Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/25/2024 1:44:41 AM

First name: Juli Last name: Thurston Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the preservation and protection of the Cube Iron Cataract roadless area to be considered as a wilderness management area. I also support the Cube Iron Cataract Coalition's proposed boundary changes as seen on the map included with this letter. As an avid outdoor enthusiast and a passionate advocate for environmental conservation, I understand the immense value of safeguarding our natural landscapes for future generations to enjoy.

Wilderness areas play a crucial role in maintaining biodiversity, providing habitat for wildlife, and offering unparalleled opportunities for recreation, reflection, and rejuvenation. These pristine environments serve as havens of tranquility, allowing individuals to connect with nature and experience its wonders firsthand.

I believe it is our collective responsibility to ensure the continued preservation of wilderness areas, safeguarding them for threats such as overdevelopment, resource extraction, and habitat degradation. By protecting these irreplaceable ecosystems, we not only preserve their intrinsic beauty and ecological integrity but also uphold our commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability. The Cube Iron Cataract area also serves as a prime travel corridor for wildlife connectivity.

Personally, having had the privilege of exploring the Cube Iron Cataract with my family, including my two boys, I have witnessed firsthand the profound impact this area has had on our lives. From awe-inspiring vistas to serene forests and sparkling lakes, this area has provided us with countless moments of joy, wonder, and connection with nature.

Our adventures in the Cube Iron Cataract area have not only fostered a deep appreciation for the natural world but also have created lasting memories that we will treasure for a lifetime and in turn my boys can share with their children. Whether it's hiking through towering forests, camping under star-filled skies, or spotting wildlife in their natural habitats, each experience has enriched our lives in immeasurable ways.

Furthermore, wilderness areas contribute to local economies by attracting tourists, supporting outdoor recreation industries, and providing valuable ecosystem services such as clean air and water. Their preservation is not only a matter of environmental conservation but also a wise investment in our future prosperity and well-being.

As a parent, I am acutely aware of the importance of preserving this area for future generations. They offer invaluable opportunities for outdoor recreation, education, and personal growth, instilling in our children a sense of wonder, curiosity, and respect for the environment.

I firmly believe that protecting this area is not just a matter of environmental conservation but also a legacy we leave for our children and grandchildren. By safeguarding this natural treasure, we ensure that future generations will have the same opportunities to connect with the outdoors and experience the beauty and majesty of so many beautiful places within.

I urge you to continue your efforts to advocate for the protection and conservation of the Cube Iron Cataract area as a wilderness area. In doing so it can be assured that this invaluable natural treasure remains intact for generation to come.