

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/26/2020 4:10:21 PM

First name: Amy

Last name: Jiron

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.

I oppose both the SUP/CE and the underlying proposed Whitney Reservoir project.

The communities of Aurora and Colorado Springs have plenty of opportunities to reduce their water needs through water efficiency and conservation practices and smart growth. People move to Colorado to enjoy the wilderness and pristine waters. There is no reason or excuse to destroy our Wilderness and rivers.

I am deeply concerned about the Whitney Reservoir project's impact on the environment and the complex fen wetlands. These wetlands are some of the finest of their type in the entire White River National Forest.

Reclamation and restoration of complex fen wetlands has not been proven to be possible.