

January 8, 2024

Anthony Edwards, Deputy Forest Supervisor
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest
2250 South Main Street
Delta, Colorado 81416

Submitted electronically: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public//CommentInput?Project=63679>

RE: Draft EA & FONSI for the proposed Thompson Divide Administrative Withdrawal

Mr. Edwards:

Please accept the following 124 unique letters, respectfully submitted by Wilderness Workshop on behalf of the 124 individuals who wrote them.

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting for longer than 20 years
I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snow mobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

William Shank

Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in strong support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For many years the protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. Among the watersheds are Thompson Creek, Four Mile Creek, as well as portions of Muddy Basin, Coal Basin and the headwaters of East Divide Creek. To safeguard these streams and their riparian habitat is crucial for our valley, our counties, our state for the future. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Hensley and James Peterson

Aspen, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I live in Carbondale, CO. I hike, hunt, ride bikes in the Thompson Divide and value it's wildlife. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to

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Signed,

Patrick King

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I know there is an increased risk of birth defects from fracking and mining in the area. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Elizabeth Iacullo

Snowmass Village, CO

Message Subject: Thompson Divide mining proposal

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. We on the western slope understand the importance of this region to continue to support the threatened populations of the numerous large mammals that must the move throughout the state to support their numbers. In addition, as with most persons living in this part of the country, I value the wilderness for not only its soul-refreshing beauty but also the varied outdoor recreation activities that rely on a healthy and undisturbed watershed. Sincerely, James Callaway, PhD Carbondale, CO

Signed,

James Home
san diego, CA

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

If you love the outdoors as much as I do, and want to preserve its beauty for your grandchildren you should approve this measure! It's what our grandchildren refer to as a 'no brainer'!!!!

Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

TIMOTHY MCNEARNEY

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I support this petition: I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. They continue to play an important role in the region's economy. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Dan McCurdy

Springfield, IL

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. Fossil fuels are going the way of the dinosaurs (only fitting...) and these 20 years will see us through to a cleaner energy and healthier planet. Please stand with the people and support the future generations of earthlings.

Signed,

Susan Drinker

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Please protect the Thompson Divide for Colorado

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Thompson Divide mineral leases. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Tyler Stableford

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials,

business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Judi Simecek

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

A lot of what follows feels like a cut and paste, and that's because it is. But I am definitely in support of everything stated below. Thank you to you and your staff for caring enough to read an email. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health

on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

William Rochfort

CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. As an avid outdoorswoman and environmentalist, this action is incredibly necessary to protect our wild spaces, as well as continue to drive tourism to our community as "Colorful Colorado." The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Greta Brown

Aspen, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide and the Upper Gunnison River watershed is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide, which also expands into the Upper Gunnison River Basin around Crested Butte. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering

support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The drinking watershed for Crested Butte and the watershed for Ohio Creek have also been part of tireless advocacy for protection and are included within the proposed withdrawal area. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in these areas. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide and around Crested Butte contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work in these communities because of the access to recreation in places like the area that would be protected by this withdrawal. On these lands locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the treasured landscapes and other existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on these lands being intact and unharmed by extractive development in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Allison Henderson
Crested Butte, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting for future generations

To whom it may concern, I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. As a member of the Carbondale community who was raised there and still lives here, I have seen the rise and fall associated with mineral and gas leasing and usage. The economic and community impact mineral and gas businesses have on our strong recreation-based valley economy could have long-lasting negative impacts. Our community has survived losing the coal industry, and the deaths of community members from that industry, and I would hate to see us take a step backward in the progress we have made. Protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers, and conservationists. These are the current community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide! Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, but they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. The Thompson Divide is an at-risk landscape in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear, mountain lions, and future wolf expansion. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the

existing recreation, agricultural, and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Jamie Maybon
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Protect The Thompson Divide

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. I am a rancher whose irrigation, stock and domestic water originate in the headwaters of the Thompson Divide. If this cycle of ground water, springs, creeks, and snowpack is interrupted by road building, drilling, and fracking it will directly impact me and my family. We are already seeing the direct effects of climate change and to add disruption by drilling would certainly accelerate our water loss. The Thompson Divide is prime habitat for deer and elk and draws hunters from all over the country. Drilling would scare the wildlife away from their natural grazing and calving areas. The road building would carve up areas that currently protect these animals and give them room to be undisturbed. Drilling roads would also disturb the grazing and movement of cattle and invite more people and vehicles to disturb the remote backcountry. The Forest Service has plenty of roads and trails throughout the mid-elevation of the Thompson Divide and we don't need to carve it up any more. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. This is prime, healthy habitat. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Finalizing the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide is essential. Thank you,

Signed,
William Perry

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in strong support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Chris A Moore

Denver, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is a valuable asset to our country.

