

Klein, Matthew - FS

Subject: FW: WRNF public comment on Whitney Creek Geotechnical Investigation Project

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:02 PM

To: Klein, Matthew - FS <matthew.klein@usda.gov>

Subject: WRNF public comment on Whitney Creek Geotechnical Investigation Project

Ms. Marcia Gilles, District Ranger (Acting)
Ms. Leanne Veldhuis, Eagle-Holy Cross District Ranger
c/o Matthew Klein (matthew.klein@usda.gov)
United States Forest Service
P.O. Box 190
Minturn, Colorado 81645

Re: Plans for exploratory drilling in Homestake Valley in preparation for construction of proposed Whitney Reservoir within the Homestake Valley

Dear Ms. Gilles and Ms. Veldhuis:

June 29, 2020

My Comments: I'll start by saying that I fully agree with comments previously shared by Jack Holmes and Dr Warren Hern. They share unrivaled, intimate knowledge of the Homestake area, clearly surpassing the knowledge coming from the folks who are proposing this project. Thanks to their thoroughness and articulately stated cases, I will keep my comments brief.

My opposition to this project is admittedly not rooted in immense geographical or historical knowledge of the area, it is simply rooted in the fact that I recently purchased 28 acres of land in the Homestake Valley, my first properly purchase ever. This project would be incredibly disruptive to my land and my ability to enjoy my land – the sole purpose of my purchase. I just spent some time on my land in June, 2020, and plan to spend quite a lot of time there going forward. It is my land, to enjoy, in solitude without undue or unjust disruption.

I'm clear that there are several alternatives to this study, which obtain the objective and desired outcomes, without having to displace and disrupt life on my land.

The proposed study will directly impact my land, and it is my private property. I simply ask that you review the proposed alternative methods to obtain your objectives, without unnecessary disruption to Homestake Valley.

Elizabeth Hayes

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