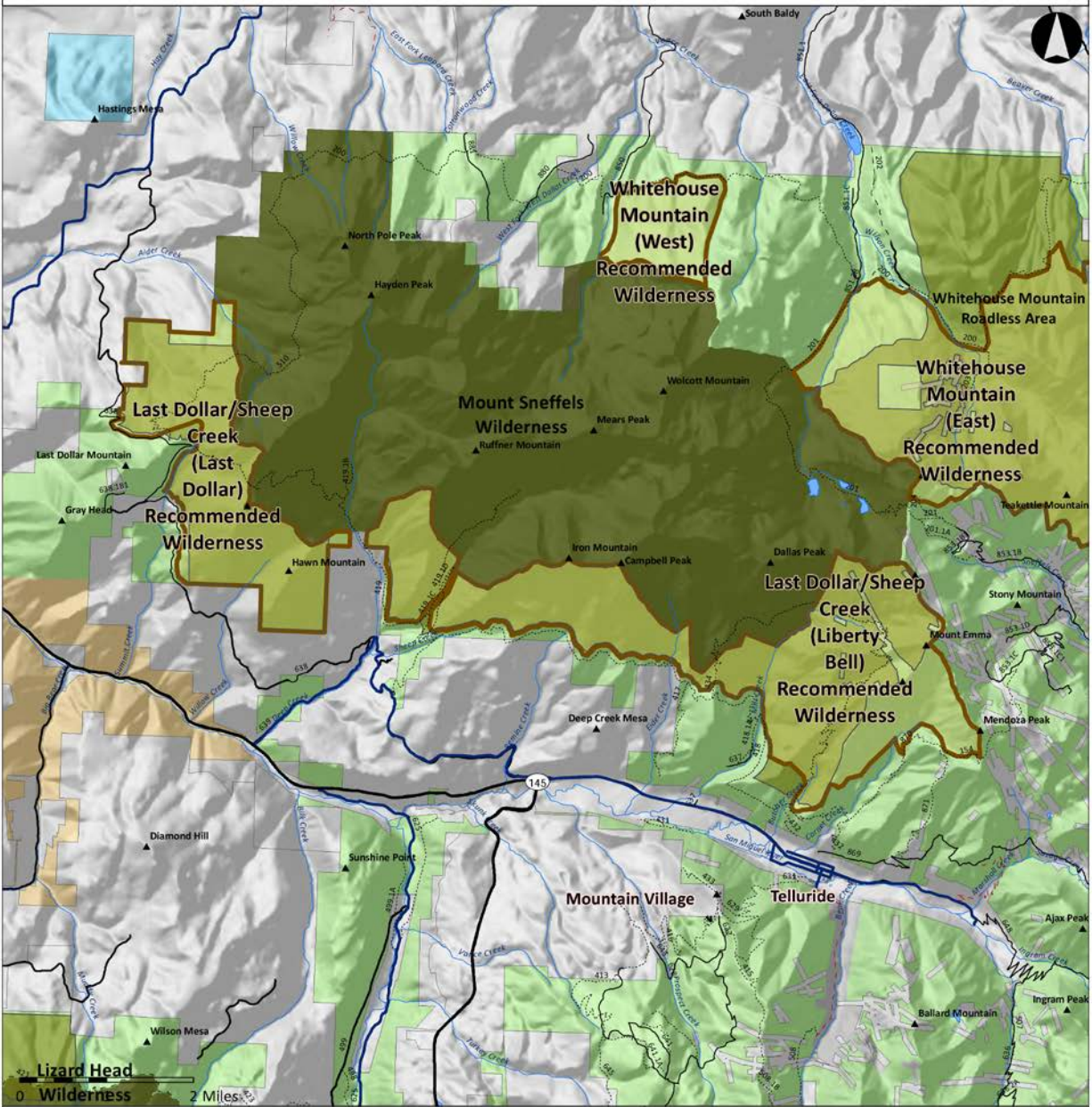
The Last Dollar/Sheep Creek wilderness boundary is drawn to exclude conflicts. The southern boundary is defined by the Deep Creek trail, which would be left open to mountain bikes. The western boundary excludes the Last Dollar ski hut. There is low oil and gas potential, and low potential for hardrock minerals within the area. The 2007 draft Forest Plan recommended a portion of Last Dollar/Sheep Creek for wilderness.


Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity

	Mapping 2017
Elk Severe Winter Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Cutthroat Trout	GMUG NF Cutthroat Trout Species and Conservation Assessment, 2011
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Last Dollar/Sheep Creek Additions to Mount Sneffels Wilderness




ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

Legend

-  Major Road
-  CDNST
-  USFS Road
-  Closed USFS Road
-  Trail (snow)
-  Trail (motorized)
-  Trail (non-motorized)

 Recommended Wilderness
 Linkage Area
 Special Interest Area/Other
 Roadless Area (FS)
 Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
 Wilderness

Land Ownership

-  USFS
-  BLM
-  NPS
-  State
-  Other Public
-  Tribe
-  Private

Whitehouse Mountain Addition to Mount Sneffels Wilderness

**Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District**

*12,760 acres total
(Whitehouse Mountain
East – 12,000 acres;
Whitehouse Mountain
West – 760 acres)*



General Description

The Whitehouse Mountain addition to Mount Sneffels Wilderness completes the Mount Sneffels Wilderness and one of the most recognizable mountain scenes in Colorado. Countless scenic calendars include the blazing fall colors of the Sneffels Range as viewed from Dallas Divide. The addition would extend the wilderness boundary east from its current location atop the summit of Mount Sneffels to incorporate the remainder of the Sneffels Range.

In addition to incorporating some of the most dramatic, classic and heavily photographed mountain scenery in the San Juans, Whitehouse Mountain includes well-known mountaineering summits like Potosi Peak and Teakettle Mountain, as well as the popular Weehawken Trail near Ouray. The wilderness addition is bounded on the south by the Camp Bird Mine Road, which leads to Yankee Boy Basin and other four-wheel-drive routes heavily used during summer.



Naturalness

The precipitous slopes of Whitehouse Mountain are stereotypical rock and ice wilderness. The steep and rugged nature of the area, combined with an absence of precious metal deposits, precluded road construction and left the area in a natural, undisturbed condition.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The Whitehouse Mountain addition towers thousands of feet above Yankee Boy Basin and Camp Bird. The great elevational differential creates an outstanding sense of solitude, and most locations within the wilderness addition offer unrestricted vistas across much of southwest

Colorado. The peaks are much less visited than the popular namesake of the wilderness, Mount Sneffels, and lightly used trails like that in Blaine Basin offer solitary excursions through alpine flower fields.

The rugged peaks of the Sneffels Range provide challenging mountaineering summits, particularly Potosi Peak and Teakettle Mountain. Other outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation include hiking the Weehawken Trail for views of waterfalls, alpine meadows, and wildflowers. Elk favor the high basins as summer concentration areas, and early season hunters seeking adventurous backcountry hunting can find abundant herds in these remote hideouts. Bighorn sheep favor the area in summer and move across it to access winter range near Ouray.

Size and Roadlessness

Whitehouse Mountain is 12,760 acres, and is contiguous with the existing 16,485-acre Mount Sneffels Wilderness. The proposed wilderness addition contains no roads.

Supplemental Values

Whitehouse Mountain encompasses a portion of two adjacent Potential Conservation Areas identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. The Yankee Boy Basin/Blue Lakes Pass PCA was identified for its occurrence of Colorado Divide whitlow-grass (*Draba streptobrachia*). The East Fork Dallas Creek PCA was designated for its occurrence of a beaked sedge (*Carex utriculata*) wet meadow and a globally vulnerable lower montane willow carr (*Salix drummondiana/Calamagrostis Canadensis*). Both sites are rated as B4-Moderate Biodiversity Significance.

Manageability

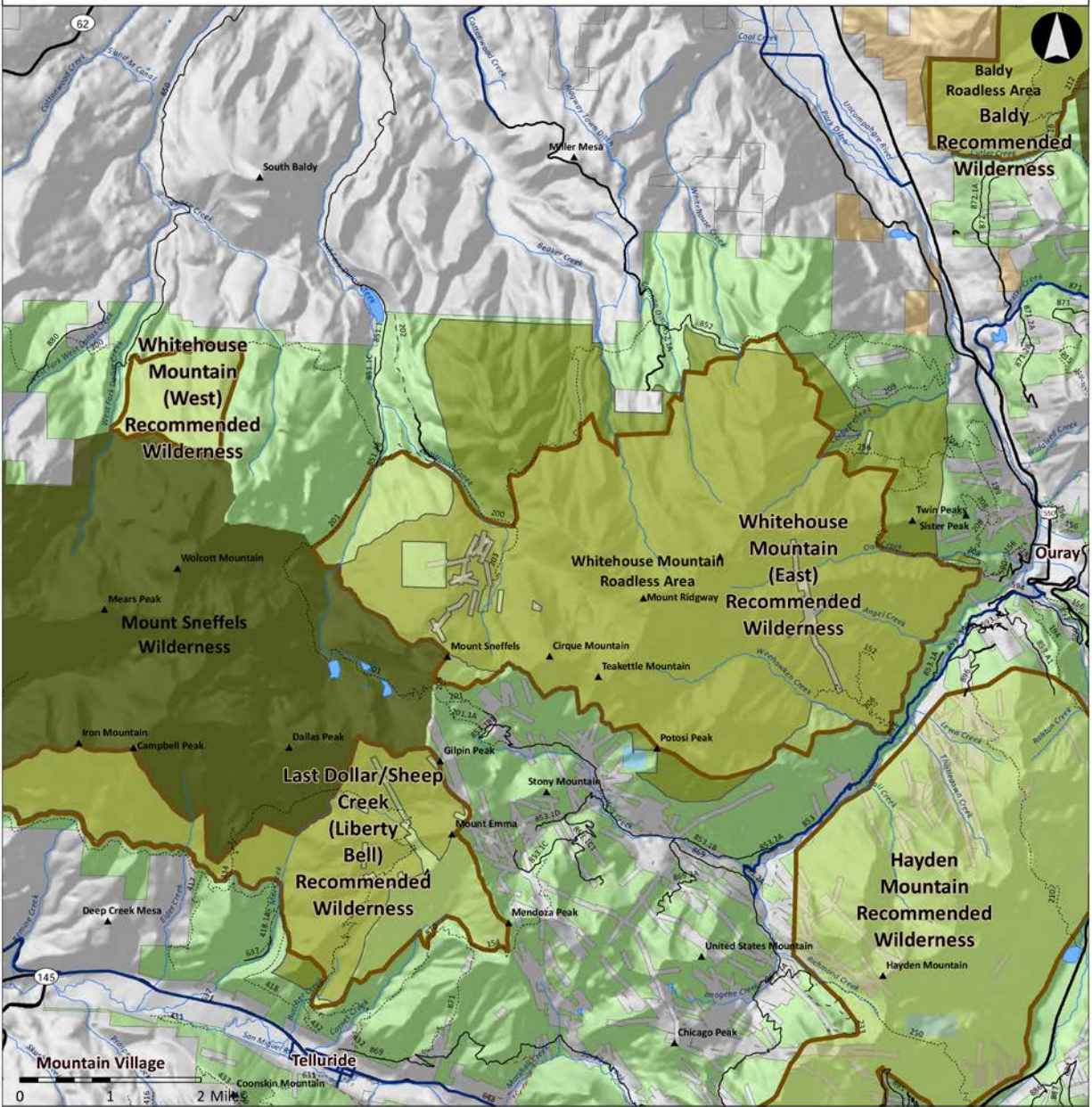
Whitehouse Mountain is well protected against incompatible uses by its precipitous topography. With a wilderness boundary drawn along the Dallas Trail, a winter ski hut and mechanized use are excluded from the proposed wilderness. Remaining trails within the area are non-mechanized. The area has low potential for oil and gas, and hardrock mineral exploration over the past century failed to discover any economically valuable deposits. The area includes a collection of patented mining claims in Blaine Basin, all of which are held by the same ownership. These are generally inaccessible and do not pose a serious impediment to wilderness management. The 2007 draft Forest Plan recommended Whitehouse Mountain for wilderness.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72

Recreation	
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Bighorn Sheep Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Canyon Creek at Ouray Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Yankee Boy Basin/Blue Lakes Pass Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
West Dallas Creek Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
East Fork Dallas Creek Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Whitehouse Mountain addition to Mount Sneffels Wilderness



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

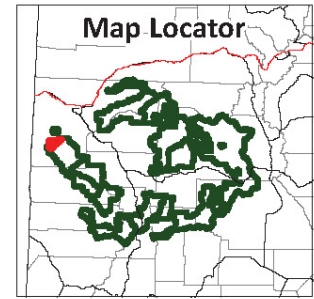
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Unaweep Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District

11,000 acres



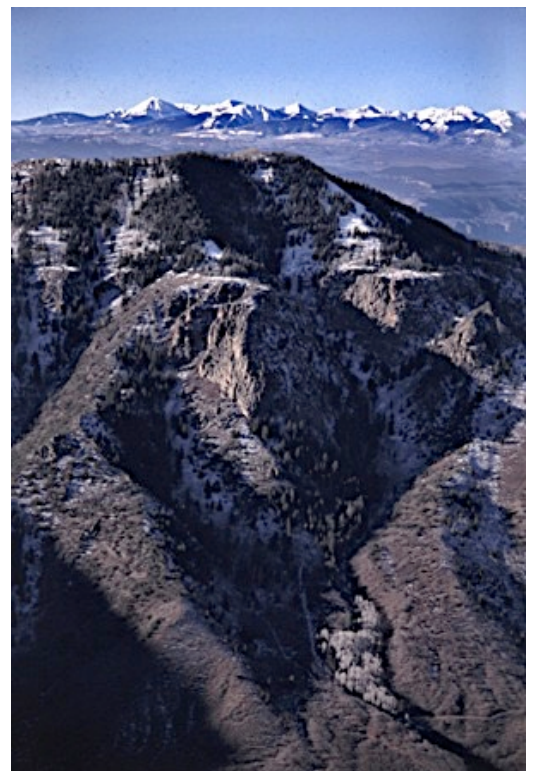
General Description

Unaweep includes the deepest and most dramatic portions of Unaweep Canyon, reaching depths as much as 3,300 feet. A number of steep canyons, such as 1,000-foot deep Ute Creek, drain the Uncompahgre Plateau as they cut through the area. The citizen proposed wilderness encompasses both the Unaweep national forest roadless area and adjacent lands with wilderness character identified by the Grand Junction BLM. The Uncompahgre National Forest component takes in the gently sloping mesa tops at the north end of the Uncompahgre Plateau, while the BLM portion includes the steeper canyons. Unaweep contains representative examples of western Colorado's scenic canyons, gambel oak and pinyon-juniper woodlands, and aspen forests that provide scenic backdrops to the Unaweep–Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway.

The Unaweep Trail along the top of the plateau affords spectacular views of the La Sal Mountains, Lone Cone Peak, the Abajo Mountains, and Unaweep Canyon. The Unaweep Trail traverses several of the aspen glades that characterize the uppermost portions. Hiking, hunting, backpacking, horse packing, and photography are popular recreational uses of the area. Mule deer and elk are common big game animals, and black bear and mountain lion also frequent the area.

Naturalness

Unaweep spans the northern end of the Uncompahgre Plateau where it drops into Unaweep Canyon. The area consists largely of steep slopes and precipitous canyon walls that preclude roads and other impairing activities. The BLM's similarly named Unaweep lands with wilderness character unit bounds the area on the north and west. Open roads and motorized trails – the Pine Mountain Road and the Snowshoe Trail – define the southern boundary. The rim of the plateau, and then the Rim Trail (601), denote the eastern boundary, and excludes areas used by snowmobiles in winter and any need to cherry stem the Rim Road. The Grand Junction BLM reached a similar conclusion about the area's naturalness, finding a unit of 7,154 acres to have wilderness character out of a larger 9,494-acre inventory unit.



Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Unaweep's sweeping vistas across the Dolores River canyon toward the La Sal Mountains in nearby Utah enhance the area's outstanding sense of solitude. Steep slopes, rocky crags, and dense oak woodlands dissuade hikers from venturing far off the Unaweep Trail, the only maintained trail within the area. An unmaintained route parallels the upper portion of Ute Creek. Intrepid hikers are guaranteed outstanding opportunities for solitude.

The Unaweep Trail provides a thorough circuit along the upper reaches of the area, and traverses most of the area's boundary to provide outstanding opportunities for unconfined primitive recreation. This non-mechanized trail is located below the plateau's rim and meanders largely through oak woodlands, providing ample unobstructed views of Unaweep Canyon, the Dolores River canyon, and the La Sal Mountains. The area receives some use during fall hunting seasons by those seeking backcountry hunting opportunities remote from the more vehicle-accessible areas typical of much of the Uncompahgre Plateau.

Size and Roadlessness

Unaweep is 11,000 acres as a stand-alone unit on the Uncompahgre National Forest. When considered in conjunction with the adjacent 9,494-acre wilderness inventory unit on BLM, it has a compact area configuration of about 20,500 acres. The area is entirely roadless, with some prior historic routes at the headwaters of Ute Creek closed and rehabilitated.

Supplemental Values

Because of its location along the flanks of the Uncompahgre Plateau, Unaweep is dominated by gambel oak woodlands, one of the least represented ecosystem types within designated wilderness both at the federal level and the individual forest level. Fully two-thirds of Unaweep is covered by these poorly represented ecosystem types, primarily Rocky Mountain Gambel Oak-Mixed Montane Shrubland, less than five percent of which is included with designated wilderness.

Unaweep includes a large portion of Unaweep Seep Potential Conservation Area identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. This portion of the PCA was incorporated both to include known colonies of the "Unaweep Canyon population" of the Great Basin silverspot butterfly as well as the potential spring recharge zones necessary to preserve hydrological integrity of the seep/spring wetland complexes. This PCA is rated by CNHP as possessing B2-Very High Biodiversity Significance.

The northern end of the Uncompahgre Plateau includes a network of adjacent and nearby undeveloped roadless areas on both the national forest and BLM. Unaweep is at the center of this collection of roadless areas that includes Calamity Basin Colorado roadless area immediately to the south, the Unaweep lands with wilderness character inventory unit adjacent on the west, and other nearby BLM roadless areas including the Palisade Wilderness Study Area, and the Maverick and Lumsden Canyon wilderness inventory units. Unaweep falls in the center of the primary east-west connectivity corridor across the Uncompahgre Plateau, which is comprised of these undeveloped areas.

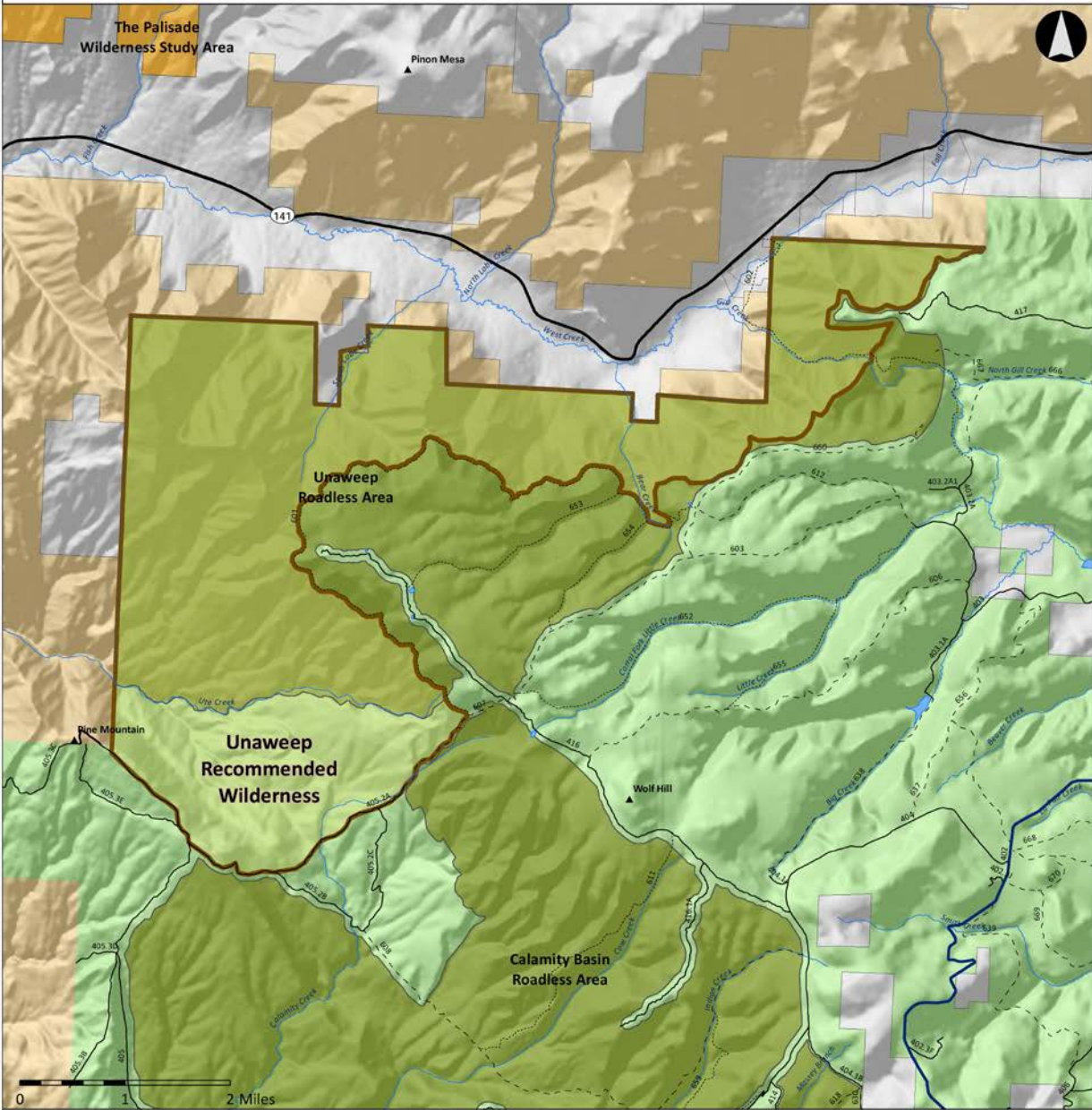
Manageability

The plateau rim creates an obvious geographic wilderness boundary that dissuades unauthorized motorized intrusions. The majority of the area's boundary is along lands managed by BLM for their wilderness character. There are no oil and gas leases within the area and low potential for oil and gas resources. The 2007 draft Forest Plan recommended Unaweep for wilderness.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
	Grand Junction Field Office Draft RMP and EIS 2012
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000 Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Severe Winter Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Mule Deer Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Unaweep Seep Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Unaweep



0 1 2 Miles



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

Legend

- Major Road
- CDNST
- USFS Road
- Closed USFS Road
- Trail (snow)
- Trail (motorized)
- Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

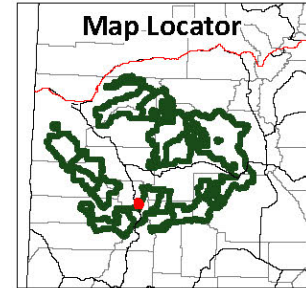
Land Ownership

- USFS
- BLM
- NPS
- State
- Other Public
- Tribe
- Private

Baldy Addition to Uncompahgre Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District

2,400 acres



General Description

The Baldy addition to the Uncompahgre Wilderness adds critical wildlife habitat to the existing wilderness and extends the wilderness to lower elevation habitats that are generally not included within designated wilderness on the GMUG. Gambel oak and oak/aspen dominate the lower elevations transitioning to aspen and mixed aspen-conifer (including pine) with spruce-fir at higher elevations and north-facing slopes. Several meadows also exist in the area.

Naturalness

The Baldy roadless area appears generally natural with few obvious imprints of human activity. One metal water basin with a pipe exists at approximately 9,600 feet at the location of a natural spring, but does not detract from the character and is barely visible from the trail.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Although the hike to Baldy Peak is relatively easy and the summit tops out at only 10,603 feet, there are ample opportunities for solitude and a sense of seclusion and tranquility. Given that this roadless area abuts designated wilderness, one experiences the vast wild landscape and expansive views that Baldy Trail affords.

There is no motorized or mechanized use on the trail, and there is no evidence of backcountry campsites or fire rings along this section of the Baldy Trail. Most users hike to the summit as a day trip so established campsites are absent. The area is primarily popular for hiking and hunting during fall big game seasons.

Panoramic scenic vistas are a highlight of this proposed addition and the Baldy Trail. Kelvin Kent, in his book *Ouray Hiking Guide*, writes, "...it offers some of the best views and scenery of any trail..." Views south reach beyond Cutler Creek, the Amphitheater, Mount Abram and Brown Mountain to the Red Mountains and the high San Juans. The Sneffels and Cimarron



Ranges are sighted as one climbs with spectacular views of some of the region’s highest peaks. On a clear day, a hiker is treated to views as distant as the La Sal Mountains in eastern Utah.

Size and Roadlessness

Baldy is about 2,400 acres in size, but is contiguous with the adjacent 102,214-acre Uncompahgre Wilderness. There are no roads within the unit.

Supplemental Values

The Baldy wilderness addition would contribute to increasing representation of otherwise poorly represented ecosystem types within the existing wilderness preservation system. The wilderness designation adds about 400 acres of Rocky Mountain Gambel Oak-Mixed Montane Shrubland, an ecosystem type with less than five percent representation in existing wilderness at the forest and federal level, and also about 750 acres of Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, which is represented at less than 20 percent at the forest level.

Baldy provides significant wildlife habitat, particularly as bighorn sheep summer and winter range, a winter concentration area for both elk and mule deer, severe winter range for elk, and an elk production area.

Manageability

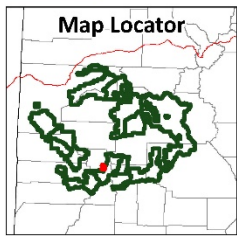
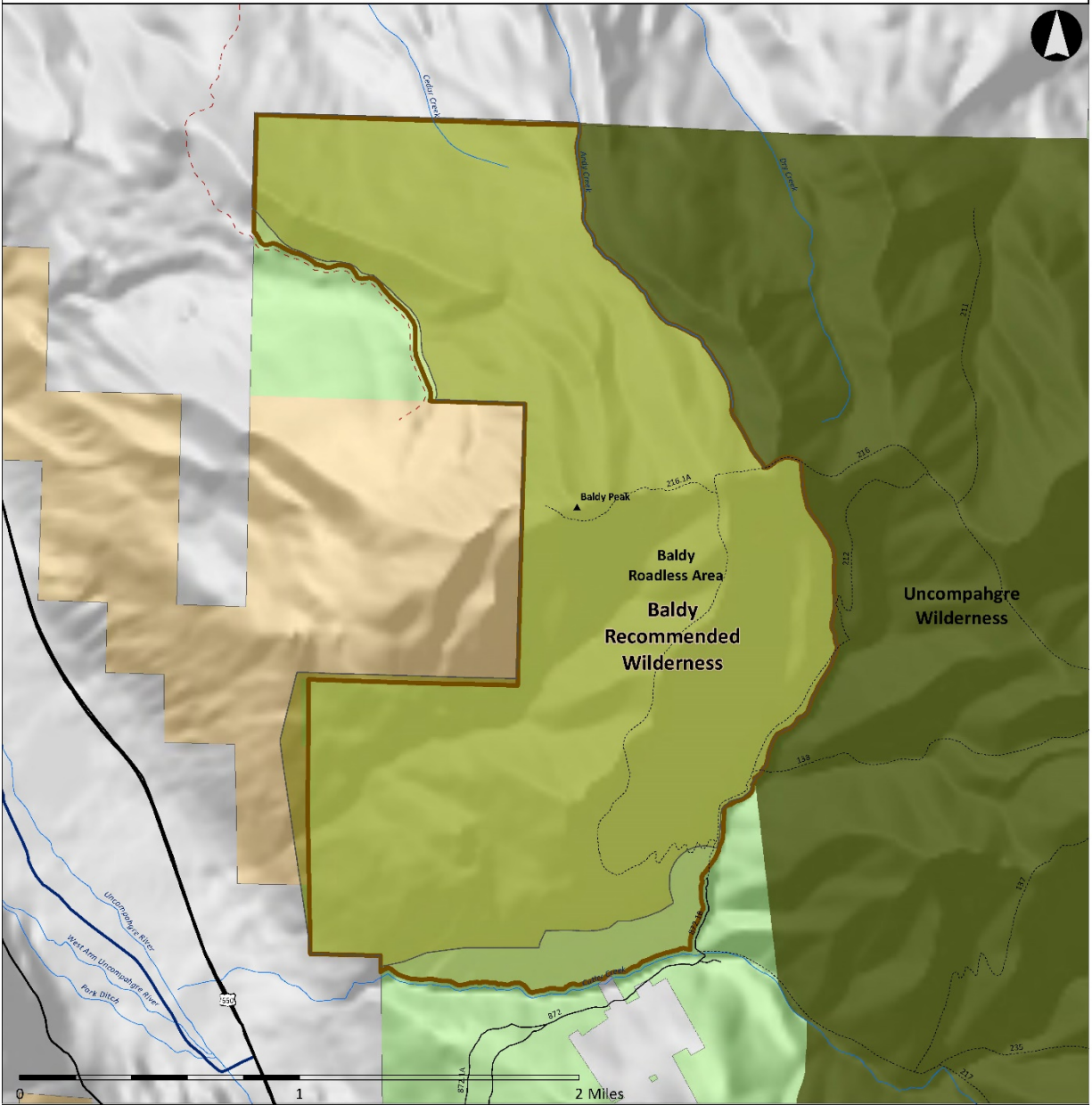
The boundaries of the proposed Baldy addition allow ample buffer from motorized roads and signage is already in place, limiting the trail to hikers and horses. It is bounded by BLM lands generally on the west, and private lands to the north, and is adjacent to the existing wilderness to the east. There is low oil and gas potential.


Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Bighorn Sheep Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Severe Winter Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Mule Deer Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016







Baldy












ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
-  Major Road
 -  CDNST
 -  USFS Road
 -  Closed USFS Road
 -  Trail (snow)
 -  Trail (motorized)
 -  Trail (non-motorized)

-  Recommended Wilderness
-  Linkage Area
-  Special Interest Area/Other
-  Roadless Area (FS)
-  Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
-  Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
-  USFS
 -  BLM
 -  NPS
 -  State
 -  Other Public
 -  Tribe
 -  Private

Bear Creek Addition to Uncompahgre Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District

6,000 acres



General Description

The Bear Creek addition to the Uncompahgre Wilderness brings the wilderness boundary closer to Highway 550 – the Million Dollar Highway -- incorporating the entirety of the Bear Creek watershed, from the highway to the alpine tundra atop Engineer Pass. It includes seven miles of the Bear Creek National Recreation Trail, so designated owing to its extraordinary scenery and the uncommon nature of its construction – literally dynamited out of the cliff along the lower reaches of Bear Creek.

The wilderness addition extends north to include the entirety of the Bridge of Heaven and the Horsethief Trail along Cascade Mountain, a hiking route with incomparable views and dramatic drop-offs.

Land acquisitions have consolidated federal ownership along Bear Creek, with the majority of remaining patented claims on the most precipitous cliffs at the lower end of the creek, near the highway. The rugged nature of Bear Creek precludes constructed road access to these inholdings, making conflicts with future wilderness management unlikely.

Bear Creek is a superlative wilderness candidate and adds seven miles of roadless valley to the wilderness. The trail is for hikers only owing to the long, horizontal shelves blasted out of the cliff faces and the sheer drop-offs to the creek below. Two historic mining camps add historical flavor and interest to the adventure. A myriad of waterfalls from trickles to thundering cascades enhances both the scenery and the auditory appeal of the wilderness.

Naturalness

The Bear Creek trail was originally developed by miners starting in the 1870s, and remnants of historic activities occur at several locations. These dilapidated cabins and rusting mining equipment add historic value and do not detract from the larger undeveloped character of the valley. The historic mining relics are similar in scale to those frequently encountered in



other wilderness locations, including Chicago Basin in the Weminuche and Silver Jack Mine in the Uncompahgre.

The Bridge of Heaven and Horsethief Trail addition is in superlative natural condition. It includes the steep slopes above various historic mines, such as the Portland Mine and the Chief Ouray Mine, all of which are excluded from the wilderness addition.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The Bear Creek valley and trail offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. The trail rapidly gains elevation from Highway 550, creating a substantial elevation separation from the highway. Once the trail wraps around into the entrance of the valley, the steep walls close in and create a sensation of complete isolation. The Horsethief Trail offers outstanding opportunities for solitude, seclusion and tranquility.

The Bear Creek National Recreation Trail was designated in recognition of its unique and spectacular nature. The trail was established initially by miners in the late 1800s, and required blasting a ledge into cliff faces to skirt the most precipitous canyon segments. This creates a remarkable and scenic experience unlike any other in southwest Colorado. The trail and surroundings offer outstanding opportunities for unconfined primitive recreation. The Horsethief Trail leads to Bridge of Heaven, one of the classic hikes in the Ouray area that leads to phenomenal views high above treeline.

Size and Roadlessness

Bear Creek is about 6,000 acres in size, but is contiguous with the adjacent 102,214-acre Uncompahgre Wilderness. There are no roads within the unit.

Supplemental Values

Relics of hardrock mining provide historic interest. The Grizzly Bear Mine and Yellow Jacket Mine were established in the late 1800s, with both ceasing operation by 1915. The ruins of several cabins, a tunnel, and mining equipment mark the location of the Grizzly Bear Mine. The Yellow Jacket mining camp is better preserved, with an intact bunk house and assorted mining equipment. Both sites make for intriguing trip destinations.

Bear Creek provides significant wildlife habitat, particularly as bighorn sheep summer and winter range, and as a bighorn sheep production area. The area is also a winter concentration area for elk.

Manageability

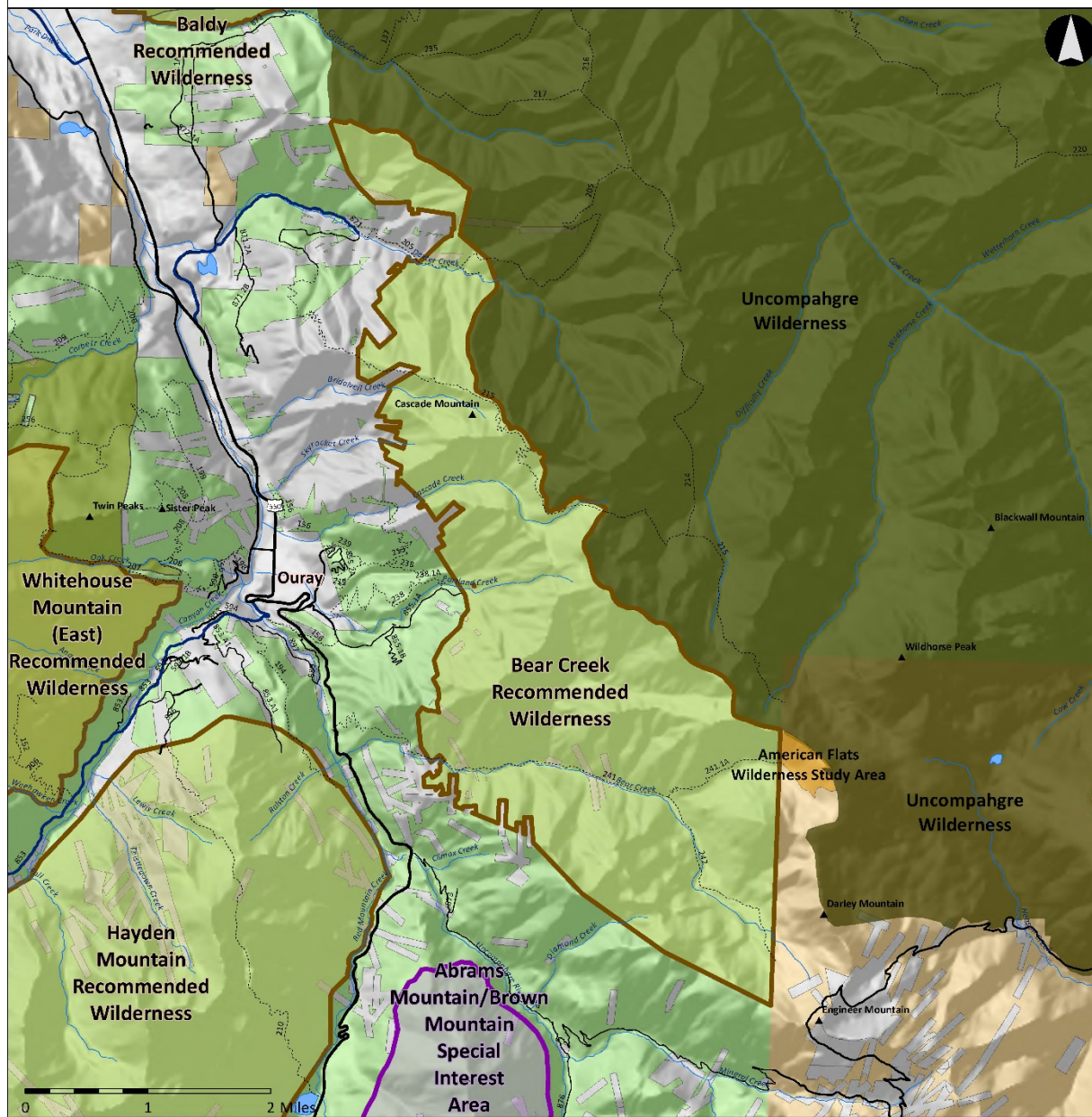
Bear Creek's rugged lower end precludes the possibility of motorized access from Highway 550 to the patented mining claims that dot the valley's cliffs. There is no vehicle access from the top, from Engineer Pass. For safety reasons, the trail is limited to hikers only. There is no oil and gas potential, and apparently limited potential for hardrock minerals since the last production ceased in the early 1900s.

The Horsethief Trail portion is steep, which precludes unauthorized motorized incursions. The boundary excludes all of the developed and patented mining claims in the lower portions below the wilderness boundary in Cascade Creek, Bridalveil Creek, and Dexter Creek.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Bighorn Sheep Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Dexter Creek Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Historic	David Day, Colorado's Incredible Backcountry Trails, 2009

Bear Creek



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky

 Rocky Mountain Wild

 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Crystal Peak and Matterhorn Additions to Uncompahgre Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Gunnison National Forest
Gunnison Ranger District

*15,600 acres total
(Crystal Peak – 12,000
acres; Matterhorn –
3,600 acres)*



General Description

The Matterhorn addition to the Uncompahgre Wilderness consists of 3,600 acres at the headwaters of the North Fork of Henson Creek, and includes lower Matterhorn Creek and trail which provides the primary access to 14,015-foot Wetterhorn Peak. The wilderness addition would move the wilderness boundary down to an easily recognizable location along Henson Creek's North Fork. Matterhorn is an upper tier roadless area previously recommended for wilderness in 2007.

Crystal Peak comprises 12,000 acres east of Nellie Creek, the primary access route for climbers seeking to summit Uncompahgre Peak. The main visitor attractions are several lakes in forested settings – Crystal Lake and Larson Lakes – and fall hunting seasons. The northern portion of the area consists of open, rolling tundra that melds seamlessly into the adjacent Uncompahgre Wilderness.

Naturalness

Historic mining exploration occurred in both roadless units, but the routes have long been closed to motorized use and have recovered such that impacts to naturalness are substantially unnoticeable.



Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Matterhorn lies in the remote headwaters of Henson Creek at the end of several miles of 4WD road, adjacent to a rugged wilderness. Crystal Peak is a large block of lightly visited forests and tundra. Both contain numerous opportunities for outstanding solitude.

Matterhorn includes three trails that access that adjacent wilderness, including the primary hiking route for climbers seeking to attempt one of the area’s fourteeners, Wetterhorn Peak. Crystal Peak similarly is located adjacent to the Nellie Creek trailhead, which is the main access point for climbers heading to Uncompahgre Peak, another fourteener. Crystal Peak has a system of looping hiking and horse trails that connect to wilderness trails, but also offer access to several lakes in high forested basins. Both areas provide outstanding opportunities for unconfined primitive recreation typical of wilderness settings.

Size and Roadlessness

Matterhorn is about 3,600 acres in size and Crystal Peak is 12,000 acres. Both are contiguous with the adjacent 102,214-acre Uncompahgre Wilderness. There are no roads within the units.

Supplemental Values

Matterhorn and Crystal Peak lie within the heart of the large elk migration corridor from the San Juan Mountains north to winter concentration areas near Blue Mesa Reservoir. The lower slopes of the Crystal Peak area are a bighorn sheep production area. The areas are in high lynx usage habitat.

Crystal Peak makes a modest contribution to increasing representation of otherwise poorly represented ecosystem types within the existing wilderness preservation system. The wilderness designation adds about 1,100 acres of Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, an ecosystem type with less than 20 percent representation in existing wilderness at the forest and federal level.

