

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/29/2019 5:02:55 AM

First name: Lorraine

Last name: Hutcheson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a frequent user and lover of the Uncompahgre plateau area and the Grand Mesa. I also travel at least four times a month over to Ouray and enjoy the Gunnison forested areas. It is essential that we keep these areas intact especially when we consider climate change and the burgeoning population in Colorado. There are fewer and fewer places people can go for pristine wilderness and wildlife. Many of our trees are already diseased due to beetle kill- is largely related to climate change. We have a preponderance of fossil fuel's and carbon in our atmosphere and depend on these trees for our livelihood. Many animals and birds depend on some of these older forested areas that are about 100 years old. I urge any plan or legislation to include the protection of these very important areas to the western slope.