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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forests

Hello,

My name is Dr. Emily Wassell. I am a resident of Paonia Colorado. I am the director of an Experiential Leadership Academy for 7th-12th grade students. We include the environment in our curriculum, and our National Forests are some of the best educational resources available. I love the Gunnison, Grand Mesa, and Uncompahgre forests. I choose to live here because of the proximity to multiple unique environments. I am thankful to call this beautiful, unique, and diverse valley home. I regularly take students on experiential field-trips in the National Forests that will be impacted by this plan. I want the Community Conservation Proposal to be included in the working plan. The value of wildlife corridors, healthy forests, healthy watersheds, dynamic and diverse flora and fauna, and road-less wild areas is immeasurable. I would like the North Fork Valley Watershed protected and recommended as a wilderness area. I would like the wilderness areas and special management areas to be included in the working plan. The value of the wild that we have needs to be preserved. From our dark skies, to the biodiversity of our forests, and the economic diversity of the North Fork Valley, it is critical that the forest management plan includes the recommendations of the Community Conservation Proposal.

Thank you,

Emily Wassell

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