Manageability

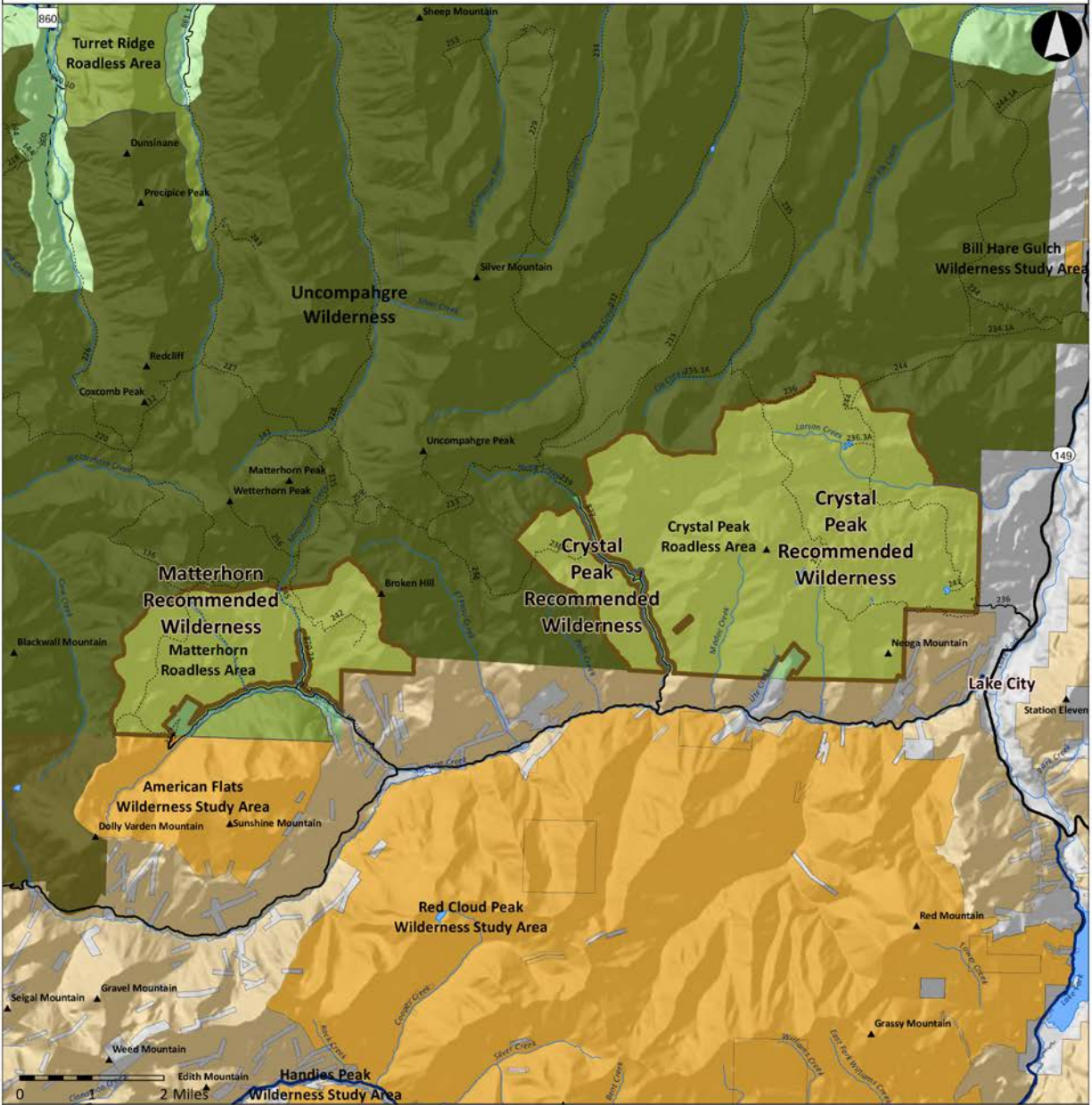
Matterhorn and Crystal Peak are both manageable as wilderness. The trails in both units are non-mechanized, open only to foot and horse travel. There is no oil and gas potential, and limited potential for hardrock minerals since none of the prior exploration activities resulted in operating or patented mines. Matterhorn was recommended for wilderness in the 2007 draft Forest Plan.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008

	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Bighorn Sheep Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Bighorn Sheep Severe Winter Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Bighorn Sheep Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Uncompahgre Site Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Uncompahgre Wilderness Additions Central/East





ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

Legend

-  Major Road
-  CDNST
-  USFS Road
-  Closed USFS Road
-  Trail (snow)
-  Trail (motorized)
-  Trail (non-motorized)

-  Recommended Wilderness
-  Linkage Area
-  Special Interest Area/Other
-  Roadless Area (FS)
-  Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
-  Wilderness

Land Ownership

-  USFS
-  BLM
-  NPS
-  State
-  Other Public
-  Tribe
-  Private

Battlements Special Interest Area

Proposed Designated Area
Grand Mesa National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District

24,000 acres



General Description

The Battlements SIA is located six miles north of the Town of Collbran in Mesa County. It is situated on the south side of Battlement Mesa, sandwiched between the Mamm Peak Inventoried Roadless Area on the White River National Forest and the Plateau Creek Valley. The area's steep and rugged terrain supports a diversity of vegetation and an array of wildlife, including large numbers of mule deer, elk and bear. Elevations in the area range from 7,500' to 11,000'. Because of its important wildlife habitat and opportunities for solitude in within an area that is seeing increased oil and gas development, it should be protected as an SIA that protects those values from development.

Naturalness

The area is characterized by steep terrain on the south side that is largely forested. On the north side, at the top of Battlement Mesa, the forest is interspersed with open meadows and wetlands.

The Battlements possesses a remote and wild character, and it retains a high degree of naturalness. There is a trail system that is open to some kinds of motorized use, and there is some water infrastructure in the area. Nonetheless, the area remains predominantly undeveloped and natural in appearance.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The area's trails mostly follow drainages up the steep slopes on the north side of Battlement Mesa to the top. These trails are well separated from each other by distance and topography. On top there is one trail that traverses the length of the Mesa and travels in and out of forested stands and open meadows. The chances of encountering other visitors in this area are slim, and the terrain and vegetation generally preserve outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive recreation throughout the area.



Use of the area is low. It is busiest during the hunting season. There is also some snowmobile use in the winter. However, visitors to the area are unlikely to encounter others.

Size and Roadlessness

Battlement Mesa is a dramatic, 20-mile long, east-west ridge that divides Plateau Creek from the Colorado River. The 24,400-acre Battlements Roadless Area is just one piece of a roadless complex that spans the length of Battlement Mesa (including the Sunnyside, Housetop and Mamm Peak Roadless Areas), and it is proximate to a host of other roadless areas that continue east to the Crystal River and the Maroon Bells Snowmass Wilderness Area. This is an important piece of roadless land in the midst of a much greater network that provides important east-west and north-south connectivity for migrating wildlife.

Supplemental Values

The eastern edge lies within the Battlement Mesa lynx linkage area and higher elevation areas are mapped as lynx denning and other habitat. McCurry Reservoir and Brush Creek, Hawxhurst Creek, Kimball Creek and Smalley Creek all support Colorado River cutthroat trout. The Gambel oak intermixed with aspen provides habitat for sensitive species like Lewis' woodpecker. The whole area provides important wildlife habitat.

The Dry Fork Kimball Creek Potential Conservation Area (PCA) overlaps the western edge of the Battlements Roadless Area and has been identified for protection due to the presence of three rare plants, two of which have known occurrences (*Lesquerella parviflora* and *Argillochloa dasyclada*).

Manageability

The boundaries for this area are well defined by private land to the south, the White River National Forest to the north and Kimball and Middleton Creeks to the west and east. Because of limited public access, continued management of the area to protect wildlife habitat and roadless character should present no problem.

As the Colorado Department of Wildlife (now Parks and Wildlife) wrote in recommendations on the Colorado Roadless Rule:

“...This highly productive [roadless area] should not be developed further with roads or trails and nonsystem roads should be obliterated. This [roadless area] supports strong populations of a variety of wildlife which can easily be displaced with greater disturbance from the construction or enhancement of roads.”

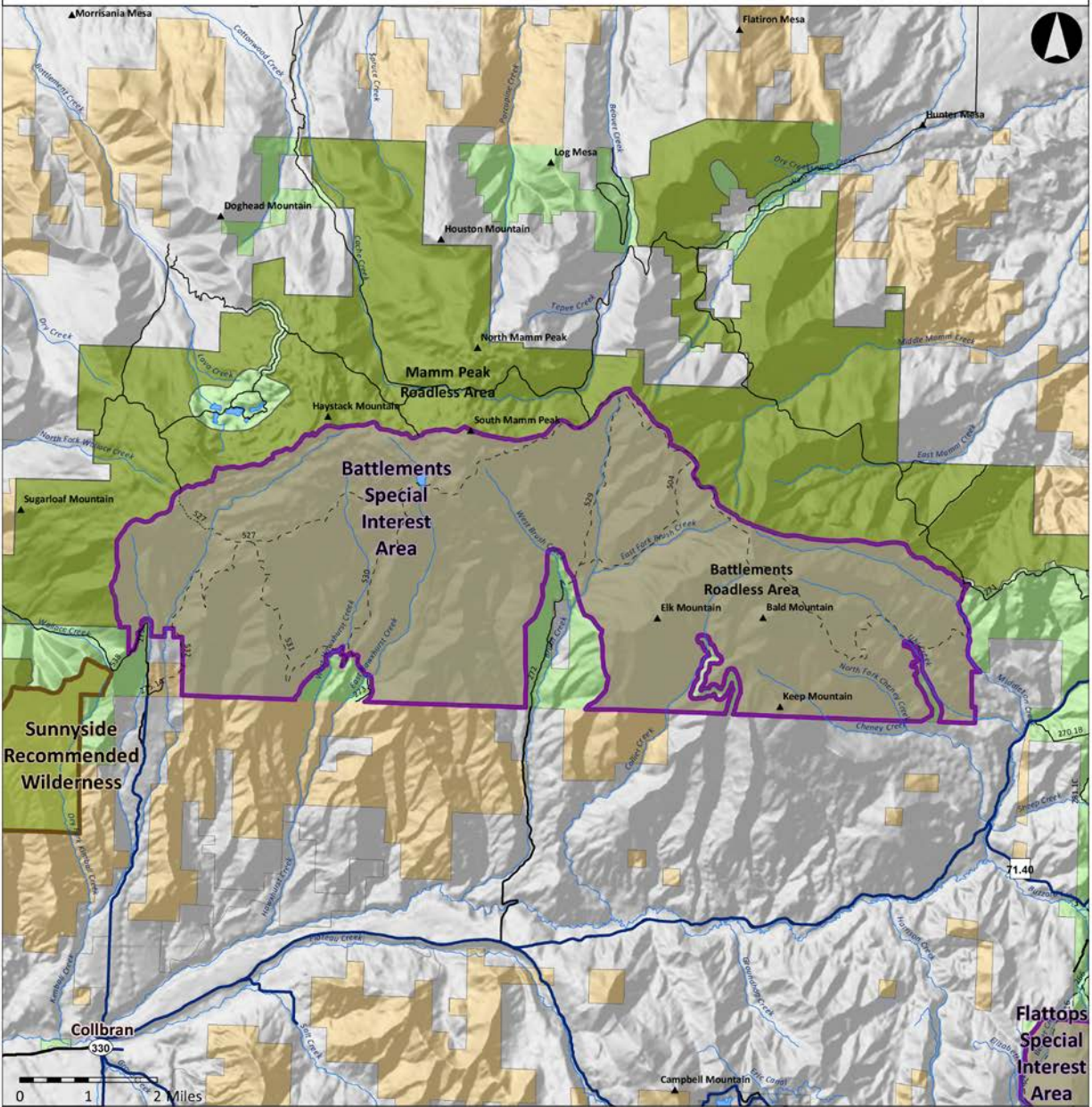
Continued management should emphasize protection of important existing habitat, as well as limited opportunities for backcountry recreation (including hunting and fishing). In addition, management of the Battlements SIA should include closure to new mineral leasing or, at the very least, a full NSO stipulation for any new oil and gas leases that overlap this area. This would protect the area's outstanding wildlife and recreation values.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
	Colorado Division of Wildlife NW Region, Comments on “Grand Mesa National Forest Roadless Areas” available at http://hermes.cde.state.co.us/drupal/-islandora/object/co:24707/datastream/OBJ/view
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Boreal Toad Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Dry Fork Kimball Creek Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Beaver Creek at Battlement Mesa Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
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Battlements



Map Locator

ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By:
Alison Gallensky
Rocky Mountain Wild
4/13/2018 18-024 v12

Legend

- Major Road
- CDNST
- USFS Road
- Closed USFS Road
- Trail (snow)
- Trail (motorized)
- Trail (non-motorized)

Land Ownership

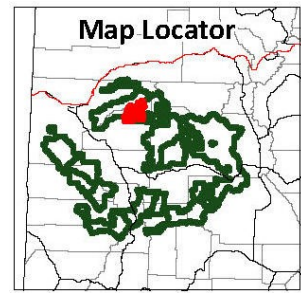
- USFS
- BLM
- NPS
- State
- Other Public
- Tribe
- Private

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

Chalk Mountain Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Gunnison/Grand Mesa National Forests
Paonia/Grand Valley Ranger District

8,200 acres



General Description

The Chalk Mountain recommended wilderness is located in both the Gunnison and Grand Mesa National Forests, straddling the Delta-Mesa county line. Much of the proposed wilderness area consists of Chalk Mountain and its surrounding slopes and drainages.

Chalk Mountain offers diverse ecosystems, in large part due to its topographic variety, ranging from below 9,000 feet up to 11,146 feet at Chalk Mountain, the most prominent feature in this unit. On the eastern face of Chalk Mountain, a large slump exposes very well defined sandstone and shale bedding of the Tertiary Green River Formation. The ecology of this area consists of aspen forests mixing into spruce-fir conifer forests, with large open park meadows that offer wetlands, beaver ponds, and a number of creeks that traverse or begin in this unit, including Buzzard Creek, Willow Creek, Dyke Creek, and West Muddy Creek.

The Chalk Mountain unit is adjacent to the 21,00-acre Elk Park recommended wilderness located to the south, separated by just an over snow motorized route. Chalk Mountain represents the northern and easternmost unit of the Elk Park complex – a recommended wilderness and special interest area complex totaling 55,300 acres in the Grand Mesa and Gunnison National Forests, separated by just two motorized routes and an over the snow route.

Much of the remainder of the unit boundary is buffered (100 feet) by designated motorized routes, including the Buzzard Park Trail USFS 519 to the north and Monument Trail USFS 518 to the west. There were minimal signs of illegal motorized use, none recent, observed entering into the Chalk Mountain recommended wilderness from these boundary routes, despite many opportunities to traverse the interior park areas. The area is also buffered by Buzzard, Willow, and Dyke Creeks which prevent motorized use.

Naturalness

The Chalk Mountain recommended wilderness is primarily affected by the forces of nature. Dense old-growth aspen forests dominate in the lower elevation areas, which mix in with and eventually give way to subalpine spruce-fir forests at higher



elevations. Large open park meadows, with wetland areas, creeks, ponds, and riparian foliage, provide a haven for local wildlife.

Few human impacts or infrastructure were observed within the unit. A grazing test area was observed in the northern section of the recommended wilderness, as well as a handful of cattle, however evidence of cattle was minimal and restricted to the lower elevation portions of the unit. It is also worth noting that there were very few noxious weeds observed in the recommended wilderness.

The only obvious sign of human activity observed within the area was a wide zigzag swath of cleared trees extending from near the summit of Chalk Mountain down the slope to the northeast. No vehicle tracks or electrical lines were apparent in this swath from an aerial observation.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Chalk Mountain offers numerous opportunities for solitude and unconfined primitive recreation. The lack of interior trail infrastructure, along with vegetative screening from the dense aspen and conifer forests, provide outstanding opportunities for solitude and respite.

This area's richness of wildlife and habitat offer excellent opportunities for primitive recreation, most notably for backcountry hunting in the fall, but also wildlife viewing and photography. Hunters on ATVs were observed scouting the Buzzard Park area for signs of wildlife along the USFS 519, which buffers the recommended wilderness's northern boundary.

Size and Roadlessness

The Chalk Mountain proposed wilderness addition is 8,200 acres and adjacent to the north of the 21,000-acre Elk Park recommended wilderness, separated by an over the snow motorized route. There are no roads within the Chalk Mountain unit.

Supplemental Values

The Chalk Mountain unit is particularly important for elk as it provides overall elk summer range, and summer concentration in the lower elevation areas in the northern and western sections of the unit. The northern section of the unit that comprises Buzzard Creek is also an important elk production area. Signs of other big game animals have also been observed within the unit, including mule deer and moose. Bald eagles have been observed in the southern section of the proposed wilderness, and CPW recognizes the southeast portion as potential nesting for the peregrine falcon, a CPW endangered species. This unit is also contiguous to valuable nesting habitat for martin and other nesting birds in the Mule Park and Hubbard Park areas.

The Chalk Mountain area, as part of the greater Elk Park complex in this region of the GMUG National Forest, represents one of the largest opportunities within the GMUG National Forest to expand representation of aspen within the wilderness system. About one-third of this area is comprised of ecosystem types with less than 20 percent representation at the forest level. These include Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, Rocky Mountain Subalpine- Montane

Mesic Meadow, and Southern Rocky Mountain Montane-Subalpine Grassland, for which there exists less than 20 percent representation in existing wilderness at the forest and federal level.

Dyke Creek, with headwaters in the southern portion of the Chalk Mountain unit, has conservation populations of Greenback cutthroat trout. These are located in streams with the highest watershed integrity class.

Portions of the Chalk Mountain recommended wilderness also provide outstanding scenic values – of the North Fork Valley below to the south, and of the West Elk Mountains and Ragged Mountains to the south and southeast.

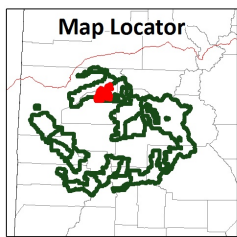
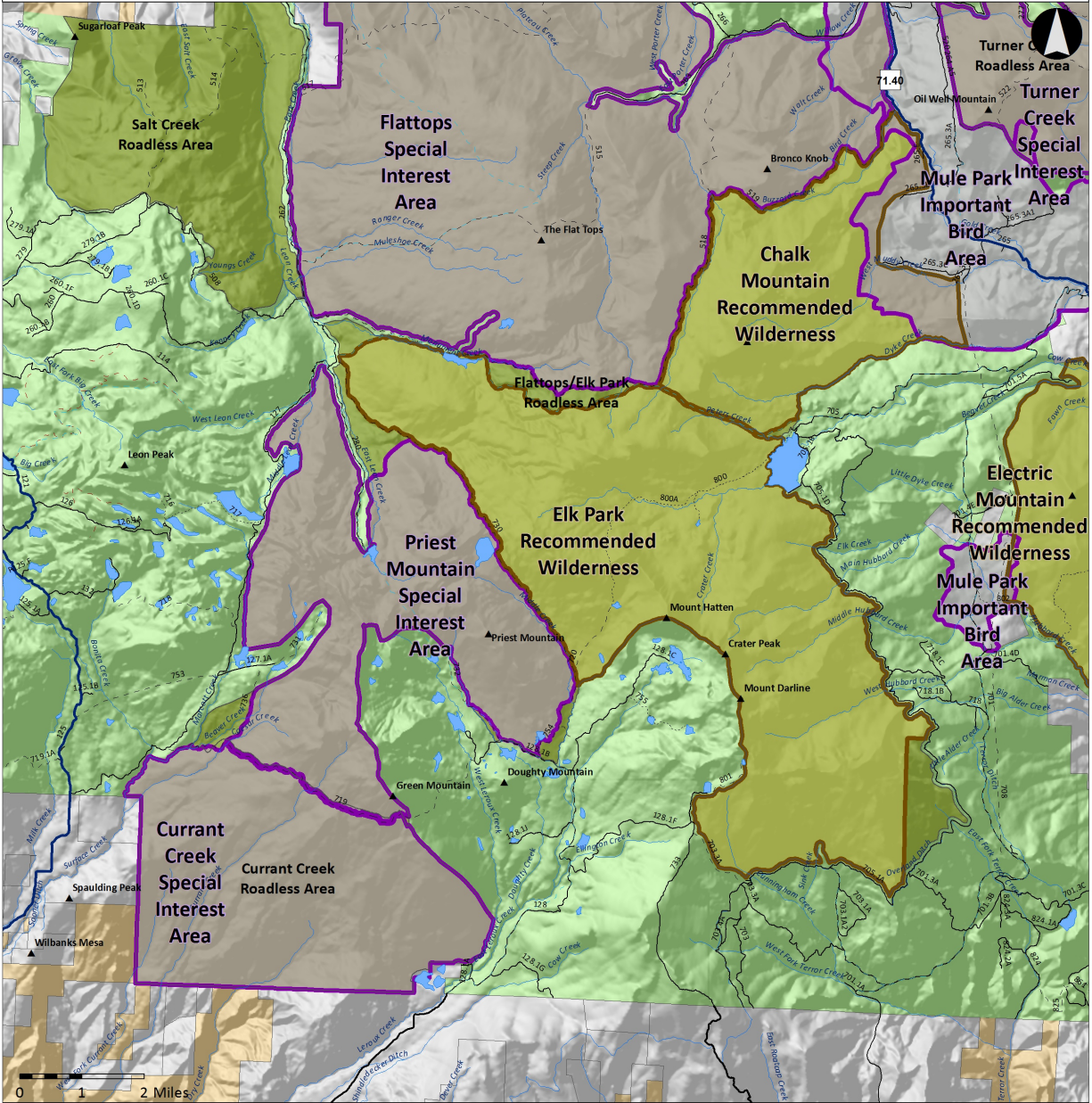
Manageability

Chalk Mountain would be easily managed as wilderness. Identifiable features outline the boundary in the form of motorized trails and a power line to the east. The opportunity for unauthorized motorized trespass is available, but there is minimal evidence that this is currently taking place. There are no cherry-stem roads or other intrusions that enter this compact unit.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Boreal Toad Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Cutthroat Trout	GMUG NF Cutthroat Trout Species and Conservation Assessment, 2011
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Grand Mesa Southeast



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky

 Rocky Mountain Wild

 5/31/2018 18-049 v 15

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

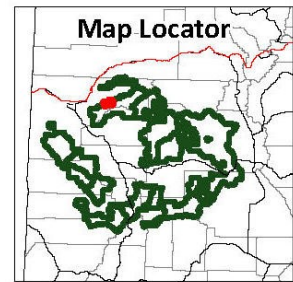
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - TRIBE
 - Private

Cottonwoods Special Interest Area

Proposed Designated Area
Grand Mesa National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District

10,000 acres



General Description

Cottonwoods is on the north side of Grand Mesa, approximately eight miles southwest of Collbran. The southern boundary is bound by USFS Road 254.1A, and the GMUG's border with private land marks the northern boundary. To the west, the area is bounded by USFS motorized trail #511. Cottonwoods is contiguous with the popular Grand Mesa National Forest recreational area known as the Cottonwood Lakes. The area is notable for its variety of vegetation, ranging from fens, ponds and lakes to a spruce-fir-aspen mix. Several beautiful perennial creeks run through this area, including Bull Creek, Cottonwood Creek and Spring Creek..

Naturalness

The area possesses wild character and retains a high degree of naturalness. The southern half is notable for its large concentration of fens, wetlands, lakes and associated species. A robust mix of wildlife are present in this area, including black bear, bobcat, deer, elk, mountain lion, mule deer and wild turkey.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

While the area is accessible by trails to the west and south, it generally does not receive very much recreation use in the summer. Once away from these access points, one finds solitude.

Size and Roadlessness

Cottonwoods' 10,000 acres largely overlap with the Cottonwoods CRA.

Manageability

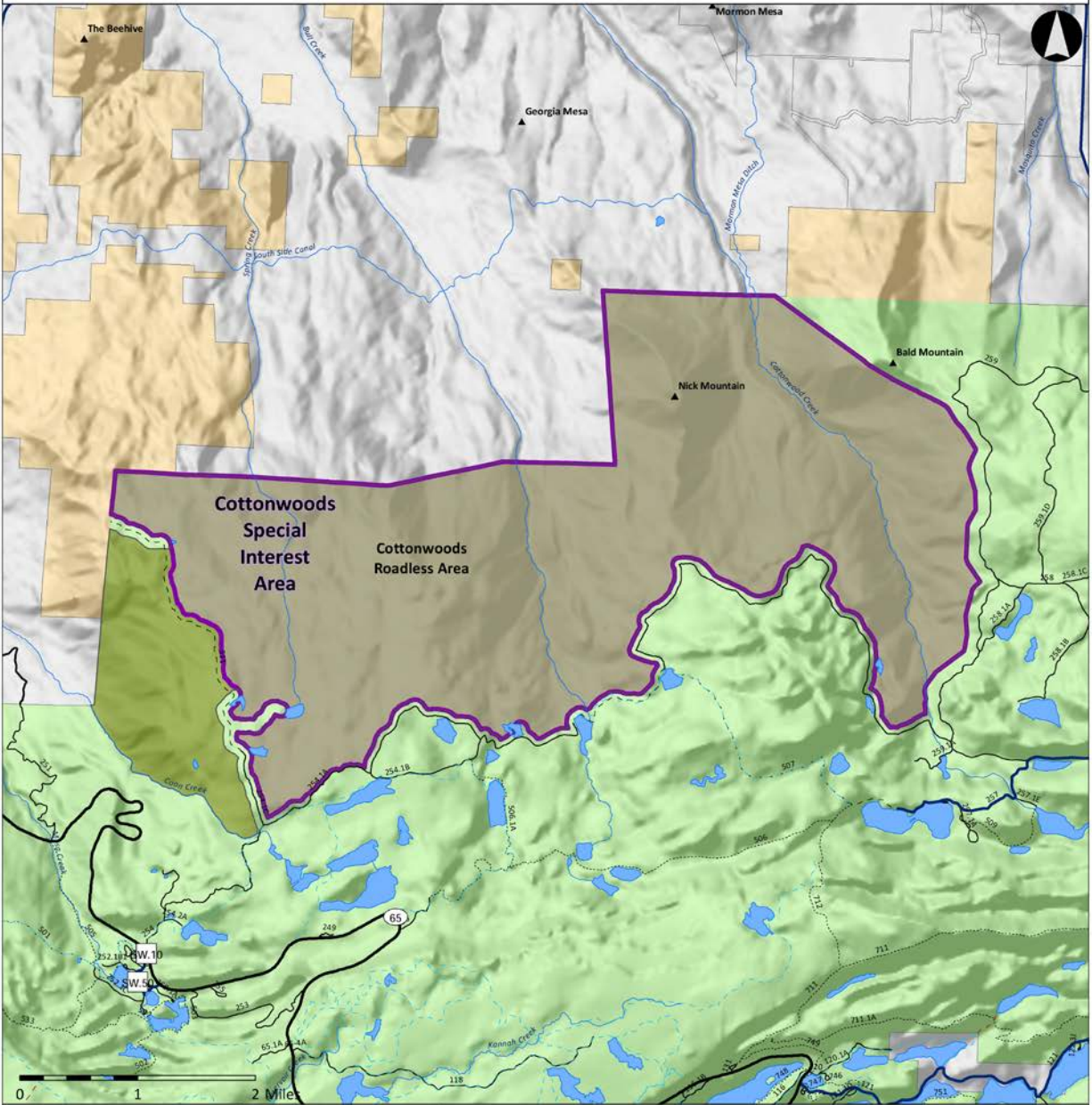
We recommend against further road development and/or reconstruction in this area in order to maintain and protect wildlife and habitat. Further, eliminating and reclaiming existing non-system roads and trails within the area would increase wildlife values and aid in keeping big game species on public lands as opposed to private lands where often they are not welcome. We recommend the area be closed to mineral leasing (at a minimum non-waivable NSO) and timber production, and managed to protect and enhance existing habitat, backcountry recreation opportunities, and clean water.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
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Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
Supplemental Values	
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Mule Deer Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Pine Park Reservoir Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Grand Mesa Lakes Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Cottonwoods





ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
-  Major Road
 -  CDNST
 -  USFS Road
 -  Closed USFS Road
 -  Trail (snow)
 -  Trail (motorized)
 -  Trail (non-motorized)

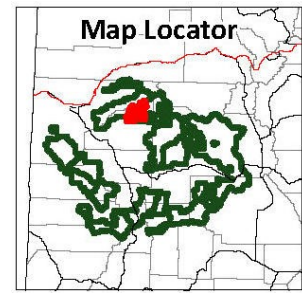
-  Recommended Wilderness
-  Linkage Area
-  Special Interest Area/Other
-  Roadless Area (FS)
-  Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
-  Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
-  USFS
 -  BLM
 -  NPS
 -  State
 -  Other Public
 -  Tribe
 -  Private

Currant Creek Special Interest Area

Proposed Designated Area
Grand Mesa National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District

11,000 acres



General Description

The Currant Creek proposed special interest area is in the Grand Mesa National Forest. Currant Creek represents the southern and westernmost unit of the Elk Park complex – a combination of recommended wilderness and special interest areas totaling 55,300 acres in the Grand Mesa and Gunnison National Forests, separated by just two motorized routes and an over-the-snow route.

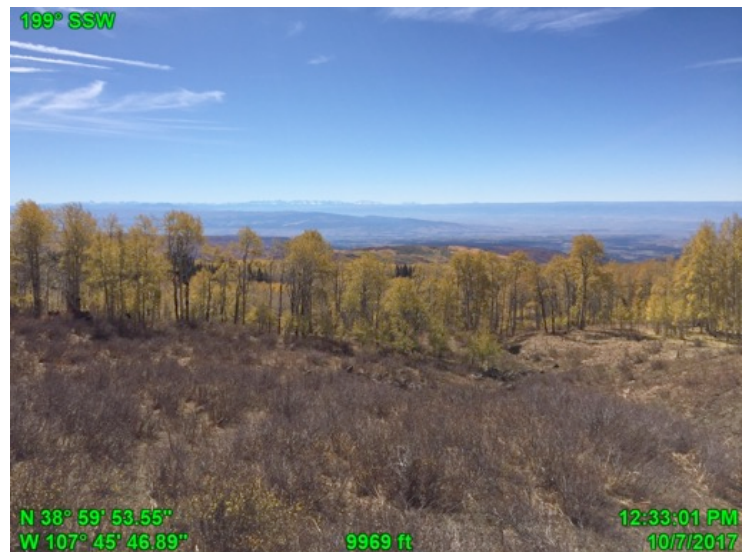
The Currant Creek unit lies on the southern flank of Grand Mesa with the long dimension oriented east-west, parallel to the long dimension of the mesa. The northern boundary is defined by the Green Mountain ATV trail (USFS 719), and the parcel slopes about four miles down from there to the Grand Mesa National Forest boundary. Green Mountain summit (10,802 feet) lies just outside the northeastern corner of the area. The southern and western boundaries are primarily defined by private property, with some BLM-managed land to the southwest.

Currant Creek is the most prominent feature in this unit, flowing north-south right down the center. Other creeks and drainages also are present and flow through this unit, all in a similar north-south direction. Beaver ponds are abundant in the western portion of the unit, along Beaver Creek. The foliage consists of aspen and conifer mixed forests at the higher elevations in the northern section of the unit, which give way to some open meadows as well as steep, rocky cliffs. Oak scrublands predominate in the southern portion of this unit.

Naturalness

The Currant Creek area is primarily affected by the forces of nature, as much of the unit appears natural and healthy. Roads, trails and structures are common along the eastern, western and southern boundaries of the unit. However, these human impacts, including the Patterson Reservoirs and infrastructure just to the southeast of the unit, have been excluded from the unit. The northern boundary is buffered by the Green Mountain USFS Trail 719, however no illegal intrusion into the unit was observed.

From an aerial perspective, a narrow, linear track was observed extending southward



along an extended line from the Green Mountain summit into the unit. No vehicle track or electricity lines were apparent on or near this linear feature.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The Currant Creek unit, mostly covered by dense aspen forests, mixed forests and oak scrublands, along with few interior trails, provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and remoteness.

There are also many outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation in this area, including hiking, hunting, wildlife viewing, photography and scenic viewing. The big game populations in this region, particularly deer and elk, make this area ideal for backcountry sportsmen.

Size and Roadlessness

The Currant Creek special interest area is 11,000 acres. It is part of the greater 55,300 Elk Park complex on Grand Mesa, which consists of four units separated by just three linear features. There are no roads within the Currant Creek unit.

Supplemental Values

This unit provides important elk and deer calving and fawning grounds, and extends down into winter range of the North Fork Valley. Signs of other animals were observed within this unit, including black bear and coyote.

Much of the non-forested sections of the Currant Creek area also provide outstanding scenic values – of the North Fork Valley below to the south, the West Elk Mountains across the valley, and the Uncompagre and San Juan Mountains to the south and west.

Manageability

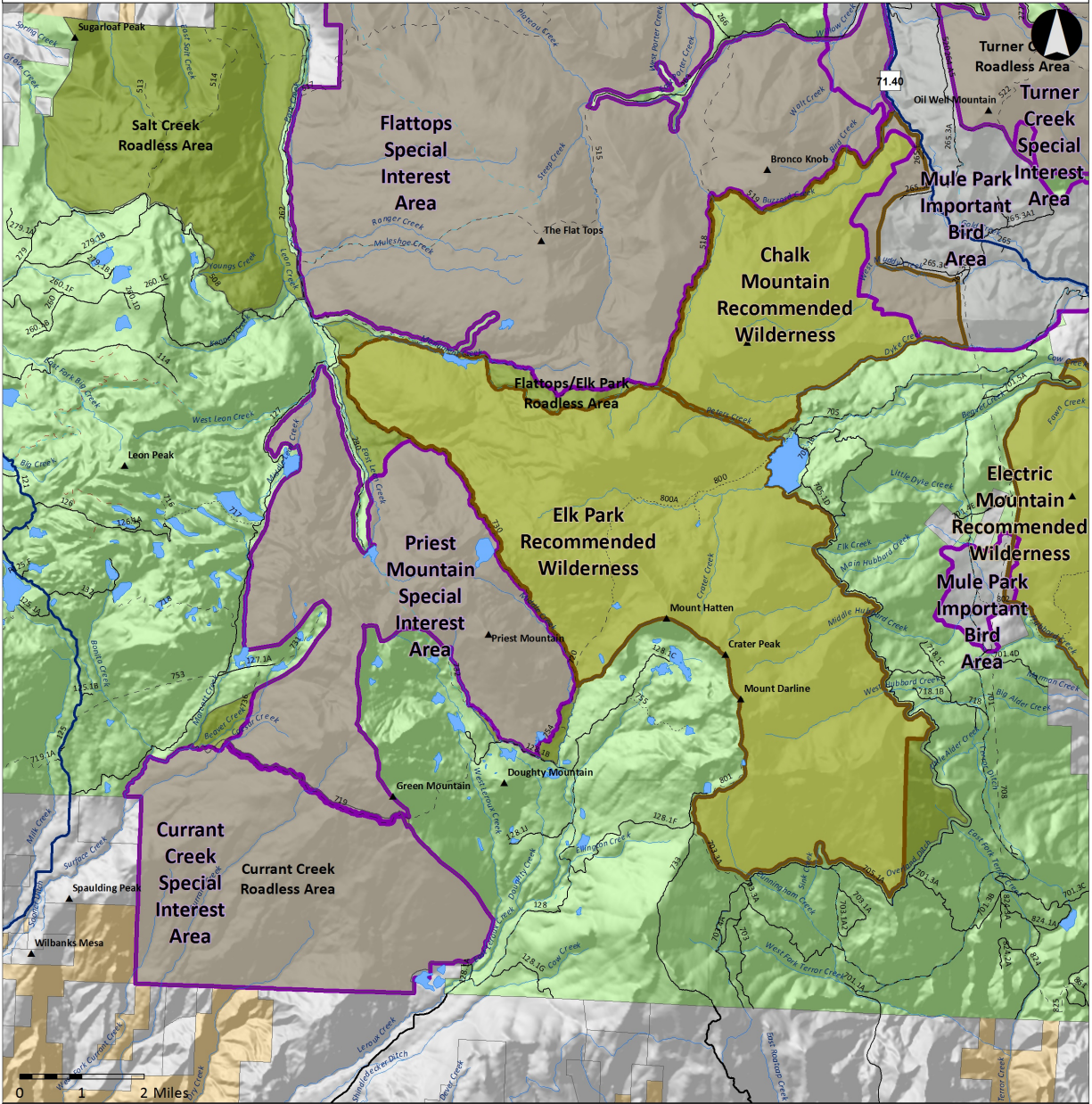
The Currant Creek SIA overlaps with the lower tier Currant Creek CRA. The Currant Creek unit is bounded by the motorized Green Mountain trail on the north and the forest boundary on the south and west. Existing oil and gas leases along the periphery of the area are excluded.

Information Resources

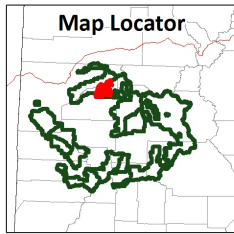
Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008

	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Mule Deer Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Grand Mesa Southeast



0 1 2 Miles



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 5/31/2018 18-049 v 15

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - TRIBE
 - Private

Electric Mountain Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Gunnison National Forest
Paonia Ranger District

9,700 acres



General Description

Electric Mountain is dominated by rolling aspen and spruce-fir forests that characterize the eastern end of Grand Mesa. It provides prime summer habitat for thriving herds of deer and elk, which in turn provide the primary recreational activity within the area during the fall hunting season. Electric Mountain offers outstanding opportunities for solitude because of its roadless and non-motorized management in a larger landscape dominated by motorized activities.

Naturalness

Electric Mountain is an undisturbed, forested ecosystem. The area's boundaries are defined by a high-voltage power line to the west, and by national forest system roads and the national forest boundary to the south. Some water diversion ditches occur along the area's northern periphery. The area has no existing or reclaimed roads and is entirely roadless.



Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The dense forest cover of Electric Mountain creates ideal circumstances for solitude and for unconfined and primitive recreation. The forest shields users from one another, and creates an immediate sense of seclusion when hikers or equestrians enter the area. Only one trail, the Terror Trail, crosses the area, almost exclusively used by foot and horse use. The predominant recreational use occurs during the fall hunting season as hunters who prefer a backcountry, non-motorized primitive hunting experience seek out the area.

Outstanding features of the area are the sweeping views that span much of western Colorado. It feels extremely rugged and remote.

Size and Roadlessness

Electric Mountain is 9,700 acres and overlaps the lower tier Electric Mountain CRA. It is free of any current or historic roads. It easily meets requirements for size and roadlessness.

Supplemental Values

The aspen ecosystem type that dominates Electric Mountain is underrepresented within the existing wilderness preservation system. About two-thirds of the Electric Mountain CRA consists of Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, of which accounts for less than 20 percent of existing wilderness at the forest and federal level. It is an important elk production area, contains summer range for deer and elk, and is a popular backcountry hunting area. It is also home to sensitive species that depend on the area's high elevation conifer and aspen forests. From this area, one can achieve outstanding views of the North Fork Valley, West Elk Mountains, and Ragged Mountains.

Manageability

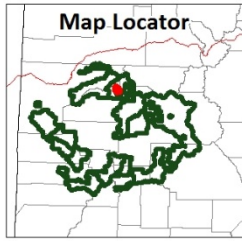
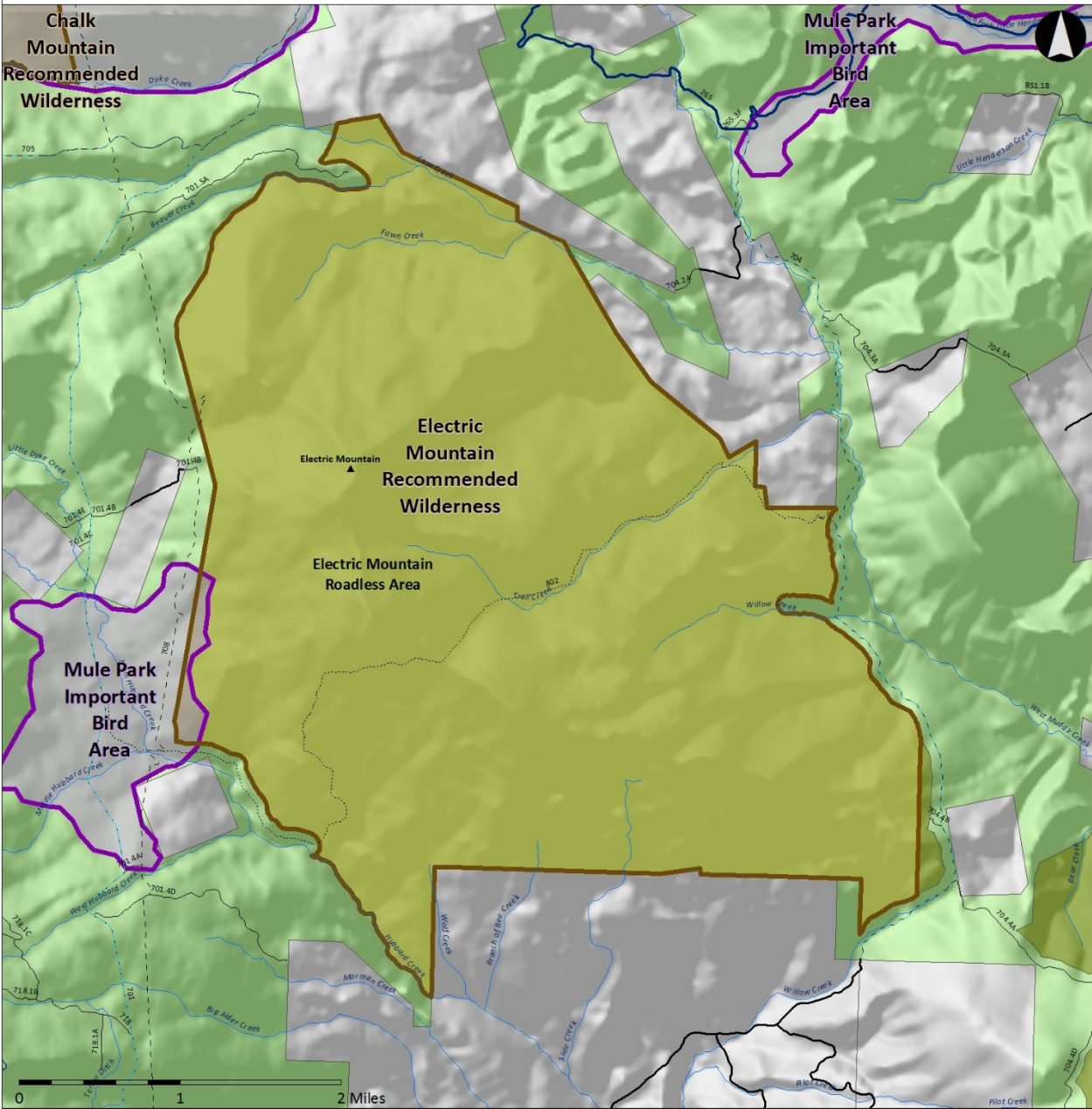
Electric Mountain has readily identifiable features that define its boundary in the form of roads and powerlines. The area is a compact, oval shape without any significant cherry-stems or incompatible intrusions. No existing oil and gas leases significantly overlap the area, providing managers with leeway to administratively determine the area's potential for future energy development. The only trail through the area is closed to motorized use. Mechanized use is currently allowed on this trail, however, little to no mechanize use occurs, due to rugged terrain, a short season, and sheep grazing within the unit.