I am a 40 year resident of the Roaring Fork Valley. This valley and its watershed is immensely valuable for those who live and work here. It is also of importance to people from all over America and the world who come here to experience wilderness and a bit of solitude. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to

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Signed,

Mary Phillips

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I have spent many hours and days hiking and exploring the Thompson Divide area. Its creeks support nice populations of endangered native Colorado Cutthroat trout. This pristine area must be forever protected from any kind of commercial development including fossil fuel development. I therefore write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Robert Millette
New Castle, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, ultrarunners, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Jeff Colt
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's

recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! We Need to protect our Beautiful Earth. We are the Stewards of this Earth. It is our responsibility to be Honorable Stewards and ensure the health and wellbeing of the land, the fauna and the flora. We must concur the greed within ourselves as humans to assure our Earth is protected. Thank you.

Andrea Dazzi Parachute CO.

Signed,

Andrea Dazzi

Parachute, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide must be protected

With this letter, I urge you to move quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide. I have lived in Carbondale for 15 years, a community I chose specifically for its natural beauty, its environmental awareness and its access to hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking and skiing. As an airbnb host with more than 200 guests in the past few years, I have seen first hand the value visitors place on the aforementioned qualities of this region. Protection of the Thompson Divide makes sense economically, and is supported by a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers and conservationists. In addition, the Thompson Divide provides clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. The area also is a migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. The Thompson Divide in its current state is fundamental to the economic and ecological health of our region – a region that is already struggling with the impact of climate change and development. The benefits of the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide far outweigh the relatively small potential profits from mineral development. Please support the health and vitality of our region by finalizing the proposed administrative withdrawal.

Signed,

Richard Blauvelt

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

Please move forward with the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters,

elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Carolyn Cipperly

Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide

To whom all it may concern, There are far better solutions than fucking up the wilderness to meet the people's energy needs/wants. Kindly, please leave Thomson Divide, and all the rest of it alone. Thank you, Randal

Signed,

Randal Morris

Message Subject: Please protect our area

I have been climbing and running in the Thompson Divide for 20 years. The place is amazing. Please keep the oil and gas development to the places it makes sense. It does not make sense on the Divide. Oil extraction is expensive there, and not friendly to the wildlife. Francis

Signed,

Francis Sanzaro

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

Please save Thompson Divide. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers,

snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Elizabeth Hogan
CO

Message Subject: Please Keep the Thompson Divide Wild!

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. Protection of the Thompson Divide is a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West.

The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Sincerely, Ben Ludlow

Signed,

Benjamin Ludlow

Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. It is a bipartisan issue to protect the Thompson Divide and you should listen to these people. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, (ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers, and conservationists). The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

dena nickell

gold beach, OR

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. I am a retiree who lives in Glenwood Springs. My husband and I retired here because of the quality of life due to its rural nature and recreation opportunities. My husband and I are skiers, snowshoers and hikers. We love the wildlife that we see here. We also appreciate the relative lack of pollution unlike the front range of Colorado where we lived for decades. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering

support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Robin Van Norman

Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. I support the administrative withdrawal of the approximate 225,000 acres of public land within the Thompson Divide that include the West Elk Scenic Byway, the Ragged Trail up to McClure Pass, the area between the Ragged Wilderness and the West Elk Wilderness north and south of Kebler Pass Road including the Lost Lake Campground, and important wildlife habitat and migration corridors. This land provides source water for the North Fork Valley that supports its local ranches, orchards, vineyards, and organic farms of its sustainable agriculture economy. Additionally the scenic landscape and rich agricultural products have helped foster a growing and vibrant tourist industry in the North Fork Valley. Adopt the conclusion of the draft Environmental Assessment, obviate the need for a full EIS and finalize the Thompson Divide Administrative and the West Elks American Viticultural Area. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities, including those in the North Fork Valley. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson

Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide and the North Fork Valley contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the overall region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to farmers and ranchers in both the Thompson Divide and the North Fork Valley, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide and its influence on the North Fork Valley. Adopt the conclusion of the draft Environmental Assessment, obviate the need for a full EIS and please finalize the Thompson Divide Administrative withdrawal. Sincerely, Ralph D'Alessandro

Signed,
Ralph DAlessandro
Hotchkiss, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

My name is Julia and I grew up in Carbondale. I've moved around the country and a little around the world and I ended back in Colorado because of the beautiful wild places like the Thompson Divide. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on

wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Julia Tallmadge
Basalt, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting
The Thompson Divide represents some of the most beautiful and pristine extended Roaring Fork Valley. It is worth preserving in its present form.

Signed,
Nathan Klingenstein
Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

This letter expresses strong support for the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal in the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, safeguarding the Thompson Divide has remained a top priority for our community, garnering backing from a diverse, bipartisan coalition encompassing ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers, and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment accurately reflects the community's shared values regarding the resources in the Thompson Divide. The existing recreational opportunities in the Thompson Divide significantly contribute to the well-being and quality of life for the surrounding communities. Residents are drawn to live and work here due to the abundant recreational access, offering activities such as hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling, and more. These opportunities not only enhance the overall quality of life but also play a vital role in sustaining the region's recreation economy. The Thompson Divide's watersheds supply clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom rely on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, serve as a source of food, and contribute to the region's rural character. Recognized as one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, the Thompson Divide links wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, serving as a crucial migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear, and mountain lions. Maintaining ecological health in the face of climate change and development is paramount for our community. The potential gains from mineral development, though relatively small, do not justify the sacrifice of damaging existing recreation, agricultural, and economic values that depend on the current ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. We urge you to expedite the finalization of the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide. Time is of the essence. Sincerely, Sara Ransford!

Signed,
sara ransford
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Protecting The Thompson Divide

I wish to convey my support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For many years protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our local community with strong support from a diverse group of long time residents, ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the deep community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing wildlife, recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Mike and Liz Thele
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: I support Protecting the Thompson Divide

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over well a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling, bird watching, dog walking and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. During the Covid pandemic the Thompson Divide provided a much needed outlet for safely exercising and refreshing one's spirit for nearby communities. The 15 headwaters in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands

for summer grazing allotments. These watersheds also provide irrigation, stock water and domestic water for the local ranches, farms, and communities as well as the millions of people downstream dependent on the Colorado River. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide healthy beef and farm produce, and define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, a keystone landscape linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains and Grand Mesa. This pristine area is an important migration and calving corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, turkeys, beaver, bear and mountain lions. The lack of roads and development in this mid-elevation habitat is important to maintain ecological healthy habitat from the soil micro-organisms through the full spectrum of insects, rodents, birds, to apex predators. The plant diversity found in the wetland fens, grass meadows, extensive aspen forests, and climax conifers supports the animal diversity. Ranchers, hunters, fishermen, and all who appreciate a healthy and complete backcountry landscape support preserving the Thompson Divide from oil and gas development. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Your help in working quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide will be much appreciated!

Signed,

Judy Fox-Perry
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking in pristine areas, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and

economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Terry Lee

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I awoke in the cold dawn, a layer of frost across the grassy meadow lined with fir and spruce. It was day 3 of a bike-packing trip west of Carbondale, CO, where I had been a resident for nearly 20 years. I had pedaled from home into the woods one fall and found a quiet I hadn't known in a long time. Work, children, volunteering, my father's death, my mother's death, then my brother's and nephew's dying ... Life, as it often does, brought a solid dose of stress, and this simple pedal into the wild lands near my home brought a peace I couldn't reach any where else. These lands that comprise the Thompson Divide will forever be special to me. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

TRINA ORTEGA

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Protect The Thompson Divide

My family and I support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our

community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Marianne Hunter

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I am writing to express my support for the proposed 20-year administrative withdrawal of 225,000 acres of the Thompson Divide from future oil and gas leasing. It is also my hope that the withdrawal will lead to permanent protection of the area through the CORE Act. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk

Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. Additionally, the Thompson Divide also helps with carbon reduction and sequestration. Every day there is yet another report of a weather related disaster resulting from climate change, the cost of which is enormous in actual dollars and in long term impacts. 'We' are continually talking about the economic benefit of extracted resources to justify giving industry the go ahead, but what about the economic value of the carbon reduction and sequestration services that forests provide? These services are critically important to human and planetary health and extremely valuable in economic terms. 'We', however, seem to be blind to what we are truly giving away when oil and gas leases are issued. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Candace Goodwin

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. Growing up playing in the Thompson Divide, fishing, hiking, biking, camping, skipping rocks and jumping in the cold water after a long day of rock climbing knowing the water is fresh, pure, uncontaminated and shown love and respect by its community is something sacred that I hope pray and write to you today to ask it stay this way for next 7 generations. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging what is sacred and nourishing beyond our human understanding. Thank you, thank you, Thank YOU for your work to quickly finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Lucy Roginski

Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: Thompson Divide

Please support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for Thompson Divide. I support this. It is not in the middle of 'nowhere.' Thompson Divide is accessible for those who live and visit, for outdoor recreation, for appreciating the old ranching community, for participating in cooperative use and care for the area. The beauty of its nature is beyond words. Now from the experts: For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an

important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

M Hodgson

Message Subject: Protect the Thompson Divide; It's a Start

I'm writing in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The profits of Industry from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the ecology and wildlife habitat in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Start now to turn the tide of ecological destruction. Sincerely Lulu Colby

Signed,

Lulu Colby

Rifle, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers

and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson

Signed,

Josh Mandel

Message Subject: Please protect The Thompson Divide

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. 73,500 public comments have been submitted advocating for the prohibition of future oil and gas leasing on the divide. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Yours truly, Patricia Chew

Signed,

Patricia Chew

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

Please act now to permanently protect the Thompson Divide from oil and gas development. I have gone hiking and cross country skiing there since I was a child, as I grew up in Glenwood Springs. This area is too special, unique, and pristine to allow it to be degraded by extractive industries. It provides clean water to our communities, and it is important habitat for many threatened wildlife species. This issue is very important to me. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Maya Kurtz

Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is so valuable

Preserving natural areas and habitats are crucial for the health on birds, animals, plants, soils, air and human life. It is important to let our earth be protected from harmful practices that do not need to occur in this special area. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access

to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Sincerely, Rebecca Winchester

Signed,
Rebecca Winchester

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. I have enjoyed the area for 30 years. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
William Capps
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

We support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide!!!! For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community—, supported by a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. Listen to us! The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Thank you for hearing us!!!

Signed,
Laurel Catto

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's

recreation economy. My husband and I both worked in recreation industries in the Thompson Divide. We take our children there to teach them about ecology and wildlife, this place is special and deserves protection. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Anais Tomezsko

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. I have seen the growth in our region of Thompson Divide and more people are here recreating and wanting to be in the wilderness and wild areas of this area. For this and other reasons, The withdrawal of gas leases in Thompson divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health here. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Joan Matranga

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

It's beyond obvious to those that live here and have long relationships with this land, that this is not a place that should be sacrificed to drilling for short term profit and long-term negative

impacts— especially at a point in time when we are moving beyond extractive energy sources. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Genevieve Villamizar
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. I grew up in Carbondale and have many memories of time spent in Thompson Divide. It is an incredibly unique area and should be protected. I look forward to spending time in the outdoors with my kids there as well. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for

summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Eleanor Haring
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

As a hunter, angler and broadly as a recreationist I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Sam Feuerborn
Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

My husband and I have been involved in the effort to protect Thompson divide since the beginning, about 2008. We are dependent on both the Thompson Creek grazing permit and another in Coal Basin. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. Our working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. They also provide important winter habitat for deer and elk, and more recently fall pasture for elk. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Marj Perry

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's

recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! PS. This beautiful piece of wilderness deserves protecting for generations to come. Alternative energy sources are coming. It would be a shame to open this up without taking that into consideration. Sincerely
Susan Manchee

Signed,
Susan Manchee
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

Dear Fellow Citizens, There are many reasons to protect the Thompson Divide from future oil and gas development, not the least of which is to protect our air from future fossil fuel burning. But to keep an area pristine for the simple sake of leaving a bit of this earth alone is reason enough. Mankind has befouled so much of this earth that maybe we can have the wisdom to preserve those areas that remain wild and lovely wild and lovely. I urge you to think of the value of undisturbed, natural, intact land. A space of beauty. Thank you, Judy Hancock

Signed,
Judy Hancock
Snowmass, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I have lived in the Roaring Fork Valley for 35 years. Hiking, cross country skiing and admiring wild places with wildflowers and wildlife are my passions. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in

the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Ann English

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting
Please do your best in preserving this incredibly beautiful and valuable land. As we all know, once it's gone, it's gone.

