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Comments: Hello - I'm writing to support protecting the Thompson Divide. Visiting friends in the area has been a wonderful experience for our family. The area contains significant blocks of roadless area that provide wildlife habitat and migration corridors vital to Colorado. The area is part of a critical migration corridor and provides key wildlife security for species such as deer, elk, bear, mountain lion, and lynx. The entire area is an important elk-calving habitat and summer range for big game. Watersheds in the Thompson Divide provide clean water to local farmers and ranchers, many of whom depend on these public lands for summer grazing allotments.

Locals and tourists regularly use the area to climb, hike, bike, ski, and snowmobile. These ecological, recreational, agricultural, and economic values define the rural character and contribute to the quality of life for the surrounding communities.

Energy development in this area would have harmful impacts on the current environmental, recreational, agricultural, and economic values of the community. For a long time, the protection of the Thompson Divide has united a diverse coalition of ranchers, mountain bikers, hunters, businesses, and conservationists.

We hope that you will finalize the 20-year mineral withdrawal as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration and action in getting this area protected from any kind of development.