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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My family farmed in Colorado and currently ranches in Wyoming and we strongly support the USFS request to withdraw approximately 224,713 acres of lands and interests administered by the USFS and BLM from all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws; location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

It is imperative that we protect as much of our ecosystem as possible and prevent human usage. The vast amount of US land may be developed but some areas, such as the one noted in this document, must be protected and I strongly request the protection be in perpetuity.

My husband and I strongly support and urge the Interior to grant the withdrawal, federal lands and interests in the withdrawal application area would be closed to sale or exchange, and no new mining claims or mineral or geothermal leases would be authorized IN PERPETUITY. Non-federal lands and interests would not be subject to the withdrawal unless they are subsequently acquired by the federal government.

My husband and I strongly support the purpose of the requested withdrawal 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.

Additionally, 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. We strongly support this.

My husband and I strongly support reducing and/or removing roads so wildlife can thrive in quiet, healthy ecosystems. We strongly support the reintroduction of wolves in Colorado and we strongly support the \$15,000 compensation to those whose livestock has been killed by wolves making it easier to co-exist in peace.

We strongly support the new efforts to restore wolverines as well. I am proud that Colorado is taking the lead to preserve and save large tracks of land from human development.

My husband and I strongly support the withdrawal application area to be portions of 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.

Thank you.

Respectfully,