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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. Is it truly needed?

It is horrible that the Colorado river doesn't even make it to the Gulf of California anymore. This is tragic for the entire river ecosystem.

I am concerned about the Whitney Reservoir project's impact on the environment and 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.