

October 29, 2023

USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region
Attn: Reviewing Officer
C/O Director of Strategic Planning
2nd floor
1617 Cole Blvd. Building 17
Lakewood, CO 80401

Submitted electronically via <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?project=51806>

Re: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests Plan Revision #51806 objection

Dear Reviewing Officer:

I am submitting this objection to the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests (GMUG) Forest Plan, Draft Record of Decision (draft ROD), and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), noticed August 31, 2023. Chad Stewart, GMUG National Forests Supervisor is the Responsible Official. I have previously submitted a comment on the draft plan.

Objection 1: The categorization of Hayden Mountain as General Forest is inadequate to protect the wildlife, scenic and other natural values of the landscape and should be changed to Special Interest Area or Special Management Area.

Suggested Remedies: Designate Hayden Mountain, with boundaries consistent with the CCP, as a Special Interest Area or Special Management Area in the final forest plan.

Objection 2: Summer ROS for the entire CCP-proposed Hayden Mountain SIA should be Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized

I vehemently object to the Summer ROS of Semi-Primitive Motorized from Spirit Gulch to McIntyre Gulch in Ouray County East of US-550 within the proposed SIA boundary. This is a material change from the Alternative B of the Summer ROS of 2021, and may have precluded many user groups, citizens and governments from commenting on the draft plan. These areas are popular for hiking at the Red Mountain Pass area. The Red Mountain Pass already has numerous motorized primitive roads. The Ouray area has been overrun by OHV's and the jeeping crowd, it would be nice to reserve some areas in the Red Mountain Pass area for non motorized.

Suggested Remedies: restore the Summer ROS map for the Hayden Mountain Area to the 2021 Summer ROS designation of Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized.

Thank you very much for your consideration of the above objections. I look forward to the final forest plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dan Hughes". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Dan Hughes
PO Box 251
Ouray, CO 81427