

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/25/2018 3:59:08 PM

First name: Ryan

Last name: McSparran

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To the managers of the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests,

When it comes to creating new plans to help manage our wonderful National Forests, I would like for you to consider the growing pressures of development and urbanization in Colorado. Our state economy is strong, and it's growing that's a good thing. But on the other side of that coin, it's becoming more and more critical that we prioritize the protection of remaining wildlife habitat and wild places. Once developed, we can never go back. So I would love to see strong protections in place for areas that still have wilderness characteristics.

Along those same lines, I believe it's important to help make sure that motorized use and mountain bike use are limited to specific, designated areas where those make the most sense.

Next, I believe that public access to our National Forest Lands is of critical importance. In my mind, that means trailheads or easements where we can get onto our public lands for fishing, hiking, hunting, and camping. Making sure we have access to these lands seems like it should be a top priority.

And finally, I would like to reiterate that wildlife habitat, clean water and clean air need to be at the forefront of any decision making process. Our state is beautiful and it's clear why so many people are moving here every year. But along with that growth, we need to consider adequate protection of those fragile and finite resources that we all enjoy so much.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Ryan McSparran