

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/9/2017 1:04:36 AM

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Comments: Comments on GMUG forest plan

Hello,

As a scientist at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, I have comments on the scoping stage of the GMUG Forest Plan revision process. Specifically,

1. I encourage you to take advantage of scientific results from the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory (RMBL) to inform planning across the GMUG, including data on pollinators, water, climate change, and invasive organisms.
2. Your poster of Special Designation Areas does not include an SDA prioritizing research around the RMBL and Gothic, even though that was one of the top priorities that emerged from previous planning efforts in the early 2000's.
3. Your planning efforts should take into account the very large federal and public investment in research through RMBL. With one of the largest annual expenditures in research of any field research area in the world-supported by NSF, DOE, and NIH, and the world's largest collections of long-term biological studies-any planning effort should consider how to steward that investment.
4. Your planning efforts could consider the importance of public-private partnerships in generating science for management, in particular taking advantage of opportunities associated with RMBL research.
5. Your planning efforts should take into consideration that the USFS has substantially less personnel than it used to.
6. Your planning efforts should take into consideration the dramatic increase in public recreation in the valleys north of Gothic in recent years.

Thanks for considering these important issues as you begin the plan revision process.

Cheers,

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