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Title:

Comments: I am deeply concerned about the Whitney Reservoir project's impact on the environment. 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 need to expand our federal Wilderness Areas not reduce them.

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.

The communities of Aurora and Colorado Springs should take action to reduce their water needs instead of ruining part of the Holy Cross Wilderness to meet their growing needs.

We need to save our wilderness and protect our natural environment - please do not allow this project to continue.

Thank you.