If new management prescriptions or designations significantly limit existing mechanized recreation use or access, then this coalition supports reasonable mitigation of access impacts by identifying alternative routes more appropriate for ongoing and future mechanized use within relative proximity to each management area. We are working with the local recreation community through an ongoing, and productive, process to address potential conflicts.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Electric Mountain












ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 5/15/2018 18-049 v 14

- Legend**
-  Major Road
 -  CDNST
 -  USFS Road
 -  Closed USFS Road
 -  Trail (snow)
 -  Trail (motorized)
 -  Trail (non-motorized)

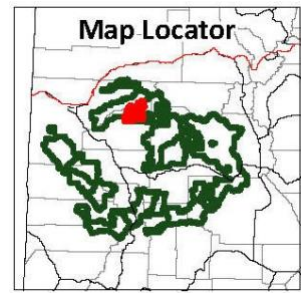
-  Recommended Wilderness
-  Linkage Area
-  Special Interest Area/Other
-  Roadless Area (FS)
-  Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
-  Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
-  USFS
 -  BLM
 -  NPS
 -  State
 -  Other Public
 -  TRIBE
 -  Private

Elk Park Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Gunnison/Grand Mesa National Forests
Paonia/Grand Valley Ranger District

21,000 acres



General Description

The Elk Park proposed wilderness and greater roadless complex contains important wildlife habitat and is a critical watershed for municipal and agricultural users in the North Fork Valley. The area may have potential for oil and gas extraction, posing a fundamental decision about the future use of this large, undeveloped landscape – whether to commit it to energy development or to preserve its value for wildlife and downstream water users. The area, if designated, would be the first wilderness area on the Grand Mesa, the last notable geographic feature in Colorado lacking any officially protected wilderness.

Elk Park is dominated by extensive forests of aspen and spruce-fir, with numerous expansive meadows in a lush, wet environment. The area is characterized by its many wet meadows, springs, seeps, and wetlands, which contribute to a dependable water supply for farms, ranches and communities in the North Fork Valley.

This unit is part of the greater Priest Mountain – Elk Park complex – consisting of recommended wilderness and special interest areas totaling 55,300 acres in the Grand Mesa and Gunnison National Forests, separated by just two motorized routes and an over-the-snow route.

Naturalness

Elk Park is the largest tract of undeveloped habitat on Grand Mesa. Boundaries have been drawn to exclude water resource facilities, motorized trails and power lines.

There is a designated mechanical route that traverses the center of the unit, southwest of Overland Reservoir. This route receives very little use of any type due to the short summer season, and with much of trail waterlogged due to Overland Reservoir during the summer. The majority of use is most likely for hunting during the fall season.



Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude

or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Elk Park is a large expanse of aspen and spruce-fir forest, interspersed with meadows. The dense forest cover, combined with its large extent, provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. Recreational visitors can quickly find themselves in remote and unvisited sections of the area.

Trails and roads that provide ready access for exploring the interior by foot and horse define the area's boundaries. The area is used most intensively during the fall hunting season as hunters seeking a primitive, backcountry experience venture into the remote interior forests. Areas within this unit are used for cattle and sheep grazing.

Size and Roadlessness

Elk Park is located in one of Colorado's largest remaining roadless areas. The proposed wilderness covers 21,000 acres, with the 8,200-acre Chalk Mountain recommended wilderness to the north, separated by an over the snow route, and the 11,700-acre Priest Mountain Special Interest Area to the west, separated by an ATV route. There are no open roads within the area.

An illegal motorized use trail was observed in the southern section of the unit off of the Overland Ditch road, which buffers the unit's southern boundary. This illegal use trail continues where a designated motorized route heads north along Sink Creek for a short distance to access water infrastructure, including pipes and an intake valve. This route has been excluded from the recommended wilderness as a cherrystem, however observations on the ground show that this route continues north into the unit.

Supplemental Values

Elk Park contains large tracts of aspen dominated ecosystems and grasslands, both of which are poorly represented within the existing wilderness preservation system. The Priest Mountain-Elk Park complex provides one of the largest opportunities within the GMUG National Forest to expand representation of aspen within the wilderness system. About one-third of the proposed wilderness is comprised of ecosystem types with less than 20 percent representation at the forest level. These include Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, Rocky Mountain Subalpine-Montane Mesic Meadow, and Southern Rocky Mountain Montane-Subalpine Grassland, for which there exists less than 20 percent representation in existing wilderness at the forest and federal level.

The Elk Park unit in particular is an important elk production area. The entire complex of proposed wilderness units is valuable summer range for deer and elk, and the herds migrate through the roadless area to lower elevation winter range. Moose have also been observed in this unit.

Sensitive species depend on these high elevation conifer, aspen, and riparian habitats that occur in this area, including the northern goshawk, boreal owl, flammulated owl, American martin, purple martin, and American three-toed woodpecker.

Main Hubbard Creek, Middle Hubbard Creek, and Cunningham Creek, all located in the southeastern portion of the unit, have conservation populations of Greenback cutthroat trout. The Hubbard Creek populations have less than one percent non-native genes. These are also located in streams with the highest watershed integrity class.

There are outstanding views of the North Fork Valley, West Elk Mountains, and Ragged Mountains from within this area.

Manageability

The Elk Park recommended wilderness is located in a larger landscape with designated motorized routes, which were used to define the boundaries of this unit, along with some open meadows on the north and west boundaries that are likely used for winter recreation. With motorized use restricted to these designated routes, the surrounding densely-forested roadless areas should be manageable as wilderness. Water supply reservoirs are excluded from the area. The Elk Park unit is generally defined by the Sunlight to Powderhorn trail on the north, the Overland Ditch on the east and the motorized East Leon Trail to the west. Existing oil and gas leases along the periphery of the area are excluded.

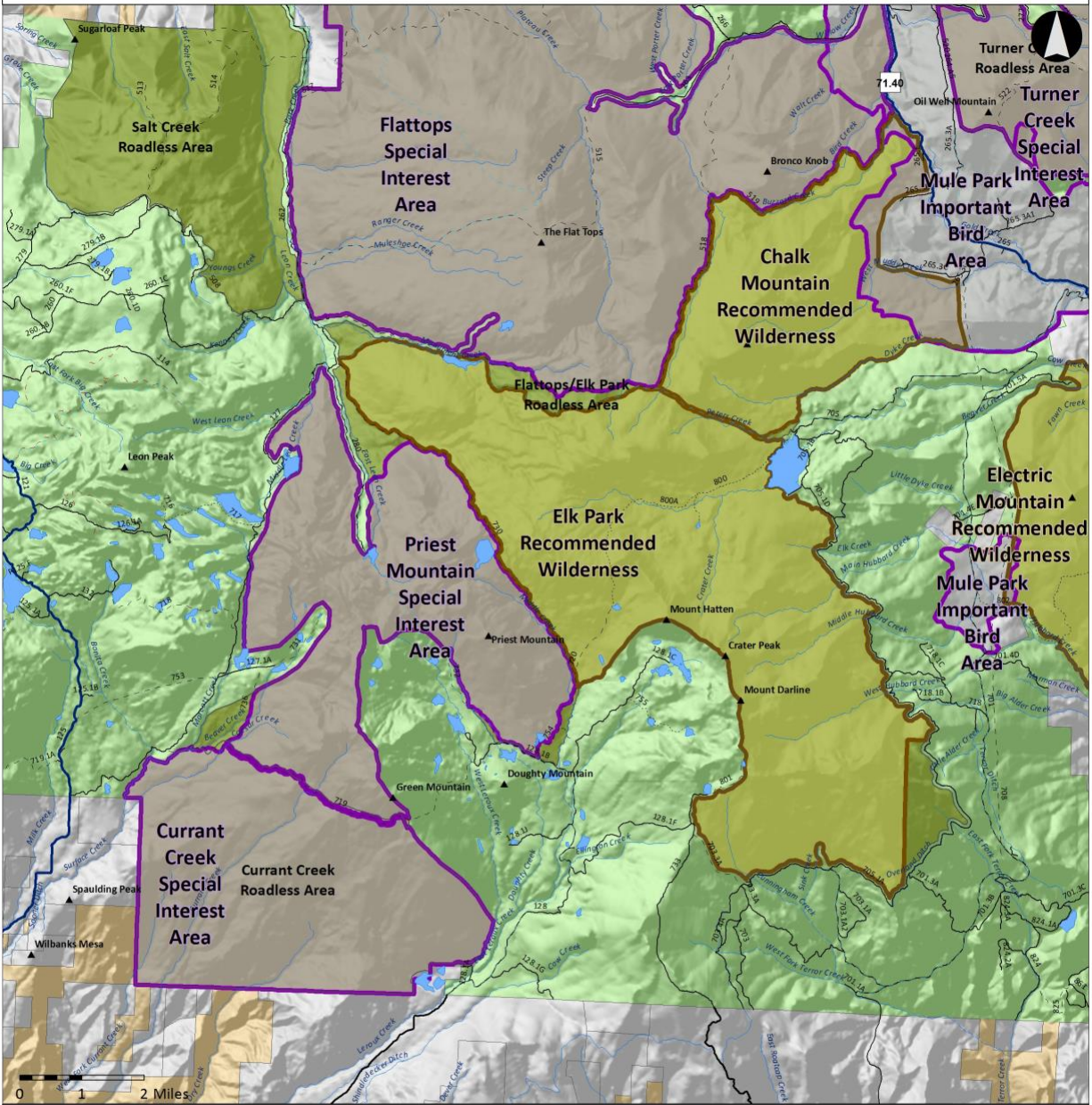
If new management prescriptions or designations significantly limit existing mechanized recreation use or access, then this coalition supports reasonable mitigation of access impacts by identifying alternative routes more appropriate for ongoing and future mechanized use within relative proximity to each management area. We are working with the local recreation community through an ongoing, and productive, process to address potential conflicts.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Boreal Toad Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Cutthroat trout	GMUG NF Cutthroat Trout species and conservation assessment, 2011
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Grand Mesa Southeast



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By:
Alison Gallensky
Rocky Mountain Wild
5/31/2018 18-049 v 15

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - - - Closed USFS Road
 - - - Trail (snow)
 - - - Trail (motorized)
 - - - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - TRIBE
 - Private

Flattops Special Interest Area

Proposed Designated Area
Grand Mesa National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District

32,000 acres



General Description

Flattops should be managed to protect its outstanding wildlife, recreational and watershed values from oil and gas development. The area is contiguous to a large roadless complex to the south and east, and to national forest lands atop Grand Mesa to the west. Encompassing some of the highest parts of Grand Mesa, the Flattops area is important for its abundance of wildlife.

Vegetation is predominantly spruce-fir and aspen with areas of mountain shrub, grassy meadows, and lush riparian habitat. There are numerous natural and manmade reservoirs in the area. Water from the area supports varied recreational use, agriculture, and domestic water supplies.

Recreation, including hunting and fishing, backcountry hiking and biking, and OHV use are the dominant uses.

Flattops is located south of Vega Reservoir in Mesa County. It is bounded to the west by the Park Creek Road #262, and the Buzzard Divide Road #265 in the east. In the south, the area is bounded by the watershed divide that separates Mesa and Delta Counties.

Naturalness

Flattops is part of the Flattops/Elk Park CRA, a 75,000-acre lower tier roadless complex spanning the Grand Mesa and Gunnison National Forests. The Flattops area possesses a remote and wild character, and it retains a high degree of naturalness. Aside from existing water developments that are located mostly on the southern edge of this unit, the area remains predominantly undeveloped and provides important wildlife habitat for various species. The area contains a few motorized trails, used mostly during hunting season, and the area is utilized by snowmobilers in the winter. These trails and uses, however, are spread out and don't generally diminish the area's natural character.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The motorized trails within the Flattop may diminish the sense of solitude and remoteness along those corridors, especially in open meadows that are common in the area's higher elevations. Once off these few trails, though, there remain outstanding opportunities for solitude. The meadows and interspersed forest in this area is unique in western Colorado and offers special opportunities for recreation.

Size and Roadlessness

This area encompasses a large swath of land between well-traveled roads and natural watershed boundaries. It is substantial in size and adjacent to several other roadless areas. There may be slight adjustments to the area that are appropriate to avoid existing reservoirs and access roads,

but those adjustments would be mostly along the area's existing boundaries and should not affect manageability of the vast majority of this area to protect existing natural values.

Much of the area has a roadless character which is one reason wildlife is abundant. Roads and trails have been generally well placed to allow for access, yet the density is low enough so as not to be a negative influence on the wildlife. However, proliferation of non-system roads have always been a problem especially in the fall and commonly where snowmobile trails are marked and maintained all year long.

Supplemental Values

Encompassing some of the highest parts of Grand Mesa, Flattops is important for its abundance of wildlife. The area includes a broad range of summer habitats from large open meadows and spruce-fir pockets to expanses of aspen and mountain shrub. Riparian areas—including wet seeps, springs, natural ponds and reservoirs, creeks and wetlands—are common across a very large portion of the roadless area.

Mule deer, elk, moose and many others species are found in the area. Black bear rely on the area, preferring elevations below 9,000 feet. Moose will spend the majority of the year here, concentrating on the lower elevations during the heavier snow months.

According to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, this roadless area has many production areas for deer and elk where they also tend to raise their young until they migrate in the late fall. Boreal toad habitat is also abundant. Colorado River cutthroat trout populations occur in Park Creek and Willow Creek. Sensitive species dependent on high elevation conifer, aspen and riparian habitats occur in this area (Northern goshawk, boreal owl, flammulated owl, American martin, purple martin, American three-toed woodpecker).

Flattops includes source waters for a municipal supply. Over 70 percent of this assessment area is managed by the Forest Service and recognized as having a high value for domestic water supply.

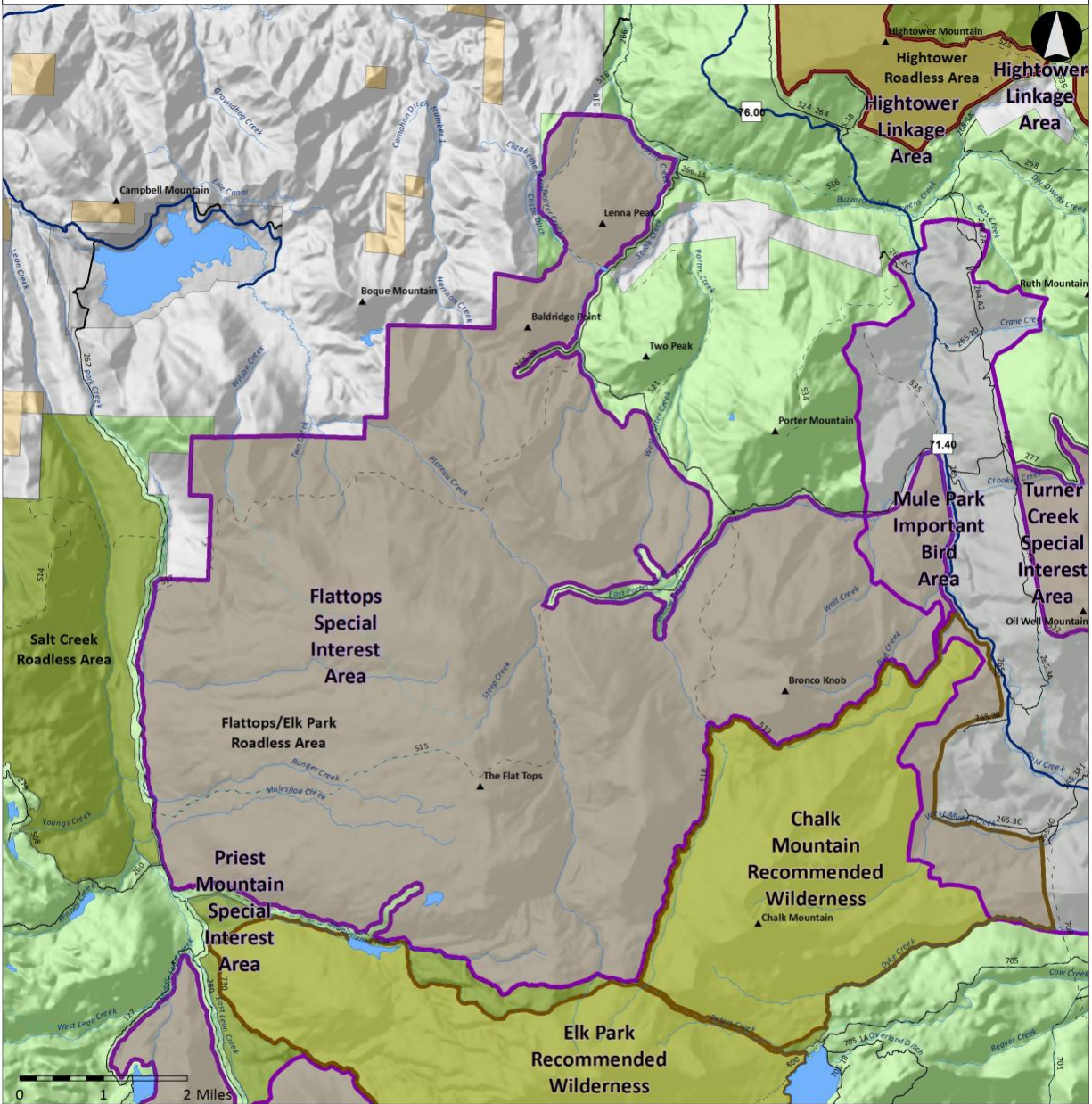
Management Prescription Recommendations

We recommend against further road development and/or reconstruction in this area in order to maintain and protect wildlife and habitat. Further, eliminating and reclaiming existing non-system roads and trails within the area would increase wildlife values and aid in keeping big game species on public lands as opposed to private lands where often they are not welcome. We recommend the area be closed to mineral leasing (at a minimum non-waivable NSO) and timber production, and managed to protect and enhance existing habitat, backcountry recreation opportunities, and clean water.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71 <hr/> Colorado Division of Wildlife NW Region, Comments on “Grand Mesa National Forest Roadless Areas” available at http://hermes.cde.state.co.us/drupal/islandora/object/co:24707/datastream/OBJ/view
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Boreal Toad Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Buzzard Creek Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Vega Reservoir Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Park Creek at Vega Reservoir Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Flattops



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky, Rocky Mountain Wild

 5/31/2018 18-049 v 15

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - TRIBE
 - Private

Hightower Linkage Area

**Proposed Linkage Area
Grand Mesa National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District**

*3,600 acres
(Hightower East – 800
acres; Hightower West
– 2,800 acres)*



General Description

The Hightower Linkage Area, located on Grand Mesa, consists of two separate parts of the Hightower Roadless Area, approximately 17 miles east of Collbran. Its two units are separated by a private inholding, and both units are contiguous with the Reno Mountain Roadless Area on the White River National Forest. Hightower is within the Northern-Central Highlands and Rocky Mountain Eco-Section (M33IH) with elevations ranging from 8,000' to 9,700'.

This is not a large area, but it provides important connectivity in a chain of adjacent and nearly adjacent roadless areas stretching from the Grand and Battlement Mesas in the west all the way across the Crystal River and toward the main stem of the Rockies in the east. Hightower also sits along an important north-south corridor that connects the Colorado River Valley with the North Fork River Valley and the extensive wildlands south of there.

Hightower Mountain at 9,555 feet and Reno Mountain at 9,741 feet are highpoints on the ridge that forms the northern boundary of this area and forms the western end of the Plateau Valley, north of the Grand Mesa. Hightower Creek in the Colorado River system has its headwaters in this area. Aspen forests predominate in this area with sagebrush steppes and gamble-oak at the lower elevations and small areas of spruce-fir near Hightower Mountain.

Manageability

The boundaries for this area are well defined by roads, trails and the National Forest boundary. There are two separate pieces of this Linkage Area, separated by an "L" shaped piece of private land. Nonetheless, both pieces are adjacent and contiguous with the Reno Mountain Roadless Area on the White River National Forest.

There have been oil and gas leases located within this roadless area over the years. However, no oil and gas drilling has occurred within the roadless area. If the area remains open and available to leasing in the future, it can be protected by an NSO stipulation and minerals can be accessed under the area using directional drilling technologies.

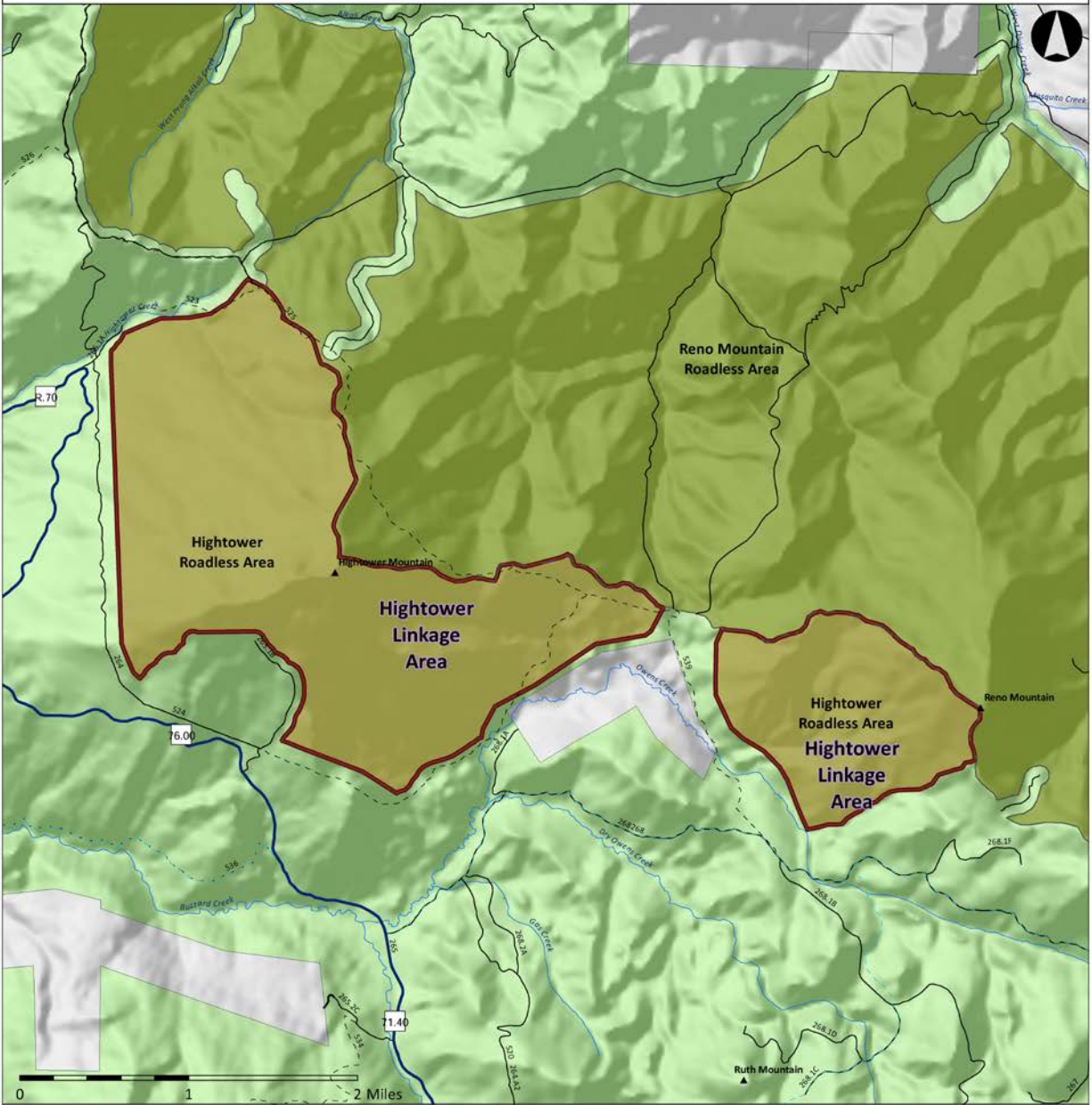
We recommend against further road development and/or reconstruction in this area in order to maintain and protect wildlife and habitat. Further, eliminating and reclaiming existing non-system roads and trails within the area would increase wildlife values and aid in keeping big game species on public lands as opposed to private lands where often they are not welcome. We recommend the area be designated as a Linkage Area, closed to mineral leasing and sales, and

timber production, and managed to protect and enhance existing habitat, backcountry recreation opportunities, and clean water.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Boreal Toad Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Hightower



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By:
Alison Gallensky
Rocky Mountain Wild
4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - - - Closed USFS Road
 - - - Trail (snow)
 - - - Trail (motorized)
 - - - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

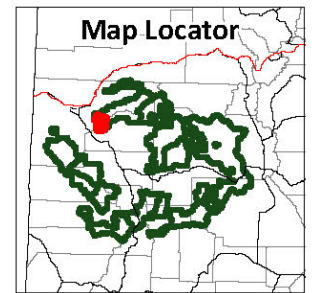
- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Kannah Creek Watershed Protection Area

Proposed Designated Area

Grand Mesa National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District

35,000 acres



General Description

Kannah Creek spans an ecological transition from the dry deserts of the Gunnison River valley to the lush forests atop Grand Mesa. The Kannah Creek CRA neatly contains the entirety of the Kannah Creek headwaters, from the aspen and spruce forests that characterize the upper reaches of Grand Mesa through a continuous transition downslope to pinyon-juniper woodlands and sagebrush steppe. The drainage provides a natural break through the basalt cliffs that line the mesa, and hence native peoples used Kannah Creek to access the top of Grand Mesa from the desert valleys below.

Kannah Creek is in the City of Grand Junction's municipal watershed. Grand Junction first filed for water rights to Kannah Creek in 1907 for the purpose of securing a source of clean mountain water as a municipal supply rather than treat muddy Colorado River water. In 2006, Grand Junction enacted a watershed and water-supply protection ordinance. The primary purpose of the watershed protection ordinance is to protect the "City's water supply and waterworks from injury and water supply from pollution or from activities that may create a hazard to health or water quality or a danger of pollution to the water supply of the City." The ordinance aims to protect the city's water sources, including springs, streams and reservoirs, from any land use activity that might cause pollution or water quality impacts. The ordinance was motivated in part by a fear of oil and gas leasing and exploration in the watershed. The city has calculated the value of its water rights conservatively at almost \$200 million.

Watershed Values

The proposed Kannah Creek Watershed Protection Area incorporates the 34,600-acre Kannah Creek Colorado Roadless Area. The city's primary water intake and treatment facility is located on Kannah Creek immediately below the roadless area, at the national forest boundary. Several water-supply reservoirs occur in the upper portions of the Kannah Creek watershed. Kannah Creek is the largest creek coming off the west end of the Grand Mesa.

The area is managed for non-motorized recreation, and a network of backcountry trails provide outstanding recreation opportunities for hikers, equestrians and mountain bikers. The area is readily defined by topographic features, including the Grand Mesa rim at the upper elevation, as well as by the national forest boundary on the south and west. The Kannah Creek watershed is an important calving area for elk.

Wildlife and Botanical Values

The undisturbed nature of the Kannah Creek watershed protects an ecological transition through woodland and forest ecosystems that are significantly underrepresented in protected areas, including areas in the national wilderness preservation system. About one-third of the area consists of Colorado Plateau Pinyon-Juniper Woodland and Inter-Mountain Basins Montane Sagebrush Steppe. Another third includes Rocky Mountain Gambel Oak-Mixed Montane Shrubland and Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland. These ecosystem types are represented at less than 20 percent at the forest level. Strict watershed protection management would provide a comparable level of habitat protection to wilderness designation in this instance.

Blue Lake, Kannah Creek and Sheep Creek are also locally valued for their fish habitat and angler recreational resources. These waterways are important habitat for cutthroat, rainbow and wild brook trout.

Uinta Basin hookless cactus (*Sclerocactus wetlandicus*), a threatened species, occurs in the southwestern portion of the area in dry shrub plant communities. Energy development and mining are significant threats to the species.

The Land's End Potential Conservation Area identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program is partially contained within the proposed watershed protection area. The Land's End PCA is a B2- Very High Biodiversity Significance site that follows the escarpment on the south and west sides of Grand Mesa, which includes the northern part of the Kannah Creek, as well as Carson Lake. Biodiversity elements of specific interest include excellent occurrences of a globally imperiled species, Rothrock Townsend-daisy (*Townsendia rothrockii*), as well as good and fair occurrences of Grand Mesa penstemon (*Penstemon mensarum*), a globally imperiled species.

Boundary, Size, and Access

The Kannah Creek Watershed Protection Area is well defined by the Grand Mesa rim at the upper elevations, and the national forest boundary at lower elevations on the west and south. The watershed protection area is comprised of the entire 34,600-acre roadless area. There is a well-developed system of eight non-motorized trails that provide backcountry access to the area. Land's End Road (Forest Road 100) follows the northern boundary of the area, and the Kannah Creek road provides access to the lower trailhead for Kannah Creek.

Proposed Management

Specific management direction is proposed to ensure primacy of watershed protection as follows:

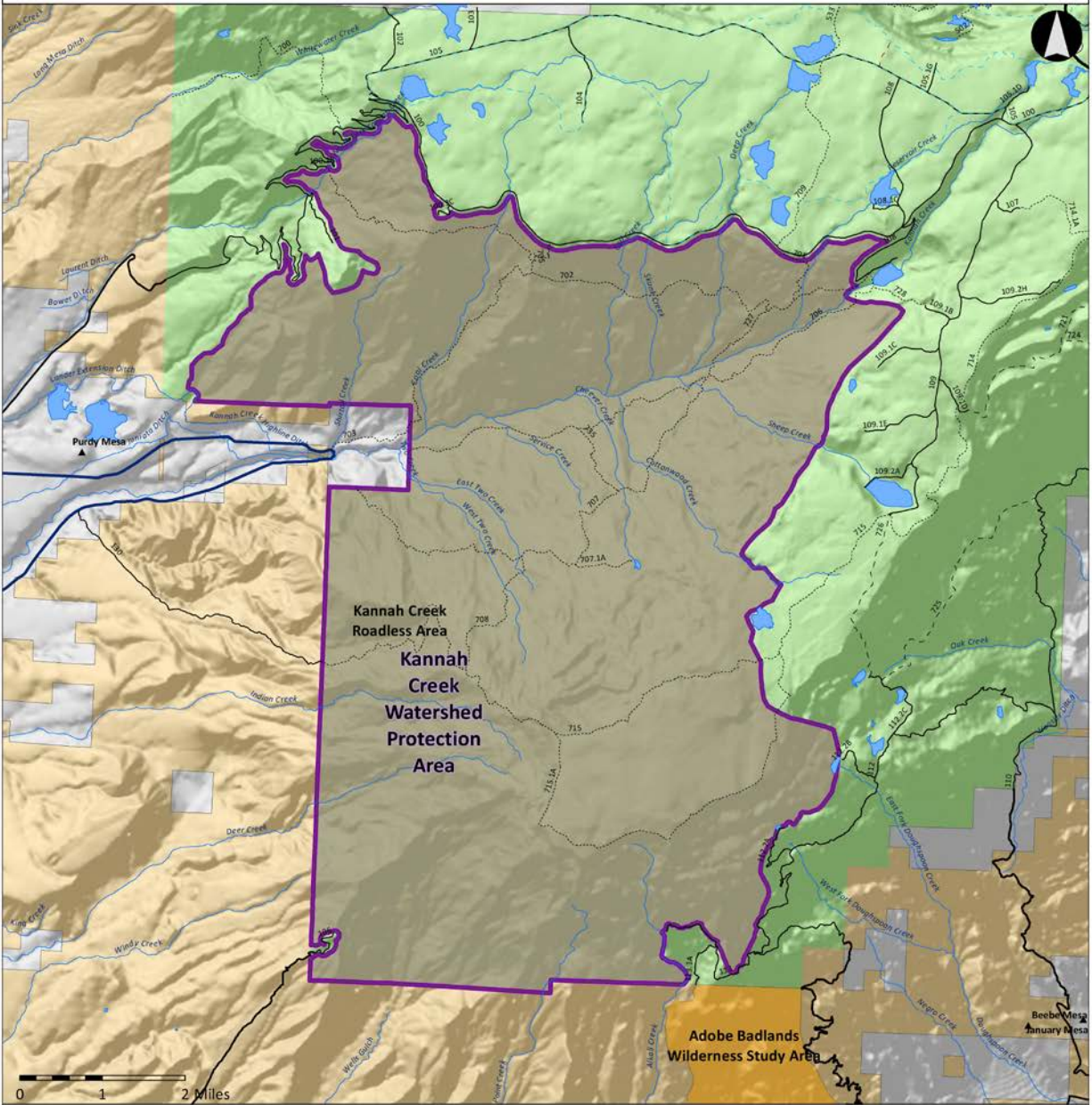
- The Kannah Creek Watershed Protection Area must be found unsuitable for oil and gas leasing and mineral material sales, and made discretionary no lease for watershed protection purposes. The area also needs to be withdrawn from mineral entry.
- Management direction must include prohibition of road construction and limitations on tree removal consistent with management prescribed by the Colorado Roadless Rule, 36 CFR Part 294.43(b), 294.42(b).


- Mechanized vehicle use may only occur on designated routes that are located and managed to minimize impacts to watershed values. Best management practices are in place on all access routes and monitored regularly to ensure effectiveness.
- Develop an interpretive program for the area that educates visitors on the special character and watershed values of the area.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Water Supply	City of Grand Junction Ordinance No. 3961, 2006
Supplemental Values	
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Severe Winter Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Mule Deer Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Land's End Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Kannah Creek






ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

Legend

-  Major Road
-  CDNST
-  USFS Road
-  Closed USFS Road
-  Trail (snow)
-  Trail (motorized)
-  Trail (non-motorized)

-  Recommended Wilderness
-  Linkage Area
-  Special Interest Area/Other
-  Roadless Area (FS)
-  Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
-  Wilderness

Land Ownership

-  USFS
-  BLM
-  NPS
-  State
-  Other Public
-  Tribe
-  Private

Mule Park Important Bird Area

**Proposed Special Interest Area
Paonia and Grand Valley Ranger
Districts**

15,200 acres



General Description

The Mule Park Important Bird Area consists of three units of aspen habitat stretching across Mesa, Delta and Gunnison Counties, north of Paonia. Important Bird Area (IBA) is a National Audubon Society designation recognizing especially important areas of bird habitat. The Mule Park IBA was recognized because of its extreme importance for cavity nesting birds, in particular western purple martins (*Progne subis arboricola*).

The unusually high density of western purple martins and other cavity nesting birds is partly due to the large size of trees in the stands of pure or climax aspens, and the affinity woodpeckers have for their soft wood. Northern flickers, being our largest woodpecker, obviously need large trees for their cavities. These larger holes are also required for larger secondary cavity nesters such as purple martins, American kestrels, and boreal, northern saw-whet, and flammulated owls.

Some cavity nesting birds spend much of their time hunting in open country, and those species usually prefer the edges of clearings or parks. Purple martins are among the most extreme of these edge species, and only nest within about a hundred meters of the stand edge. Mountain bluebirds, American kestrels, and tree and violet-green swallows are similar in their preference for edges. The combination of large stands of large aspens, and a lot of parks, often with long, irregular edges make this area unique. In the larger parks, the best martin habitat is along the lower edge of aspens where the slope flattens out, causing it to become too wet for aspens, and creating the edge.

These conditions combine to give this area probably the largest concentration of western purple martins outside of the Pacific Northwest coast. The IBA area along with a few other nearby areas in the Paonia and Grand Valley Ranger Districts are estimated to contain a quarter to half of Colorado's purple martins. While the eastern subspecies is estimated at twelve million birds, the western subspecies has been estimated at twelve thousand, with ten thousand of them living in California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia.

Because Audubon limited the IBA boundaries to aspen habitat and adjoining parkland and riparian areas, the elevations of the area vary from about 7,900 feet up to about 9,600 feet. Some areas have a fairly dense understory, while some others don't. This seems to matter to most birds and other species more than it does to purple martins. Martins, along with mountain bluebirds, tree and violet-green swallows, American kestrels and red-tailed hawks, only use the aspens for nests and hunt in the adjoining open areas. The riparian areas include willow carrs, narrowleaf cottonwoods, and many beaver ponds. The Buzzard Creek portion of the IBA drains a larger area of higher elevation so it has a more consistent stream flow. Most of the riparian areas in the IBA seem to be in good shape.

The large Buzzard Creek/Mule Park unit adjoins the Flattops and Chalk Mountain areas to the southwest and the Turner Creek area to the north and east. The Hubbard Park IBA unit borders the Electric Mountain recommended wilderness area to the east and is very close to the Elk Park area to the west. The area around Buzzard Muddy Divide is important for connecting the Flattops/Elk Park/Priest Mountain area, and all of Grand Mesa to the west, with the Thompson Divide/Clear Fork/McClure Pass areas, and the Elk and West Elk Mountains to the east.



Naturalness

First time visitors are invariably surprised at the feeling of seclusion and naturalness when walking short distances from Forest Roads 265 and 701. The areas get light use from dispersed camping, ATVs, wildlife viewers, grazing permittees, oil and gas workers, and other sightseers during the summer. It becomes much busier during deer and elk season.

Supplemental Values

While the IBA was designated largely because of the western purple martins, it is important to many other species, including the following:

- Other cavity nesting birds, such as northern flicker, red-naped and Williamson's

sapsuckers, downy and hairy woodpeckers, boreal, northern saw-whet and flammulated owls, tree and violet-green swallows, house wren, black-capped chickadee, American kestrel and mountain bluebird.

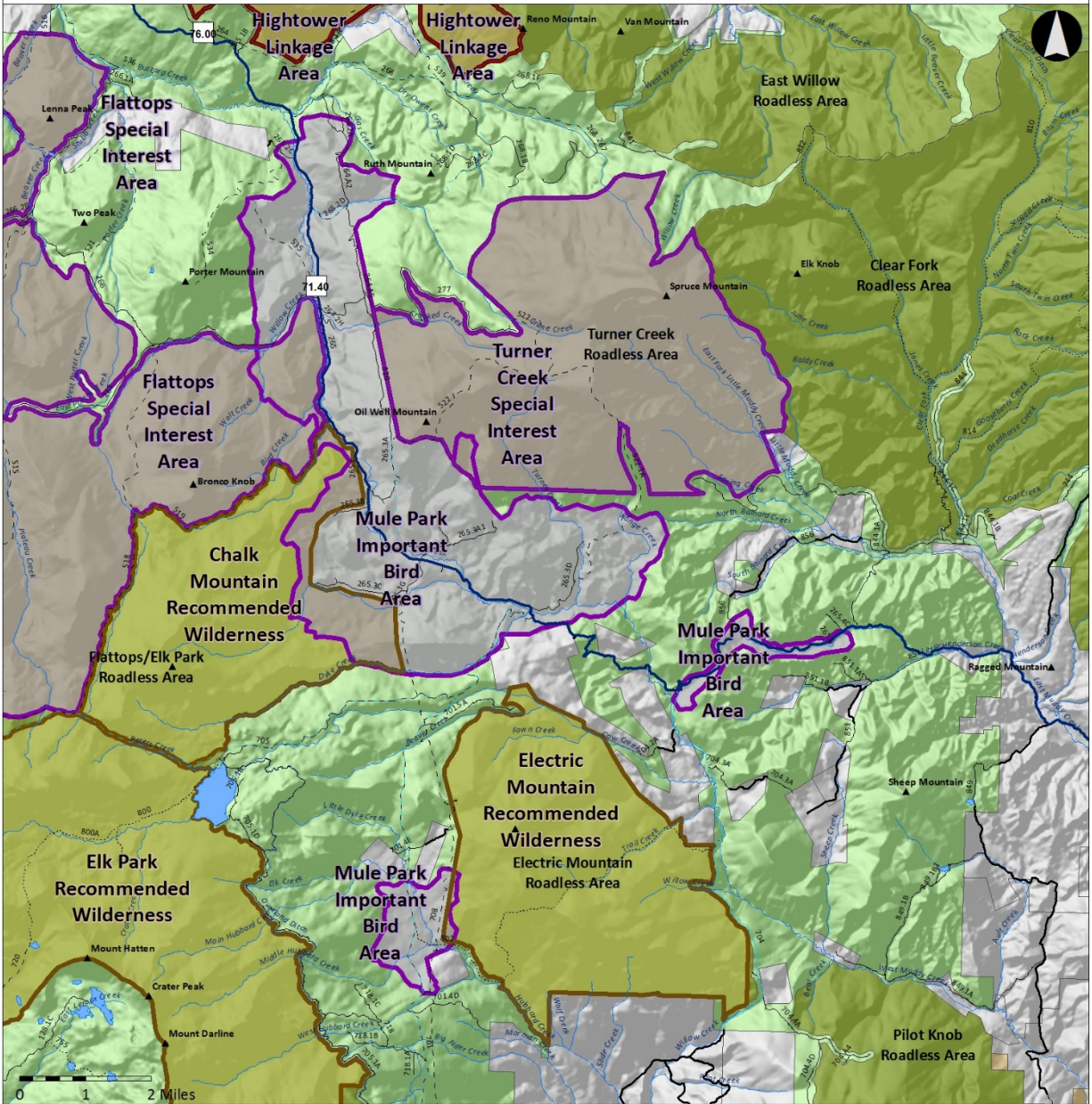
- Aspen dwelling birds that aren't cavity nesters, including warbling vireo, western woodpeewee, red-tailed hawk, Cooper's hawk and broad-tailed hummingbird.
- Riparian area birds including fox, Lincoln's, song, and white-crowned sparrows, willow flycatcher, cedar waxwing, yellow warbler, gray catbird, belted kingfisher, great blue heron, mallard, ring-necked duck, spotted sandpiper and Wilson's snipe.
- Other birds including Swainson's hawk, peregrine falcon, vesper and Savannah sparrows.
- Big game species, mule deer, elk, moose, and other mammals including several bat species and yellow-bellied marmot.
- Amphibians including boreal toad and northern leopard frog.

