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Comments: I strongly oppose the requested special use permit (SUP) and related Categorical Exclusion (CE) for geotechnical investigations in connection with Homestake Partners' proposed transmountain diversion of water from Homestake Creek in the Holy Cross Wilderness for the Whitney Reservoir project.

The idea of building a reservoir in this area is such a bad idea and the possibility of reducing the size of the wilderness area is a terrible idea that sets a very bad precedent. Wilderness areas are where they are for a reason and should NEVER be reduced in size.

The work to be done under the proposed SUP/CE would cause significant damage to an ecologically unique and sensitive area, popular with outdoor recreationalists.

The communities of Aurora and Colorado Springs should take action to reduce their water needs, and not destroy our Wilderness.