Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/10/2023 2:21:54 AM First name: Frederick Last name: Semel Organization: Title:

Comments: I support the Thompson divide withdrawal proposal. A pristine section of Colorado wilderness is under threat from developers who want to either extract oil or gas or use the land to deposit industrial waste. This is unacceptable unless a valuable mineral deposit of national importance has been located. Existing reports indicate no significant benefit in destroying the natural beauty of this land. Current oil and gas extraction is not affected by the proposed withdrawal. Expansion of mining would have a devastating impact on the purity of this land upon which local people depend. Without clear evidence of significant benefit to any party seeking to mine or drill, such as discovery of large deposits of rare earth minerals which our country needs to power its future, there is no excuse whatsoever to disturb this area.