Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/3/2018 3:24:40 AM
First name: Michael
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: As a 4th generation Cedaredge native, I do not want to see any more restrictions placed on Grand Mesa. I live on Grand Mesa full-time as an adult. I spent my childhood up here logging with my family. My mom was one of the first employees in the Visitor Center when it opened in the 60's. There are enough restrictions up here. We do not need wilderness groups trying to come in and close off our land. If anything, remove some of the restrictions. Give us back our access to the roads that were put in by my great-grandfather, grandfather and dad.

The forest service should spend more time managing the health of the forest so our elk and deer have a forest. It is a natural migration for animals to move to lowered, private property territory in the winter months. I read where the Western Colorado Congress thinks if areas are made non-motorized the elk and deer will stay in the national forest. The animals do not move down because of humans, they migrate to where there is less snow so they have better access to food during the winter months.

The Grand Mesa is large enough for all of us to get along and share the trails and the area. We should not need the government to tell us how to use our public land. Keep the plan simple.

Grand Mesa is an important part of Delta and Mesa County. It provides grazing land for our ranchers, water for irrigation and drinking, and supports our local economy by bringing in tourism year around, including snowmobilers in the winter. Please do not mess with what isn't broken. If anything, make it better by removing trail restrictions, allowing the local residents to build and improve trails, education the tourists on how the trails are funded, built and maintained and let the people use all of Grand Mesa. The more multi-use trails that are installed or reopened, the more spread out the forest users will be. Enforce the rules that already exist regarding traffic, camping, fishing and summer and winter OHV registrations.