Management Prescription Recommendations

Management emphasis to protect the area's values should include the following:

- No lease or NSO for unleased parts of the IBA.
- Not suitable for timber production, except SAD/SBEADMR related projects. There isn't much SAD in the area.
- No new motorized routes. The area has benefitted from a few closures of redundant roads in the past.
- Management should consider all wildlife species, not just purple martins.

Mule Park Important Bird Area



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky, Rocky Mountain Wild

 5/15/2018 18-049 v 14

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

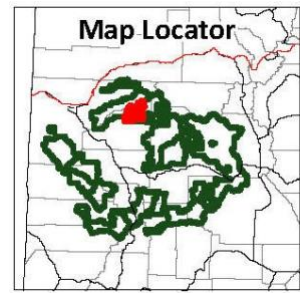
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - TRIBE
 - Private

Priest Mountain Special Interest Area

Proposed Designated Area
Grand Mesa National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District

12,000 acres



General Description

The Priest Mountain Area is comprised of extensive forests of aspen and subalpine spruce-fir, with a number of expansive meadows, including wetland areas. The wet meadows, springs, seeps, and wetlands contribute to a dependable water supply for farms, ranches and communities in the North Fork Valley.

Priest Mountain rests between the 10,600-acre Currant Creek recommended wilderness to the south and 21,000-acre Elk Park recommended wilderness to the east. In addition, the Priest Mountain–Elk Park complex, totaling 55,300 acres in the Grand Mesa and Gunnison National Forests, is separated by just two motorized routes and an over-the-snow route.

Priest Mountain, as part of this greater complex, contains important wildlife habitat and is a critical watershed for municipal and agricultural users in the North Fork Valley. The area may have potential for oil and gas extraction, which poses a fundamental decision about the future use of this large, undeveloped landscape – whether to commit it to energy development or to preserve its value for wildlife and downstream water users.

Recreation Values

Priest Mountain is located in one of the largest undeveloped roadless areas in Colorado. The low visitation during most of the year, ruggedness, and vegetative screening in this unit provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

There are also ample opportunities for unconfined and primitive recreation in the Priest Mountain unit. The dearth of interior trails, along with excellent big game habitat and migration corridors, provides outstanding opportunities for wildlife viewing, photography, hiking and hunting. The area is most intensely used in the fall as a primitive backcountry hunting experience.

An over-the-snow route bisects the Priest Mountain proposed special management area in the center of the unit at a north-south direction. This routes links up with other over-the-snow routes in the Grand Mesa area, providing outstanding winter recreational opportunities.



Biological Values

Priest Mountain contains large tracts of aspen dominated ecosystems and grasslands, both of which are poorly represented within the existing wilderness preservation system. About one-third of this area is comprised of ecosystem types with less than 20 percent representation at the forest level. These include Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, Rocky Mountain Subalpine-Montane Mesic Meadow, and Southern Rocky Mountain Montane-Subalpine Grassland.

This area is an important elk production area, providing valuable summer range for deer and elk. The herds also migrate through the roadless area to lower elevation winter range.

Boundary, Size and Access

Priest Mountain is comprised of 12,000 acres, and is adjacent to wilderness recommendations to its south and east. The area is generally bounded by the motorized East Leon Trail and Green Mountain Trail on the north and south, respectively, and by other motorized trails and reservoirs on the east and west (Ella, Skimmed Milk and Triangle Stomp trails).

Proposed Management

There is one existing use within the Priest Mountain unit that conflicts with wilderness management, resulting in this proposed alternative management. This refers to the aforementioned over-the-snow motorized route that runs north-south through the central interior of the unit.

Recommended management direction in the Forest Plan includes:

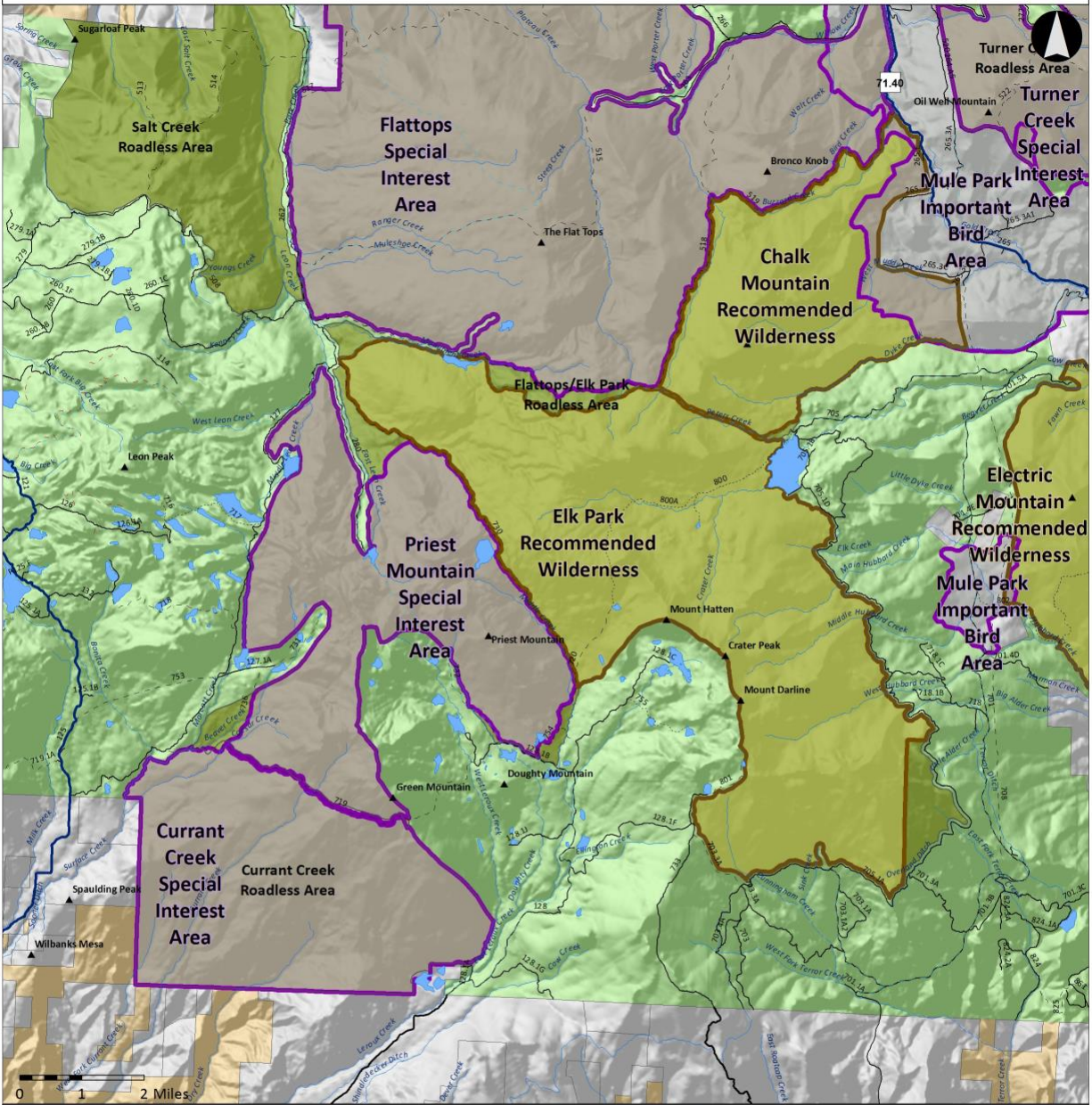
- Priest Mountain must be administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing and mineral material sales, and a mineral withdrawal needs to be recommended for locatable minerals.
- Management direction must include a prohibition on commercial timber harvest, except where identified as a treatment area in SBEADMR management plan. New road and route construction should be prohibited as well.
- OSV use can occur on designated routes as can mechanized summer time use. Motorized and mechanized travel off designated routes should be disallowed.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72

	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Grand Mesa Southeast



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By:
Alison Gallensky
Rocky Mountain Wild
5/31/2018 18-049 v 15

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - - - Closed USFS Road
 - - - Trail (snow)
 - - - Trail (motorized)
 - - - Trail (non-motorized)

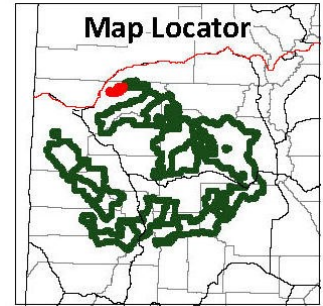
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - TRIBE
 - Private

Sunnyside Recommended Wilderness Area

Proposed Wilderness Area
Grand Mesa National Forest
Grand Valley Ranger District

11,000 acres



General Description

Sunnyside is adjacent to Plateau Creek Valley, in which the town of Collbran is located. The area is long and narrow, ranging from one to three miles wide. On its northern side, Sunnyside borders the 13,000-acre Housetop Mountain Roadless Area in the White River National Forest. The area's other boundaries are adjacent to both private land and BLM lands. The area is within the Northern-Central Highlands and Rocky Mountain Eco-Section (M33IH) with elevations ranging from 6,000 to 9,200 feet.

Naturalness

Sunnyside possesses a remote and wild character, and it retains a high degree of naturalness. The area is undeveloped, and provides important habitat for various species of plants and animals.

The lower elevations are dominated by pinyon-juniper with Douglas-fir increasing in the species mix as elevation increases. Gambel oak, serviceberry and snowberry shrub species are intermixed in the understories at the upper elevations and provide sustenance for a range of wildlife species and the predators that depend upon them.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Sunnyside is quite different than Grand Mesa in its topography, soils, landscape, wildlife and vegetation. The area is very steep, slopes are frequently barren, and there are dominant cliffs. The area is comprised of the same geologic formations and terrain as proposed South Shale Ridge wilderness on BLM lands west of the Colorado River.



There are limited trails and access into the area. This isolation along with the ruggedness of the landscape and distance from the

sights and sounds of developments provides an opportunity for solitude and a sense of remoteness.

Size and Roadlessness

Battlement Mesa is a dramatic, 20-mile long east-west ridge that divides Plateau Creek from the Colorado River. The 10,700-acre Sunnyside recommended wilderness area, which overlaps completely with the lower tier Sunnyside CRA, is just one piece of a roadless complex that spans the length of the Battlement Mesa (including the Battlements, Housetop and Mamm Peak Roadless Areas), and it is proximate to a host of other roadless areas that continue east to the Crystal River and the Maroon Bells Snowmass Wilderness Area. This is an important piece of roadless land in the midst of a much greater network that provides important east-west and north-south connectivity for migrating wildlife.

Supplemental Values

Dry Fork Kimball Creek in the northeast corner has been identified for the presence of rare endemic plant species. The western half of this area is within The Nature Conservancy's Debeque South conservation site, which contains locations of *Phacelia submutica*, a candidate plant species.

Mule deer and elk are known to concentrate in the winter at the lower elevations and summer at the higher elevations of the roadless area. Sunnyside has some of the highest densities of wintering deer in the state of Colorado.

The Battlement Mesa Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep herd resides here. This herd is small in population, small in stature, and lives at relatively low elevations--making it unique from other herds. There are many problems facing this herd including lack of fire, access to other populations of sheep, and lack of water.

Manageability

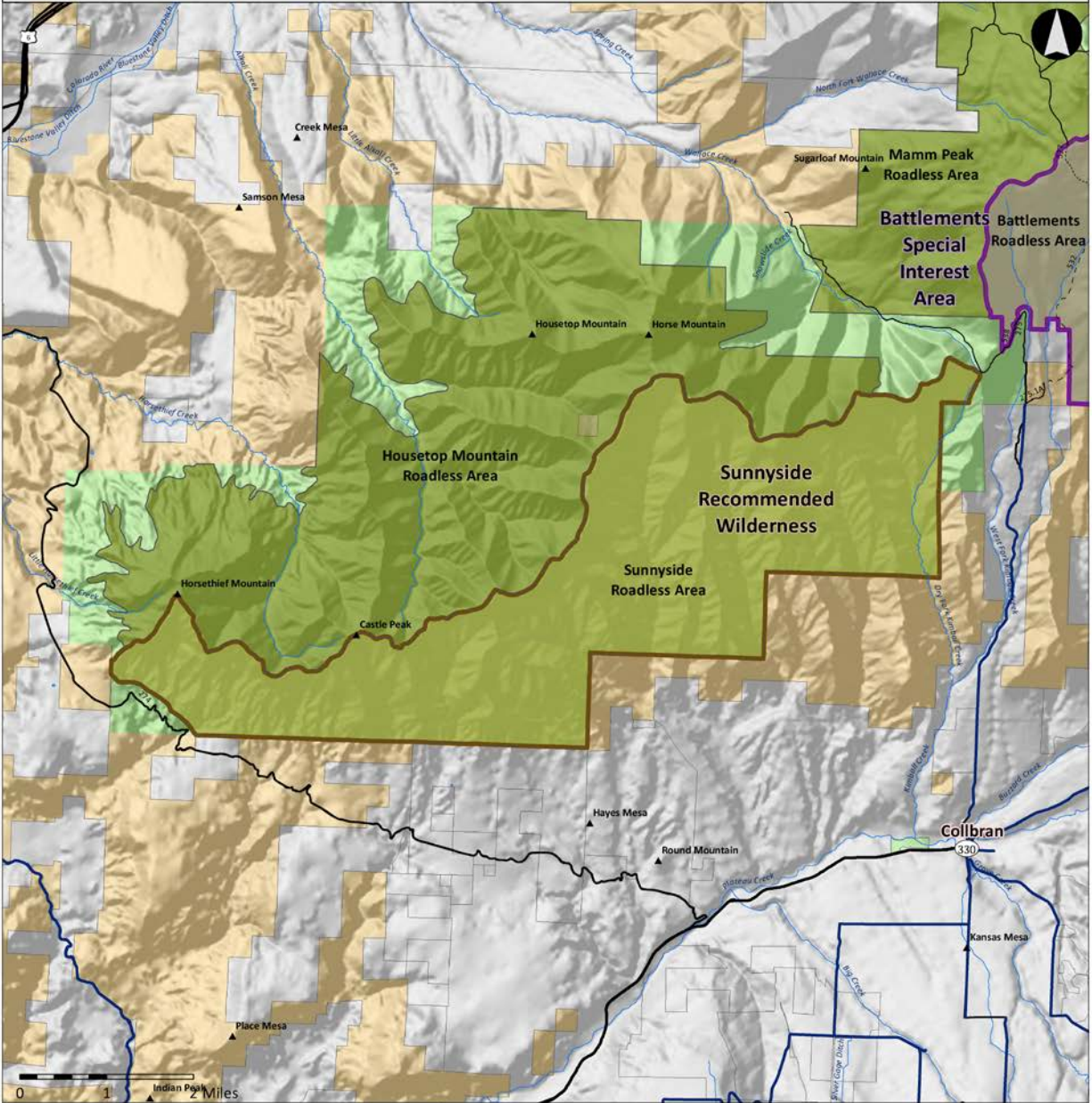
The boundaries for this area are well defined by private land to the south, the White River National Forest to the north and Kimball Creek in the east and the 274 road in the west. The area is steep and inaccessible. It lends itself well to continued management for rare plants, wildlife, and roadless character.

There has been oil and gas leasing in this area, though no drilling or road construction has occurred inside the roadless area. The area is long and narrow, and the terrain is steep. If future leasing is allowed in the area, minerals could be accessed directionally without involving new road construction. There is no suitable timber in the area.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Colorado Division of Wildlife NW Region, Comments on “Grand Mesa National Forest Roadless Areas” available at http://hermes.cde.state.co.us/drupal/-islandora/object/co:24707/datastream/OBJ/view
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Bighorn Sheep Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Bighorn Sheep Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Mule Deer Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Rare Plants of the Wasatch Potential Conservation Area with Outstanding Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Dry Fork Kimball Creek Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Sunnyside





ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

Legend

-  Major Road
-  CDNST
-  USFS Road
-  Closed USFS Road
-  Trail (snow)
-  Trail (motorized)
-  Trail (non-motorized)

-  Recommended Wilderness
-  Linkage Area
-  Special Interest Area/Other
-  Roadless Area (FS)
-  Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
-  Wilderness

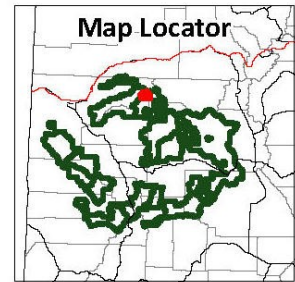
Land Ownership

-  USFS
-  BLM
-  NPS
-  State
-  Other Public
-  Tribe
-  Private

Turner Creek Special Interest Area

Proposed Designated Area
Gunnison/Grand Mesa National Forests
Paonia/Grand Valley Ranger District

13,000 acres



General Description

The Turner Creek Area is located in both the Gunnison and Grand Mesa National Forests. The 12,900-acre area overlaps almost completely with the lower tier Turner Creek CRA. The dominant feature of this area is Spruce Mountain, which rises to 10,833 feet in the northeast corner of the unit.

On the southern face of Spruce Mountain, a large slump exposes well-defined reddish colored sandstone and shale layers of the Tertiary Wasatch Formation. The headwall of the slump and terrain extending to the south from the headwall are complexly eroded and form an amphitheater-like setting with attractive rock spires, somewhat reminiscent of a small scale Bryce Canyon. The forest in this area is predominantly aspen and spruce, which appear natural and very healthy. The spruce forest covering the gentle upper northern slope of the aptly named Spruce Mountain appear particularly rich in dark green color.



The Turner Creek area provides important wildlife habitat, migration corridors, and production areas. The large interior park areas, with meadows, creeks, ponds, and wetlands areas, provide ideal wildlife habitat. A few perennial creeks begin or flow through this unit, including Turner Creek, Crane Creek and Spring Creek.

A small reservoir and a few cabins were observed just outside the southeast corner of the area. Several gas development pads were observed near, but outside the south boundary as well. Similarly, roads and trails were observed near but outside both the eastern and western boundaries. The only obvious sign of human activity within the area was a narrow swath of cleared trees running north-south along the lower eastern slopes of Spruce Mountain. No vehicle tracks or electricity lines were apparent in this swath, but from aerial observation, it appeared to follow the route of the Bull Mountain pipeline with an easement of some type.

Overall, Turner Creek is a very remote and natural area with exceptional geologic and scenic value.

Recreation Values

Turner Creek is located in a large, mostly undeveloped roadless area. Much of the area has high habitat and range values for big game animals, particularly elk, lending itself to excellent opportunities and historically significant use for hunting. The most extensive use in this unit is in the fall due to high-valued hunting. There are also outstanding opportunities for wildlife viewing, photography, hiking, horseback riding, and scenic viewing.

The eastern-to-central portion of this unit has designated motorized ATV trails for vehicles 50 inches and under (USFS 522, USFS 522.1A) that traverse into the interior of the unit. These routes link up with other designated motorized routes in the Grand Mesa and Gunnison (and White River) National Forests, providing outstanding motorized recreational opportunities and providing access for hunters.

Biological Values

Over half of the Turner Creek area is dominated by aspen ecosystems, which are poorly represented within the existing wilderness preservation system. Spruce-fir forests make up about one-third of the unit. The remainder of the unit contains several ecosystem types with less than 20 percent representation at the forest level. These include Rocky Mountain Subalpine-Montane Mesic Meadow, Rocky Mountain Alpine-Montane Wet Meadow, Rocky Mountain Subalpine-Montane Riparian Shrubland, and Southern Rocky Mountain Montane-Subalpine Grassland.

This Turner Creek area is an important elk production area, providing valuable summer range for deer and elk on the high elevation northwest slopes of Spruce Mountain. The herds also migrate through the roadless area to lower elevation winter range in the southeast section of this unit. Moose inhabit the area year round and the area has been mapped for lynx habitat.

Boundary, Size and Access

Turner Creek is comprised of 13,000 acres and is adjacent to the western boundary of the Clear Fork Special Management Area and 24,200-acre Roadless Area. It is separated from the latter by a gas pipeline. The area is bounded by motorized route USFS 520 to the west, USFS 268 and an over-the-snow motorized route to the north, a gas pipeline to the east, and a leasing boundary south. The gas development pads and infrastructure were excluded from the unit boundaries to the south.

Proposed Management

There is one existing use in the Turner Creek unit that conflicts with wilderness management, resulting in this proposed alternative management. This refers to the aforementioned designated motorized routes in the eastern-to-central portion of the unit.

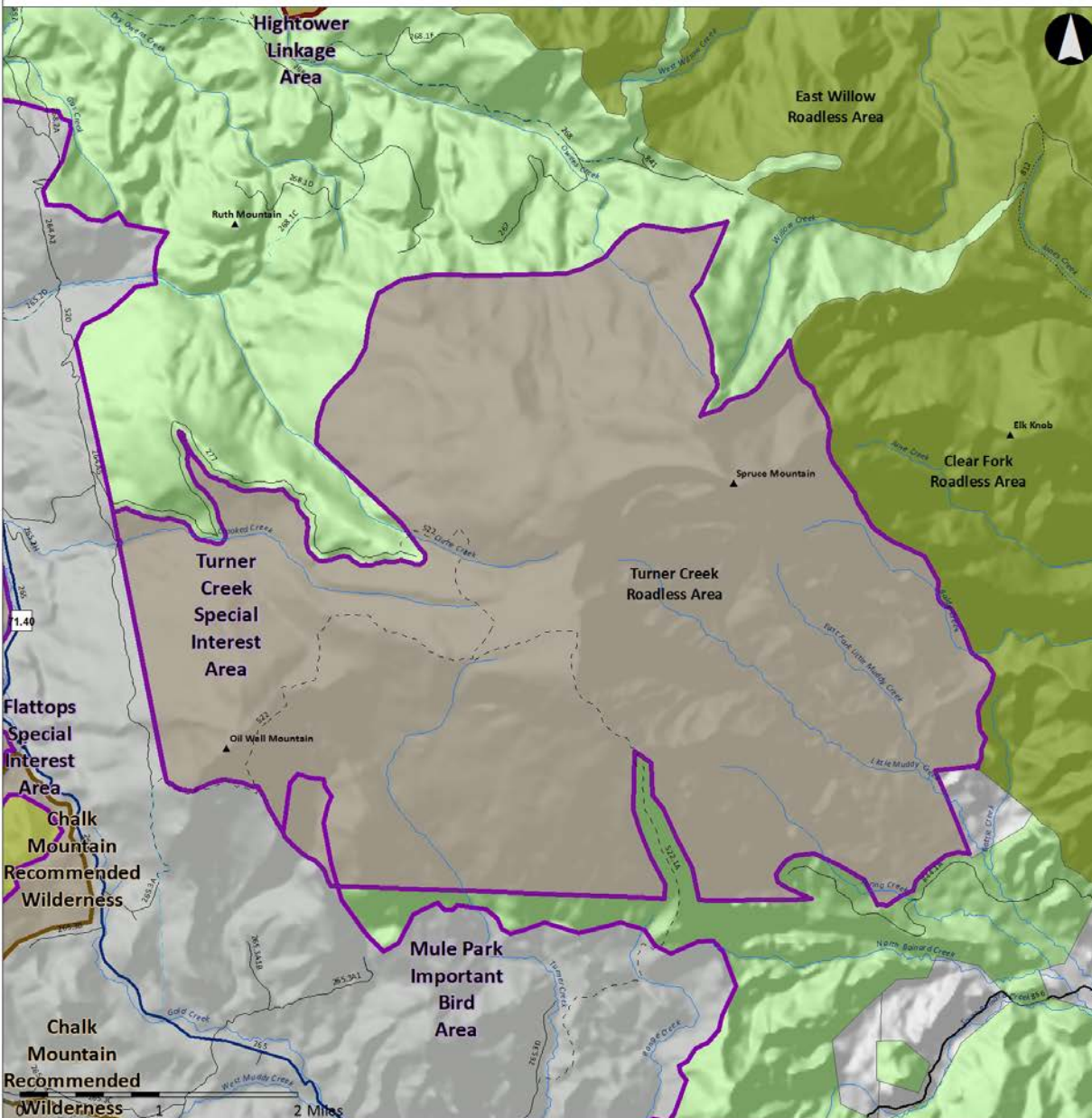
Recommended management direction in the Forest Plan includes:

- Turner Creek must be administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing and mineral material sales.
- Management direction should include a prohibition on commercial timber harvest unless otherwise included in SBEADMR management. New road and route construction should also be prohibited.
- Turner Creek must be closed to winter motorized travel, and summer travel must be limited to non-mechanized activities. The area remains available for designated motorized routes.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Boreal Toad Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Turner Creek



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 5/15/2018 18-049 v 14

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - TRIBE
 - Private

Cataract Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Gunnison National Forest
Gunnison Ranger District

10,000 acres



General Description

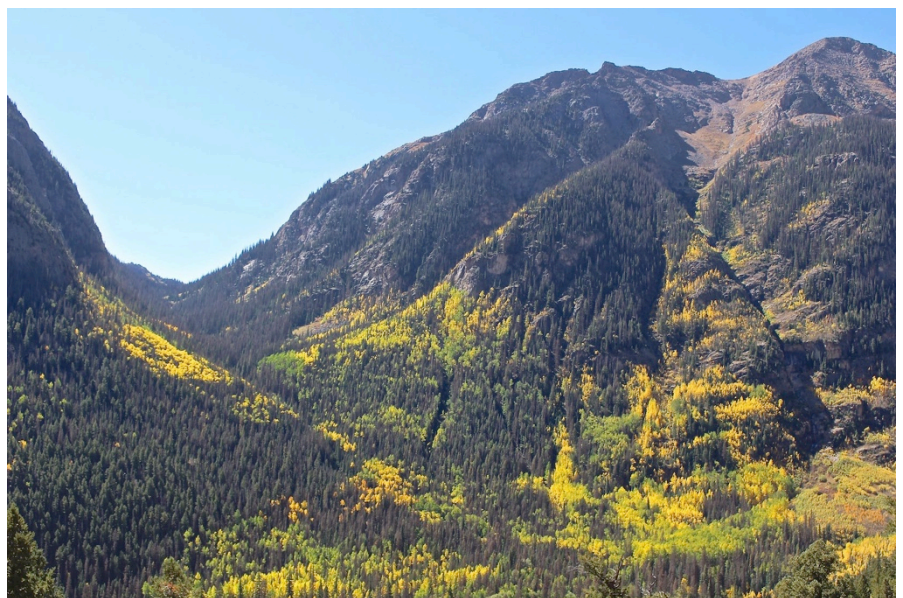
Cataract spans several glacial carved valleys at the headwaters of the Lake Fork of the Gunnison near Lake City. The area is precipitous and rugged, characterized by massive peaks and huge glaciated valleys dotted with waterfalls and moss-covered grottoes. The valleys access rolling tundra and high peaks in the core of the area.

Cataract fills a key niche in a collection of adjacent roadless areas on either side of it: the BLM's recommended Handies Peak Wilderness adjoins the entire northern boundary of Cataract, and the Rio Grande National Forest's remarkable Pole Creek Mountain Roadless Area is contiguous along the south boundary. At 75,000 acres, the areas collectively comprise one of the largest unprotected roadless landscapes remaining in Colorado. Cataract completes the watershed protection for adjacent Handies Peak WSA by incorporating the headwaters of Cataract Gulch and Cuba Gulch.

Cataract features several prominent recreation destinations. A half-dozen miles of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail/Colorado Trail skirt the southern edge of the area and one of Colorado's 100 highest peaks, Half Peak, rises prominently in the area's center. System trails follow Cataract Gulch and Cuba Gulch from the floor of the Lake Fork valley to the crest of the Continental Divide.

Naturalness

Cataract's imposing geography and volcanic strata have combined to limit past human activities that might have marred the area's natural character. It has limited timber resources that preclude active management. Several patented mining claims occur in the lower reaches of Cuba Gulch, but these experienced little actual mining, are difficult to identify in the field, and are in the acquisition process. Cataract represents classic Colorado high country wilderness.



Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Cataract is the central piece of one of Colorado's largest unprotected roadless landscapes, and not surprisingly visitors can easily find outstanding opportunities for solitude. The area's immense glaciated valleys enhance the sense of remoteness and isolation.

Non-mechanized trails follow the two primary streams in the area, Cataract Gulch and Cuba Gulch, and these offer outstanding opportunities for unconfined primitive recreation. Both trails start at trailheads along Cottonwood Creek on adjacent BLM lands. Cataract Gulch trail switchbacks past roaring cascades as it winds its way above treeline to the Continental Divide. The more obscure Cuba Gulch trail similarly leads to the Divide and receives significantly less use. Summiting 13,841-foot Half Peak is a common focus for hikers along the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, which skirts the entire southern boundary of the area.

Size and Roadlessness

Cataract by itself is 10,000 acres, matching the roadless boundaries identified as the Cataract CRA, and it includes Upper Tier roadless lands. It also abuts the BLM's 16,664-acre Handies Peak WSA to the north and the Rio Grande National Forest's 43,900-acre Pole Creek Mountain roadless area to the south. The area is free of any current or historic roads.

Supplemental Values

Cataract is important for several species of significant conservation concern. It is an area of high use by lynx and provides connections for lynx moving through the heart of the core population of the San Juan Mountains as part of the Silverton-Lake City lynx linkage recognized by the Forest Service. The area contains habitat utilized by the endangered Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly.

Cataract includes a large portion of the Half Peak Potential Conservation Area identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. The best known worldwide occurrence of stonecrop gilia is located in the Half Peak PCA along the southern edge of the proposed wilderness. This PCA is rated by CNHP as possessing B1-Outstanding Biodiversity Significance, its highest rating.

The large roadless complex with Cataract at its center has the highest ecological connectivity value between the Rio Grande and Gunnison watersheds. This comes as little surprise given the undisturbed condition of the landscape and its location between large wilderness areas such as the Weminuche and Uncompahgre.

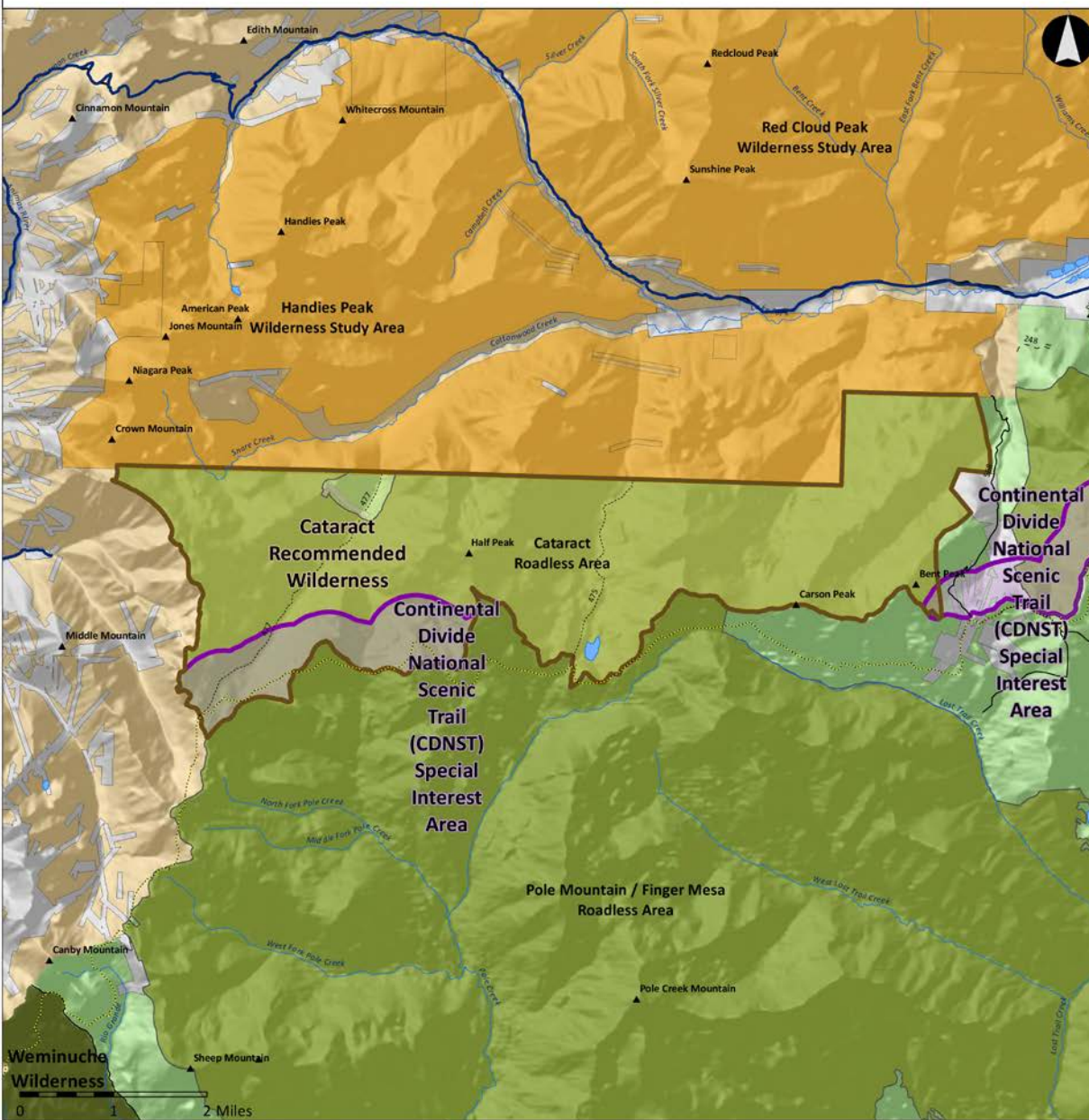
Manageability

Cataract has no conflicting uses that would compromise its manageability as wilderness. The only patented mining claims in the area, in Cuba Gulch, were in process of acquisition by the Forest Service in 2017. There are no unpatented mining claims, and no oil and gas potential. No active grazing occurs in the area. The trails are closed to motorized and mechanized uses. Cataract was recommended for wilderness in the draft 2007 Forest Plan.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Bighorn Sheep Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Half Peak Potential Conservation Area with Outstanding Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Wager Gulch Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Cataract



Map Locator

ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

Legend

- Major Road
- CDNST
- USFS Road
- Closed USFS Road
- Trail (snow)
- Trail (motorized)
- Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

Land Ownership

- USFS
- BLM
- NPS
- State
- Other Public
- Tribe
- Private

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail Special Interest Areas

Proposed Special Management Designation Gunnison National Forest

47,000 acres

The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) is a 3,100-mile continuous path that follows the spine of the Rocky Mountains from Mexico to Canada, traversing some of the most scenic and culturally-rich terrain in the country. The nature and purposes of the trail are to provide for high-quality, scenic and primitive hiking and horseback riding opportunities and to conserve the natural, historic and cultural resources along the CDNST corridor, per the 2009 Continental Divide Trail Comprehensive Plan. The trail is to be managed to provide for its nature and purposes. Activities that would substantially interfere with the purposes for which the trail was designated should be avoided to the extent practicable.

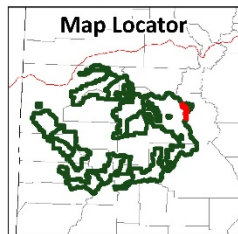
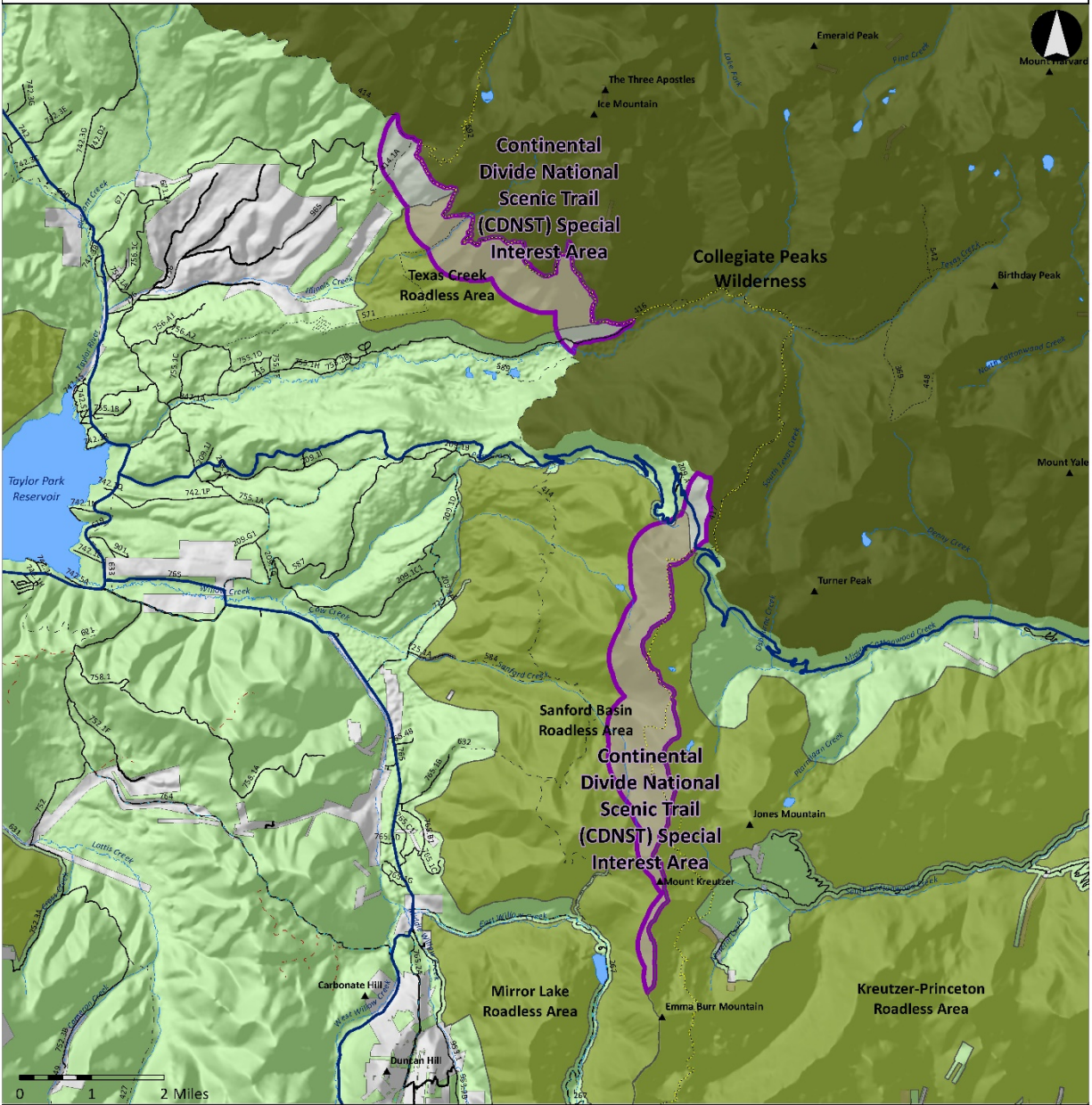
Approximately 130 miles of the CDNST are within lands managed by the GMUG, or within one half mile of the forest boundary, including segments in Gunnison, Saguache and Hinsdale Counties. We recommend that the revised Forest Plan identify and manage a minimum of a half-mile buffer from the trail to comply with recommended CDNST Plan components and statutory obligations. Managing this minimum half-mile buffer of the CDNST as an SIA in the revised forest plan would ensure that the minimum suggested desired conditions, objectives, standards and guidelines identified in the CDNST Recommended Forest Plan Components document from August 30, 2016 are met. We recommend that the GMUG consider additional plan components, and adjust these listed components accordingly, to suit the unique conditions found on segments of the CDNST including some of the most remote, isolated and minimally used sections of this trail in Colorado.

