

High Country Conservation Advocates • American Whitewater •
Colorado Trout Unlimited

c/o High Country Conservation Advocates
716 Elk Avenue
Crested Butte, CO 81224
(509)999-0012

Forest Plan Revision Team
2250 South Main Street
Delta, Colorado 81416

Submitted electronically at: gmugforestplan@fs.fed.us

**Comments: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison National Forest (GMUG) Draft Wild
& Scenic Eligibility Evaluation**

Dear Forest Planning Team,

On March 12 High Country Conservation Advocates, Trout Unlimited, and American Whitewater held a Wild & Scenic Community Night in Crested Butte, Colorado to raise awareness about the forest planning process and the wild and scenic eligibility process.

Approximately 40 members of the public attended to learn more about the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act and about the eligibility process as part of the greater GMUG Forest Planning Process. Several attendees chose to submit written comments at the event while others opted to submit comments electronically via the Forest Plan Revision website (information about how to submit comments electronically was provided to all participants). Attached below are individual comments written by participants that evening and collected by organizers.

Sincerely,



Julie Nania, Water Director
High Country Conservation Advocates
P.O. Box 1066
Crested Butte, CO 81224
Julie@hccach.org



Garrett Hanks
Trout Unlimited
Southwest Colorado Field Coordinator
1309 E 3rd Ave., Suite 109
Durango, CO 81301
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Colorado Stewardship Assistant
American Whitewater
1 (802) 299 8405
kestrel@americanwhitewater.org

To: GMUG Forest Planning Team at gmugforestplan@fs.fed.us

Name: PATRICK BLACKDALE

Address: PO BOX 295
ALMONT, CO 81210

Email: p.blackdale@gmail.com

Date: 3/12/19

Stream/lake commenting on:

LOTTIS CREEK

I would like the Forest Planning Team to consider the following when revising the Draft Wild & Scenic Eligibility Report:

LOTTIS CREEK IS COMPLETELY WITHIN THE GMUG, FREE FLOWING, AND INCREDIBLY SCENIC. THERE IS AN AMAZING BEAVER DAM AREA ROUGHLY THREE MILES UPSTREAM FROM LOTTIS CAMPGROUND THAT IS BREATHTAKING. I HIKE ALONGSIDE LOTTIS TO GET TO HENRY LAKE TO FISH. EVERYTIME I EMBARK ON THIS SEVEN MILE HIKE, I AM BLOWN AWAY BY THE BEAUTY AND PEACEFULNESS OF THIS CREEK. OFTEN I WILL SEE DEER, BIRDS OF PREY, BEAVERS, AND A MULTITUDE OF FLORA TOO NUMEROUS TO LIST. I WOULD LOVE TO SEE LOTTIS CREEK CONSIDERED AS WILD AND SCENIC.

To: GMUG Forest Planning Team at gmugforestplan@fs.fed.us

Name: Collin Page
Address: 290 S 5th St
Gunnison, CO 81230
Email: cpage1715@yahoo.com

Date: 3/12/19

Stream/lake commenting on: Taylor River

I would like the Forest Planning Team to consider the following when revising the Draft Wild & Scenic Eligibility Report:

Being a raft guide on the lower Arkansas River, I get to see a lot of desert, but not much forest. Kayaking down the Taylor River is a remarkable experience with being remote on a river surrounded by beautiful pine forests. With the rock formations besides the river, and the pine trees arching over it, it is an unforgettable experience that I one day hope to expose my children to.

To: GMUG Forest Planning Team at gmugforestplan@fs.fed.us

Name: Courtney Burton

Address: PO Box 2450

Email: cburton@wheelsandwaves.com

Date: 3/11/19

Stream/lake commenting on: Slate River

I would like the Forest Planning Team to consider the following when revising the Draft Wild & Scenic Eligibility Report:

The lower Slate River is unique because of the 360° views of the valley & mountains in Crested Butte. For paddling, it is special because it's super beginner friendly & accessible to the town of Crested Butte. It is one of the most scenic wild rivers in Colorado, & needs to be open to the public to enjoy, paddle, & view.

To: GMUG Forest Planning Team at gmugforestplan@fs.fed.us

Name: Grant Spear

Address: 661 Teocalli rd. Crested Butte, CO 81224

Email: g.spear21@gmail.com

Date: 3/12/19

Stream/lake commenting on: Cement Creek, Ruby Anthracite Creek, East River

I would like the Forest Planning Team to consider the following when revising the Draft Wild & Scenic Eligibility Report:

Cement Creek: I grew up ~~near~~^{near} cement creek + have seen some of the most spectacular wildlife in + around the wetlands up there. Moose, elk, deer all frequent the river corridor, and the fishing in the wetlands is great. There is also one of the most unique fens in the world up there.

Ruby Anthracite: Simply one of the most beautiful places ever! Dark Canyon is spectacular to hike through and one of the most exciting paddles I've ever done. Very lush and immersing just being out there, and I've seen tons of wildlife there.

East River: Amazing fishing, regional fish hatchery, upper East is beautiful how it meanders through the valley, and has awesome kayaking up by Gothic.

To: GMUG Forest Planning Team at gmugforestplan@fs.fed.us

Name:

Address:

Email:

Date:

Stream/lake commenting on:

Upper Cochetopa
Cuthroats
Dot roadside until Dome lakes
I dont know whats between Eddiesville
and Dome lakes but probably great fishing

I would like the Forest Planning Team to consider the following when revising the Draft Wild & Scenic Eligibility Report: