

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/16/2018 11:00:00 AM

First name: Steve

Last name: Guerrieri

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Planning Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the GMUG planning process.

Wilderness Evaluation:

I support the creation of more Wilderness within the GMUG. The 2007 draft Forest Plan identified the Granite Basin Area for Wilderness designation, but the plan was never implemented. I support this area for Wilderness designation, it has been included in the current area identified as G10-Spring Creek.

I have spent time in this area for the last 35 years hiking, horseback riding and hunting. The landscape has not changed in this time frame. It provides solitude, natural viewsapes, and is completely natural. I support Granite Basin/Horsebasin for wilderness designation.

Recreation:

I have great concern that all forms of recreation are having a negative effect on wildlife within the GMUG. The GMUG forest north of Gunnison receives a tremendous amount of recreational use. This use is displacing wildlife and creating more wildlife landowner conflicts within this area. I believe it is critical that the USFS maintain landscapes that are relatively unfragmented, to provide habitat for big game and all other species of wildlife that use these areas. The building of any new trails within the GMUG will have negative effects on wildlife and the habitat they use, therefore creating more wildlife/landowner conflicts. The proposed Gunnison to Crested Butte trail travels thru some of the unfragmented wildlife habitat and should not be considered for development. There are already numerous wildlife/landowner conflicts in this area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Guerrieri