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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As the President of the Southwestern Water Conservation District Board, as well as our Board's San Miguel County representative, I urge you to take bold action to protect our forests from drought, protect our rivers, creeks and stream segments described at <https://ourcowaters.org/gmug/> with Wild & Scenic suitability. In addition, we need to limit global warming by phasing out, as quickly as possible, carbon-based recreation on the Grand Mesa Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest. Our 22-year drought is increasing in intensity, and our forests are already extremely stressed. We can no longer continue with 'business as usual'. We have a unique opportunity through this forest planning process to begin to create a future that is sustainable. Our rivers are some of the most important assets on the Forest. All free-flowing rivers with outstandingly remarkable values must be found as eligible for wild and scenic protections, which also is part of the process of sustainability for the Forest. These waters feature unique, outstanding, and popular outdoor recreation opportunities that are critical to our Colorado way of life. Thank you for your consideration.