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Comments: To Whom It Concerns;

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Draft Forest Plan and Draft EIS for the GMUG National Forests.

I support the Wilderness and SMA recommendations in Alternative D. The additional 34,000 additional acres of managed recommended wilderness is a good start, yet I urge you to consider increasing both. The anticipated population growth in these areas require the Forest Service to be forward thinking in order to accomodate this anticipated growth and use.

The majority of back country from a study done by the Masters in Environmental Management program at WSU (Gunnison) over several years indicate that more than 70% of visits to the backcountry in the areas around Crested Butte were non-motorized users. Thus all stockholders need to be equally represented throughout the Winter Travel Management Process. The Winter ROS should represent desired conditions and provide guidance on how the GMUG hopes to manage winter recreation in the future. This includes but is not limited to the use of Drones, which should not be allowed in Wilderness. Disruption of solitude and negative impacts on wildlife would be a result of allowing drones in these areas.

I am particularly interested in designating the area called Horse Basin (or Granite Basin) on the flanks of Cement Mt. as wilderness. The Cement Creek area is very popular with motorized vehicles, and an area set aside as wilderness would be fitting as the population of this area grows. Once it is gone, it is gone.

Thank you,

Patricia Del Tredici