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Comments: Scoping Comments

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the Citizen's Wilderness Designation Proposal for the GMUG Revision Plan. I grew up in the West End of Montrose County and my family spent many summer vacations camping in and around the San Juan Mountains. Sitting in a jeep on top of a mountain watching a thunder and lightning storm move across the mountain tops, eating lunch next to a clear mountain stream, hiking up to a waterfall-- all these experiences taught me that I am a part of the natural world. My experiences as a child are the foundation of my love of nature and the importance of these experiences shaping my life is the motivation for my involvement in the stewardship of our Public Lands.

I believe that the Citizen's Wilderness Designation Proposal will best protect and preserve these lands for future generations, especially for these reasons:

1. While some flexibility in the forest plan is important, strong standards and guidelines for management prescriptions that conserve and protect the landscape are critical.
2. While the GMUG's forests serve as an important place for many diverse forms of recreation, the revised plan must ensure the sustainability of such recreation.
3. Forest health is critically important for the entire ecosystem. The revision plan needs to manage forest to be resilient in the face of changes due to insect infestation, climate change, drought and increased user pressure.
4. There needs to be full disclosure and analysis of oil and gas impacts from foreseeable future projects.

As a resident of Southwestern Colorado, I appreciate all your efforts to continue to preserve and protect our public lands.

Carol Keeney

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