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First name: Julie Last name: Collins Organization:

Title:

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.

My immediate and deepest concern has to do with the vital importance of conducting environmental analysis prior to approval of a project of this magnitude.

Our nation's wilderness resources are precious and irreplaceable. My husband and I regularly hike and escape the pressures of city life by seeking nature in its most beautiful condition in pristine areas like the Holy Cross Wilderness.

This unique landscape must be protected with regulatory due diligence and responsibility to at least study proposed impacts before such permanent, irreversible changes are approved.