Signed,
Trish Gates
Woody Creek, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting
I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that

depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! I live in Paonia, downstream of Thompson Divide. As an agricultural user of irrigation water from Paonia Reservoir I support withdrawal of Thompson Divide and the area around the Paonia Reservoir.. It is vital to protect the purity of this irrigation water so that agriculture can continue to thrive in the North Fork Valley and further west. Thanks, Greg Thompson

Signed,
Greg Thompson
Paonia, CO

Message Subject: Please protect the Thompson Divide!

I'm writing to support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. Our local Slow Food organization first worked with organic farmers and ranchers in the Thompson Divide twenty years ago and have continued to visit the area and support these sustainable businesses. Protection of the Thompson Divide is a major priority for our friends who have businesses in that area - from farmers to artists, mountain bikers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects this communities values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off that will damage the unique environment and ecological landscape of the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Susan Mackin Dolan
Edwards, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting and so is all of our good green earth.

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and

mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Mineral development creates only short term benefits. If the land is managed properly the benefits can last decades - centuries even. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Sincerely , Donald Gorman

Signed,

Donald Gorman

Glenwood, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide

My connection to the Thompson Divide goes way back. I truly love it back there for the peace and quiet and beauty and water and wildlife and adventure--my experience of nature!

Everybody I know feels a similar deep affection for the area. The diverse community of Carbondale and the whole Western Slope feels deeply about preserving the Thompson Divide and saving it from new drilling and mining. The Thompson Divide is crucial to our community's identity and way of life for its ecological, recreational, agricultural and economic values. My beloved state of Colorado can't just be about extracting energy. I'm writing in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

James Stone

Leadville, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

As a frequent user of our public lands, and as a rural Colorado landowner, I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Dave Van Manen

Beulah, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for the Roaring Fork community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a

source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US. The area links wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural, economic, and wilderness values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
John Ferrell
Paonia, CO

Message Subject: Protect the Thompson Divide

I support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our local community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US. The area is an important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. Unpolluted wetlands and creeks are biodiversity hotspots. It is important to our community to maintain the pristine ecological health of this area. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural, and wildlife values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Sallie Bernard
ASPEN, CO

Message Subject: Protect the life in Thompson Divide

For over a decade, protecting the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community. The time is now to official protect this pristine place from mineral extraction. It is a sacred place for many. I think about the elusive moose who lives among the Nordic trails, the mountain lion who I've only seen it's tracks, the hawks that graced the wedding ceremony of my friends up there this fall, the ranchers who have been connected to the land for decades. Have you been there to see this place? I encourage you to hike, ski or explore in the Thompson divide. Then you will

know it is not the right place for drilling. We cannot risk harming the beautiful ecosystem there. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Nan Campbell

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Please protect Thompson Divide!

I have spent a lot of time enjoying Colorado's public lands, including the spectacular lands of the Thompson Divide region and I wholeheartedly urge their protection. So I am writing today in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Suzanne Jones

Boulder, CO

Message Subject: Protecting Thompson Divide is critical to Water and Wildlife

As we discover and develop new sources for energy, moving slowly on old-style extraction in critical wildlife habitat becomes more and more important. Perhaps we'll never need to exploit such areas. Thus, I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for

the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Susan Edelstein

Message Subject: PLEASE PROTECT Thompson Divide

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. We absolutely must leave

this precious land as untouched as possible. We owe it to wildlife, native ancestors and the earth itself. We must act as compassionate stewards of the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Sincerely,

Diane Kenney

Signed,

Diane Kenney

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

As an active hiker and recreational user of lands within the Thompson Divide area, I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. I genuinely believe that the draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Zane Kessler

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

Protect the Thompson Divide! I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for

surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Lynn Fletcher

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities to connect with a huge expansive of land, for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide also plays an important role for wildlife being one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the land, air and water in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Sincerely, Mona L. Newton

Signed,
Mona Newton
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. As a local trail runner who recreates around this landscape frequently, I ask you to please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Quinn Harnett
Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide needs responsible, sustainable resource extraction

I write to not support the administrative withdrawal from Thompson Divide. Resource extraction is vital to our country's strength and economy, we need to focus on sustainable resource harvesting. Please keep a plan for the Thompson Divide that allows a responsible mixture of resource development and extraction as well as recreation.

