

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/27/2023 6:00:00 AM

First name: Dale

Last name: Ratliff

Organization: Crested Butte Mountain Resort

Title:

Comments: October 27, 2023

Submitted Electronically Frank Beum

Regional Forester [ndash] Reviewing Officer

USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region

1617 Cole Blvd. Lakewood, CO 80401

Re: Crested Butte Mountain Resort Objection on the GMUG National Forests Plan

Reviewing Officer Beum:

Crested Butte Mountain Resort (CBMR) respectfully submits this objection to the Revised Land Management Plan for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests and Draft Record of Decision (ROD).<sup>1</sup>

CBMR appreciates the Forest Service's extensive level of work, public outreach, and coordination in preparing the Revised Land Management Plan. CBMR submits this objection to preserve its standing and right to participate in any objection resolution meetings that may occur.

#### I. CBMR Supports the Adoption of the Preferred Alternative

CBMR supports the adoption of the Preferred Alternative as clarified and revised by the Forest Service in the Revised Land Management Plan. CBMR participated in each stage of the GMUG forest planning process and submitted comments on the Draft Revised Land Management Plan. See Exhibit 1 (November 23, 2021 Comments by CBMR on Draft Forest Plan). CBMR appreciates the Forest Service's consideration of its comments on the Draft Plan and the Forest Service's clarifications and revisions in response to each of CBMR's comments. See GMUG Final EIS, Volume 3 at 113, 204.

CBMR operates a four-season ski resort on National Forest System lands within the GMUG under a long-term special use authorization. The lands within CBMR's special use permit boundary have been designated for developed skiing and recreation under the GMUG Forest Plan for forty years. CBMR and the Forest Service have a longstanding partnership and have worked together over the last four decades to provide high-quality public recreation on the public lands within CBMR's special use permit boundary.

CBMR submits this objection as the holder of a long-term authorization for the development and operation of ski area recreation facilities on the GMUG. CBMR supports the adoption of the Preferred Alternative as clarified and revised by the Forest Service in the Revised Land Management Plan. CBMR submits the objection to preserve its right to participate in any objection resolution meetings that may occur and respectfully requests that the Forest Service notify CBMR of the opportunity to participate in any objection resolution meetings.

#### II. Compliance with 36 C.F.R. Part 219

CBMR timely submits this objection letter within 60 calendar days of the publication of the legal notice in the Gunnison County Times on August 31, 2023. CBMR has standing to submit this objection pursuant to 36 C.F.R. [sect] 219.53. CBMR submitted written comments on the Draft Revised Land Management Plan. See Exhibit 1. CBMR provides the following information pursuant to 36 C.F.R. [sect] 219.54(c):

Objector's Name and Address (36 C.F.R. [sect] 219.54(c)(1)):

Tara Schoedinger

Vice President & General Manager

Crested Butte Mountain Resort

12 Snowmass Road Mt. Crested Butte, CO 81225

970-349-2202

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Name of Plan Revision and Responsible Official (36 C.F.R. [sect] 219.54(c)(4))

Name of Plan Revision: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests Revised Land Management

Plan Responsible Official: Chad Stewart, Forest Supervisor

Consistent with the requirements under 36 C.F.R. [sect] 219.54(c)(7), the issues raised in this objection are based on CBMR's prior written comments on the Draft Revised Land Management Plan, see Exhibit 1, or issues arising after the public comment period.

Sincerely,

Tara Schoedinger Vice President & General Manager Crested Butte Mountain Resort