

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/16/2023 4:42:55 PM

First name: Kara

Last name: Armano

Organization: Five Rivers Chapter Trout Unlimited

Title: President

Comments: I wish to urge the USFS to adopt Alternative A to ensure protections of the critical wildlife habitat in the affected areas. This is vitally important to also protect our valuable and often threatened water supplies. The proposed withdrawal strikes an appropriate balance, respecting existing leases while ensuring that new leasing does not occur for the next 20 years and jeopardize the area's critical habitat values. Finally, local economies are vitally linked to the preservation of these habitats.

In addition, I have long been advocating for vacating the leases of the Thompson Divide as a long time resident and angler in the Roaring Fork Valley before moving to my new location near Durango. This area is special, pristine and highly important habitat for many iconic wildlife species. Let's keep it that way.

Thank you for your careful consideration.