Signed,
Brady Van Matre

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community,

garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. I have personally been attending meetings, writing commentaries, speaking out at BLM meetings, and campaigning to stop the leases the Busch Admin handed out without proper EIS and community input and fighting to show the gas/oil companies failed to meet the terms and conditions of the leases, forcing the courts to rule the leases are no longer valid. Yet, the greed and arrogance of the oil/gas industry have repeatedly tried to get into the Thompson Divide area to frill. THIS IS A MORAL USSUE. The leases have expired, been ruled illegal, and ruled void in court, yet the oil/gas industry continues to lobby, intimidate, bully, and spend millions of dollars to push their agenda of greed onto innocent residents and communities. THEIR ACTIONS MUST BE STOPPED, NOW! This area MUST be left alone, PERMENTLY! PROTECT THE THOMPSON DIVIDE, NOW! Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Jennifer Moore

Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

As a Coloradan long concerned with the preservation and protection of the public lands and the wildlife thereon in our state, I strongly support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. Protection for the Thompson Divide area has been a priority for the surrounding communities for over a decade, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access

to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. In addition, as you know, the Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. I ask that you please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide. Thank you for your consideration of this matter of great importance and urgency.

Signed,

Kent Borges

Colorado Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that

depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. We urge you to work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Mark Clark
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. As the population increases there is less and less open land available for protection. We must do this NOW! The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Sincerely,

Theresa Langley
Signed,
Theresa Langley
Marble, CO

Message Subject: We need the Thompson Divide to remain as pristine and healthy and untouched as possible, as one of the last islands of wilderness we have left.

Please make sure that the Thompson Divide's protections are even further enhanced. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the

Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide! Thank you! Michael Gibson

Signed,

MICHAEL GIBSON

Grand Junction, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

Born and raised in Colorado in the mountains. Hiker, kayaker, skier, all outdoor activities, and a witness to the continued loss of our environment, wildlife, water, recreation, I write in full support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change

and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Nancy Andresen
Gypsum, CO

Message Subject: Please save The Thompson Divide!

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. To me personally, this area is one of the few remaining places in our area of Colorado that still feels wild and remote. I have hunted in the area for years, and I have spent much time camping here as well. The nights are spectacular here with absolutely zero light pollution. We need to preserve this magical place. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Jason Wright
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I writing to support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. Protection of the Thompson Divide has the support of many; including ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and

conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the values of this diverse collection of people. Recreational opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the regional economy as well as the quality of life for surrounding residents. Local farmers and ranchers also benefit from the Thompson Divide's clean water and summer grazing allotments. The Thompson Divide is also a biologically significant landscape and important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. Protection of this area is vital; especially since climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide.

Signed,
Eric Abrams
Errol, NH

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I have lived in Carbondale for almost ten years now, and the Thompson Divide region has become a huge part of my daily and weekly outdoor recreation. I regularly ski, hike, bike and climb in the area within the Thompson Divide. This landscape is such a gem for us to be able to explore and to have as open land surrounding our communities, not to mention the critical wildlife habitat it provides. It would be terrible to see it get ripped apart from mining and mineral development. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Betsy Dain-Owens
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide deserves attention and protection

I write supporting the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal of the Thompson Divide area. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for nearby communities, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US and an important migration corridor. Please work to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Mary McCutchan
Grand Junction, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting for my grandsons

In lieu of a form letter, I am writing to you in my support of keeping the Thompson Divide a wilderness area. I have hiked, camped and ridden my horse in many parts of the Divide and it is my belief that, now more than ever, human kind needs open spaces to reconnect to the earth and themselves. Then there is the wildlife, wild flowers, clean streams, etc. The Forest Service knows all too well of what I speak. I'm 75 years old and have lived in the Roaring Fork Valley for 50 years, currently residing in Carbondale. I wish to have the Thompson Divide available to my grandsons in the most pristine way possible.

