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First name: Gay

Last name: Austin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please accept this revision of my previous objection letter (10/14/23).

Revised Objection letter for Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison Forest Plan Revision #51806.

1. Gay Austin, 600 North Iowa, Gunnison, CO 81230, 970-260-4367, gaustin733@gmail.com.

2. Gay Austin

3. Lead objector: Gay Austin

4. Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison Forest Plan Revision #51806

Forest Supervisor Chad Stewart, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests

5. Issues: Fens and fen peat are not recognized as a "carbon store" in the Final EIS v.1, Chapter 3 and the GMUG Plan Revision. Despite the following statement in the Final EIS v1, Chapter 2 (page 1-22), FW-DC-RMGD-02: "The species composition provides the ecosystem services of water and carbon storage (particularly in fens-which are among the most carbon-dense ecosystems on the planet...", fens and fen peat were not recognized as nonforested carbon stores in the GMUG carbon assessment.

6.#5 could be remedied by including fens and fen peat in the GMUG carbon analysis and GMUG Plan.

7. In 2021 (Austin GMUG comments 11/23/21), I commented on peat in the western U.S. not being a renewable resource because the Histosol represents thousands of years of organic material accumulation (USFWS 1999). This links to this objection letter content.

8. Documents referenced in this objection:

USFWS 1999

Thanks for all your work and consideration!

Gay Austin