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Organization: Dark skies paonia

Title: President

Comments: I support the withdrawal proposal for the Thompson divide. It protects sensitive land and watersheds and habitat. It is also important to help protect the night sky from light pollution for the health of the bird's insects and animals that depend on the darkness at night and integrity of the habitat. This would also protect a Large area From the potential of drilling and flaming associated with fracking which can increase light pollution 10 to 15%

Above normal sky brightness background. Studies have shown that the there is robust evidence of an increase in light pollution especially in rural areas where fracking operations exist. A study published in 2021, Rural Light Pollution from Shale and Gas Development by Bodley, Hill, and Zhang have demonstrated quantitatively that shale and gas developments increases it significantly impacts light pollution, especially in rural areas with localized affects up to 100 miles. The Thompson Divide withdrawal proposal will significantly protect this area for the disruption of habitat for all species, especially migratory birds and insects. Thank you for working to protect this area.