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Comments: I approve of the proposed mineral withdrawal and am requesting that the Forest Service and BLM close the Thompson Divide area to oil and gas leasing and mining for at least 20 years. This would protect 225,000 acres of public land which would benefit air quality, wildlife habitat, watersheds, wilderness corridors, and the climate.

Sustainable uses on publicly owned lands should be prioritized over the destructive practices of mining and fossil fuel extraction. Sustainable uses, such as hunting, fishing, ranching, and recreation, in the Thompson Divide area support nearly 300 jobs and \$30 million in annual economic output for local communities.