Signed,
Kay Hagman Knickerbocker
CARBONDALE, CO

Message Subject: Protect the Thompson Divide!!

I support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. I have had the privilege of recreating in this area, and it is stunning and wild. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy.

Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Diane Madigan
REDSTONE, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting
20 years of protection is not asking a lot for this valuable treasure of nature that is so uniquely situated. This gives us time to develop many other ways to power our culture. We will continue to find that mining and drilling are one of the most disruptive and destructive ways to get energy on earth. Thanks for going again big business to protect this treasure

Signed,
Carrie Podl
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting
I have been blessed to live in the Roaring Fork Valley for the past 35 years and treasure our outdoor spaces. I also understand that there needs to be proper stewardship with the resources it provides us. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western

Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Danielle Howard

Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: PROTECT The Thompson Divide

My family and I support the protection of the Thompson Divide memo drilling/mining. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Marianne Hunttee

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

Message Subject: Please protect the Thompson Divide

I support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft

environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Molly Butler

Lakewood, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. Protection of the Thompson Divide is supported by a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Jean C Smith

Colorado Springs, CO

Message Subject: Please protect the Thompson Divide

I strongly support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition -- the draft EA reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for

many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. I urge you to work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Frances Hartogh
Boulder, CO

Message Subject: Protecting The Thompson Divide

I am new to living in the Roaring Fork Valley, although I've been visiting since the 1970s. I moved here in large part to access the amazing nature and wilderness all around me. I firmly believe that we must end our reliance on fossil fuels ASAP, so I do not support any more mining or drilling AT ALL. Thus, I firmly support the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Patricia Goudvis

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

Please protect the Thompson Divide from drilling and mining. Sincerely, Andrea Goodheim
Signed,

Andrea Goodheim
Boulder, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is invaluable!

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has proudly been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. By putting the Thompson divide at risk, we are endangering our own sanity & sanctuary. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health of the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Julie Jenkins
CARBONDALE, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I don't believe that anyone or corporation has the right to buy or sell the earth for private or corporate gain. I don't believe non native species such as cows or horses should have any right to live where they don't belong. Cows should be removed and replaced with bison. Settler colonial white men should be removed and the land should be left to Allow natives to re inhabit their ancestral lands. Mineral extraction is bad for local environments but so is ranching. Use of land/resources for capital gain will always ruin natural environments. Public lands should never be allowed to be used for any monetary gain. We need de growth. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental

assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Ian Davidson

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

The Thompson Divide area should remain open to mining. If the green revolution is to succeed, a massive amount of mined commodities will be required, and that material must come from somewhere. Not everything can be produced in someone else's backyard. It is important that this part of Colorado stands up and does its part. It is not as if this area is untouched. Numerous abandoned coal mines are present here. Additionally, all existing oil and gas leases should remain intact and open to continued development and production. Millions of acres of federal land have been committed to recreation. When is there enough? Thomas J.

Gill
Signed,
Thomas Gill
Evergreen, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting. Having been a ranch owner and rancher on the South West side of the Thompson Divide, I am very familiar with the processes involved in the development of gas wells and their inherent damage and heavy in and around I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the

livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize a permanent administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

STEPHEN KENT

Redstone, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in strong support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and

economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Beverly Patera
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Thompson Divide landscape is more valuable than fossil fuel extraction
The draft EA does a good job summing up the current community-held values in the Thompson Divide. The landscape in its current state provides our community with economic support, a sense of place for our community, and recreation opportunities that are important to our community's quality of life and our identity. Oil and gas development would damage those existing values in an unacceptable trade off for minimal profits to the oil and gas industry. Furthermore, the scientific consensus points to the need to ramp down the development and use of fossil fuels in order to avoid deepening the climate crisis. The recent COP28 agreement in Dubai signals a global shift to a transition away from fossil fuels. The Departments of Agriculture and Interior should take note of this global economic shift and continue to take steps toward strengthening a more diverse economy that is less dependent on fossil fuels. Protecting landscapes for economic benefits other than fossil fuels is critical in this transition. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Michael Gorman

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. In my years living in Carbondale, I have spent a majority of my time recreating in the Thompson Divide. Whether it is mountain biking, hunting, or enjoying the amazing public land resource so close to town. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Joseph Berney
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Administrative Mineral Withdrawal for Thompson Divide is what the community needs

I've been hoping to see the Thompson Divide withdrawn from mineral leasing since I was a kid growing up in Carbondale. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Lea Linse
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: As a Carbondale resident, the Thompson Divide has and is crucial to me and my friends. I've hiked it, ridden it, skied it, and said more than a few prayers up there. It's our sacred ground. Please support of the proposed administrative mineral for Thompson

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and

work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Susan Darrow

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Don't frack up Thompson Divide!

