Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/27/2020 12:13:17 PM First name: Melodie Last name: Metje 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. We should build more reservoirs.

God commanded us to protect nature. We should do that. We should quit destroying His creatures and landscapes. We need more nature, not less.

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.

Diverting even more water out of the headwaters of the Colorado River is a terrible idea.

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.

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