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Comments: I support the 2007, repeated in March 2018, recommendation that the Granite Basin/Cement Mountain proposed wilderness areas be designated wilderness areas. Several reasons have lead to my support for these wilderness areas:

1. They are both close to residential areas and would provide easier access to wilderness than many, perhaps most, wilderness areas.
2. I have hiked in both these areas. They are beautiful and wild enough to be made wilderness.
3. They can be reached and hiked by older hikers such as myself and my wife, both in our 70s. Most of the wilderness areas near the Upper Gunnison/Crested Butte region require more strenuous hiking making them difficult for older hikers who still want to enjoy wilderness.
4. The elevation of much of the country in these areas is lower than much wilderness in the Gunnison region making them more accessible for hiking longer throughout the year than higher elevation wilderness.
5. Wilderness designation will keep these areas free of development and motorized travel. This will enable wildlife to flourish without disturbance from development and motorized travel and maintain a nearly natural environment.