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Comments: I strongly oppose the requested special use permit (SUP) and related Categorical Exclusion (CatEx) 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 proposed geotechnical investigations will create unacceptable environmental impacts to sensitive fen wetlands and to wildlife habitats. The primary alternative should be increased efforts by the front range cities regarding water conservation and the adoption of reasonable growth controls.