Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/14/2021 8:22:26 PM First name: Chelsey Last name: Johnson Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am saddened by the current logging practices I have seen on the Uncompaghre Plateau, and as well on the Flat Tops near Triangle Park. Current timber harvest is not being done in an ecologically friendly manner. Little vegetation is being left and smaller trees are being destroyed by the use of tracked harvesters that skid across the soil and destroy everything underneath them. As a 6th generation Colorado Native and avid outdoorsman I am concerned. Every year we are increasingly losing our rights to access many trails and areas in the name of habitat and conservation, yet the sale of timber is allowed regardless of the devastation being left in it's wake. If we are going to use the argument that timber sales increase and improve habitat for wildlife, then we cannot allow the current harvest practices to continue. The animals have to have something to inhabit, not a nearly clear cut and devastated area left behind in the name of profit. In the last 2 years I have literally watched as an area that I have been hunting for 20 years gets destroyed in this manner. Once abundant with wildlife, this year it was empty. Regulation of harvest practices, specifically the machinery employed and limitation on damage done in the process must be better! This hypocrisy of limiting our use on a trail that's been in place for decades, yet allowing timber harvest practices that devastate an area of habitat is unacceptable.