Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/24/2021 8:28:30 PM First name: William Last name: Roush Organization:

## Title:

Comments: I am writing to strongly urge the Forest Service to include all the recommendations of the Gunnison County Public Lands Initiative (GPLI) in the Forest Plan. The boundaries and management of the GPLI proposal areas have been crafted with an unprecedented amount of community input and critical buy-in and support from an amazingly diverse set of the community and stakeholders. The preferred alternative is glaringly lacking in its inclusion of GPLI proposed wilderness areas and special management areas. Given the input from County Commissioners, recreational user groups, hunting and fishing groups, non-profits, towns, community members, and many more it is a shame and a significant missed opportunity for the Forest Service not to adopt the vast majority of GPLI recommendations into the GMUG Forest Plan. The Biden administration has committed to protecting 30% of US lands and waters by 2030, not taking this opportunity to work towards that goal cast doubt on the sincerity of that commitment and puts the GMUG forest out of line with priorities and directives of the Biden administration. Refusing to take bold action in the face of the twin crisis of climate change and biodiversity loss is short-sighted at best and malfeasance at worst. I sincerely hope you will take advantage of this generational opportunity to protect more public lands. GPLI has done the hard work for you, all you need is the vision and courage to follow your community.