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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison Forest Plan Revision #51806.

Arizona Backcountry Explorers is an Arizona-based adventure website dedicated to promoting adventure and engaging the public in policy decisions that affect motorized access to public lands. We represent nearly 20,000 motorized users that frequently utilize roads and campsites in the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison Forest project area.

Our comment is in support of comments submitted by the BlueRibbon Coalition and Colorado Offroad trail Defenders.

We are alarmed by the amount of suggested wilderness designated in the project area. We believe that many of these areas don't meet the requirements for wilderness designation as there are several man-made disturbances such as historical mining activity, roads, and other disturbances.

Additionally, we are concerned about the short segments of wild and scenic river designations protecting an unreasonable amount of land. We believe these designations are harmful to agriculture.

These designations will create obstacles while fighting fires, maintaining infrastructure and will hurt our members. Please consider taking this plan back to the drawing board.