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Andrew Arell

Message Subject: From a local resident

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Alex Popovich
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: I actually live in the Thompson Divide. It is important to me and worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's

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Signed,

William Rodman
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: I have enjoyed hiking and cross country skiing in the Thompson Divide for over thirty years. I thoroughly support these action for protection of the land forever. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Constance Fox
Mancos,, CO

Message Subject: I support the alternative proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide is worth protecting

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

James Starr

Crested Butte, CO

Message Subject: I support the proposed alternative for administrative withdrawal of mineral rights in the Thompson Divide. Annie

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers

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Signed,

Anne Starr

Crested Butte, CO

Message Subject: please protect the Thompson Divide

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Douglas Kretzmann

Message Subject: Please protect the Thompson Divide from oil and gas drilling!

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Randy Brimm

Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Protect The Thompson Divide

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk

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Signed,
Gabriella Sutro
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: Protect the Thompson Divide!

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Brian Steffy
Longmont, CO

Message Subject: Say NO to drilling in Thomson Divide

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft

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Signed,

Michael Levy

Message Subject: That we would sacrifice this rare bit of beauty to temporal avarice is both unthinkable and entirely predictable. Let us start acting like adults and work toward a living future.

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations

throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Max Wheeler
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is one of the mountain west's gems. The thought of blighting it with gas and fracking rigs and injection wells frankly sickens me. I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Fred Malo
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting, so please do it! I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the

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Signed,

Edward Sullivan

Aspen, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting. I strongly support a 20 year withdrawal of mineral explorations;exploitation's in the Thompson Divide. The fragile balance of its ecosystems, agriculture

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not

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Signed,

Nancy Neal
Del Norte, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting. Please.

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Joan Herbst
Glenwood Springs, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting. The damage mineral extraction causes would be unbearable to much of the wildlife in that area. All of the users up there would be affected.

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the

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Signed,

Debbie Kelly

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting. We need to protect our western slope public use in the Thompson Divide because this area provides more economic opportunities in it's current use than the limited amount of any mineral extraction.

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that

depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Janis Louthis
Aspen, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide is worth protecting. I ski and hike there and the peace and beauty of the place is worthy of protection now and for future generations.

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
John Isaacs
Carbondale, CO

Message Subject: The Thompson Divide must be protected!

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals

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Signed,
LEELEE HARRIMAN
Basalt, CO

Message Subject: Thompson Divide - no extraction!

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,

Sean Bonser
Littleton, CO

Message Subject: We need to protect The Thompson Divide is

I write in support of the proposed administrative mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide. For over a decade, protection of the Thompson Divide has been a priority for our community, garnering support from a diverse and bipartisan coalition of ranchers, hunters, elected officials, business owners, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers and conservationists. The draft environmental assessment reflects the community-held values for the resources in the Thompson Divide. Current recreation opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the livelihoods and quality of life for surrounding communities. Many residents choose to live and work here because of the access to recreation in places like the Thompson Divide, where locals and visitors can find opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowmobiling and more. Not only do these opportunities in the Thompson Divide contribute to the overall quality of life for many residents, they also play an important role in the region's recreation economy. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments. These working ranches contribute to the local economy, provide a source of food and help define the region's rural character. The Thompson Divide is one of the most biologically significant and at-risk landscapes in the US, linking wildlands on the Western Slope to the Elk Mountains, the area is a known important migration corridor for lynx, moose, elk, deer, bear and mountain lions. It is important to our community to maintain ecological health on the landscape, as climate change and development continue to increase pressures on wildlife populations throughout the West. The relatively small potential profits from mineral development are not worth the trade-off of damaging the existing recreation, agricultural and economic values that depend on existing ecological conditions in the Thompson Divide. Please work quickly to finalize the proposed administrative withdrawal for Thompson Divide!

Signed,
Bruce McMillan
, CO