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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 requested SUP/CE would allow for up to a year of drilling, road construction and cross-country travel by vehicles and equipment within the White River National Forest in support of the proposed reservoir and diversion project.

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

I oppose exploration and potential construction of Whitney Reservoir because of the damage to this pristine Wilderness Area and the high alpine fens, and would like Holy Cross Wilderness area to remain intact.