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First name: Holly

Last name: Annala

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I would like to comment on the scoping document for the GMUG forest plan. I read through it and overall it is comprehensive, thoughtfully put together and considers many important aspects of the planning process. I am encouraged that the plan is being updated to reflect changing conditions in political, social and environmental climates, and to reflect our fast growing population and pressures on the forest and all public lands. Thank you for your hard work on this process. I appreciate the opportunity to comment.

I do believe some issues should be emphasized more in the scoping process:

There should be more emphasis in the document to address global warming and focus on solutions to minimize global warming; our forest plan and documents should direct managers and processes to help work toward minimizing global warming, not just mitigation of impacts. Mitigating impacts and continuing in the direction we are going worldwide is not working, reducing global warming is becoming increasingly important and the consequences are becoming more disastrous. All aspects of our government should be leaders in reducing global warming.

To focus on solutions and encourage uses that have less impact on the climate in all areas of the forest are of utmost importance. Logging, drilling for gas and mining for coal are likely going to have to be replaced by more energy efficient technologies in the not too distant future. I feel these all need to be changed, minimized, phased out, or at least not encouraged to grow and have a bigger detrimental impact to the climate. Communities that rely on these should be given time to come up with new direction, but they need to be flexible to change as well. Motorized use including ohv use, shuttling and driving passenger vehicles should be looked for its large impact on climate as well. Levels of impact for diverse uses need to be addressed and lower impact uses should be encouraged, which I didn't see mentioned. If a use is more impactful on the forest, wildlife and other users, there needs to be less of that use allowed to equal the same amount of use from a lesser impactful use.

I think there needs to be even more focus on reducing heavier impacts on the forest not only for reasons of global warming, but also to help wildlife and natural ecosystems remain or return to natural and healthy conditions, and for enjoyment of other users.

Clustering trailheads near campgrounds and towns might help. Closing the busy Gothic Road, Slate and Washington Gulch roads during the peak time of day in the summer and shuttling people on busses, like Aspen has done on the Maroon Bells trailhead road would be very helpful. Addressing inadequate camping by putting more pay campgrounds and spaces in the existing campgrounds in Slate, Washington Gulch, on Kebler and other high use areas would be of high importance. Statements such as "Acceptable levels of noise" in the document are too ambiguous and impacts needs to have quantifiable and enforceable levels. Maybe improvement of trails should take precedence over more trail to reduce impact and increase enjoyment of users. Education should play a part of this: not only is non-motorized recreation less impactful to the environment and other users, it is also better for wildlife and for the health of individuals. Possibly the forest can partner with educational organizations to do this.

I feel a prioritization of conservation should be emphasized to preserve as much natural land and wildlife habitat as possible. In the "why the GMUG matters?" section, all of the bullet points are human and economy centered. Human use is emphasized overall, possibly to an imbalanced level. Conserving the wildlands within should be of equal importance with all of the human needs and uses. Wilderness quality and land

unaffected by humans is a dwindling commodity in our world of growing population. After a lifetime in Colorado I am seeing this first hand. I hope to see several wilderness additions recommended from this process. Not only are wilderness quality lands valuable in themselves for the living organism they are and the wildlife within, but for the value to humans and tranquility, and to the health of our planet.

Thank you, Holly Annala, Crested Butte, Colorado