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First name: Paul Last name: Weis Organization:

Title:

Comments: A year from now I will establish permanent residence in Grand Junction. Quality recreational opportunities for hiking, camping and backpacking are critical to my decision to select Grand Junction for my home. By "quality" I mean landscapes where one can readily escape the travails and stress of modern living and find peace, tranquility, and the experience of natural environment.

The Community Conservation Proposal is based on community involvement, on-the-ground fieldwork, the best available science, and the requirements in the 2012 U.S. Forest Service Planning Rule. Its recommendations reflect the kind of experience that matters to me when I visit Forest Service lands.

The GMUG plan has great potential for supporting President Biden's executive order directing federal officials to protect 30 percent of the country's lands and waters by 2030. This is necessary to reduce extinction of species and to combat global warming.

The Community Conservation Proposal, prepared by a multitude of local people and organizations, supports the 30x30 vision with recommendations for new wilderness and special management areas.

More specifically, the mere 34,000 acres of new wilderness suggested in the preferred alternative is woefully inadequate. The decrease in land allocated for primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation in the preferred alternative B reduces opportunities the quiet backcountry recreation that is most important to me.