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Comments: Dear Decisionmaker:

This comment expresses support and emphasizes the necessity for additional wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers, and other designated areas on the GMUG. The LRMP revision process can address this need by adopting the Citizens' Wilderness and Designations Proposal. I strongly urge the Forest Service to adopt the management suggestions for the Gunnison National Forest that have been agreed upon as part of the Gunnison Public Lands Initiative Process. It is critical that the Forest Service also provide strong standards and guidelines to ensure forest resources are preserved and conserved in the face of increased public use pressure and climate change.

As the Forest Service is aware, Forest health is an important issue as well. The GMUG's forests are changing as the result of climate change. Large-scale logging is not the answer to climate change adaptability or insect and mistletoe occurrences on the forest. The LRMP must ensure that the best available science and not misconceptions are the source of any and all Forest management proposals/activities. To truly ensure our Forest is situated as best as possible in the face of anthropogenic climate change impacts, the LRMP needs to support management decisions that further sequester carbon and keep fossil fuels sequestered underground. Our public lands and wildlife are suffering as result of short-sighted agency decisions that fail to account for the true carbon costs associated with such decisions. I implore that the Forest Service use the LRMP process to move away from management of the past that reduces the forest's ability to act as a carbon sink and keep carbon sequestered underground.

The LRMP process is also the perfect opportunity for landscape-level conservation, which best allows for the forest and the wildlife to adapt to changes in a more effective way than heavy-handed management. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Allison N. Melton