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Comments:

Because the Manti-La Sal National Forest, which includes distinct forest units in the La Sal Mountains outside of Moab as well as the Abajo Mountains and a portion of Bears Ears National Monument in San Juan County, is revising its management plan for the first time in thirty-five years, I want to make sure that the new plan includes well developed, conservation-based management of these ecologically and culturally significant national forest lands.

I believe that the Manti-La Sal is an incredibly diverse and spectacular region; it includes aspen groves, mountain lakes, stands of giant ponderosa pines, and rocky crags perched high above Utah's canyon country. It's one of the few places where you can stand in a snowy forest of pine and spruce while looking out for hundreds of miles across valleys, canyons, and red rock desert fins.

The forest is a critical watershed of the Colorado Plateau, sustaining life in the surrounding red rock canyon county, including Bears Ears National Monument. Climate change and drought have become the new reality in the West, thus protecting watersheds fed by mountain snow pack is more important than ever. The water, wilderness, native plants, and wildlife habitat of the Manti-La Sal need your help to thrive and to continue to exist. Protecting it helps to protect our climate, and our lives.