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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I wholeheartedly support the withdrawal of the Thompson Divide #63679 to protect and preserve cultural, agricultural, ranching, wildlife, air quality, recreational, ecological, and scenic values in the Thompson Divide area of Colorado from potential impacts that may arise from mineral exploration and development. The areas in question are the White River National Forest, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forest, and BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office, BLM Gunnison Field Office, and BLM Uncompahgre Field Office, in Pitkin, Gunnison, and Garfield Counties, Colorado. I also support the proposal to prevent new mining claims or mineral or geothermal leases from being authorized for a term up to 20 years. The potential impacts that may arise from mineral exploration and development are too high risk. Closing federal lands in the withdrawal application area to sale and exchange would retain a contiguous landscape resulting in more efficient and effective management of USFS and BLM administered lands.

Thank you for accepting my comment.