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Comments: As a research entomologist and taxonomist and also as having another degree in renewable natural resource management, I want to make two points regarding the Manti-La Sal National Forest management plan draft environmental impact statement:
First, I have thoroughly read through the citizens' Conservation Alternative and support its publication as one of the alternatives in the draft EIS. It expresses sound, well-researched scientific reasoning.
Second, I am especially concerned that European honeybee (Apis mellifera) apiaries not be allowed on national forest land because of the detrimental effect they have on native bee diversity and populations and on native plants dependent on the specificity of native-bee pollination behavior. Published and peer-reviewed literature on this is abundant and readily available, so I do not think it necessary to include it here; however, I would be willing to provide references if you need.
Thank you,
Robert A. Phillips