

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/31/2018 2:12:08 AM

First name: william

Last name: ketterhagen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: -There is a need and opportunity for additional wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers, and other designated areas on the GMUG. I support the Citizens' Wilderness and Designations Proposal as well as the Gunnison Public Lands Initiative.

-The ranching Heritage and public lands grazing is an important aspect of the GMUG. I support the comments proposed by the Gunnison Stockgrowers Association.

-Strong standards and guidelines, supported by the best and most recent science backed evidence, must be an important part of the revised Forest Plan, specifically in regards to range and forest health, wildlife, livestock stocking rates, and water quality. More effort should be made to perform Environmental Assessments when needed.

-Landscape-level conservation should be utilized as it allows the forest and land managers to adapt to changes in a more effective and efficient way. Climate change and drought should be considered as important factors to consider in the rapidly changing landscape of the GMUG forests.

-Extractive industries such as oil and gas and coal mining are not appropriate uses for GMUG lands. No consideration should be given to any new development or leases or the expansion of current development. Current leases should be allowed to expire without renewal.

-Recreation on the GMUG has increased dramatically and will most likely continue to increase. Recreational infrastructures such as trails, roads, campsites, etc. are over-utilized to the point of creating resource concerns. Current infrastructure needs to be maintained to support an increase in use in a sustainable manner that will protect the resource.

-Advances in technology for snowmobiles and timber sleds have allowed winter motorized recreationists to travel further afield than ever before, degrading the backcountry experience for other user groups such as back country skiers. Consideration should be given to the creation of designated non-motorized winter zones outside of wilderness. On this same note, increased enforcement of wilderness boundaries should be utilized.