In addition, management in the revised forest plan that achieves those objectives would also contribute to the protection and conservation of the outstanding wildlife and wildlife habitat found on the GMUG within a half-mile of the trail, detailed in the table below.

Supplemental Wildlife Values	Data Source
Bighorn Sheep Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Boreal Toad Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Gunnison Sage-grouse Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Moose Priority Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Middle and South Cottonwood Creeks Potential Conservation Area with Outstanding Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Cottonwood Pass Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Spout Lake Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Whitepine Iron Fen Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Monarch Pass Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Little Cochetopa Creek Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Half Peak Potential Conservation Area with Outstanding Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Little Cochetopa Creek Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Gunnison Basin Potential Conservation Area with Outstanding Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Identified Cottonwood/Tincup, Poncha Pass, North Pass/Cochetopa Hills, Slumgullion/Spring Creek Pass, Lynx Linkage Areas	

CDNST Gunnison County North



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/16/2018 18-024 v12

Legend

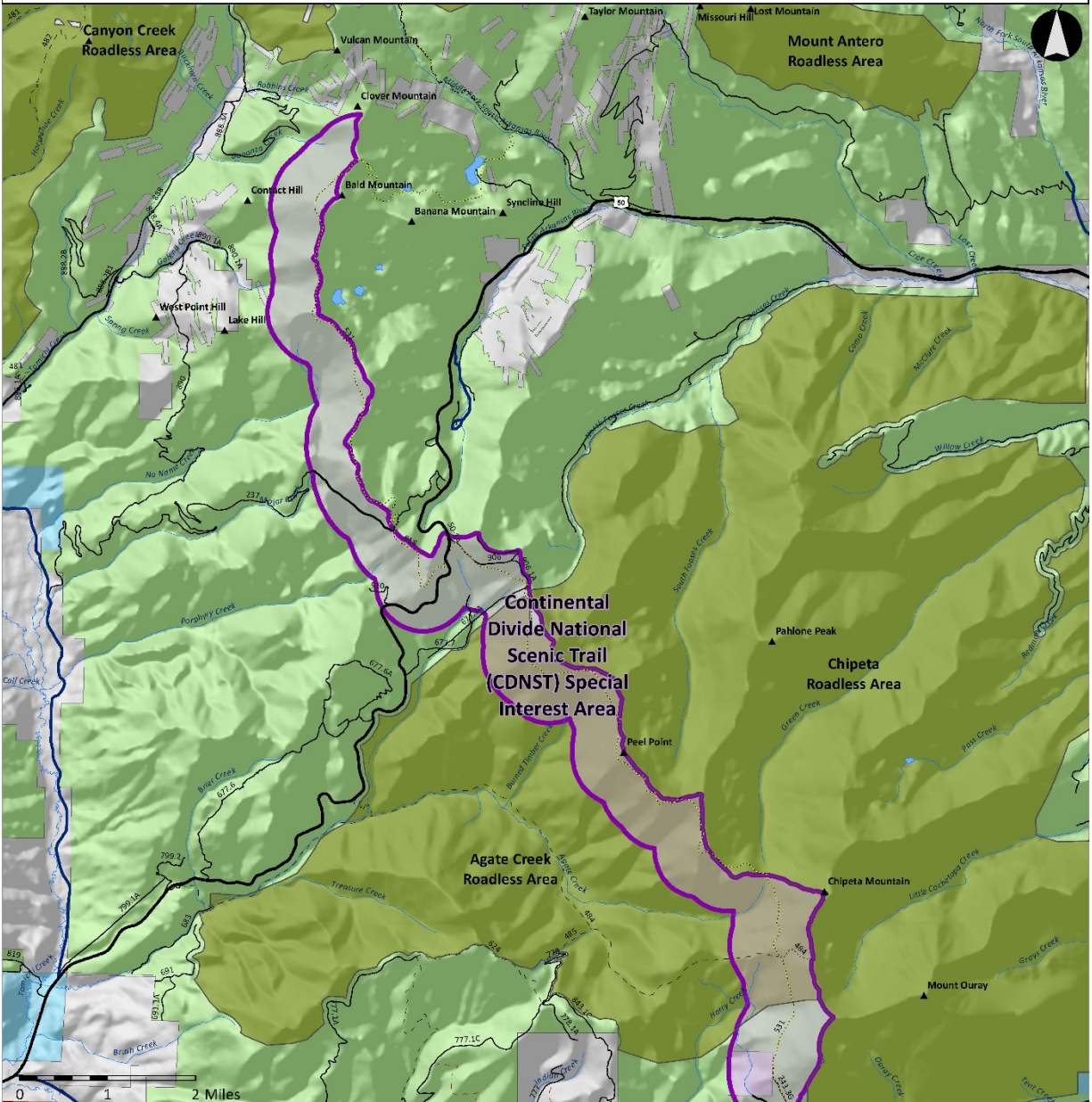
- Major Road
- CDNST
- USFS Road
- Closed USFS Road
- Trail (snow)
- Trail (motorized)
- Trail (non-motorized)


- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness







Land Ownership




- USFS
- BLM
- NPS
- State
- Other Public
- Tribe
- Private








CDNST Gunnison County South



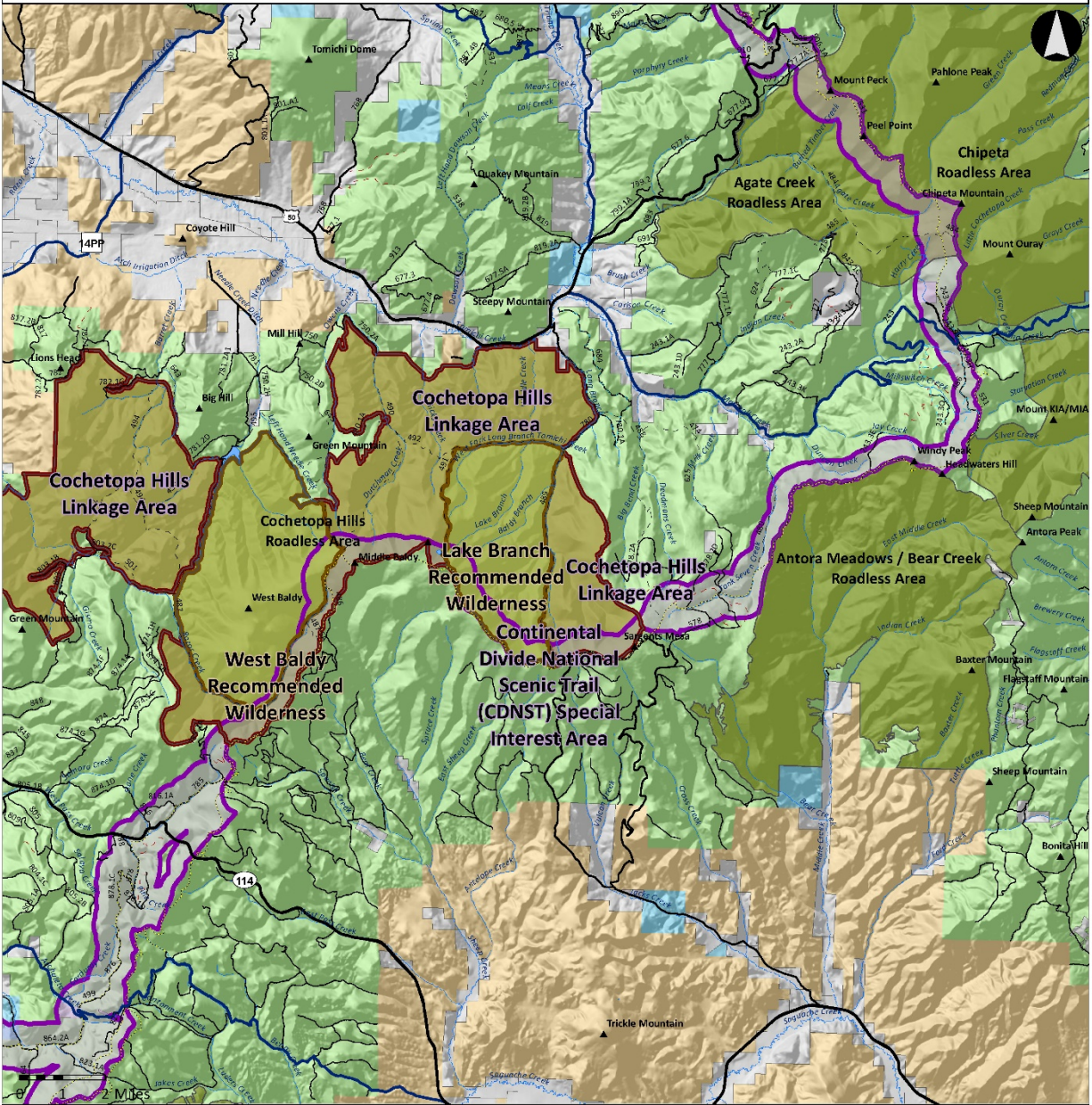

ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/16/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
-  Major Road
 -  CDNST
 -  USFS Road
 -  Closed USFS Road
 -  Trail (snow)
 -  Trail (motorized)
 -  Trail (non-motorized)

-  Recommended Wilderness
-  Linkage Area
-  Special Interest Area/Other
-  Roadless Area (FS)
-  Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
-  Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
-  USFS
 -  BLM
 -  NPS
 -  State
 -  Other Public
 -  Tribe
 -  Private

CDNST Cochetopa (Saguache County North)



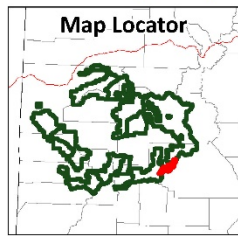
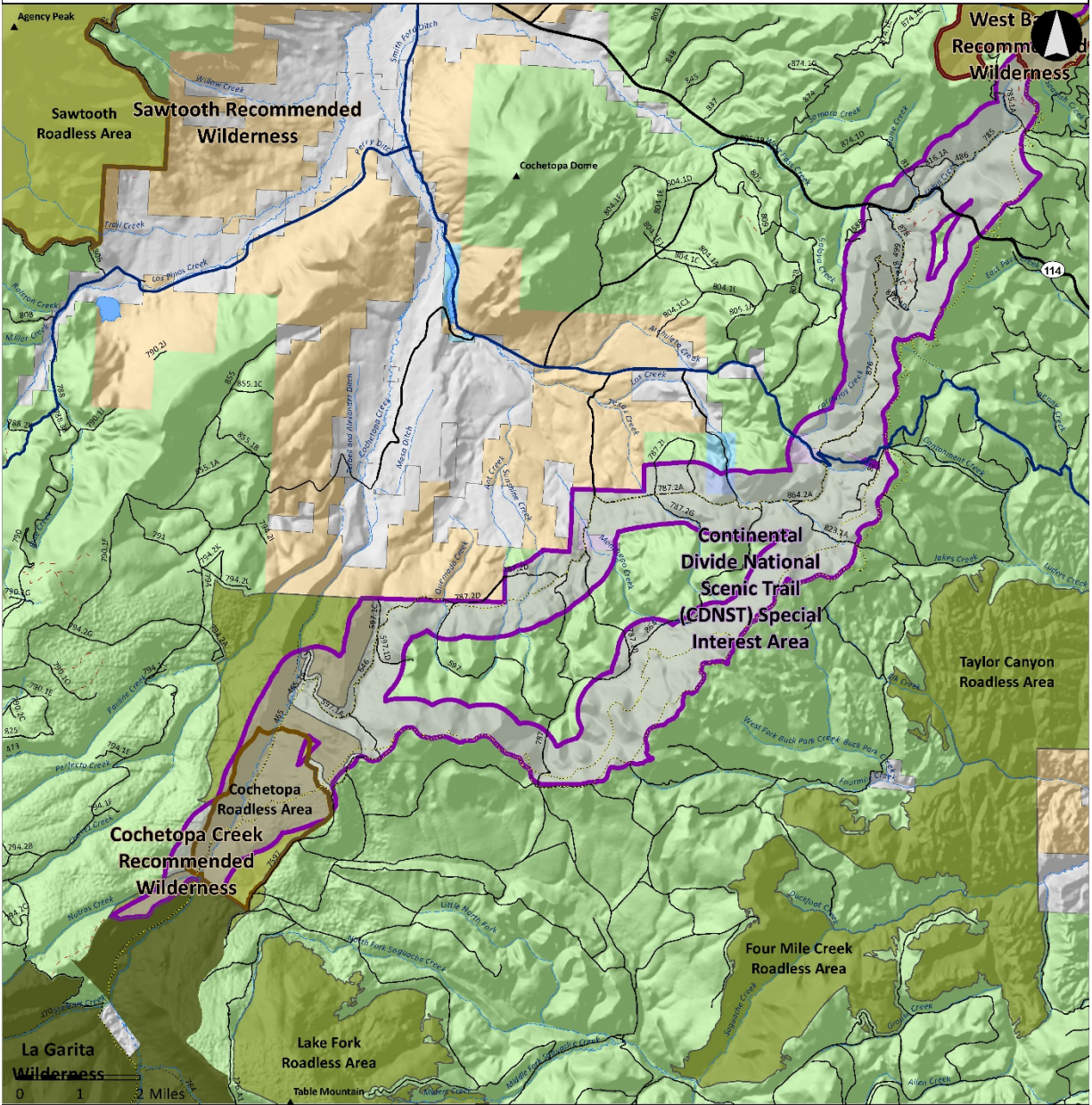
ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
 Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
 Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 5/1/2018 18-049 v13

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

CDNST Cochetopa (Saguache County South)

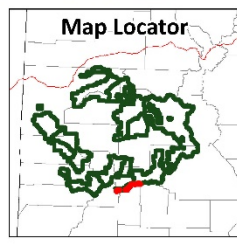


ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/16/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Recommended Wilderness | Land Ownership |
| Linkage Area | USFS |
| Special Interest Area/Other | BLM |
| Roadless Area (FS) | NPS |
| Wilderness Study Area (BLM) | State |
| Wilderness | Other Public |
| | Tribe |
| | Private |

CDNST Hinsdale County



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky

 Rocky Mountain Wild

 4/16/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Cochetopa Hills Linkage Area

**Proposed Special Management Designation
Gunnison National Forest**

32,000 acres



Cochetopa Hills Linkage Area consists of 32,000 acres of lower tier roadless lands surrounding the proposed West Baldy and Lake Branch wilderness areas. Outside of the two proposed wilderness areas, the Cochetopa Hills Linkage Area overlaps with the Cochetopa Hills CRA. This large roadless and wildlands complex represents a tremendous opportunity to enhance wildlife protection on a critical low point along the Continental Divide.

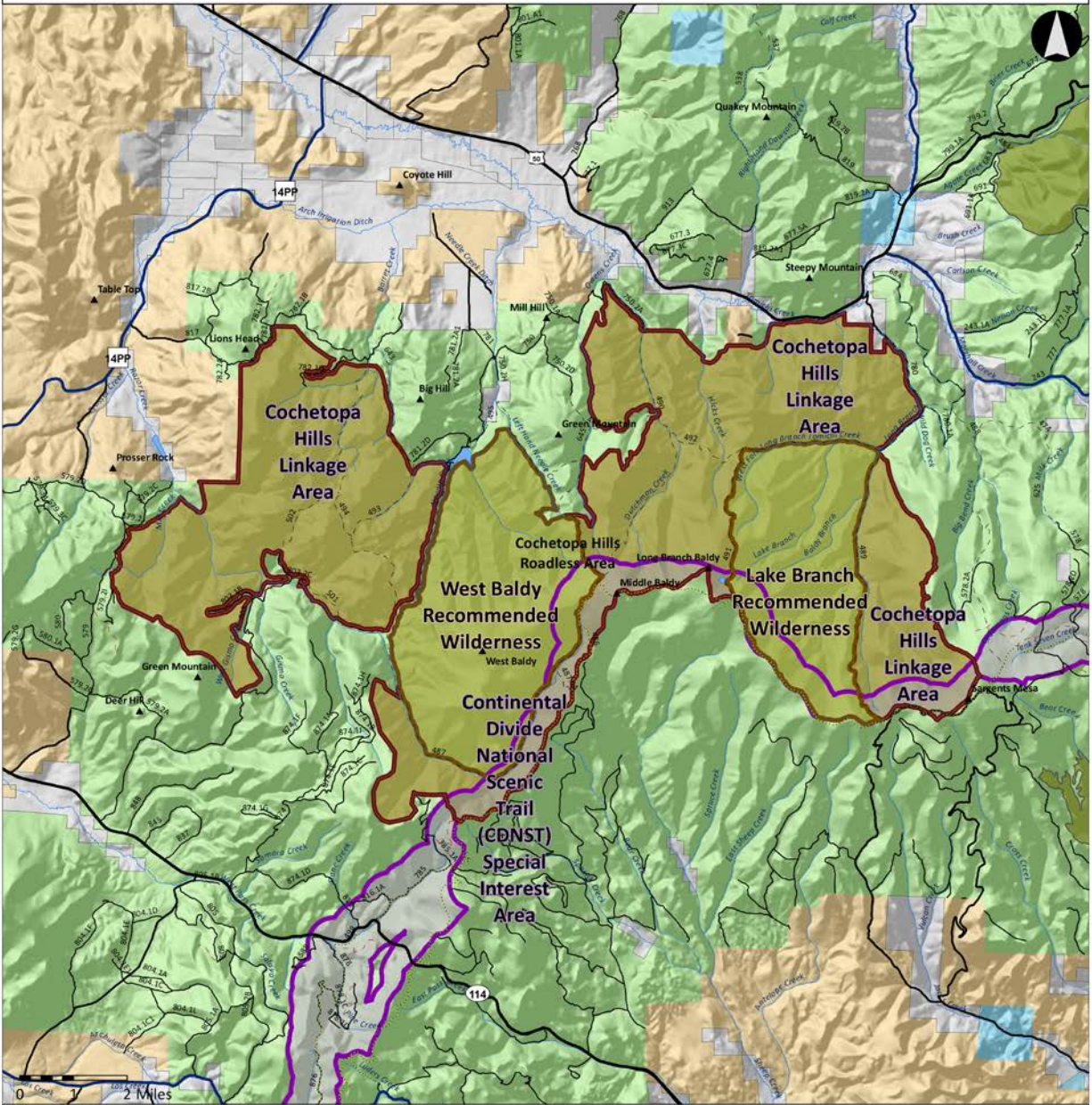
Very little of the Cochetopa Hills is above timberline, despite the dozen miles of the Continental Divide that winds through the area. The lowest slopes consist of rolling grassland. Forests of lodgepole pine and Douglas fir blanket the higher slopes, often interrupted by meadows banded by aspen groves. Near the divide, Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir take hold; alpine tundra makes only the briefest appearance. In high-elevation areas, many isolated and lovely parks welcome hikers. The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail/Colorado Trail segment running through Cochetopa Hills is one of the most lightly visited, hiked mainly by those intending to traverse the entire length of the trail from Denver to Durango.

Cochetopa Hills is an important regional wildlife corridor between the Rio Grande/San Juan Basin to the south, and the Gunnison Basin to the north. One of the lowest points on the Continental Divide in Colorado, Cochetopa Hills is a natural crossing point for many wildlife species in and out of the Gunnison Basin, and forms an important ecological link from the La Garitas to the west, and towards Fossil Ridge to the north. The area has been especially noted as a well-used trans-basin lynx crossing point within the important North Pass/Cochetopa Hills lynx linkage corridor. (USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008). Cochetopa Hills should be managed as a Linkage Area that focuses on wildlife and connectivity, and for sustaining historic grazing operations.



Supplemental Values	Data Source
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historical Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Basin Potential Conservation Area with Outstanding Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Element Occurrences 2017

Cochetopa Hills



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 5/1/2018 18-049 v 13

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Cochetopa Creek Addition to La Garita Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Gunnison National Forest
Gunnison Ranger District

2,500 acres



General Description

The Cochetopa Creek proposed addition to the La Garita Wilderness is located in Saguache County, straddling the north side of the Continental Divide separating the Gunnison and Rio Grande National Forests. This addition would extend the La Garita Wilderness to the north from the juncture of Cochetopa and Nutras Creeks. It follows the Continental Divide to the east. A non-mechanized section of the CDNST runs through the heart of this area. The braiding and meandering Cochetopa Creek runs the length of the area from north to south, emanating from high in the La Garita Mountains.

Naturalness

This area is very natural in appearance, albeit beetle kill has attacked spruce across this part of the forest. The valley floor along the creek is lush with willows and beaver ponds, providing outstanding riparian habitat. Forests are a mix of spruce, aspen and pine, giving way to open meadows along the Continental Divide.



Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

While relatively small in size, Cochetopa Creek offers a diversity of outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. The segment of the creek that runs through this addition offers fine fishing opportunities. Canyon walls radiating from the valley floor are moderately sloped, providing a sense of solitude. The CDNST runs alongside and then crosses the creek on its way to the Eddiesville and Stewart Creek trailheads. Elk are abundant in summer and fall, offering opportunities for backcountry hunters.

Size and Roadlessness

Cochetopa Creek is approximately 2,500 acres, and would be a logical addition to the 130,000-acre La Garita Wilderness. The area overlaps with the Cochetopa CRA and includes upper tier acreage.

Supplemental Values

This addition to the La Garita Wilderness includes a pristine stretch of Cochetopa Creek. The area provides summer habitat for big game species (black bear, mule deer, elk, and moose). The drier forest types in this area are mapped as lynx habitat. The connectivity afforded to wildlife by this area’s location between the peaks of the La Garitas and the lower elevations of Cochetopa Park make it appropriate for wilderness. Vegetative communities unique to the Gunnison area are found here, including bristlecone, limber and lodgepole pine.

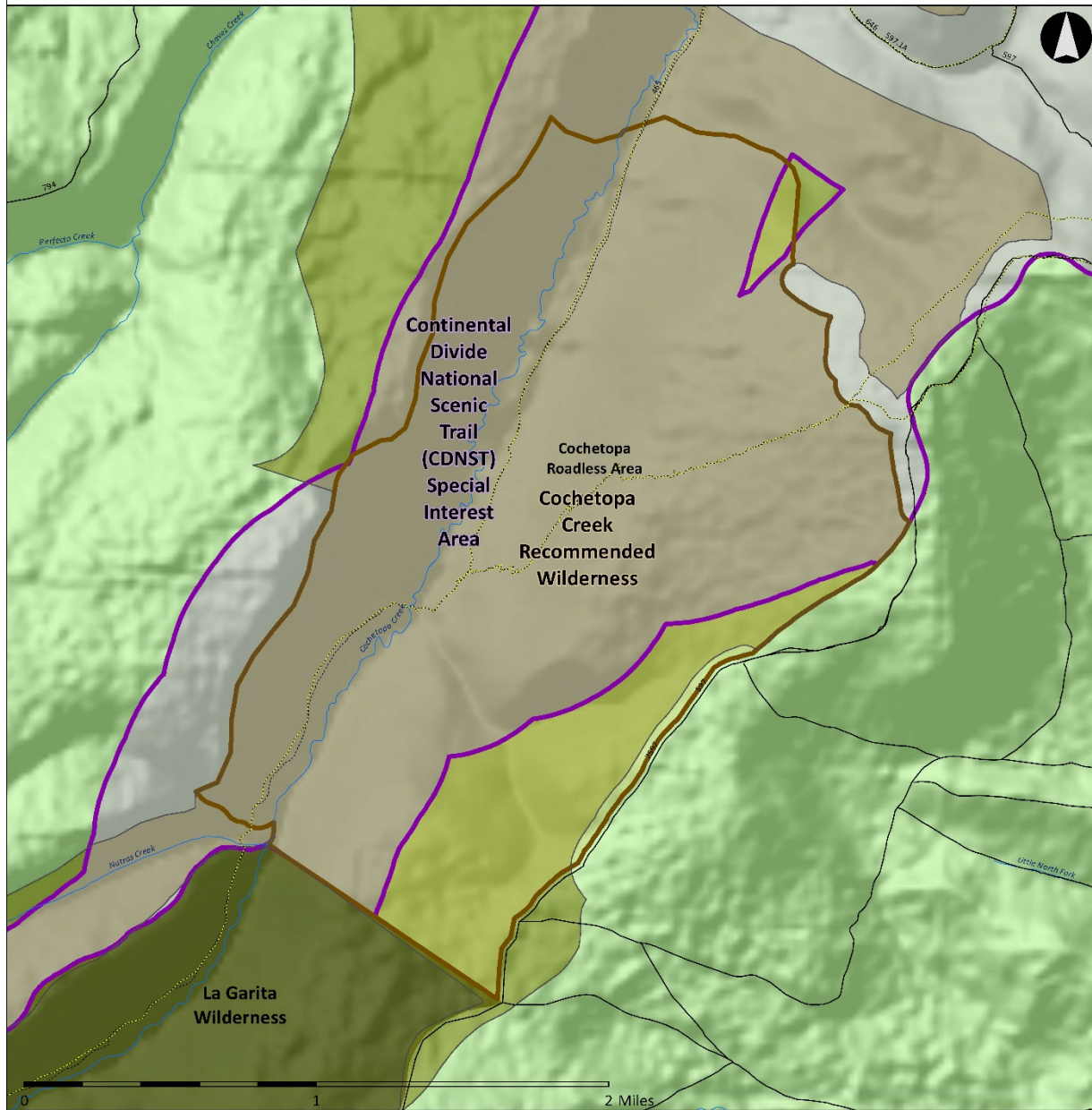
Manageability

This area has no conflicting uses that would compromise its manageability as wilderness. The 2007 draft GMUG Forest Plan recommended 1,600 acres of this area for wilderness. It has no ditches or water developments, and the area has no known potential for oil and gas.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Elk Migration Pattern	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Cochetopa Creek



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky, Rocky Mountain Wild

 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Sawtooth Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Gunnison National Forest
Gunnison Ranger District

23,000 acres



General Description

Sawtooth is a wildlife stronghold on the south side of the Gunnison Basin. Sawtooth Mountain rises out of the sagebrush to soaring slopes covered by aspen, spruce and fir. The area harbors miles of streams crucial to the conservation of native Colorado River cutthroat trout, and offers security for calving elk herds.

Sawtooth provides premier backcountry hunting and angling opportunities for hardy enthusiasts willing to explore its trail-less environs. The mountain and its roadless surroundings anchors prospective landscape linkages from one side to the other of the Gunnison Basin and makes the area an important cross-basin connector.

Naturalness

Sawtooth's boundary is denoted by forest roads, past timber management areas, and the national forest boundary. Several management roads that penetrated the area have been decommissioned and rehabilitated. The area therefore appears natural with no substantially noticeable developments.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Steep and rugged slopes combined with dense coniferous forests, along with its location in a quiet corner of the Gunnison Basin, provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. There are no trails within the area, which enhances the primary recreational pursuits of backcountry hunting and angling. The lack of trails places a premium on self-reliance and increases visitors' sense of adventure to create outstanding opportunities for unconfined primitive recreation.

Size and Roadlessness

The roadless area encompassing Sawtooth Mountain is 23,000 acres and overlaps the Sawtooth CRA, the vast majority of which is upper tier acreage. Several motorized routes previously used



for management activities have been decommissioned and are returning to a natural condition, thus no roads presently exist within the area.

Supplemental Values

Sawtooth is a primary stronghold for Colorado River cutthroat trout in the southern Gunnison Basin. A dozen miles of two streams identified as priority conservation populations, Deer Beaver Creek and East Fork of South Beaver Creek, are located largely within the Sawtooth proposed wilderness. Both streams are within watersheds with the highest watershed integrity class – i.e., the most pristine and least impacted by human activities.

Sawtooth incorporates several ecosystem types that are underrepresented within the existing wilderness preservation system. About one-half of the roadless area consists of ecosystem types with less than 20 percent representation in existing wilderness at the forest and federal level. These underrepresented ecosystem types include Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, Rocky Mountain Lodgepole Pine Forest and Southern Rocky Mountain Montane-Subalpine Grassland.

Sawtooth also possesses outstanding archaeological and cultural resources.

Manageability

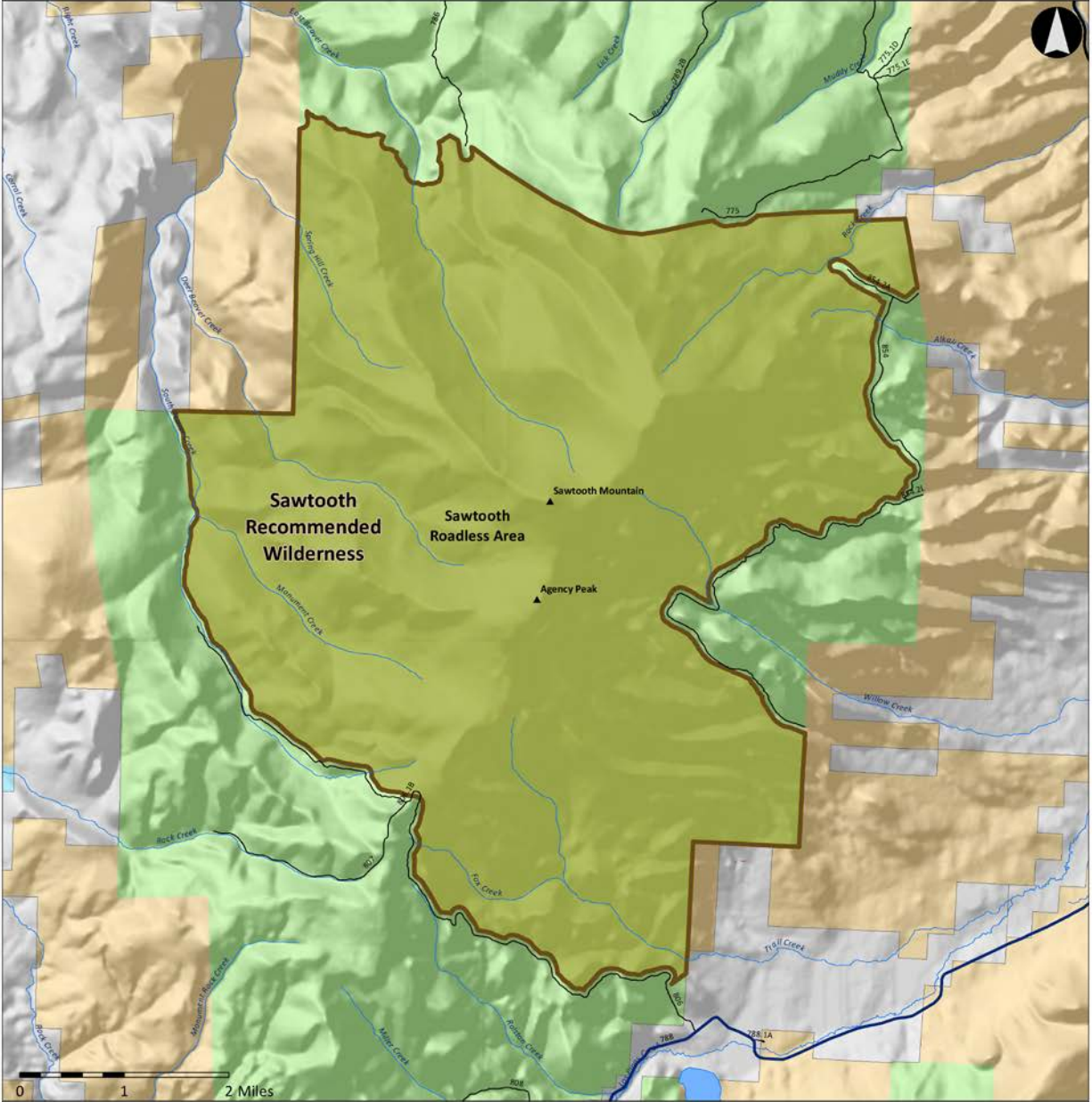
Sawtooth has no conflicting uses that would compromise its manageability as wilderness. There are no trails to support recreational activities that might compete with wilderness designation. The area has no potential for oil and gas or other mineral resources. The area’s compact shape and well-delineated boundaries enhances its manageability. Sawtooth was recommended by the Forest Service for wilderness in the 2007 draft GMUG Forest Plan.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008

	Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Gunnison Basin Potential Conservation Area with Outstanding Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Cutthroat Trout	GMUG NF Cutthroat Trout species and conservation assessment, 2011
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Sawtooth



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
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 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
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 - Trail (non-motorized)

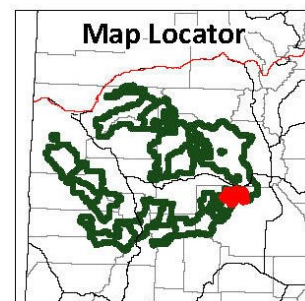
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

West Baldy and Lake Branch Recommended Wilderness Areas

Proposed Wilderness Designations
Gunnison National Forest
Gunnison Ranger District

*West Baldy –
9,600 acres; Lake
Branch – 6,700 acres*



General Description

Two areas in the Cochetopa Hills Roadless Area are viable and preeminently suitable for stand-alone wilderness designations: West Baldy and Lake Branch. Connecting the San Juan and Sawatch ranges, the Cochetopa Hills encompasses one of Colorado's least-known segments of the Continental Divide along the southeastern rim of the Gunnison Basin. Cochetopa Hills is the second largest roadless area on the GMUG National Forest, and fills a crucial role as the ecological connection between the large protected wilderness areas of the San Juans to the south, the equally important preserves of the Elk and Sawatch ranges to the north, and the Sangre de Cristo Range to the east. West Baldy and Lake Branch encompass the heart of this landscape.

West Baldy is the area spreading out north, south, east and west from 11,449-foot West Baldy Mountain. This forested landscape cascades gently down to Upper Razor Creek and Needle Creek, encompassing views of distant mountains ranges in all directions. The arresting Razor and Upper Razor Parks, with their meandering trout streams and willow thickets, are below. West Baldy consists of robust conifer forests blanketing a gradual incline, interrupted by meadows banded by aspen groves. Near the summit, Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir take hold.

Lake Branch, approximately 2.5 miles to the east of West Baldy, is another wild but moderately-sloped area descending in elevation from the north side of the Continental Divide. It is bounded by cherished but lightly-used trails on each side: Baldy Lake #491, Long Branch #489, and the CDNST/Colorado Trail. Its rolling, forested hills descend to Long Branch Creek.



Naturalness

Even though they encompass parts of the Gunnison National Forest that are relatively low in elevation, West Baldy and Lake Branch are exceedingly natural and unspoiled. Far from population centers, they do not attract the crowds of recreationists that other parts of the Gunnison Basin do. A wild segment of the CDNST/Colorado Trail defines the southern edge of

Lake Branch, but there are no system trails or roads within them. There is no evidence of past timber harvests. Lightly used motorized trails abut boundaries of both areas.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Visitors can readily find seclusion and outstanding opportunities for solitude throughout these areas and throughout the larger Cochetopa Hills Roadless Area that surrounds them. There are dense forests and isolated drainages, but there are also open and lovely parks welcoming hikers. The CDNST/Colorado Trail segment running along the southern edge is one of the most lightly visited segments, hiked mainly by those intending to traverse the entire length of the trail from Denver to Durango.

The CDNST/Colorado Trail provides an outstanding primitive recreation opportunity that attracts hikers and backpackers. From that trail, and from the other lightly-used trails that form the boundaries of these two areas, one can readily adventure into the forests and hills of West Baldy and Lake Branch. The security provided by the dense timber creates prime conditions for successful elk calving, and much of the landscape is an important elk production area, which translates to outstanding opportunities for backcountry hunting. In an age of increasing recreation pressure in the Gunnison Basin, West Baldy and Long Branch sustain outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation.

Size and Roadlessness

West Baldy is 9,600 acres and Lake Branch is 6,700 acres. Neither area contains any system roads. They anchor the roadless landscape of the lower tier Cochetopa Hills CRA.

Supplemental Values

West Baldy and Lake Branch are part of an important regional wildlife corridor between the Rio Grande-San Juan Basin to the south and the Gunnison Basin to the north. One of the lowest points on the Continental Divide in Colorado, these parts of the Cochetopa Hills are a natural crossing point of many wildlife species in and out of the Gunnison Basin, and form an important ecological link from the La Garitas to the west, and towards Fossil Ridge to the north. The landscape has been especially noted as a well-used trans-basin lynx crossing point within the important North Pass-Cochetopa Hills lynx linkage corridor. In addition, the areas sustain historic grazing operations that are an important part of the landscape.

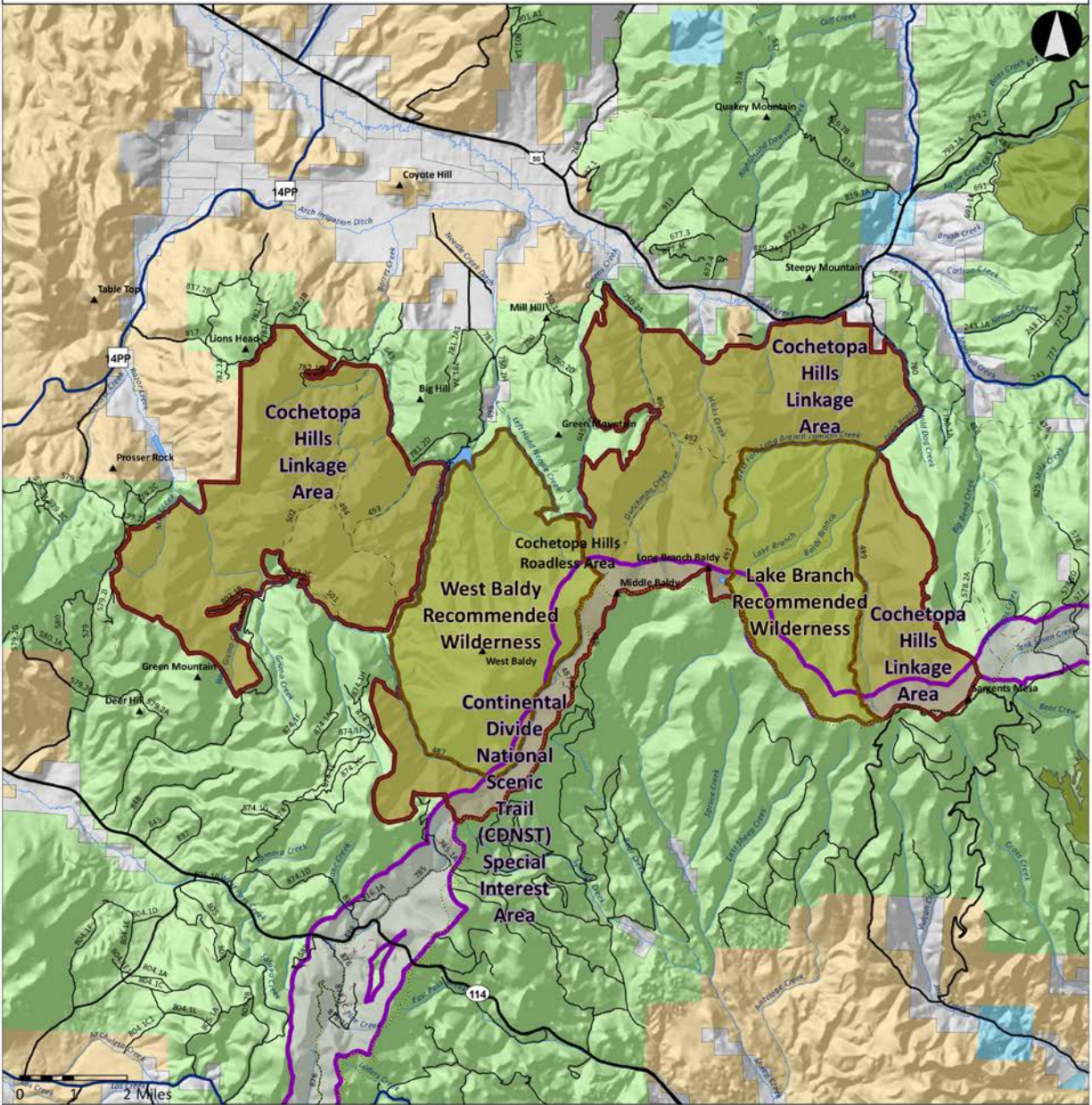
Manageability

Neither West Baldy nor Long Branch contain motorized or mechanized trails. Neither area is particularly popular with snowmobilers given their largely forested makeup. The areas have no potential for oil and gas or other mineral resources. While the forests are capable of timber production, the Colorado roadless rule precludes commercial timber management within these areas.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Overall Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Basin Potential Conservation Area with Outstanding Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Cochetopa Hills



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 5/1/2018 18-049 v 13

- Legend**
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- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
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- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Business Support Statements

Comment Number: 1

Name: Alex Ewert

Business Name: Ewert Appraisal Services

Email:

Address: PO Box 124 Crested Butte, CO 81224

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 2

Name: Alison Gannett Jason Trimm

Business Name: Holy Terror Farm

Email: alisongannett@mac.com

Address: 42485 Highway 133 Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website: <http://AlisonGannett.com>

Comment: As a business owner, public lands make or break our businesses. Firstly, our farm's water comes from public lands - without water we can't eat or sell our meats/veggies/fruits. Secondly, as founder of RippinChix.com - I teach women how to bike and ski on public lands. They don't want to see gas wells. Thirdly, as hunters, we depend on deer and elk to survive and for work. Lastly, we run events here at the farm and are surrounded by public lands. People come here to for the natural beauty, wildlife, fishing, hiking, biking, hunting, etc. - they don't want to see new roads and oil and gas wells. Our entire family depends on public lands so we can eat, recreate, and have our businesses thrive - directly and indirectly by having pristine protected public lands. THANKS!

