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First name: Sarah Last name: Bennett Organization:

Title:

Comments: Growing up in Kentucky, I never realized how many small free-flowing waterways could be called 'rivers.' Kentucky rivers are big, and have a beauty in their own big way. But here in Colorado the rivers and creeks on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison Forest area represent even more beauty, and these amazing waters are still alive! Having lived in various parts of Colorado now for over 30 years, and having spent much outdoor time in a number of areas in our beautiful state, I have deep appreciation for all of the streams and rivers I've walked along or camped near or see while driving, especially knowing how important they are in this climate. We absolutely must protect these wild and scenic life resources. Water is LIFE. Our rivers are some of the most important assets on the Grand Mesa Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest. All free-flowing rivers with outstandingly remarkable values must be found as eligible for wild and scenic protections. In particular, I support Wild & Department of the waters are critical climate change refuges that we must protect in the face of a hotter, drier future, and they are also vital scientific research areas. Thank you for your consideration.