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Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service Staff, We understand that the bore drilling involves large trucks and a rubber-tracked drilling rig that could extend up to 30 feet in the air and it would likely involve some tree removal. Homestake Creek water would be used in the drilling process and vehicles would require temporary access roads. Fifty days of drilling (five days per site) would involve sustained noise levels and potential impacts to wildlife in the area.

We are concerned that the proposed access, vehicle use and drilling will be impactful to the Homestake Creek area. We are concerned about the noise and potential impacts to vegetation, wetlands, wildlife and generally the pristine natural quality of the area. This would be the first incremental step to potential further impacts and destruction of native habitat. We are also concerned that there has not been enough public outreach and awareness raised about this project before starting any of the exploration/drilling work.

Please do an ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT of the proposed drilling project and make sure that none of the drilling would occur on designated roadless areas or in the nearby Holy Cross Wilderness Area.

Thank you.

Colorado Wild Public Lands