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Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I are part time residents of Hubbard Park and have been for twenty years. We cherish the beauty of this unique eco system.and are concerned the new forest plan doesn't do enough to protect the area from oil and gas exploration. In 1986 and 1997 the area was recognized as an exception wildlife area with elk, deer, moose, black bear, mountain lion, bobcat and there have been sightings of the Canadian Lynx and Pine Martin. The area is home to various raptors including Red tailed hawk, Osprey and the Goshawk. Hubbard Park and Electric Mountain are prime elk calving areas and need protection from any new surface disturbance.

As owners of property located in the Electric Mountain Recreational Landowners Association, we do not own our mineral rights and from various maps it appears we are in an area that designates no special surface restrictions for leasing. This is quite alarming because all that we have built and everything we love about the area can be destroyed with one pump jack. It's not only the pump jacks it is the peripheral infrastructure of oil and gas exploration and production that is so devastating. The construction of roads in roadless areas, increased traffic from large fracking trucks, methane venting and flaming, poinsoned water ponds, noise and light pollution are not complimentary to a Exception Wildlife Designation nor to the quality of life that drew us to the area in the first place.

We get our crystal clear drinking water from two springs. Several years ago, our home owners association went to considerable expense creating a water augmentation plan in the event there was a call on our water. I wonder if oil and gas companies have the same requirement and if not should because they use, taint and discard so much valuable water in their fracking process.

The new forest plan doesn't address the need and opportunity for additional wilderness and wild and scenic river designations. Several streams daylighting in Hubbard Park are home to the increasingly rare Native Cuthroat Trout. Shouldn't we be doing all that we can to protect these species instead of expediting their demise?

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the new GMUG plan and ask that you consider stronger protections and restrictions for Electric Mountain and the Hubbard Park area from oil and gas exploration and production. This is a plea you have heard time and time again in numerous public meetings through the years. Protect our public lands.

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Roxanne Yates