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Comments: comments for GMUG National Forest revision plan

As a Western Slope resident, I believe the revised forest plan needs to provide enhanced protection to deserving places in the GMUG, including ecosystems that are currently not well protected, places that provide habitat to rare or endemic species, places that allow for wildlife to migrate without barriers, and places where people can go to experience wilderness. I visit the Grand Mesa National Forest, the Uncompahgre National Forest, and The Gunnison National Forest for hiking, camping, snow shoeing, cross country skiing, wildlife viewing, and photography. Recreation is an important economic driver in the GMUG area, and needs to continue to be supported. I am really concerned about all the oil and gas operations in and around the GMUG. I see lots of oil and gas wells and associated facilities across the region, and I worry about air quality, water pollution, and the fate of wildlife who will not thrive near this type of industrial activity. I also am concerned that it is encroaching on places I really care about. Therefore, I ask that the Forest Service identify places where oil and gas will harm the natural environment and interfere with recreation and scenery and disallow it in those locations.

I support that recommendations of the Citizens Conservation Proposal as presented on the High Country Conservation Advocates website at www.gmugrevision.com. I am impressed by the wide representation in that group, and their diligent efforts in conducting field work, mapping, ecological analyses, and organizing community conversations to identify those special places on the GMUG National Forest that deserve more conservation.

Respectfully,

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