Comment Number: 3

Name: Amy Deluck

Business Name: Cirque Cyclery & Remedy Café

Email: cirquecyclery@gmail.com

Address: 232 Grand Ave. Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 4

Name: Arvin Ramgoolam

Business Name: Townie Books

Email: rumorscoffeeandteahouse@gmail.com

Address: 414 Elk Ave POB 311 Crested Butte, CO 81224

Phone:

Website: <https://www.towniebookscb.com>

Comment: We support the current iteration of the Forest Plan. Thank you for all the hard work in vetting this process. Our economy and health of the environment depends on it.

Comment Number: 5

Name: Audrey Cravotta

Business Name: Mountain Dog Adventures

Email:

Address: 751 CR 14A, Ouray, CO 81432

Phone: 512-669-2916

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 6

Name: Becca Tudor

Business Name: Telluride Fuel

Email: becca@telluridefuel.com

Address: 205 E. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-708-1590

Website: <https://www.fueltelluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 7

Name: Bekah Kolbe

Business Name: Slate Gray Gallery

Email: bekah@slategraygallery.com

Address: 209 E Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 8

Name: Bobbi LynnSmith

Business Name: Between the Covers

Email: bobbi.lynnsmith@gmail.com

Address: 224 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-4504

Website: <https://www.between-the-covers.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 9

Name: Brad McMillon

Business Name: McMillon Engineering

Email:

Address: 195 S. Lena. Ridgway, CO

Phone: 970-626-5113

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 10

Name: Brad Wallis

Business Name: BTB Construction & Consulting, LLC

Email:

Address: 169 Ridgway Hill Rd. Ridgway, CO

Phone: 970-318-0790

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 11

Name: Brandy Logan

Business Name: Colorado Crystal Curio

Email: brandydlogan@gmail.com

Address: 228 Highway 133 Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 12

Name: Brett Henderson

Business Name: Double Top LLC

Email: brett@doubletopcb.com

Address: PO Box 1366 Crested Butte, CO 81224

Phone: 970.349.0214

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 13

Name: Brian J Wegner

Business Name: Endless Endeavor Winery and Farm LLC

Email: wegs1975@aol.com

Address: 15540 Fire Mountain Rd Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 14

Name: Chelsea Bookout

Business Name: Remedy Juice Bar Cafe

Email: chelseabookout@gmail.com

Address: 232 Grand Ave. Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 15

Name: Chris Jaeger

Business Name: Azadi Fine Rugs

Email: chris@azadifinerugs.com

Address: 217 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-4620

Website: <http://azadifinerugs.com/locations/telluride/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 16

Name: Chris McNatt

Business Name: Cam Electric

Email:

Address: 22536 S Hwy 550 Montrose, CO 81403

Phone: (970)249-6617

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 17

Name: Christopher Caskey

Business Name: Delta Brick & Climate Company

Email: chrismcaskey@gmail.com

Address: 1732 Wazee St Ste 206 Denver, CO 80202

Phone:

Website:

Comment: We are a new company with headquarters in Denver and planned operations outside of Somerset. A healthy forest in which to recreate will be critical attracting talent and is one reason why I am citing my business there.

Comment Number: 18

Name: Chuck Glass

Business Name: Hellbent Leather & Silver

Email: scofflaw@gmail.com

Address: 215 E. Colorado Ave Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-6246

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 19

Name: Clay Wadman

Business Name: Diamond Productions, Inc.

Email: clay.wadman@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 895 Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website: <http://www.diamondproductionstudios.com>

Comment:

Comment Number: 20

Name: Dan Kiger

Business Name: Colorado Yurt Company

Email:

Address: 28 W. South 4th St. Montrose, CO 81403

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 21

Name: Daniel Roman

Business Name: Western Slope SUP

Email: daniel@westernslopesup.com

Address: 328 West Bridge Street Unit B Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Phone:

Website: <http://www.westernslopesup.com>

Comment: As an outdoor recreation outfitter, the success of my business depends on the health and natural beauty of our local public lands. My rafting and paddle board tours are conducted on streams that would be adversely affected by oil and gas drilling in the area. The decline in water quality and viewscape would make these areas unappealing to tourists and devalue my products. To stay in business, I rely on GMUG staying in its natural, wild state.

Comment Number: 22

Name: Daniel Vazquez

Business Name: Steamies Burger Bar

Email: stanyapg@aol.com

Address: 300 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-519-1708

Website: <http://www.steamiesburgers.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 23

Name: Dj petz

Business Name: Happy Buddha management

Email: buddha@happybuddhahemp.com

Address: 32349 hwy 92 Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Phone:

Website: <http://www.happybuddhahemp.com>

Comment:

Comment Number: 24

Name: Elena Levin

Business Name: Ghost Town

Email: ghosttowntelluride@gmail.com

Address: 210 Colorado Ave, Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website: <https://www.ghosttowntelluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 25

Name: Emily Hartnett, Board President

Business Name: Valley Organic Growers Association

Email: mail@VOGACO.org

Address: PO Box 614 Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Phone:

Website: <http://vogaco.org/>

Comment: The farmer members of the Valley Organic Growers Association depend on healthy lands upstream from them for clean and dependable irrigation and drinking water, and to maintain their reputation for healthy, clean food. We support establishing designated conservation areas in the revised Forest Plan to help us preserve our livelihoods.

Comment Number: 26

Name: Erich Niermann

Business Name: Ventura design/build, LLC

Email: erichniermann@gmail.com

Address: 36639 M50 Rd Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 27

Name: Erik Dalton

Business Name: Jagged Edge

Email: erik@jagged-edge-telluride.com

Address: 223 E Colorado Ave, Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website: <https://jagged-edge-telluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 28

Name: Erika Vohman

Business Name: Maya Super Foods

Email: hello@mayasuperfoods.com

Address: 329 Belleview Ave. Crested Butte, CO 81224

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 29

Name: Eugenie M McGuire

Business Name: Desert Weyr, LLC

Email: oogiem@desertweyr.com

Address: 16870 Garvin Mesa Road Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website: <http://www.desertweyr.com>

Comment: Our entire business depends on clean air and water from the watershed on Forest Service land. The primary focus must be on preserving and enhancing clean air and water and preventing the extraction industries from posing risks to our livelihood.

Comment Number: 30

Name: Frank L. Loomis

Business Name: Frank's Log Furniture

Email: loomisf@gmail.com

Address: 3698 6000 Rd. Olathe, CO 81425

Phone: 970-531-1906

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 31

Name: Hal Brill

Business Name: High Wire Hops

Email: halbrill@gmail.com

Address: PO box 747 Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment: Our business friends on clean water and air, as well as the reputation the North Fork bakery has for sustainable agriculture. Please protect our watershed from the high risks that oil and gas feeling pose to our economy.

Comment Number: 32

Name: Hannah Knudsen

Business Name: Mixx Projects and Atelier

Email: hannah@mixxprojects.com

Address: 307 E. Colorado Ave, Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-797-4040

Website: <https://mixxprojects.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 33

Name: Heather and Tim Patterson

Business Name: Rigs Adventure Co

Email: info@fishrigs.com

Address: 565 Sherman St #2 Ridgway, CO 81432

Phone: (970) 626-4460

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 34

Name: Heidi Reese

Business Name: Breezy Trees Homestead

Email: breezytreeshomestead@gmail.com

Address: 39650 Hadley St Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website: <http://breezytreeshomestead.com>

Comment: My business relies on clean irrigation water that originates in the Gunnison National Forest. It also relies on the pristine wilderness that attracts tourists to the North Fork Valley. Please adopt the special management proposal that directly impacts the success of my business.

Comment Number: 35

Name: Ivy Walker

Business Name: Ivy Walker Studio

Email: ivy@ivywalker.com

Address: 20 Alpine Ct. Crested Butte, CO 81224

Phone:

Website: <http://www.ivywalker.com>

Comment:

Comment Number: 36

Name: Jack Brauer

Business Name: Wide Range Photo, LLC

Email:

Address: 247 Marie St. Ridgway, CO 81432

Phone: 970-626-5220

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 37

Name: JAKE SAKSON

Business Name: Elk Mountain Farmacy

Email: mastajake@gmail.com

Address: PO BOX 242 PAONIA, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment: My business relies on the natural world remaining healthy. Oil and gas endanger this.

Comment Number: 38

Name: Jenny Long

Business Name: Bottleworks

Email: bottleworks@telluridecolorado.net

Address: 129 W. San Juan Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 39

Name: Jenny Russell

Business Name: Olioveto, LLC

Email: jrussellpc@mac.com

Address: PO Box 895 Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment: We were very involved in the community process regarding the revised Forest Plan, and we are regular users of non-motorized recreation on the forest. Please adopt the wilderness and special management recommendations in the revised plan.

Comment Number: 40

Name: Jessica Newens

Business Name: Ah Haa School for the Arts

Email: jess@ahhaa.org

Address: 300 S. Townsend Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 41

Name: Jim Brett

Business Name: Slow Food Western Slope

Email: slowfoodwesternslope@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 312 Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Phone:

Website: <http://slowfoodwesternslope.org/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 42

Name: Jim Stephenson

Business Name: Jim Stephenson Photography

Email: jimstephensonphoto@icloud.com

Address: PO Box 272 Ridgeway, CO 81432

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 43

Name: Joe D'Alessandro

Business Name: Telluride Green Room

Email: telluridejoe@gmail.com

Address: 250 S. Fir Street Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-519-1358

Website: <http://telluridegreenroom.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 44

Name: Joe Tarr

Business Name: Buckhorn Gardens

Email:

Address: 71446 Buckhorn Rd, Montrose, CO 81403

Phone: 970-240-8715

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 45

Name: John & Mary Lou Gregory

Business Name: Terra Vista Ltd.

Email: jsjgregory@msn.com

Address: P.O. Box 81 Crawford, CO 81415

Phone:

Website:

Comment: This type of protection of what should be the Colorado brand, is the most important action GMUG can provide.

Comment Number: 46

Name: John Metcalf

Business Name: Burro Café

Email:

Address: 555 Clinton St. Ridgway, CO 81432

Phone: 970-626-4400

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 47

Name: John Sullivan

Business Name: Wine Mine

Email: jsullivan@wine.mine.com

Address: 220 S. Davis St Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 48

Name: John Walsh

Business Name: Cimarron Guitars

Email:

Address: 153 S Elizabeth St. Ridgway, CO 81432

Phone: (970) 626-4464

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 49

Name: John Weihe

Business Name: Mouse's Chocolates and Coffee

Email:

Address: 644 Main St., Ouray, CO

Phone: 970-325-4408

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 50

Name: Josh Johnson

Business Name: Coffee Cowboy

Email: jfjatnz@hotmail.com

Address: 1009 E. Colorado Ave, Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website: <http://www.thecoffeecowboy.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 51

Name: Julia Seglund

Business Name: Phelps Real Estate Group LLC

Email: juliaseglund@gmail.com

Address: 501 S. Townsend Ave Montrose, CO 81401

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 52

Name: Kara Berg

Business Name: Pat's Screen Printing Studio

Email: pats242@gmail.com

Address: 242 N. Main St. Gunnison, CO 81230

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 53

Name: Kate Kissingford

Business Name: Healing Hearts, Opening Minds

Email: contact@katekissingford.com

Address: PO Box 1285 Ouray, CO 81427

Phone: 720-722-3849

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 54

Name: Kate Povondra

Business Name: Tiny Craft Builders

Email: tiny@tinycraftbuilders.com

Address: PO Box 1853 Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website: <http://www.tinycraftbuilders.com>

Comment:

Comment Number: 55

Name: Ken & Carol Lipton

Business Name: Cimarron Ridge Ranch

Email:

Address: 53 CR 12A Ridgway, CO 81432

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 56

Name: Kenyon Fields

Business Name: Mountain Island Ranch

Email: kenyon.mir@gmail.com

Address: 5350 Little Dolores Rd Glade Park, CO 81523

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 57

Name: Kevin Kuns

Business Name: Pro Management & Associates

Email: kevinkuns@gmail.com

Address: XXXX Montrose, CO 81401

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 58

Name: Kristin Holbrook

Business Name: Two Skirts

Email: telluride@twoskirts.com

Address: 127 W. Colorado Ave Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-6828

Website: <http://www.twoskirts.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 59

Name: Kyong Merriman

Business Name: Artistry Salon

Email: colorado9774@gmail.com

Address: 201 1/2 W Colorado Ave Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-9774

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 60

Name: Lara Knorr

Business Name: Overland

Email: lara@overland.com

Address: 100 W Colorado Ave Suite A, Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-9700

Website: <https://www.overland.com/stores/Tellurideco.aspx>

Comment:

Comment Number: 61

Name: Leif Juell/Jill Markay

Business Name: Alternative Power Enterprises

Email: info@alternative-power.com

Address: 609 Clinton St. Ridgway, CO 81432

Phone: (970) 626-9842

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 62

Name: Lesandre Barley

Business Name: Rub 'n Restore, Inc.

Email: info@rubnrestore.com

Address: 42812 Hidden Mesa Lane PO Box 1149 Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website: <https://www.rubnrestore.com/>

Comment: We brought our thriving internet business to the North Fork Valley so we could enjoy quality of life, and to contribute to the amazing community and preserve the landscape and values of clean, air, soil, and water. The GMUG Forest Plan would do well to prioritize wilderness and ecology over industry.

Comment Number: 63

Name: Lisa Horlick

Business Name: Picaya

Email: lisa@picaya.com

Address: 101 W. Colorado Ave Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-0954

Website: www.picaya.com

Comment:

Comment Number: 64

Name: Lisa Niermann

Business Name: Sage Valley Farm, LLC

Email: lmniermann67@gmail.com

Address: 36639 M50 RD HOTCHKISS, CO 81419

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 65

Name: Lisa Niermann

Business Name: North Fork Valley Community Rights Advocates

Email: info@nfvkra.org

Address: PO Box 1201 Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website: <https://nfvkra.org>

Comment: Anyone in Delta County will tell you they cherish their rural quality of life and heritage of amazing scenery, agriculture, and clean air, water, and soil. The GMUG Forest Plan has the ability to preserve this by favoring these inalienable rights of communities over industry interests.

Comment Number: 66

Name: Liza Clarke

Business Name: Ferguson Family Ranches LLC

Email:

Address: 8 Lynx Rd. Ridgway, CO 81432

Phone: 970-318-6744

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 67

Name: Lucas Price

Business Name: La Cocina de Luz

Email: lucas@lacocinatelluride.com

Address: 123 E. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-708-2468

Website: www.lacocinatelluride.com

Comment:

Comment Number: 68

Name: Lynn Moore

Business Name: Hook Telluride

Email: hello@hooktelluride.com

Address: 226 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-1087

Website: <https://hooktelluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 69

Name: Macy Pryor

Business Name: Crossbow Leather

Email: crossbowleather@gmail.com

Address: 124 E Colorado Ave Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 781-708-1755

Website: <https://www.crossbowleather.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 70

Name: Malarie Clark

Business Name: Telluride Gallery of Fine Art

Email: info@telluridegallery.com

Address: 130 E. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 71

Name: Malarie Reising Clark

Business Name: Telluride Gallery of Fine Art

Email: info@telluridegallery.com

Address: 130 E. Colorado Ave, Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-3300

Website: <https://www.telluridegallery.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 72

Name: Mark and ChantaWood

Business Name: Wintermoon Sled Dog Adventures

Email: wintermoondogs@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 503 Placerville, CO 81430

Phone: (970)417-4340

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 73

Name: Mark Waltermire

Business Name: Thistle Whistle Farm

Email: thistlewhistlefarm@gmail.com

Address: 10872 3500 Rd Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Phone:

Website:

Comment: We support the preservation of wild areas to protect our water and air, and to give us the opportunities for experiencing wilderness. We rely on runoff from GMUG lands for our irrigation and drinking water, and want it protected. We hike, camp and find places for solitude and reflection in the GMUG backcountry, and support keeping it undeveloped.

Comment Number: 74

Name: Marney Prince

Business Name: Side by Side

Email: marney@sidebysidepet.com

Address: 100 W Colorado Ave Unit E, Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-708-3927

Website: <https://sidebysidepet.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 75

Name: Marua Coulter

Business Name: Over the Moon Fine Foods

Email: overthemoonfinefoods@gmail.com

Address: 200 W Colorado Ave Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-2079

Website: <https://www.overthemoontelluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 76

Name: Mary George

Business Name: Edesia Community Kitchen

Email: maryelizabethgeorge@hotmail.com

Address: 40820 O Rd Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment: Our business depends on high quality water especially to farmers who supply our produce in the North Fork Valley. This critical resource must be protected.

Comment Number: 77

Name: Maura Coulter

Business Name: Over the Moon Fine Foods

Email: overthemoonfinefoods@gmail.com

Address: 200 W Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 78

Name: Meagan Ketterlin

Business Name: Apotheca

Email: apothecatelluride@gmail.com

Address: 129 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-318-0704

Website: <https://www.apothecatelluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 79

Name: Michael A Johnson

Business Name: North Fork Estimating LLC

Email: mickjohnson1212@gmail.com

Address: 1010 3rd Street Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment: I'm asking you to support the proposed GMUG wilderness and management area plan as a business owner who moved to this area to establish my business, and contribute to our new community.

Comment Number: 80

Name: Michael Straub

Business Name: Straub Mechanical Services

Email: mainsheetmike@yahoo.com

Address: 37441 Backriver Rd. Paonia , CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 81

Name: Michelle Davis

Business Name: Aroma Spa

Email: relax@myaromaspa.com

Address: 307 E. Colorado Ave, Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-708-2123

Website: <http://www.myaromaspa.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 82

Name: Mick Hill

Business Name: Telluride Coffee Roasters/Steaming Bean

Email: telluridecoffee@gmail.com

Address: 164C Society Dr. Telluride, CO

Phone: 970-369-0060

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 83

Name: Monica Wiitanen

Business Name: Small Potatoes Farm

Email: monzita@paonia.com

Address: 40575 O Road Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 84

Name: Randy Gregory

Business Name: Re-Max Cimarron Realty

Email:

Address: 112 Village Square West, Ridgway, CO

Phone: 970-626-5400

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 85

Name: Ray Farnsworth

Business Name: New Sheridan/Phoenix Bean

Email: info@newsheridan.com

Address: 231/221 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-4351

Website: <http://www.newsheridan.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 86

Name: Ribert justman

Business Name: High Country Fruit

Email: justman@tds.net

Address: 14659 peony lane paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 87

Name: Robin Nicholoff, Gretchen Nicholoff

Business Name: Nicholoff Summit Construction LLC

Email: robgret@tds.net

Address: 36295 Sunshine Mesa Rd. Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Phone:

Website:

Comment: We are owners and operators of a construction company specializing in energy efficient custom homes. The majority of our clients move to the North Fork area specifically because of the relatively unspoiled surrounding public lands. These lands have historically offered outstanding recreational opportunities, relative solitude, abundant wildlife, and a host of other ecosystem services such as clean air and water that are unavailable most places at any price. Most of our clients are politically and economically aware individuals who can afford to live nearly anywhere they choose but have rejected the crowded and heavily developed areas. To a person, they reject the needless impacts to our public lands of mineral and fossil-fuel-based energy development. The GMUG Forest Plan Revision must recognize and analyze the potential impacts of oil and gas development and other

extractive industrial activity, e.g. a molybdenum mine, to the growing economic sector of the western slope represented by our construction clients, and to the damage it can do to businesses such as ours.

Comment Number: 88

Name: Robyn Shaw

Business Name: Tweed

Email: robyn@tweedinteriors.com

Address: 151 Pine St Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 89

Name: Roger Baril

Business Name: Integrative Therapies

Email: somaticsmove@yahoo.com

Address: 330 Delta Ave Paonia , CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment: The headwaters of the Northfork of the Gunnison river upstream of Paonia is far to pristine and wild to sacrifice to oil and gas development. It is the gateway to military million dollar organic agriculture economy and agro tourism. And eco tourism. It would be a tradgity and destructive to clean air and water to mine up there. It would diminish the value of my properties in the Northfork Valley as well Ban oil and gas development in the Northfork Valley of Delta county!!

Comment Number: 90

Name: Ryan B Lehman

Business Name: Lehman Images Ltd.

Email: ben@lehmanimages.com

Address: PO Box 772 Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website: <http://www.lehmanimages.com>

Comment: History will show that the ONLY SANE CHOICE is to conserve and regenerate the natural resources of this planet. I urge you on every single level to stop ANY irresponsible fossil fuel development. To allow these activities upstream from an irreplaceable organic farming valley is fucking insane. And irresponsible. Do the right thing. Your progeny will at least know you did a little tiny something to delay the destruction of the planet. By the way, I vote.

Comment Number: 91

Name: Samuel Wasserman

Business Name: The Drop Board Shop

Email: craig@thedropboardshop.com

Address: 123 S. Oak St Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 92

Name: Scott Mueller

Business Name: Delilah LLC

Email: delilahtelluride@yahoo.com

Address: 115 W Colorado Ave Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-5880

Website: <https://www.cannabistelluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 93

Name: Scott Shishim

Business Name: SK Bikes

Email: shishkabikes@gmail.com

Address: 110 3rd St Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website: <http://shishkabikes.com>

Comment: My business depends on keeping our area healthy for recreational use. Wilderness areas and sustainable management are paramount to keeping our economy thriving.

Comment Number: 94

Name: Shaylynn Serleth

Business Name: Mangala Yoga

Email: frontdesk@mangalayogatelluride.com

Address: 333 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-239-6169

Website: <http://www.mangalayogatelluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 95

Name: Steve Laub

Business Name: Digitiqe, LLC

Email: steve@digitiqe.com

Address: 220 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-239-4142

Website: <https://www.digitiqe.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 96

Name: Stu Krebs

Business Name: C&M Company, Inc.

Email:

Address: 12 South Cascade Ave. Montrose, CO 81403

Phone: 970-249-3989

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 97

Name: Sue Husch

Business Name: QBS Event Management

Email:

Address: PO Box 722 Ridgway, CO

Phone: 970-729-0782

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 98

Name: Susan Baker

Business Name: Lupitas Bizarre Bazaar

Email: lupitas@centurylink.net

Address: PO Box 348 Ridgway, CO 81432

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 99

Name: Tammie Slack

Business Name: Gravity Spa and Colorado Forest Therapy

Email: gravityspacb@gmail.com

Address: 306 Belleview Ave. Crested Butte, CO 81224

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 100

Name: Tara Miller

Business Name: Tara Miller Claywork

Email: paoniapottery@gmail.com

Address: 41342 O Road Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 101

Name: Teresa Shishim

Business Name: Yoka Design

Email: teresa@yokadesign.com

Address: PO Box 856 Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website: <http://yokadesign.com>

Comment: I live and work in the North Fork of the Gunnison River Valley, and our economy depends on sustainable, wild areas in western Colorado!

Comment Number: 102

Name: Terryl Dahl

Business Name: Sublime

Email: shop@sublimetelluride.com

Address: 126 W. Colorado Ave Telluride CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-7974

Website: <https://www.sublimetelluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 103

Name: Tesha Karn

Business Name: T. Karn Imports

Email: tkarn.llc@gmail.com

Address: 394 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-708-4350

Website: <https://t-karn-imports.myshopify.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 104

Name: Tim Lafferty

Business Name: Small Batch Salves

Email: tim@traumabalm.com

Address: 295 Mahoney Dr. PO Box 3164, Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website: <https://www.traumabalm.com/store/traumabalm>

Comment:

Comment Number: 105

Name: Timothy Patterson

Business Name: RIGS Fly Shop & Guide Service LLC

Email: info@fishrigs.com

Address: 1075 Sherman St #101 Ridgway, CO 81432

Phone:

Website: <http://www.fishrigs.com>

Comment: Please consider improved protection for wild fisheries, improved designations (catch & release), expanding public access (trusts/land grants) and in stream flows as key factors in long term of our wild lands. Agencies must be empowered to encourage and support the betterment of these wild places and support long term preservation methods (above) that will enhance the resources, as population and visitation growth continue to put pressure on resources already strained by wildfires, dramatic climate and environmental change.

Comment Number: 106

Name: Tom Connor

Business Name: Dakota Home Store

Email: tom@dakotatelluride.com

Address: 220 E Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-4204

Website: <http://www.dakotatelluride.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 107

Name: Tom Nading

Business Name: Telluride Music Co

Email: sales@telluridemusic.com

Address: 333 W. Colorado Ave Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 108

Name: Tor Anderson

Business Name: True North Designworks

Email: tordesigns@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 2128 Telluride, CO 81435

Phone:

Website: <http://www.truenorthdesignworks.com/>

Comment:

Comment Number: 109

Name: Ty Gillespie

Business Name: Azura Cellars

Email: azurapaonia@aol.com

Address: 16764 Farmers Mine Road Paonia, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 110

Name: William (Bill) Leo Jr.

Business Name: Ouray Mountain Sports

Email:

Address: 732 Main St Ouray, CO 81427

Phone: (970) 325-4284

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 111

Name: Wink Davis

Business Name: Mesa Winds Farm & Winery

Email: wink@mesawindsfarm.com

Address: 31262 L Road Hotchkiss, CO 81428

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Comment Number: 112

Name:

Business Name: knucklehead

Email: info@knuckleheadthreads.com

Address: 311 5th St., #1 Crested Butte, CO 81224

Phone:

Website:

Comment:

Public Support Statements

Comment Number: 1

Name: Abigail Link

Email:

Address: 425 8th Ave., Ouray, CO 81427

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 2

Name: Al Lowande

Email: evanslowande@gmail.com

Address: 1523 Juniper Rd. N, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-4194

Comment:

Comment Number: 3

Name: Alannah Wister

Email: alannahw@ouray.k12.co.us

Address: 452 Oak Rd., Ouray, CO 81427

Website/Phone: 518-837-7242

Comment:

Comment Number: 4

Name: albert phillips

Email: bertendo@gmail.com

Address: 613 nicholson lake rd., crested butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 5

Name: Alec Jacobson

Email: aajacobson12@gmail.com

Address: 320 W. Colorado, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 6

Name: Alison Gannett

Email: alisongannett@mac.com

Address: 42485 Highway 133, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: Please save our public lands for future generations. I hunt, fish, hike, bike, moto, ski, etc on our lands. I want to share this with my kids. I'm very nervous seeing all the development on our public lands. Just one road and the elk run away. We can't go backwards, we must be proactive. THANKS!

Comment Number: 7

Name: Alissa Crandall

Email: alissacrandall@yahoo.com

Address: 180 Alpenview Meadows Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 8

Name: Alli Melton

Email: alli.melton@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 3024, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 9

Name: Allison Elliot

Email: brilliot@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 332, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: This is one of the largest areas in the country and the state of high quality wild lands. It is hard to believe that we must be concerned about protecting every last scrap of wild land, but it really has come to that. I am here to speak for the creatures who cannot speak for themselves. If I were to go hiking or camping and not see or hear or see signs of the animals whose home I am moving through, then it would be my loss as a human. Because I can speak up for my fellow earthlings, then I must. I ask that as much land area as possible be given greater protection.

Comment Number: 10

Name: Amber Kleinman

Email: alchemyamber@gmail.com

Address: 47 Pan American Ave., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 11

Name: Andy Hamilton

Email: hamtron5000@gmail.com

Address: 1535 Poplar Dr Apt. 3, Grand Junction, CO 81505

Website/Phone:

Comment: As mentioned in the letter, wilderness designations provide vital protections to land that connect us with our places. We need them to thrive and grow and learn; all values we hope to share with generations to come.

Comment Number: 12

Name: Angela Mallard

Email: angelabyrdmallard@yahoo.com

Address: P.O. Box 2772, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 13

Name: ANN C STINSON

Email: stinsonsfive@yahoo.com

Address: 1461 E 5TH ST Universal Love, DELTA, CO 81416

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 14

Name: Anna Mae Flynn

Email: flynn_annamae@yahoo.com

Address: 1625 Marble Village Drive, Marble, CO 81623

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support the GMUG Forst Plan Revision, and I hope to witness plan implementation that emphasizes public lands conservation and thoughtful human-powered recreation, along with sustainable, forward-thinking development.

Comment Number: 15

Name: Anne Hockenberry

Email: hockenberry2005@yahoo.com

Address: 1655 Rhine Ct., Montrose, CO 81401

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 16

Name: Anne Wilcox

Email: annew@frii.com

Address: PO BOX 1059, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: I strongly support this plan. It will ensure preservation and responsible use of wilderness and the back country to maintain its contribution to the health of our air, water and living systems for present and future generations.

Comment Number: 17

Name: Ann-Marie Fleming

Email: fleming.annmarie9@gmail.com

Address: 740 S Second St., Montrose, CO 81401

Website/Phone:

Comment: Much time and effort has been put into this report by people who have not been paid to do the work. These are people who care deeply about keeping our Western lands healthy and protected. I support their work, their mission, and this proposal.

Comment Number: 18

Name: Art Goodtimes

Email:

Address: PO Box 59, Norwood, CO 81423

Website/Phone: 970-729-0220

Comment:

Comment Number: 19

Name: Audrey Cravotta

Email: acravotta@gmail.com

Address: CR 14A, Ouray, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 512-699-2916

Comment:

Comment Number: 20

Name: Austin Ray

Email: austin@cougarcreek.org

Address: 100 Willow Ln., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-708-8551

Comment:

Comment Number: 21

Name: Barb Parish and Gary Roberts

Email: Elkknoll@msn.com

Address: 2314 County Rd. 23, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 22

Name: Barbara Bernhardt

Email: solituderd@sanjuanlink.net

Address: 20409 Solitude Rd., Montrose, CO 81403

Website/Phone: 970-209-8817

Comment:

Comment Number: 23

Name: Barbara Krebs

Email: stukrebs@hotmail.com

Address: 19023 Happy Canyon Rd., Montrose, CO 81403

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 24

Name: Barbara VanHanken

Email: sophiabkv@aol.com

Address: 2212 E 38th St., Tulsa, OK 8415_

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 25

Name: Barry Doyle

Email: barrybdoyle@me.com

Address: 1565 Canyon Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 26

Name: barry pennell

Email: bpennell2013@gmail.com

Address: Po Box 1674, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 27

Name: Baxter Waltermire

Email: baxter.waltermire@crms.org

Address: 10872 3500 Rd., Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 28

Name: Bernadette Stetch

Email: bernadette@paoniarealty.com

Address: 39675 Panorama Rd., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 29

Name: Betsy Carr Johnson

Email: willow1154@hotmail.com

Address: 1010 3rd Street, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: I moved to the North Fork Valley one year ago today as a new retiree. These past twelve months have confirmed the pure luck of my privilege to be here in the GMUG National Forest area. My husband and I have hiked and camped and biked more this year than we did over our 38 year marriage. We are healthier and happier than ever before, because of the beauty we have found in the wilderness and managed areas of the Forest Services. Please please please support the proposed GMUG wilderness and special management plan for all our sake. You will be doing the one and only right thing for us and many generations to come!

Comment Number: 30

Name: Beverly Duzenack

Email: duzenack@acsol.net

Address: PO Box 298, 11505 51.1 Rd., Mesa, CO 81643

Website/Phone:

Comment: As a board member of the Grand Mesa Scenic Byway in Mesa County, I support this.

Comment Number: 31

Name: Bill Ellzey

Email:

Address: PO Box 362, Crestone, CO 81131

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 32

Name: Bob and Donna Green

Email: greendb12@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 2040, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-5245

Comment:

Comment Number: 33

Name: Bob and Karen Risch

Email: rischbk@gmail.com

Address: 212 9th Avenue, Ouray, CO 81427

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 34

Name: Bob Goettge

Email: robert_goettge@yahoo.com

Address: 277 Blackstock, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 35

Name: Brad Wallis

Email:

Address: 169 Ridgway Hills Rd., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 36

Name: Brandie Barry

Email: brandiecrystal84@yahoo.com

Address: Delta, CO

Website/Phone: 720-628-7923

Comment:

Comment Number: 37

Name: Brenda Ratcliff

Email: ratcliff62@gmail.com

Address: 855 Meadows Circle, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment: Preserve our open spaces, resources and rural lifestyle.

Comment Number: 38

Name: Brent Englund

Email: bte303@gmail.com

Address: 236 N. Fir, PO Box 1282, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 39

Name: Brett Henderson

Email: brett@bretthenderson.com

Address: PO Box 1366, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone: <http://www.bretthenderson.com>

Comment: I am all for this plan, the more wilderness the better!

Comment Number: 40

Name: Brett Wyker

Email: brett.wyker@gmail.com

Address: 321 Judson St., Longmont, CO 80501

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 41

Name: Bruce Ackerman, President, Black Canyon Audubon Society

Email: bruceackermanaud@aol.com

Address: P.O. Box 387, Delta, CO 81416

Website/Phone:

Comment: We are writing to express Black Canyon Audubon's (BCAS) support for the inclusion of the Mule Park Important Bird Area into the citizens' proposal as a Special Interest Area, in the GMUG Forest Plan Revision.

BCAS represents approximately 393 members in seven western slope counties that include most of the GMUG area.

We have been interested in this area, and especially in the Western Purple Martins that live there, since about 2001-2002 when the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory began monitoring the Purple Martins there. We have had several field trips to the area, and we consider it to be one of the most important and irreplaceable places in the GMUG.

In 2015 we worked with Audubon Rockies to have the area officially designated an Important Bird Area. While there are 56 IBAs in Colorado, only Mule Park and Rocky Mountain National Park include large areas of aspen habitat. And only Mule Park IBA has the genetically distinct Western Purple Martins. It is also important to numerous other wildlife species, including many other cavity nesting birds.

We support the Mule Park IBA's designation as a Special Interest Area with management that protects the aspens and adjoining open parkland from commercial logging, additional motorized routes, and energy development.

Comment Number: 42

Name: Bruce Woodside

Email: warnwood@mac.com

Address: 13229 Skyhill Road, P.O. Box 1415 Paonia, CO 91607

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 43

Name: Carol Cantrell

Email: ccantrell@pobox.com

Address: 1148 LaPorte Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 44

Name: Carol Keeney

Email: carolkeeney8@gmail.com

Address: 1200 Hemlock Way, Montrose, CO 81403

Website/Phone: 831-535-2596

Comment:

Comment Number: 45

Name: Carolyn Calfee

Email: carolyn.calfee@gmail.com

Address: POB 951, Silverthorne, CO 80498

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 46

Name: Caryolyn Ray

Email: carolyn@cougarcreek.org

Address: 100 Willow Ln., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 47

Name: Catherine Carson

Email: cathcarson@gmail.com

Address: 307B Locust Court, POB 774841, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 48

Name: Charles and Linda Huston

Email: cnhlah@gmail.com

Address: 1600 Treehaven Ct., Grand Junction, CO 81506

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support the proposal for the recommendations.

Comment Number: 49

Name: Cheryl Simon

Email:

Address: 99 Pennington Pl., Mountain Village, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 50

Name: Chris Myers

Email: chris@enlightencolorado.com

Address: 1532 W. Colorado, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 51

Name: Chris Pike

Email: cupike@gmail.com

Address: 13361 CR 1, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-5248

Comment:

Comment Number: 52

Name: Chris Zieve

Email: zieve1@mindspring.com

Address: PO Box 4032, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 53

Name: Christopher Pike

Email: cupike@gmail.com

Address: 13361 CR 1, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-5248

Comment:

Comment Number: 54

Name: Claudia Brauer

Email: claudiabrauer@gmail.com

Address: Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-518-6495

Comment:

Comment Number: 55

Name: Clay Wadman

Email: clay.wadman@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 895, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 56

Name: Cody Perry

Email: cody.perry@gmail.com

Address: 257 Spruce St., Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 57

Name: Connie Colter

Email: cwcolter@gmail.com

Address: Telluride, CO

Website/Phone: 970-728-4678

Comment:

Comment Number: 58

Name: Courtney Alvarez

Email: courtneya@ouray.k12.co.us

Address: 33 Rose Ct., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-596-7262

Comment:

Comment Number: 59

Name: Curtis Martin

Email: martin22kos@yahoo.com

Address: P.O. Box JJ, Palisade, CO 81526

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 60

Name: Dave Jones

Email: davidlanierjones@gmail.com

Address: 700 Sabeta Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 61

Name: David Cantrell

Email: cantrell@frii.com

Address: 1148 Laporte Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 62

Name: David L. Jones

Email: davidlanierjones@gmail.com

Address: 700 Sabeta Drive, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 63

Name: David Mosier

Email: mosierd@hotmail.com

Address: Fruita, CO 81521

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support the proposal, and I urge the GMUG to adopt and incorporate the proposal's area recommendations in the revised GMUG Forest Plan. Thank you for your consideration.

Comment Number: 64

Name: Dean Rolley

Email: deanrolley@yahoo.com

Address: PO Box 2214, Telluride, CO

Website/Phone: 970-708-3838

Comment:

Comment Number: 65

Name: Deidre Witherell

Email: dtboliver@q.com

Address: 354 Cisneros Lane, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 66

Name: DeLane Bredvik

Email: dbredvik@aol.com

Address: 8810 chipita park rd., Cascade, CO 80809

Website/Phone:

Comment: Protect the wilderness that makes Colorado wonderful.

Comment Number: 67

Name: Denise Vollmar

Email: x-fund@bresnan.net

Address:

Website/Phone:

Comment: More restriction on ATV's are necessary. It is impossible to hear owls calling in the evening (after 10pm) with people having ATV races up and down the Divide Road on the Uncompahgre.

Comment Number: 68

Name: Derek Nunner

Email: derek_nunner@yahoo.com

Address: 860 E Pandora Ave., Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 69

Name: Diane Thompson

Email:

Address: 179 Forest Hill Rd., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-901-2845

Comment:

Comment Number: 70

Name: Don deVries

Email: dondev@juno.com

Address: 1591 Bull Mountain Road Somerset, CO 81434

Website/Phone:

Comment: The Upper North Fork and Bull Mountain area is full of wildlife. It is Summer and Wintering grounds for many species. It is too close to verified calf and fawning grounds. It is one of the most beautiful areas of Colorado and the world. The gas and oil companies will ruin it for us and our future generations. Please stop the drilling and the building of new roads.

Comment Number: 71

Name: Don Swartz

Email: donswartz1935@gmail.com

Address: 2083 Juniper Rd N, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-316-1970

Comment:

Comment Number: 72

Name: Doug Dunkle

Email: coachdugger@gmail.com

Address: 184 Glen Mawr Dr., Black Hawk, CO 80422

Website/Phone:

Comment: I fully support this plan.

Comment Number: 73

Name: Dudley Case

Email: md_case@mac.com

Address: 545 Ridge Rd., Montrose, CO 81403

Website/Phone: 970-626-5273

Comment:

Comment Number: 74

Name: Dylan Fixmer

Email: dylan.fixmer@colorado.edu

Address: PO Box 1624, 327 North Fork Ave. PAONIA, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: As a former resident of Rifle, CO I have seen what the hydraulic fracturing enterprise looks like, and I cannot stress enough how detrimental leasing publicly owned land to companies using it for hydraulic fracturing can be. Fracking destroys critical habitat for animals living in the area. Fracking inevitably pollutes watersheds when spills happen. Fracking pollutes the air with dangerous chemicals when produced water is left to evaporate. Fracking leaves scars on the land, and when companies go bankrupt they can leave the open well to be dealt with by someone else or no one at all making it a hazard if the casing were to fail or the well to simply become old and in disrepair. Our North Fork Valley is a gem for organic agriculture and agro-tourism which thrives on the fact that we do not have a compromised watershed. Please do not let it be destroyed by a boom and bust industry like gas extraction.

Comment Number: 75

Name: Elizabeth Bailis

Email:

Address: PO Box 3855, Telluride, CO

Website/Phone: 970-728-1356

Comment:

Comment Number: 76

Name: Elizabeth Dickerson

Email:

Address: 671 Golden Eagle Trail, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-729-1552

Comment:

Comment Number: 77

Name: Elizabeth Williams

Email:

Address: 164 Crestwood Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-318-0336

Comment:

Comment Number: 78

Name: Ella Colpitts

Email: ella@ouray.k12.co.us

Address: 241 Whitehouse Vista Ln., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-318-0821

Comment:

Comment Number: 79

Name: Ella Hassan

Email: ellabella615@yahoo.com

Address: 619 W. Columbia Ave, Telluride CO, 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 80

Name: Eln Urell

Email: ellen@mailellen.com

Address: 502 S. Sherman St., Denver, CO 80209

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 81

Name: ellza coyle

Email: ellzacoyle@hotmail.com

Address: p.o. box 173, 230 Oak ave., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: a beautiful hike on memorial day caught me observing large blooms of Lupine, tracks of bear, elk, cat in an area out of Erickson's Springs that passes in between two wilderness areas & is being considered..... yes, please add this Ruby/Munsey stock trail to the Wilderness boundaries, filling in the gap.....which is a specific example of the GMUG Forest Plan Revision that I am in favor of & would be a great addition to this area of wilderness already...

thank you

Comment Number: 82

Name: Erika Vohman

Email: vohman@yahoo.com

Address: 185 Slate River Dr., Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 83

Name: Erin Ries

Email: erin@telluridefirefestival.org

Address: PO Box 2525, Telluride, CO

Website/Phone: 970-708-1059

Comment:

Comment Number: 84

Name: Fred Albert Malo Jr.

Email: fredmalo3@gmail.com

Address: 410B Garfield Ave., Carbondale, CO 81623

Website/Phone:

Comment: The wilderness is there for us to treasure, not for industry to exploit.

