Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/29/2020 2:45:25 PM

First name: Mary Last name: Parrott Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly oppose the requested SUP and related 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, which I also oppose. The proposed SUP/CE would allow a year of drilling, road construction and cross-country travel by vehicles and equipment within the White River National Forest, causing significant damage to an ecologically unique and sensitive area. The Whitney Reservoir project would require making a Wilderness boundary "adjustment" to the Holy Cross Wilderness by about 500 acres, at a time when we should be adding wilderness, not taking it away. The damage to the complex fen wetlands with the project would be irrevocable. Wetlands are known to be an important carbon sink in climate control. Aurora and Colorado Springs should take actions to reduce their water needs, not destroy our wilderness.