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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My husband (Greg Payne) and I support new Wilderness in Roadless Area 146 and the Wilderness recommendations in the 2007 Draft Forest Plan."

We have lived in the Roaring Judy Ranch subdivision for almost 20 years and before that in Crested Butte for 30 years. My husband has hiked and skied all over this area. We are avid birders and outdoors people. We are well aware of the benefits of wilderness designation. With the political climate and shrinking of national parks and monuments, we feel it is so important to protect anything we can. Once it's gone, it's gone!

In our hikes in the area around Roaring Judy Ranch and on the top of the Jacks cut-off road and the top of Round Mountain, neighbors to the Granite Basin area, we rarely see another person and are delighted with our solitude. As I think most people would be who love the outdoors as we do. In our travels, we have identified 30 flower species. We have encountered bears, mountain lion tracks, bobcat, deer, elk, fox, grouse, badgers, ermine, snowshoe hares, porcupine, bats, marmots, about 65 bird species including sandhill cranes and Canada geese who migrate over, and of course our ever present rodents. Please continue with the 2007 study and make this a wilderness area. We have enough other places for motorized vehicles and mountain bikes and noise.