Comment Number: 85

Name: Garry W Evenson

Email: gwevens@q.com

Address: 122 Mineral Springs Circle, Parachute, CO 81635

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 86

Name: Gene R. Ulrich

Email:

Address: PO Box 791, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-5865

Comment:

Comment Number: 87

Name: George Greenbank

Email:

Address: 223 E. Columbia Ave., Telluride, CO

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 88

Name: Gina Hardin

Email: ginahardin@msn.com

Address: 3330 W 31st Ave., Denver, CO 80211

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 89

Name: Gini Barker

Email: barkervirginia@gmail.com

Address: 691 Sabeta Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 440-821-0899

Comment:

Comment Number: 90

Name: Hailey Taylor

Email:

Address: 1812 Ouray Rd., Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

Website/Phone: 970-309-3714

Comment:

Comment Number: 91

Name: halle fowler

Email: happyfowler5@gmail.com

Address: 613 nicholson lake rd., crested butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 92

Name: Heather Toth

Email:

Address: 601 Chipeta Dr., Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-765-4627

Comment:

Comment Number: 93

Name: Heidi Nadiak

Email: hnadiak@gmail.com

Address: 730 Chipeta Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 94

Name: Heidi Reese

Email: hnreese@mac.com

Address: 39650 Hadley St., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: Please support this proposal since it is the wish of the local community and preserves our forests for the future.

Comment Number: 95

Name: Heidi Stinson

Email: hestinson24@yahoo.com

Address: 1461 East 5th St., Delta, CO 81416

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 96

Name: Holly Bidle

Email: nutsbolts@hotmail.com

Address: 13675 Ragged Mtn Dr., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 97

Name: Holly Williamson

Email: williamsonhollymarie@gmail.com

Address: 1122 3rd Street, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 98

Name: J. Charlene Lee, President, Western Purple Martin Foundation

Email: wpmf@georgiabasin.ca

Address: 5331 Hammond Bay Rd., Nanaimo, British Columbia V9T 5M9, AL 00000

Website/Phone:

Comment: Please find attached a letter of support for Bill Day's request for the Mule Park Important Bird Area (IBA) to be included in the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest plan revision as a Special Interest Area. At the request of several of our members, we are pleased to support such an initiative.

Comment Number: 99

Name: J.G. McPhee

Email: jgmcphoe8750@yahoo.com

Address: PO Box1861 200 So. Willow St. #10, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 100

Name: Jack

Email: jackferrell@gmail.com

Address: 39007 Pitkin Rd., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: No oil or gas development, no oil and gas harm, in the North Fork Valley and the greater Gunnison River watershed

Comment Number: 101

Name: Jack Brauer

Email: jack@widerange.org

Address: Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-5220

Comment:

Comment Number: 102

Name: Jaime Roth

Email: jaime@rothlegalsolutions.com

Address: 321 Judson St., LONGMONT, CO 80501

Website/Phone: <http://www.rothlegalsolutions.com/>

Comment: Thank you for considering my comments in support of the Citizens' Wilderness Proposal and the GMUG forest plan revision. As a frequent visitor for hiking and snowshoeing in and around Crested Butte and Gunnison, I support this important moment to prioritize conservation. Protecting these wildlife habitats for future generations will also work to stem the changing climate. The forest itself is an important carbon sink, and climate change impacts and benefits of the forest should be in the plan. Opportunities for recreation would be expanded by larger boundaries, and the snowfall that keeps Colorado a destination for winter sports depends on reducing human-caused impacts on climate. A spectrum of sustainable recreational opportunity should be considered, with priority given to human-powered recreational forms, with impacts of recreation on wildlife taken into account.

Many communities, as well as the great Gunnison and Colorado River systems have their headwaters in the GMUG. Please take care in the plan to safeguard municipal watershed areas, like Kannah Creek on

Grand Mesa. In general, please take heightened care of headwaters areas of the forest. Finally, the forest service should elevate deserving wild lands to Recommended Wilderness status. The public values conservation of wilderness lands, and the GMUG possesses some exemplary ones including Kelso Mesa, lands proposed for wilderness in the San Juan Mountains wilderness, and many others as reflected in the conservation community's recommended wilderness proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to add my voice to the many people in Colorado who value the GMUG, and thank you for your thoughtful stewardship of our public lands.

Comment Number: 103

Name: James R Schurz

Email: pjschurz@yahoo.com

Address: 720 S 2nd St., Montrose, CO 81401

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 104

Name: Jamie Coulter

Email:

Address: PO Box 815, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 706-247-1994

Comment:

Comment Number: 105

Name: Janet Chapman

Email: chapmanjanet@yahoo.com

Address: 60711 W. Oak Grove Rd., Montrose, CO 81403

Website/Phone: 970-240-9146

Comment:

Comment Number: 106

Name: Janie Goldberg

Email:

Address: PO Box 3502, Telluride, CO

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 107

Name: Jason Merritt

Email:

Address: 462 San Miguel Ridge, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 108

Name: Jen and Randy Parker

Email: parkers1@msn.com

Address: 810A Tabernash Lane, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment: We are avid supporters of this GMUG proposal. We are frequent users of the GMUG area and treasure this treasure. Protecting our public lands is a very high priority for us and we appreciate the efforts of many to create this document.

Comment Number: 109

Name: Jenna Cichanski

Email: jennacichanski@gmail.com

Address: 295 Mahoney, Telluride CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 110

Name: Jennifer Barker

Email:

Address: PO Box 1982, Telluride, CO

Website/Phone: 970-728-1802

Comment:

Comment Number: 111

Name: Jennifer Parker

Email: parkers1@msn.com

Address: 810A Tabernash Ln., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 518-578-5948

Comment:

Comment Number: 112

Name: Jennifer Russell

Email: jrussellpc@mac.com

Address: PO Box 895, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment: We support these recommendations, and we particularly see a need to limit motorized recreation in our forests. We simply can't handle the impacts.

Comment Number: 113

Name: Jerry Hillman

Email: eloso7j@netscape.net

Address: 34497 Outlook Rd., Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 114

Name: Jillian Ellzey

Email: crestonesongbird@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 362, Crestone, CO 81131

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 115

Name: Jim Coursin

Email:

Address: 509 CR 23, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-773-6466

Comment:

Comment Number: 116

Name: Joe Siegrist, President/CEO, Purple Martin Conservation Association

Email: joe@purplemartin.org

Address: 301 Peninsula Drive, Suite 6, Erie, PA 16505

Website/Phone:

Comment: The Purple Martin Conservation Association would like to stand in support of this application for the Mule Park IBA.

Comment Number: 117

Name: Joe Tarr

Email: gardener@buckhornmountain.com

Address: Montrose, CO

Website/Phone: 970-240-8715

Comment:

Comment Number: 118

Name: John Hollrah

Email: johnhollrah@ouraynet.com

Address: 3219 Pleasant Point, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-5568

Comment:

Comment Number: 119

Name: John Howe

Email: johndwardhowe3@gmail.com

Address: 302 Adams Ranch Road #7, Mountain Village, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment: I am in full support

Comment Number: 120

Name: John Travis

Email: johnnyleet@gmail.com

Address: Box 125, Cedaredge , CO 81413

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 121

Name: John Willis Mitchell

Email: johnwillismitchell@gmail.com

Address: 18325 Coyote Run Road, Cedaredge, CO 81413

Website/Phone:

Comment: As a local, I believe this plan is the best alternative - please adopt it.

Comment Number: 122

Name: Jon Miller

Email: jonathan_miller46@hotmail.com

Address: 1007A E. Colorado Ave, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 123

Name: Jon Slone

Email:

Address: 16311 6420 Rd., Montrose, CO 81403

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 124

Name: Judi Chamberlin

Email: judichamberlin@gmail.com

Address: 700 Sabeta Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 125

Name: Julia Reid

Email: jreid2011@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 1022, Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-708-0066

Comment:

Comment Number: 126

Name: Junella Hildreth

Email: junella14@gmail.com

Address: Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-325-4512

Comment:

Comment Number: 127

Name: Karen Unternahrer

Email: mountainmoonflower@yahoo.com

Address: 765 W 145 Spur Hwy., Brown Homestead Unit D1, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 128

Name: Katalyn Senn

Email:

Address: 226 S. 8th St., Oostburg, WI 53070

Website/Phone: 920-918-0213

Comment:

Comment Number: 129

Name: Kate Kellogg

Email: katebkellogg@gmail.com

Address: 596 Sabeta Dr., Unit F, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 810-599-8766

Comment:

Comment Number: 130

Name: Katie Brownes

Email: katiebrownes88@gmail.com

Address: 150 Aspen Lane, Apt. 4A, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 131

Name: Kelli Petersen

Email: kellipetersen@yahoo.com

Address: PO box 1211, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 132

Name: Kelly Dougherty

Email: kellydough@gmail.com

Address: 1710 White Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81501

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 133

Name: Ken Goldsmith

Email: kenconserv@gmail.com

Address: 722 Parkham Ln., Raleigh, NC 27603

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 134

Name: Kenneth Scissors

Email: Scissorsgj@gmail.com

Address: 2534 Park Mesa Ct., Grand Junction, CO 81507

Website/Phone:

Comment: Forest health is the #1 priority. All the benefits to humans depend on sustaining the ecosystem in perpetuity. It's no more complicated than that.

Comment Number: 135

Name: Kerry Kesity

Email:

Address: 36143 Englwood, Yakima, WA 98902

Website/Phone: 509-901-5514

Comment:

Comment Number: 136

Name: Kevin Iverson

Email: iverskev@uw.edu

Address: #4 131 E. Colorado Ave., Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 137

Name: Kirby Brian Hughes

Email: kirbyhughes@mesanetworks.net

Address: 2725 Black Canyon Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Website/Phone:

Comment: In the revision of the Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison National 1983 Forest Plan, I fully support the new wilderness and special management area proposal and ask the Forest Service to adopt it in the revised Forest Plan. The designations proposal is based on community involvement, on-the-ground fieldwork, the best available science, and the requirements in the 2012 U.S. Forest Service Planning Rule. These landscape-level conservation recommendations are integral to sustaining a healthy and wild GMUG now and into the future.

Establishing these designated areas in the revised Forest Plan will help address ecological needs relevant to biodiversity, connectivity, and climate change adaptation. In addition, adoption of recommendations would ensure the revised Forest Plan reflects the GMUG's distinctive wilderness and backcountry recreation heritage. There is a need and opportunity for wilderness and other landscape-level conservation designations on the GMUG so I support the proposal and urge the GMUG to adopt and incorporate the proposal's area recommendations in the revised GMUG Forest Plan.

Comment Number: 138

Name: Kirsten Atkins

Email: kirstenis@yahoo.com

Address: PO Box 592, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 139

Name: Kristin Pulatie

Email: kristinpulatie@yahoo.com

Address: 1140 Carbon Junction #17, Durango, CO 81301

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 140

Name: Lance Waring

Email: lancewaring@yahoo.com

Address: 452 San Miguel Ridge, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 141

Name: Laura Johnston

Email: ljohnston365@gmail.com

Address: 365 Canyon Court W., Grand Junction, CO 81507

Website/Phone:

Comment: As our area grows in population and we encourage more visitation from tourism and outdoor activity the need for a balanced approach is critical. Wilderness and protection of biodiversity allows important safeguards for the future health of the national forests.

Comment Number: 142

Name: Lawrence Herbert

Email: LarHerb999@gmail.com

Address: 324 Rio Grande Ave., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 143

Name: Lawrence Ribnick

Email: larry704@sopris.net

Address: 38741 Indian Head Lane, Crawford, CO 81415

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 144

Name: Lawrence W. Ribnick

Email: larry704@sopris.net

Address: 38741 Indian Head Lane, Crawford, CO 81415

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 145

Name: Linda J Miller

Email: bosque2miller@gmail.com

Address: P.O. box 883, telluride 513 w.columbia, CO

81435

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support the citizens proposed wilderness and buffer areas plan. the public has made it clear how valued these lands are, for humans, animals and the ecosystems that sustain us. economically and spiritually we need wild places.

Comment Number: 146

Name: Linda McLean

Email: lemlau@bresnan.net

Address: 385 Caprock Dr., Grand Junction, CO 81507

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 147

Name: Lisa Thomason

Email: executive.director@voyageryouthprogram.org

Address: PO Box 709, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 148

Name: Lynne Berry

Email: beery.mike.lynne@gmail.com

Address: Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 201-452-1487

Comment:

Comment Number: 149

Name: maggie dijkstra

Email: maggie.rose.dijkstra@gmail.com

Address: 173 white stallion circle, box 1180, crested butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 150

Name: Margaret Whittum

Email: margaretwhittum@gmail.com

Address: 5151 East Yale Circle #206, Denver, CO 80222

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support the Grand Mesa-Gunnison-Uncompahgre National Forests (GMUG) initiated Forest Plan revision.

Comment Number: 151

Name: MARGIT YATES

Email: ymargit@yahoo.com

Address: PO Box 208, 40180, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 152

Name: Marion Morrisey

Email:

Address: Littleton, CO

Website/Phone: 732-245-1411

Comment:

Comment Number: 153

Name: Mark Carter

Email: carter1324@aol.com

Address: 4751 Gunnison County road 265, Somerset, CO, 81434

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 154

Name: Mark Schofield

Email: schofima@hotmail.com

Address: 400 Whatcom Street, Bellingham, WA 98225

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 155

Name: Mark Steele

Email: steeler@idigart.com

Address: 2275 Forest Ave., Boulder, CO 80304

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 156

Name: Marla Korpar

Email: mtk5101@gmail.com

Address: 14138 Burgess Ln., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 157

Name: Martha Langion

Email: mlangion@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 334, Placerville, CO 81430

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 158

Name: Mary Ann Guilinger

Email: maryann.guilinger@gmail.com

Address: 340 Bear Cub Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-4365

Comment:

Comment Number: 159

Name: Mary Ellis

Email: coopermh@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 1281, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 160

Name: Mary Hertert

Email: colorcreek49@gmail.com

Address: 929 Crown Ct., Fruita, CO 81521

Website/Phone:

Comment: Lead for Grand Junction Broadband for Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Comment Number: 161

Name: Mary Jursinovic

Email: cbpots@yahoo.com

Address: 11491 3800 Rd., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 162

Name: MaryJoy Martin

Email: pakwamana@yahoo.com

Address: 16630 Columbine Ln., Cedaredge, CO 81413

Website/Phone: <http://maryjoymartin.net/writtenworks.html>

Comment: We have but one home: Earth. If we fail to protect habitat, we will be without a home. It is that simple. We must do the right thing.

Comment Number: 163

Name: Matt Hockenberry

Email: hockenberry2005@yahoo.com

Address: 1655 Rhine Ct., Montrose, CO 81401

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 164

Name: Matt Reed

Email: s.matt.reed@gmail.com

Address: 4145 S. Acoma St., Englewood, CO 80110

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 165

Name: May Trumble

Email: blue.bark.forrest@gmail.com

Address: 39417 pitkin road, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: I definitely support this proposal. Thank you so much for listening.

Comment Number: 166

Name: Meg Milligan

Email: meg.loeb.milligan@gmail.com

Address: 521 Waterview Ln., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 210-863-4876

Comment:

Comment Number: 167

Name: Megan Randall

Email: mrandall823@gmail.com

Address: 327 North Fork Ave., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 168

Name: Meghann McCormick

Email: meghannmcc@gmail.com

Address: 950 E. Columbia, Telluride CO, 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 169

Name: Mel Yemma

Email: melanie.yemma@gmail.com

Address: 720 Sopris Ave., Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 170

Name: Melanie Rees

Email: melrees37@gmail.com

Address: Montrose, CO

Website/Phone: 970-349-9845

Comment:

Comment Number: 171

Name: Melissa Harris

Email: melimaeharris@gmail.com

Address: 918 Two Rivers Dr., Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 172

Name: Michael A Johnson

Email: mickjohnson1212@gmail.com

Address: 1010 3rd Street, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: Please support the proposed GMUG wilderness and special management plan because I have a granddaughter who I can't wait to share this environment with.

Comment Number: 173

Name: Michael Cassidy

Email: cassidy@wraweb.com

Address: 11 Canyon DR., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment: As someone who lives in the GMUG area and often hikes in the GMUG I support sustaining a healthy and wild GMUG.

Comment Number: 174

Name: michael Paul Burkley

Email: mburkley6@gmail.com

Address: 42232 lamborn mesa rd., paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 175

Name: Michael Soule, PhD

Email: msoule36@gmail.com

Address: 39102 Pitkin Rd., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: As a wildlife biologist who helped to establish the key role of landscape connectivity in the protection of nature and our backcountry, I urge you support the revised forest plan.

Professor Emeritus,

University of California

(Resident of Paonia, CO)

Comment Number: 176

Name: Michael T Wiley

Email: greenakres@aol.com

Address: 12703 Elk Valley Road, 12703 Elk Valley Rd., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: It is essential at this critical time of rapid growth on the Western Slope that we designate these wilderness and special management areas to preserve valuable and irreplaceable landscapes for ourselves and future generations. Such areas are disappearing at a geometric rate world wide and the opportunity for such preservation is already very limited. I urge you to take this important step while we still have that option.

Comment Number: 177

Name: Michele Pilot

Email: mpilot@mcpld.org

Address: Fruita, CO

Website/Phone:

Comment: I am all for this plan. As an avid hiker, I would like to see our places of beauty not only protected but studied appropriately to ensure future quality of life.

Comment Number: 178

Name: Mike Nadiak

Email:

Address: 730 Chipeta Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-901-0395

Comment:

Comment Number: 179

Name: Nancy Andrew

Email: nandrew007@aol.com

Address: 2335 Dublin Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 180

Name: nancy working

Email: nworking@msn.com

Address: 1197 memphis belle, steamboat springs, CO 80487

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 181

Name: Natalie Morrison

Email: talietadpole@gmail.com

Address: 120 Teocalli Avenue, P.O. Box 1745, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support as much WILDERNESS as we can possible create. We need to protect and preserve our natural lands for us and the generations to come!

Comment Number: 182

Name: Natalie Morrison

Email: talietadpole@gmail.com

Address: Crested Butte, CO

Website/Phone:

Comment: We need to protect and preserve our wild lands for us and the generations to come.

Comment Number: 183

Name: Nic Korte, Conservation Chairman, Grand Valley Audubon Society

Email: nkorte1@hotmail.com

Address: Grand Valley Audubon Society, PO Box 1211, Grand Junction, CO 81501

Website/Phone:

Comment: We express the support of the Board of Directors of Grand Valley Audubon Society for the Mule Park Important Bird Area (IBA). This request, that the area be included in the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest plan revision as a Special Interest Area, is made on behalf of the approximately 400 local members. Mule Park and environs is the most important habitat for Western Purple Martins in the Rockies. Not only that, it is possibly the only location in Mesa County where Willow Flycatchers and Fox Sparrows are easily found. As such, it is the target of frequent birding trips including formal field trips and bird counts.

We note that the surrounding area is already impacted by drilling and associated truck traffic. Mule Park itself already experiences heavy human use. ORVs are frequently on the roads and adjoining trails and very heavy use occurs during hunting season.

Our organization strongly supports the maximum protection possible for this area.

Nic Korte, Conservation Chairman

Grand Valley Audubon Society

Comment Number: 184

Name: Nicholas Turner

Email: web@nicholasturner.me

Address: 41400 Stewart Mesa Rd., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment: I hiked the Ruby Stock trail recently and wanted to support the revision, it's a beautiful area that is perfect for wilderness.

Comment Number: 185

Name: Nick Williams

Email: stoutheartnick@aol.com

Address: 695 Tabernash Ln., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-318-6713

Comment:

Comment Number: 186

Name: Nicole Carrillo

Email: nicole.sacchitella@gmail.com

Address:

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 187

Name: Nina Black

Email: nblackgj@gmail.com

Address: Grand Junction , CO 81501

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 188

Name: Nina Hiatt

Email: farmernina@yahoo.com

Address: 281 E 2nd St., Delta, CO 81416

Website/Phone:

Comment: Whether or not I get there often, I still know that the wilderness is always available to me which gives me comfort and peace of mind.

Comment Number: 189

Name: Noalani Terry

Email: noalani@skybeam.com

Address: 61490 Epitaph Rd., Montrose, CO 81403-8978

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support sustainable uses of our natural resources so that the planet can continue to support human beings and all other life including trees, plants and animals that depend on responsible use of earth's bounty.

Comment Number: 190

Name: Olaf Rasmussen

Email: dkrasmuss144@hotmail.com

Address: 374 Promontories Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 191

Name: Pam Wieser

Email: pjean18@bresnan.net

Address: 207 Dream St., Grand Junction, CO 81503

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 192

Name: Pamela Benson & Elizabeth Gibson

Email: mesagirls2@gmail.com

Address: 62762 Orange Road, Montrose, CO 81403

Website/Phone:

Comment: Please do not let the opportunity pass! Wilderness and backcountry need protection and I strongly support these recommendations. I am a Colorado native and have lived on the Western Slope for 18 years. Don't let our heritage slip away. What is more important?

Comment Number: 193

Name: Patricia Greenwood

Email: tagreenwood@gmail.com

Address: Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 194

Name: Patricia Miller

Email: pmi6862939@aol.com

Address: 374 Promontories Drive, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-3274

Comment:

Comment Number: 195

Name: Patrick Dooling

Email: prd5012@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 353, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 196

Name: Patrick Willits

Email: willits@independence.net

Address: 820 Sabeta Drive, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 197

Name: Patty Painter

Email:

Address: PO Box 306, Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-626-4188

Comment:

Comment Number: 198

Name: Paul Hamilton

Email: phammy0137@gmail.com

Address: 1625 Marble Village Drive, Marble, CO 81623

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support the GMUG Forst Plan Revision, and I hope to witness plan implementation that emphasizes public lands conservation and thoughtful human-powered recreation, along with sustainable, forward-thinking development.

Comment Number: 199

Name: Perry Keen

Email: pmkeen@yahoo.com

Address: 4170 S Acoma St., Englewood, CO 80110

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 200

Name: Petar Dopchev

Email: twinsltd@abv.bg

Address:

Website/Phone:

Comment: Would like to support this proposal for new wilderness and landscape-level conservation on the GMUG.

Comment Number: 201

Name: Philip Harrold

Email: pcharrolds@gmail.com

Address: 1227 Peppertree Dr., Montrose, CO 81401

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 202

Name: Ralph D'Alessandro

Email: rdinca@yahoo.com

Address: 36291 Sunshine Mesa Road, Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Website/Phone:

Comment: Healthy forests are essential for our water supply.

Comment Number: 203

Name: Randy Gregory

Email:

Address: 366 Meadow Lane, Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-729-0056

Comment:

Comment Number: 204

Name: Randy Martin

Email: mountnflyer@gmail.com

Address: 625 Chipeta Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81501

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 205

Name: Randy Parker

Email:

Address: 810 Tabernash Ln., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-5309

Comment:

Comment Number: 206

Name: Ray Gerrity

Email: raydawg42@hotmail.com

Address: 201 W. Bidwell, Gunnison, CO 81230

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 207

Name: Rebekah Coulter

Email:

Address: PO Box 815, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 706-254-5466

Comment:

Comment Number: 208

Name: Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk

Email: n8tiveutegal@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 114, Towaoc, CO 81334

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 209

Name: Rein Van West

Email: arcticwild@gmail.com

Address: 453 CR 5, Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-626-9702

Comment:

Comment Number: 210

Name: Rhonda Claridge

Email: rhondaclaridge@hotmail.com

Address: PO Box 742, Ophir, CO 81426

Website/Phone:

Comment: Protecting these vital biological areas of the GMUG is our duty as stewards of public lands upon which distinct wildlife rely to survive and we humans rely for experiences of wilderness and solace.

Comment Number: 211

Name: Rozanne Evans

Email: evanslowande@gmail.com

Address: 1523 Juniper, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 212

Name: Ruth McMillan

Email:

Address: 244 Big Spring Dr., Nederland, CO 80466

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 213

Name: Sabrena Soong

Email:

Address: Florence, CO

Website/Phone: 719-246-9539

Comment:

Comment Number: 214

Name: Sally Larcker

Email: hotsocmom1@aol.com

Address: 38594 Stucker Mesa Rd., Hotchkiss, CO 81419

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 215

Name: Sally Swartz

Email: sallyswartz100@gmail.com

Address: 2083 Juniper Rd. N, Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-626-3244

Comment:

Comment Number: 216

Name: Sam Murch

Email: Sam.Murch@patagonia.com

Address: 259 West Santa Clara St., Ventura, CA 93001

Website/Phone:

Comment: I urge the Forest Service to protect wildlands across the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forests threatened by oil and gas, mining, and other resource pressures. These areas are too rare and precious to sacrifice for short term profits.

Comment Number: 217

Name: Sandy Shea

Email: sheasworth@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 2671, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 218

Name: Sara Coulter

Email: scoulter@towson.edu

Address: 142 Canyon Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-4496

Comment:

Comment Number: 219

Name: Sarah Sadler

Email: sadlersarah5@gmail.com

Address: 910 3rd Street, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 220

Name: Scott Bridges

Email: bridgesoffice@gmail.com

Address: 470 Amy Way, Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 221

Name: Scott Williams

Email: s_williams2001@yahoo.com

Address: 372 Pleasant Valley Dr., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-2599

Comment:

Comment Number: 222

Name: Scout Manley

Email: scoutm@ouray.k12.co.us

Address: PO Box 732, Ouray, CO

Website/Phone: 970-708-4003

Comment:

Comment Number: 223

Name: Shannon EarthTree

Email: shannonearthtree@gmail.com

Address: 35 Pilot Knob In. #310, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 224

Name: Sharon Kime

Email: sharonkime@gmail.com

Address: PO box 964, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 225

Name: Shauna Palmer

Email: smpalmer3@msn.com

Address: PO Box 310, Norwood, CO 81423

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 226

Name: Sierra Lloyd

Email: sierraalloyd@gmail.com

Address: 429 Gold Rush Dr., Fruita , CO 81521

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 227

Name: Stan Kostka, Secretary, Western Purple Martin Working Group

Email: lynnandstan@earthlink.net

Address: 28603 Kunde Rd., Arlington, WA 98223

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 228

Name: Steve Reed

Email: steveredsmail@gmail.com

Address: 594 1/2 Creekside Ct., Grand Junction, CO 81507

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 229

Name: Sue Navy

Email: suenavy@gmail.com

Address: Box 432, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment: Although this is a form letter, it thoroughly expresses my thoughts on the need for new wilderness and special management areas. Thank you for considering, and hopefully incorporating, this citizens' proposal.

Comment Number: 230

Name: Susan Ensor

Email: swestride@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 2184, Telluride, CO 81435

Website/Phone: 970-729-4003

Comment:

Comment Number: 231

Name: Susan Kearns

Email: susan@sundaggerranch.com

Address: 398 Meadows Road, Durango, CO 81301

Website/Phone:

Comment: This unique area must be protected for future generations and to help mitigate the effects of climate change on the flora and fauna of the region.

Comment Number: 232

Name: Susan Long

Email:

Address: 455 Kismet St., Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-318-6508

Comment:

Comment Number: 233

Name: Susan Pernot

Email: pernotcortez@gmail.com

Address: 5098 rd., 24.5 Cortez, CO 81321

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 234

Name: Susan Thiele

Email:

Address: 57000 K57 Trail, Montrose, CO 81403

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 235

Name: Suzanne McMillan

Email: animalibnow@yahoo.com

Address: 4145 S. Acoma St., Englewood, CO 80110

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support more wilderness because it provides a home for the GMUG's wildlife, and an important refuge from climate change and increased population pressure.

Comment Number: 236

Name: Suzanne Pierson

Email: suzanne@metawealth.net

Address: 37 Willow Ct., Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment: I desire a conservation-focused forest plan and a healthy forest into the future. I support the Citizens' Wilderness and Designations Proposal. Strong standards and guidelines must be an important part of the revised Forest Plan. Forest health is an important issue. The GMUG's forests are changing due to a combination of insect infestation, climate change and drought, but large-scale logging is not the answer. Landscape-level conservation is critical as it allows the forest to adapt to changes in a more effective way than heavy-handed management ever could.

Comment Number: 237

Name: Suze Gingery

Email:

Address: 502 Sabeta Dr., Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-258-4067

Comment:

Comment Number: 238

Name: Sydney Elks

Email: karunacare@gmail.com

Address: 218 Ouray Ave., Grand junction , CO 81501

Website/Phone:

Comment: We need our wilderness!

Comment Number: 239

Name: Tammie Slack

Email: gravityspacb@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 1672, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 240

Name: Tamra Gutshall

Email: tamglee@yahoo.com

Address: pob 303, Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 241

Name: Taylor Chase

Email: taylor.lynn.chase@gmail.com

Address: 344 Escalante Cir., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone:

Comment: Please move forward to accept this revised Forest Plan. The areas in question are important to our wilderness. Many animals migrate through them, and any development of the area would cause them harm. Additionally, it is our natural areas that make our part of Colorado such the special place that it is. We need to make sure that we protect these areas for the future.

Comment Number: 242

Name: Terry Randall

Email: tlr1556@gmail.com

Address: 41367 Lamborn Mesa Rd., Paonia, CO 81428

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 243

Name: Theodore Koeman

Email: lakoeman@hotmail.com

Address: 856 Haven Crest Ct. S, Grand Junction, CO 81506

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 244

Name: Thomas Verry

Email: tom.verry@gmail.com

Address: 49550 East Hwy 50, Gunnison, CO 81230

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 245

Name: Tom Heffernan

Email: heffslanding@gmail.com

Address: 405 Kismet St., Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-626-4084

Comment:

Comment Number: 246

Name: Tom McKenney

Email: mckenney@independence.net

Address: PO Box 340, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-729-1930

Comment:

Comment Number: 247

Name: TOM OKEN

Email: tomoken@comcast.net

Address: PO BOX 8068, ASPEN, CO 81612

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 248

Name: Tony Prendergast

Email: tonyp@paonia.com

Address: 1308 Clear Fork Rd., Crawford, CO 81415

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 249

Name: unruh

Email: unruh@telluridecolorado.net

Address: 899 porphyry Ophir, CO 81426

Website/Phone:

Comment: Protect our public lands

Comment Number: 250

Name: Vicki Phelps

Email: vickiphelps@aol.com

Address: Telluride, CO

Website/Phone: 928-600-5926

Comment:

Comment Number: 251

Name: Vicki Tosher

Email: vtosher@gmail.com

Address: 4170 South Acoma Street, Englewood, CO 80110

Website/Phone:

Comment: Future generations will thank you.

Comment Number: 252

Name: Walther Schoeller

Email: wschoeller@yahoo.com

Address: 14 Sopris Ave., Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment:

Comment Number: 253

Name: Wanda Taylor

Email:

Address: PO Box 175, Ridgway, CO

Website/Phone: 970-318-1075

Comment:

Comment Number: 254

Name: Wendy Dunn

Email:

Address: PO Box 475, Ridgway, CO 81432

Website/Phone: 970-729-1161

Comment:

Comment Number: 255

Name: Wendy McDermott

Email: wendy.mcdermott@hotmail.com

Address:

Website/Phone:

Comment: I support landscape scale conservation on USFS managed public lands as well as protective designations such as Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers.

Comment Number: 256

Name: Zach Vaughter

Email: zvaughter35@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 2201, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Website/Phone:

Comment: Please keep oil and gas out--- we need to be changing our habits and energy sources not wrecking the irreplaceable treasures around us that we all want, love, rely on and hope will be in tact for future generations. I moved to the North Fork to farm-- and now three years into farming feel the impending threat of oil and gas development here. It is nerve-wracking as a young person trying to start a life here.

Organizational Support Statements



Samantha Staley, Forest Planner
Grand Mesa-Uncompahgre-Gunnison National Forest
2250 South Main St
Delta, Colorado 81416
gmugforestplan@fs.fed.us

May 21, 2018

Dear Ms. Staley,

The Ridgway Town Council appreciates the opportunity to comment during the Grand Mesa-Uncompahgre-Gunnison National Forest Plan revision scoping period.

The Town Council supports the Citizens' Wilderness Designation Proposal. We wish specifically to endorse inclusion of the five landscapes located within Ouray County – White House Addition to Mt Sneffels Wilderness, Baldy Mountain and Bear Creek Additions to the Uncompahgre Wilderness, Hayden Mountain, and Abram and Brown Mountains. These areas all possess wilderness values that warrant their ongoing protection and management as wilderness.

Designating these landscapes in the Forest Plan will favorably impact our region's economy, ecosystem integrity and resiliency, watersheds, wildlife corridors and habitats, and recreation opportunities. Furthermore, these landscapes possess spectacular geology, unmatched wildflower displays, and exceptional scenic values. Some of them include cultural and historic features, and all of them are critical wildlife areas – for elk, deer, and bear and some for Canada Lynx.

The Town of Ridgway Town Council requests that the GMUG planning team incorporate the Citizens' Wilderness Designation Proposal in your draft plan and alternatives moving forward in the revision process. Thank you for your consideration of the Ridgway Town Council's comments.

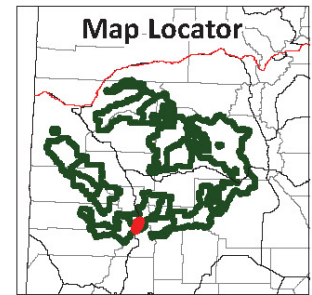
Sincerely,

Jen Coates
Manager, Town of Ridgway

Hayden Mountain Recommended Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District

10,000 acres



General Description

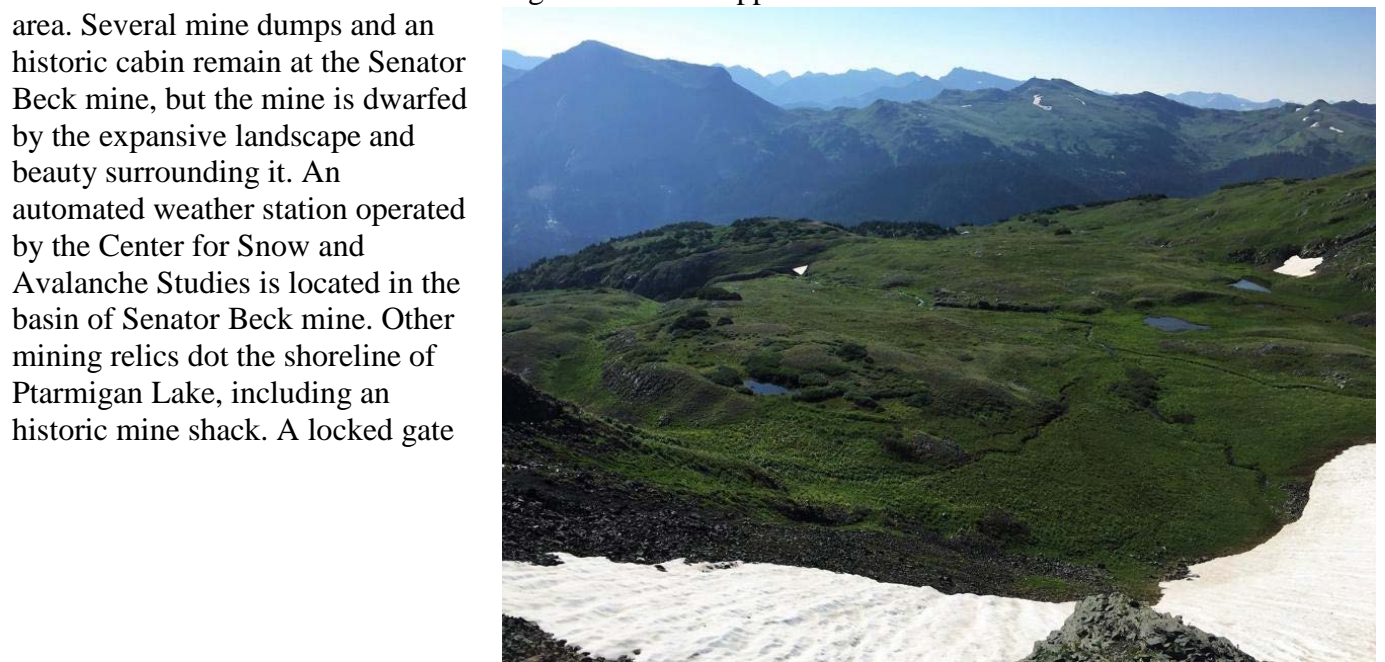
Hayden Mountain provides a breathtaking backdrop to the Million Dollar Highway, also known as the San Juan Skyway scenic byway. Hayden Mountain towers impressively above the west side of Highway 550 from Ouray to the summit of Red Mountain Pass. Hayden Mountain includes high snowcapped summits, quiet alpine basins, and sweeping aspen stands that erupt in riotous fall colors of orange, red and gold starting in September. The area's trails are a favorite destination of both local hikers and the many tourists who visit Ouray.

Hayden Mountain sits squarely between the Uncompahgre Wilderness to the east and the Mount Sneffels Wilderness immediately to the west. It's in the heart of lynx habitat in the northern San Juan Mountains. Wilderness designation would plug a key gap in the system of wilderness areas that otherwise encircle Hayden Mountain on several sides.

Hayden Mountain's roadless character, and associated wilderness values, has never been inventoried by the Forest Service. The area was omitted from the 1970s-era Roadless Area Review and Evaluations as it was within the Uncompahgre Primitive Area at the time, and was also never subsequently inventoried for analysis during the Colorado Roadless Rule process in the early 2000s.

Naturalness

Hayden Mountain is an undeveloped range of seven high points including several 13,000-foot summits amidst one of Colorado's otherwise intensively mined landscapes. It towers above the Camp Bird mine to the west, and the Idarado mine to the south. The area's precipitous slopes precluded any substantial amount of surface disturbance that significantly impairs the area's overall naturalness. Some historic mining activities are apparent in the southern reaches of the area. Several mine dumps and an historic cabin remain at the Senator Beck mine, but the mine is dwarfed by the expansive landscape and beauty surrounding it. An automated weather station operated by the Center for Snow and Avalanche Studies is located in the basin of Senator Beck mine. Other mining relics dot the shoreline of Ptarmigan Lake, including an historic mine shack. A locked gate



precludes motorized use of the historic jeep trail from Imogene Pass down to Ptarmigan Lake. These are similar historic structures to those found in the nearby Weminuche Wilderness in Chicago Basin, or in the Holy Cross Wilderness. The jeep roads to Barstow Mine and Greyhound Mine along with the mine sites are excluded from the proposed wilderness. The jeep road between the mines and adjacent to Spirit Gulch is abandoned and undergoing natural revegetation and thus included within the proposed wilderness.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Hayden Mountain is classic, high alpine San Juan Mountain wilderness. The area's elevation provides sweeping vistas across rugged peaks and plunging valleys, reinforcing the sense of isolation and separation from civilization. The area is distant from signs of civilization, once away from the jeep trails that denote the boundaries along Black Bear Pass and Imogene Pass. Secluded alpine basins further enhance the area's outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Hayden Mountain is a preferred destination in summer for hikers seeking vast alpine vistas, fields of alpine wildflowers, and snowfields hanging on late into summer. Backcountry skiers and boarders venture into the high basins and steep slopes in winter, and find the last pockets of snowfields late into spring. Several non-mechanized trails offer ready access for hikers, including the Hayden Mountain trail that traverses the northern end of the area. Historic pack trails lead to secluded locations such as Ptarmigan Lake and the alpine basin surrounding the long abandoned Senator Beck mine.

Size and Roadlessness

Hayden Mountain is 10,000 acres, and excludes open motorized routes that form its boundary, such as the jeep trails over Black Bear Pass and Imogene Pass. The motorized route up Commodore Gulch to the Barstow Mine is also excluded from the proposed wilderness.

Supplemental Values

Hayden Mountain hosts abundant herds of elk in its high basins and alpine meadows during summer. It provides an important summer concentration area for elk and offers seclusion away from region's busier jeep trails.

About one-half of the Colorado Natural Heritage Program's Mineral Basin Potential Conservation Area is located within the Hayden Mountain area. The PCA's vegetation is a mosaic of rocky alpine tundra and wet alpine meadows with high floral diversity dominated by alpine avens. Late melting snowbanks provide the necessary habitat for San Juan whitlow-grass (*Draba graminea*). Two other drabas are found in small amounts in drier, rocky sites. This PCA is rated by CNHP as possessing B2-Very High Biodiversity Significance. Hayden Mountain also bounds the Ironton Park PCA, identified for its uncommon iron fen and wetlands. This broad park occupies a level area where Red Mountain Creek has spread out into several channels, creating the largest wetland in the Uncompahgre Basin.

