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Organization:

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Comments: Forest plan comments

We would like to state our wholehearted support for the Community Conservation Proposal.

The GMUG working draft, unfortunately, proposes to protect only the landscapes in the former San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act. This does not include Baldy, Bear Creek, Hayden Mountain, Mt. Abram and Brown Mountain, all of which are central to the essential unspoiled mountain experience Ouray County offers its visitors.

With the exception of Bear Creek, these are proposed only for "a general forest protection," a weak one at best, given the deteriorating character of this forest.

Both Bear Creek and Cow Creek need to be designated Wild and Scenic Rivers and managed as such, especially since Bear Creek is a National Recreation Trail and much of Cow Creek is within the Uncompahgre Wilderness.

Sincerely yours for conservation and protection of these valuable and perishable landscapes.

Bob Risch, Ouray Trail Group President

Karen Risch, Ouray Trail Group Past President