Manageability

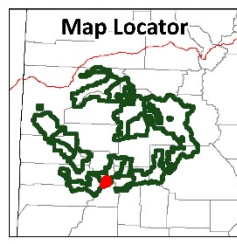
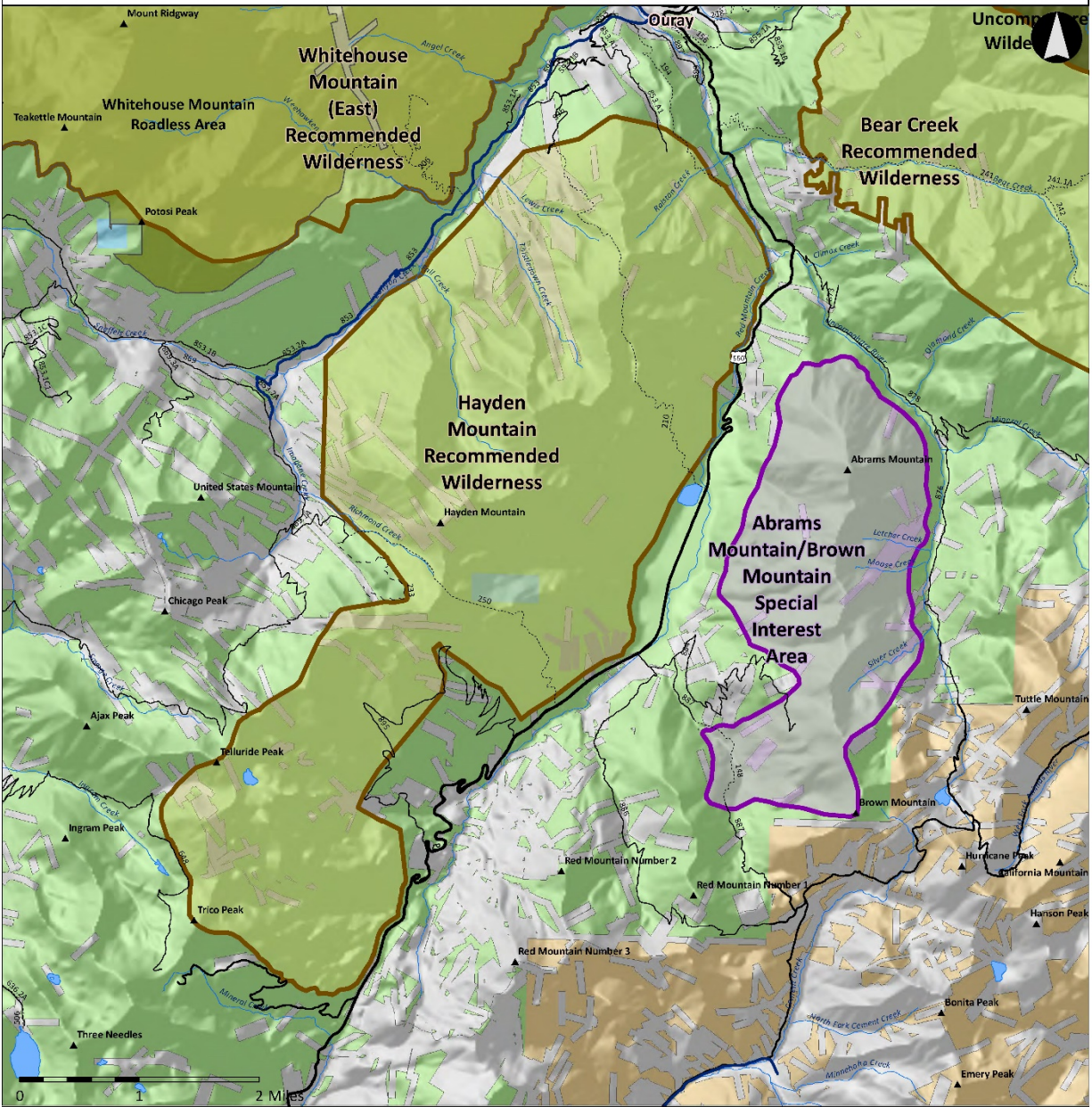
Hayden Mountain is generally well protected from uses incompatible with wilderness by its terrain and topography. The trails are closed to motorized and mechanized uses. The area is generally bounded by Highway 550 to the east, Black Bear Pass jeep trail on the south, Imogene Pass jeep trail on the west, and the Canyon Creek road to the north. The designated motorized routes up to the Barstow Mine and Greyhound Mine are excluded from the proposed wilderness, and form a portion of the eastern boundary. Hayden Mountain's steep topography precludes winter motorized recreation. The area has no oil and gas potential. The Forest Service has acquired numerous patented mining claims from Idarado Mining Company and others, which removes the majority of the most desirable historic mineral veins from future location under the 1872 Mining Law. A number of patented mining claims remain within the area, but these have no historic vehicle access. The Forest Service continues to pursue acquisitions via land exchanges and purchases. Ouray County has strict zoning regulations that limit development on mining claims such as these in the alpine zone above 9,480 feet in elevation.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Imogene Pass Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Ironton Park Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Mineral Basin Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Ouray Canyons Potential Conservation Area with Very High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Abrams Mountain/Brown Mountain & Hayden Mountain



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky

 Rocky Mountain Wild

 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

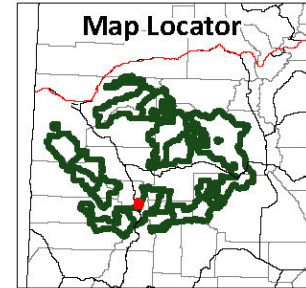
- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Baldy Addition to Uncompahgre Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District

2,400 acres



General Description

The Baldy addition to the Uncompahgre Wilderness adds critical wildlife habitat to the existing wilderness and extends the wilderness to lower elevation habitats that are generally not included within designated wilderness on the GMUG. Gambel oak and oak/aspen dominate the lower elevations transitioning to aspen and mixed aspen-conifer (including pine) with spruce-fir at higher elevations and north-facing slopes. Several meadows also exist in the area.

Naturalness

The Baldy roadless area appears generally natural with few obvious imprints of human activity. One metal water basin with a pipe exists at approximately 9,600 feet at the location of a natural spring, but does not detract from the character and is barely visible from the trail.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

Although the hike to Baldy Peak is relatively easy and the summit tops out at only 10,603 feet, there are ample opportunities for solitude and a sense of seclusion and tranquility. Given that this roadless area abuts designated wilderness, one experiences the vast wild landscape and expansive views that Baldy Trail affords.

There is no motorized or mechanized use on the trail, and there is no evidence of backcountry campsites or fire rings along this section of the Baldy Trail. Most users hike to the summit as a day trip so established campsites are absent. The area is primarily popular for hiking and hunting during fall big game seasons.

Panoramic scenic vistas are a highlight of this proposed addition and the Baldy Trail. Kelvin Kent, in his book *Ouray Hiking Guide*, writes, "...it offers some of the best views and scenery of any trail..." Views south reach beyond Cutler Creek, the Amphitheater, Mount Abram and Brown Mountain to the Red Mountains and the high San Juans. The Sneffels and Cimarron



Ranges are sighted as one climbs with spectacular views of some of the region’s highest peaks. On a clear day, a hiker is treated to views as distant as the La Sal Mountains in eastern Utah.

Size and Roadlessness

Baldy is about 2,400 acres in size, but is contiguous with the adjacent 102,214-acre Uncompahgre Wilderness. There are no roads within the unit.

Supplemental Values

The Baldy wilderness addition would contribute to increasing representation of otherwise poorly represented ecosystem types within the existing wilderness preservation system. The wilderness designation adds about 400 acres of Rocky Mountain Gambel Oak-Mixed Montane Shrubland, an ecosystem type with less than five percent representation in existing wilderness at the forest and federal level, and also about 750 acres of Rocky Mountain Aspen Forest and Woodland, which is represented at less than 20 percent at the forest level.

Baldy provides significant wildlife habitat, particularly as bighorn sheep summer and winter range, a winter concentration area for both elk and mule deer, severe winter range for elk, and an elk production area.

Manageability

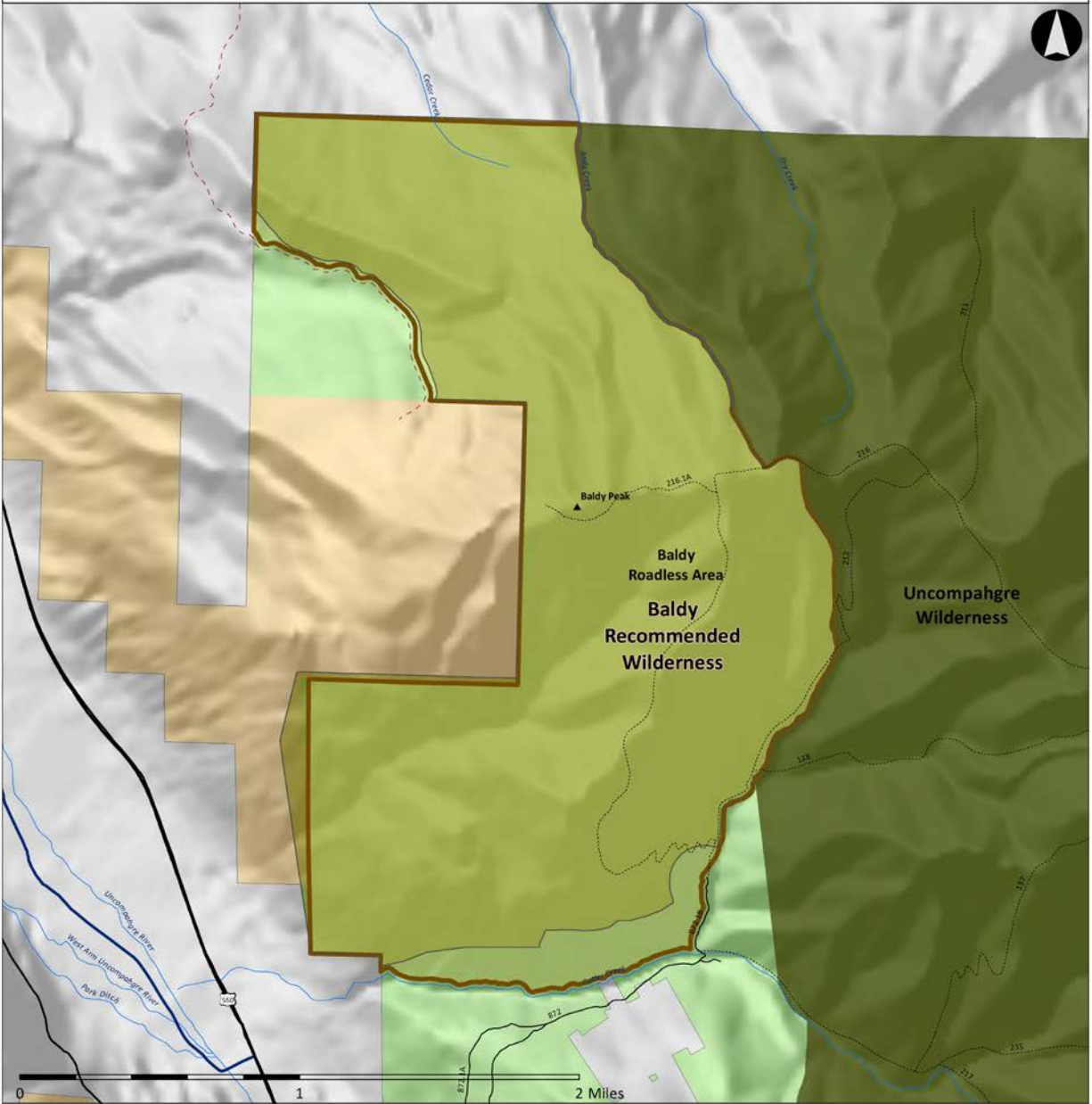
The boundaries of the proposed Baldy addition allow ample buffer from motorized roads and signage is already in place, limiting the trail to hikers and horses. It is bounded by BLM lands generally on the west, and private lands to the north, and is adjacent to the existing wilderness to the east. There is low oil and gas potential.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Bighorn Sheep Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Severe Winter Range	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Gunnison Sage-grouse Historic Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Mule Deer Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Ecosystem Representation	TWS Ecosystem Representation 2016

Baldy



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD
Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By:
 Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Bear Creek Addition to Uncompahgre Wilderness

Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District

6,000 acres



General Description

The Bear Creek addition to the Uncompahgre Wilderness brings the wilderness boundary closer to Highway 550 – the Million Dollar Highway -- incorporating the entirety of the Bear Creek watershed, from the highway to the alpine tundra atop Engineer Pass. It includes seven miles of the Bear Creek National Recreation Trail, so designated owing to its extraordinary scenery and the uncommon nature of its construction – literally dynamited out of the cliff along the lower reaches of Bear Creek.

The wilderness addition extends north to include the entirety of the Bridge of Heaven and the Horsethief Trail along Cascade Mountain, a hiking route with incomparable views and dramatic drop-offs.

Land acquisitions have consolidated federal ownership along Bear Creek, with the majority of remaining patented claims on the most precipitous cliffs at the lower end of the creek, near the highway. The rugged nature of Bear Creek precludes constructed road access to these inholdings, making conflicts with future wilderness management unlikely.

Bear Creek is a superlative wilderness candidate and adds seven miles of roadless valley to the wilderness. The trail is for hikers only owing to the long, horizontal shelves blasted out of the cliff faces and the sheer drop-offs to the creek below. Two historic mining camps add historical flavor and interest to the adventure. A myriad of waterfalls from trickles to thundering cascades enhances both the scenery and the auditory appeal of the wilderness.

Naturalness

The Bear Creek trail was originally developed by miners starting in the 1870s, and remnants of historic activities occur at several locations. These dilapidated cabins and rusting mining equipment add historic value and do not detract from the larger undeveloped character of the valley. The historic mining relics are similar in scale to those frequently encountered in other wilderness locations,



including Chicago Basin in the Weminuche and Silver Jack Mine in the Uncompahgre.

The Bridge of Heaven and Horsethief Trail addition is in superlative natural condition. It includes the steep slopes above various historic mines, such as the Portland Mine and the Chief Ouray Mine, all of which are excluded from the wilderness addition.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The Bear Creek valley and trail offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. The trail rapidly gains elevation from Highway 550, creating a substantial elevation separation from the highway. Once the trail wraps around into the entrance of the valley, the steep walls close in and create a sensation of complete isolation. The Horsethief Trail offers outstanding opportunities for solitude, seclusion and tranquility.

The Bear Creek National Recreation Trail was designated in recognition of its unique and spectacular nature. The trail was established initially by miners in the late 1800s, and required blasting a ledge into cliff faces to skirt the most precipitous canyon segments. This creates a remarkable and scenic experience unlike any other in southwest Colorado. The trail and surroundings offer outstanding opportunities for unconfined primitive recreation. The Horsethief Trail leads to Bridge of Heaven, one of the classic hikes in the Ouray area that leads to phenomenal views high above treeline.

Size and Roadlessness

Bear Creek is about 6,000 acres in size, but is contiguous with the adjacent 102,214-acre Uncompahgre Wilderness. There are no roads within the unit.

Supplemental Values

Relics of hardrock mining provide historic interest. The Grizzly Bear Mine and Yellow Jacket Mine were established in the late 1800s, with both ceasing operation by 1915. The ruins of several cabins, a tunnel, and mining equipment mark the location of the Grizzly Bear Mine. The Yellow Jacket mining camp is better preserved, with an intact bunk house and assorted mining equipment. Both sites make for intriguing trip destinations.

Bear Creek provides significant wildlife habitat, particularly as bighorn sheep summer and winter range, and as a bighorn sheep production area. The area is also a winter concentration area for elk.

Manageability

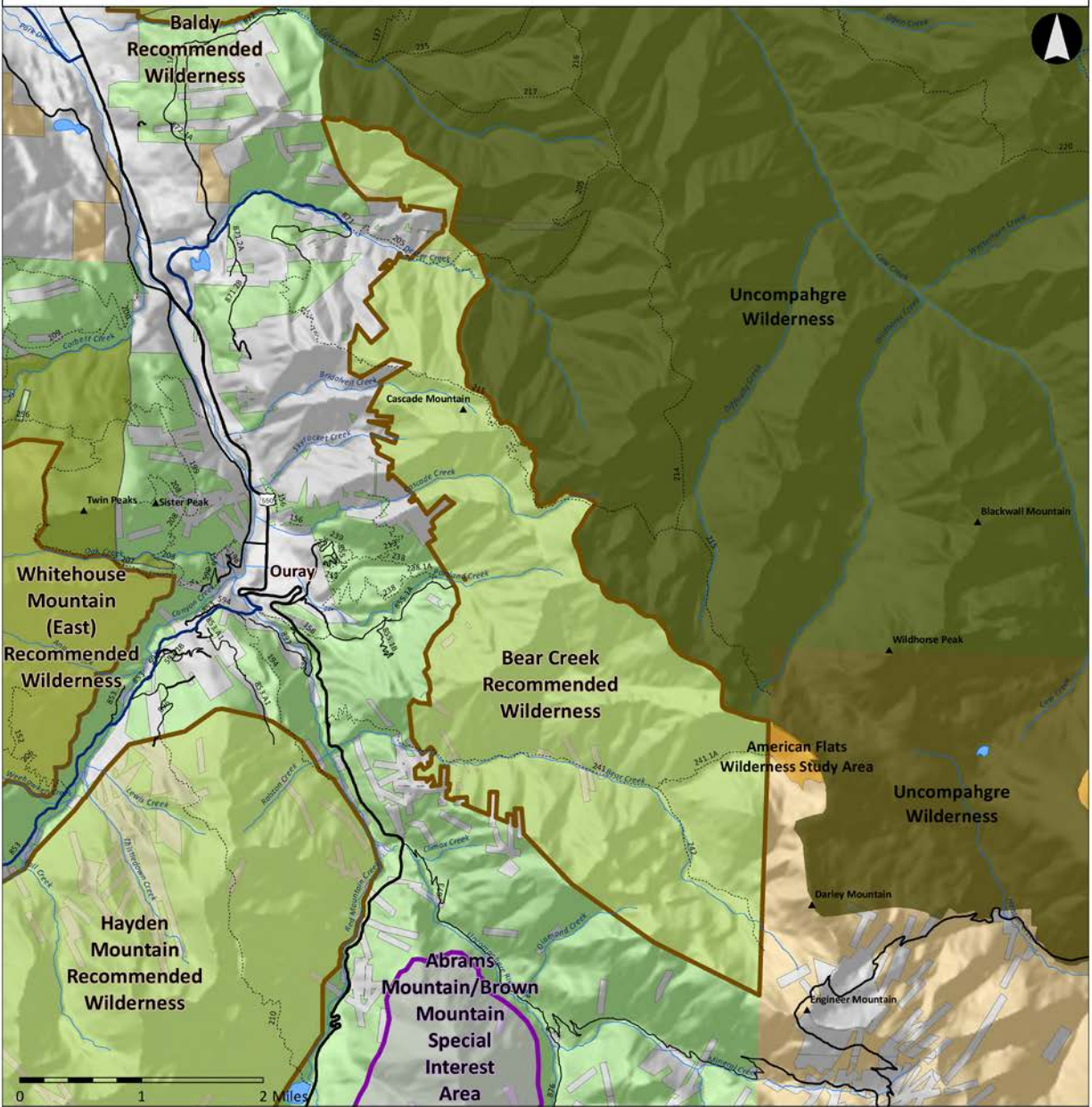
Bear Creek's rugged lower end precludes the possibility of motorized access from Highway 550 to the patented mining claims that dot the valley's cliffs. There is no vehicle access from the top, from Engineer Pass. For safety reasons, the trail is limited to hikers only. There is no oil and gas potential, and apparently limited potential for hardrock minerals since the last production ceased in the early 1900s.

The Horsethief Trail portion is steep, which precludes unauthorized motorized incursions. The boundary excludes all of the developed and patented mining claims in the lower portions below the wilderness boundary in Cascade Creek, Bridalveil Creek, and Dexter Creek.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Connectivity	SREP Wildlands Network 2003, USDA Forest Service Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment, 2008 Aplet et al, Indicators of Wildness 2000, Belote et al, Identifying Corridors among Large Protected Areas in the United States, 2016
Bighorn Sheep Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Winter Concentration Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Dexter Creek Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Historic	David Day, Colorado's Incredible Backcountry Trails, 2009

Bear Creek



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By:
Alison Gallensky
Rocky Mountain Wild
4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Abrams Mountain Scenic Special Interest Area

Proposed Designated Area
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District

3,000 acres



General Description

At 12,801 feet, Abrams Mountain (aka Mount Abrams), is an iconic peak that rises steeply and directly above the city of Ouray and can be viewed for many miles while driving from Montrose toward Ouray. It is the centerpiece landscape feature for the City of Ouray and surrounding area. Gray Copper Falls and several other falls are outstanding scenic features just west of Brown Mountain. There are several historic mines on the slopes of Abrams Mountain and Brown Mountain. Elk, deer and bighorn sheep use the area. The area is not identified as a Colorado Roadless Area.

Scenic Values

Mount Abrams dominates the San Juan Skyway Scenic Byway for most of its length from Red Mountain Pass across Ironton Park. Its lush green slopes provide a spectacular backdrop to Ouray during the summer, and it is equally beautiful in the winter. From the summit, there are spectacular views to the south of the Red Mountains (1,2,3) and across the valley to Hayden Mountain.

Abrams Mountain is part of the long four-mile Brown Mountain ridge, which rises up and down several summits to a high point of 13,339 feet that is the official summit of Brown Mountain. Also known as Duco Mountain, it is identified by a benchmark on the summit. The spectacular Gray Copper Falls and trail is directly west of the Brown Mountain summit. The upper end of the Gray Copper Falls trail intersects with a popular jeep trail spur off the Corkscrew Pass road near the Vernon mine, but the Gray Copper Falls Trail offers visitors a beautiful hike to see the falls. The ridge and summit areas along Brown Mountain see very little use except for hikers who wish to traverse the ridge via a climber trail of sorts.

Gray Copper Falls is a primary destination and scenic feature of the area. The falls is a thundering cascade during spring snowmelt,



plunging off the cliff edge and creating a perfect frothing arc of water.

Several interpretive visitor overlooks are located along Highway 550 and feature vistas and information about the San Juan Skyway and its historic and scenic resources. These are located along the western fringes of the proposed Mount Abrams Scenic Special Interest Area.

Botanical Values

The Ironton Park Potential Conservation Area identified by Colorado Natural Heritage Program is partially contained within the proposed scenic area. The Ironton Park PCA is a B2-Very High Biodiversity Significance site identified for its uncommon iron fen and wetlands. This broad park occupies a level area where Red Mountain Creek has spread out into several channels, creating the largest wetland in the Uncompahgre Basin. The lower slopes of Mount Abrams overlap with the PCA boundary.

Boundary, Size, and Access

The Mount Abrams Scenic Special Interest Area is 3,000 acres and is well-defined by jeep trails in the surrounding valley bottoms and by Highway 550. The Engineer Pass jeep road defines the northern boundary along Mineral Creek, and the rough jeep trail in Poughkeepsie Gulch defines the east boundary. To the west, US Highway 550 traverses through the Ironton area below Red Mountain Pass. The southern end is generally defined by the BLM/Forest Service boundary.

The Brown Mountain jeep road (884) provides rough access on the west side to near treeline where it dead ends near the Lost Day Mine. This proposal omits the Brown Mountain jeep road, but consideration could be made to close the very rough road lower down. The Albany Gulch trail loop located above Ironton could be included to the extent possible given its proximity to Highway 550.

Proposed Management

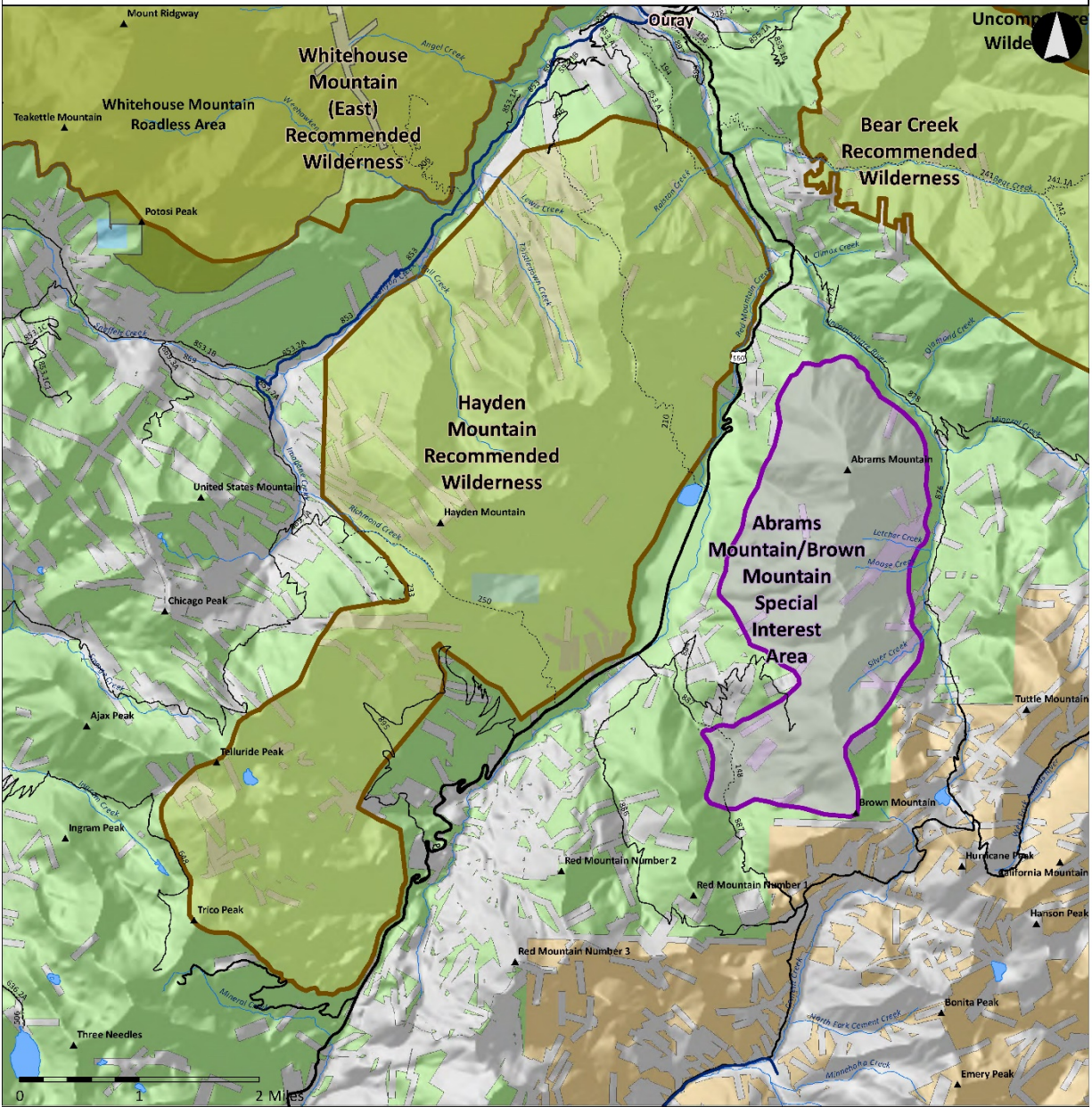
Specific management direction is proposed to ensure protection of scenic values as follows:

- The Mount Abrams Scenic Special Interest Area should be proposed to be withdrawn from mineral entry. It should also be found unsuitable for oil and gas leasing, and made discretionary no-lease.
- Management direction must include prohibition on road construction and limitations on tree removal consistent with management prescribed by the Colorado Roadless Rule, 36 CFR Part 294.43(b), 294.42(b).
- Motorized recreation is prohibited within the area. Best management practices are in place on all access routes and monitored regularly to ensure effectiveness.
- Recreational trail improvements are prioritized for the trail to Gray Copper Falls to bring it up to a sustainable trail standard.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
San Juan Skyway	San Juan Skyway Corridor Management Plan Progress Report, CDOT 2014
Supplemental Values	
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017

Abrams Mountain/Brown Mountain & Hayden Mountain



Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
 Rocky Mountain Wild
 4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- Recommended Wilderness
- Linkage Area
- Special Interest Area/Other
- Roadless Area (FS)
- Wilderness Study Area (BLM)
- Wilderness

- Land Ownership**
- USFS
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - State
 - Other Public
 - Tribe
 - Private

Whitehouse Mountain Addition to Mount Sneffels Wilderness

**Proposed Wilderness Designation
Uncompahgre National Forest
Ouray Ranger District**

*12,760 acres total
(Whitehouse Mountain
East – 12,000 acres;
Whitehouse Mountain
West – 760 acres)*



General Description

The Whitehouse Mountain addition to Mount Sneffels Wilderness completes the Mount Sneffels Wilderness and one of the most recognizable mountain scenes in Colorado. Countless scenic calendars include the blazing fall colors of the Sneffels Range as viewed from Dallas Divide. The addition would extend the wilderness boundary east from its current location atop the summit of Mount Sneffels to incorporate the remainder of the Sneffels Range.

In addition to incorporating some of the most dramatic, classic and heavily photographed mountain scenery in the San Juans, Whitehouse Mountain includes well-known mountaineering summits like Potosi Peak and Teakettle Mountain, as well as the popular Weehawken Trail near Ouray. The wilderness addition is bounded on the south by the Camp Bird Mine Road, which leads to Yankee Boy Basin and other four-wheel-drive routes heavily used during summer.



Naturalness

The precipitous slopes of Whitehouse Mountain are stereotypical rock and ice wilderness. The steep and rugged nature of the area, combined with an absence of precious metal deposits, precluded road construction and left the area in a natural, undisturbed condition.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive Recreation

The Whitehouse Mountain addition towers thousands of feet above Yankee Boy Basin and Camp Bird. The great elevational differential creates an outstanding sense of solitude, and most locations within the wilderness addition offer unrestricted vistas across much of southwest

Colorado. The peaks are much less visited than the popular namesake of the wilderness, Mount Sneffels, and lightly used trails like that in Blaine Basin offer solitary excursions through alpine flower fields.

The rugged peaks of the Sneffels Range provide challenging mountaineering summits, particularly Potosi Peak and Teakettle Mountain. Other outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation include hiking the Weehawken Trail for views of waterfalls, alpine meadows, and wildflowers. Elk favor the high basins as summer concentration areas, and early season hunters seeking adventurous backcountry hunting can find abundant herds in these remote hideouts. Bighorn sheep favor the area in summer and move across it to access winter range near Ouray.

Size and Roadlessness

Whitehouse Mountain is 12,760 acres, and is contiguous with the existing 16,485-acre Mount Sneffels Wilderness. The proposed wilderness addition contains no roads.

Supplemental Values

Whitehouse Mountain encompasses a portion of two adjacent Potential Conservation Areas identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. The Yankee Boy Basin/Blue Lakes Pass PCA was identified for its occurrence of Colorado Divide whitlow-grass (*Draba streptobrachia*). The East Fork Dallas Creek PCA was designated for its occurrence of a beaked sedge (*Carex utriculata*) wet meadow and a globally vulnerable lower montane willow carr (*Salix drummondiana/Calamagrostis Canadensis*). Both sites are rated as B4-Moderate Biodiversity Significance.

Manageability

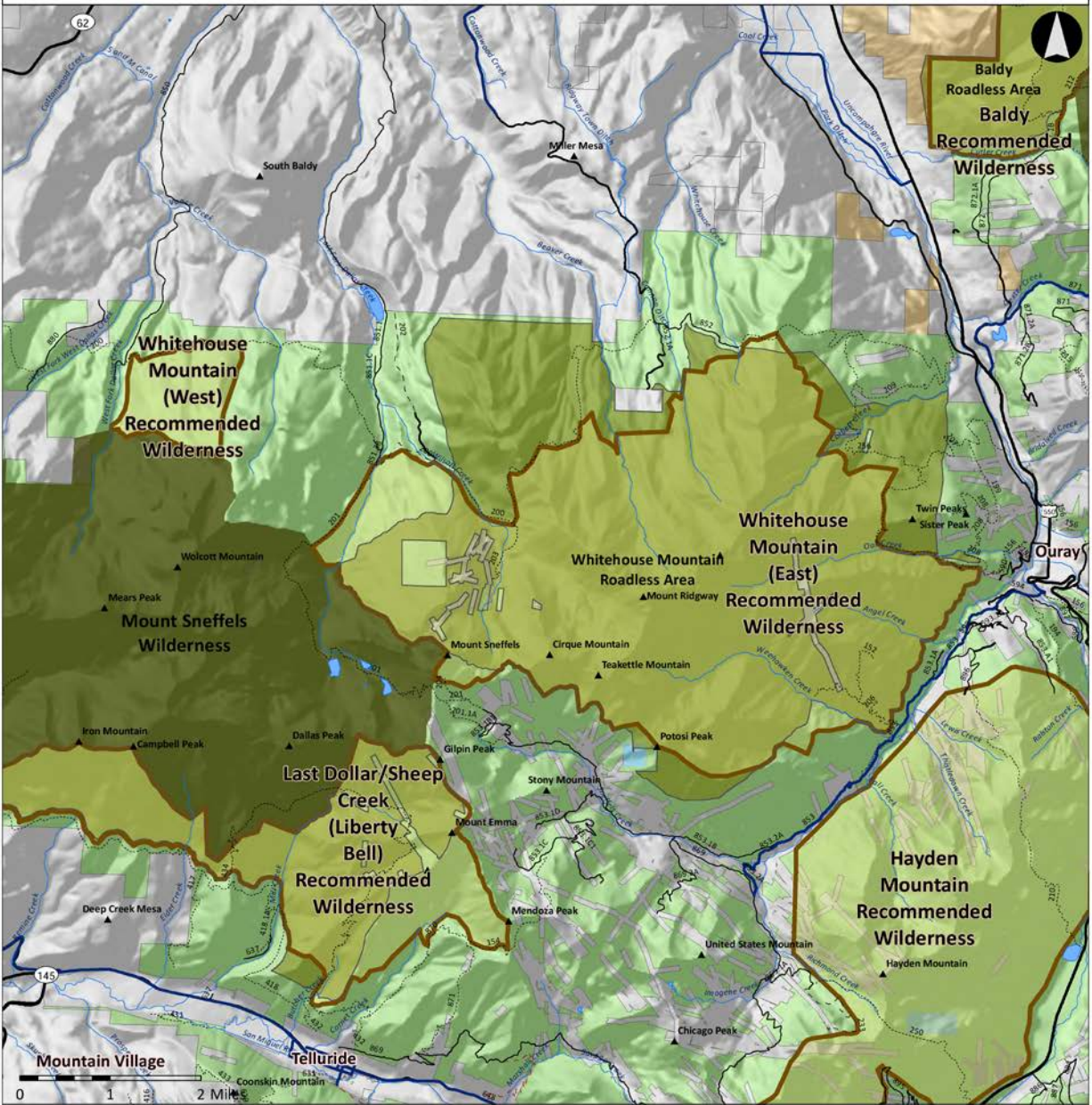
Whitehouse Mountain is well protected against incompatible uses by its precipitous topography. With a wilderness boundary drawn along the Dallas Trail, a winter ski hut and mechanized use are excluded from the proposed wilderness. Remaining trails within the area are non-mechanized. The area has low potential for oil and gas, and hardrock mineral exploration over the past century failed to discover any economically valuable deposits. The area includes a collection of patented mining claims in Blaine Basin, all of which are held by the same ownership. These are generally inaccessible and do not pose a serious impediment to wilderness management. The 2007 draft Forest Plan recommended Whitehouse Mountain for wilderness.

Information Resources

Item	Data Source
Roadlessness	Colorado Roadless Rule at 36 CFR xx
	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 71
Naturalness; Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Unconfined Primitive	Forest Service inventory pursuant to FSH 1909.12,chapter 70, section 72

Recreation	
	USDA Forest Service, R2, Profiles of Colorado Roadless Areas 2008
	GMUG Roadless Inventory & Evaluation for Potential Wilderness Areas, 2005
Supplemental Values	
Bighorn Sheep Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Elk Production Area	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Lynx Potential Habitat	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Species Activity Mapping 2017
Canyon Creek at Ouray Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
Yankee Boy Basin/Blue Lakes Pass Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
West Dallas Creek Potential Conservation Area with High Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017
East Fork Dallas Creek Potential Conservation Area with Moderate Biodiversity Significance	Colorado Natural Heritage Program Potential Conservation Areas 2017

Whitehouse Mountain addition to Mount Sneffels Wilderness



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, COMaP v10, SRCA, USFS, USGS, wilderness.net

Map Prepared By:
Alison Gallensky
Rocky Mountain Wild
4/13/2018 18-024 v12

- Legend**
- Major Road
 - CDNST
 - USFS Road
 - Closed USFS Road
 - Trail (snow)
 - Trail (motorized)
 - Trail (non-motorized)

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------|
| | Recommended Wilderness | | USFS |
| | Linkage Area | | BLM |
| | Special Interest Area/Other | | NPS |
| | Roadless Area (FS) | | State |
| | Wilderness Study Area (BLM) | | Other Public |
| | Wilderness | | Tribe |
| | | | Private |

Black Canyon Audubon Society
P.O. Box 387, Delta, CO 81416

May 27, 2018

Re: BCAS support for Mule Park IBA

Dear Mr. Reed,

We are writing to express Black Canyon Audubon's (BCAS) support for the inclusion of the Mule Park Important Bird Area into the citizens' proposal as a Special Interest Area, in the GMUG Forest Plan Revision.

BCAS represents approximately 393 members in seven western slope counties that include most of the GMUG area.

We have been interested in this area, and especially in the Western Purple Martins that live there, since about 2001-2002 when the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory began monitoring the Purple Martins there. We have had several field trips to the area, and we consider it to be one of the most important and irreplaceable places in the GMUG.

In 2015 we worked with Audubon Rockies to have the area officially designated an Important Bird Area. While there are 56 IBAs in Colorado, only Mule Park and Rocky Mountain National Park include large areas of aspen habitat. And only Mule Park IBA has the genetically distinct Western Purple Martins. It is also important to numerous other wildlife species, including many other cavity nesting birds.

We support the Mule Park IBA's designation as a Special Interest Area with management that protects the aspens and adjoining open parkland from commercial logging, additional motorized routes, and energy development.

Sincerely,

Bruce Ackerman, President
Bruceackermanaud@aol.com

Bill Day, Conservation Chair
Billday@paonia.com



Western Purple Martin Foundation

5331 Hammond Bay Rd., Nanaimo, BC V9T 5M9

Phone/Msg/Fax: (250) 758-2922 Email: wpmf@georgiabasin.ca

Website: www.saveourmartins.org

May 25, 2018

Dear Matt Reed:

The Western Purple Martin Foundation helps support researchers and conservationists dedicated to the study, protection, and recovery of the western Purple Martin (*Progne subis arboricola*) along the west coast of North America in British Columbia, Canada and in Washington, Oregon and California, USA.

The Foundation supports the recognition of the Mule Park Important Bird Area (IBA) to be included in the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest plan revision as a Special Interest Area.

Our understanding is that this area supports one of the highest populations of nesting western Purple Martins in the Rocky Mountains. Unlike the eastern subspecies of the Purple Martin (*P. s. subis*) The overall population of the western Purple Martin subspecies in North America is small, probably less than 5,000 nesting pairs. The species is in decline in a number of areas due to competition with the non-native European Starling and nesting habitat loss and degradation.

Protection of remaining areas occupied by nesting western Purple Martins is important to the long-term conservation of this subspecies. As an area of rare concentrated western Purple Martin nesting use, the Mule Park area should be considered for its important contribution to the local, regional, and range-wide populations of the western Purple Martin.

For these reasons, the Western Purple Martin Foundation strongly supports the designation of Mule Park area as Important Bird Area.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Charlene Lee". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

J. Charlene Lee
President

Western Purple Martin Working Group

Facilitating international coordination of research, conservation, management and recovery of the Western Purple Martin

Stan Kostka, Secretary
Western Purple Martin Working Group
28603 Kunde Rd, Arlington, WA 98223
May 25, 2018

High Country Conservation Advocates,
716 Elk Ave.
P.O. Box 1066
Crested Butte, CO 81224
matt@hccacb.org; brett@hccacb.org

Subject: Support for Mule Park IBA proposal, CO, USA.

The **Western Purple Martin Working Group** is an international organization of scientists and conservationists dedicated to protecting, conserving and restoring populations of the Western Purple Martin (*Progne subis arboricola*) in western North America. Our group includes members from the Pacific and Rocky Mountain States and western Canada, and coordinates and supports activities in research, management, and conservation of this unique at-risk subspecies throughout its breeding range.

The Working Group was formed in response to concerns regarding alarming declines of Purple Martin populations throughout Western North America (Tautin et al. 2009). Through our cooperative efforts, we have established research programs to understand the history, genetics, population biology, and habitat needs of this subspecies (Baker et al 2007, Cousens and Lee, 2012). As importantly, the Working Group has supported large-scale volunteer-based population recovery programs involving installation of nest boxes and protection of natural and man-made nesting habitats (WPMWG 2005).

The Working Group supports the recognition of the Mule Park Important Bird Area (IBA). Our understanding is that the area supports one of the highest populations of nesting Western Purple Martins in the Rocky Mountains. Unlike the abundant eastern subspecies of Purple Martin (*P. s. subis*), the overall population of the Western Purple Martin subspecies in north America is very small, probably less than 5,000 nesting pairs. The species is in decline in a number of areas due to competition with the non-native European Starling and habitat loss and degradation. As well, the small (probably less than 500 pairs), disjunct and genetically isolated sub-population (Cousens and Baker, unpub. data) of Western Purple Martins nesting in woodpecker cavities in mature aspen stands at high elevation in the western Rocky Mountain foothills of CO and UT is particularly sensitive to loss of this critical nesting habitat. The eastern Purple Martin is now entirely confined to artificial housing because of such habitat loss historically.

Protection of remaining areas occupied by nesting Western Purple Martins is important to the long-term conservation of the species. As an area of rare concentration of Purple Martin nesting use in original wild habitat, the Mule Park area should be considered for its important contribution to the local, regional, and range-wide populations of the Western Purple Martin (as well as many other wildlife species).