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Comments: The Forest Service and BLM should close the Thompson Divide area to oil and gas leasing and mining! Have we not experienced enough degradation to our beautiful state's wilderness, between the insect infestations, droughts and subsequent fires?!!

The proposed Mineral Withdrawal would protect 225,000 acres of public lands from future oil and gas leasing, as well as mining. Benefits to air quality, wildlife habitat, watersheds, wilderness corridors, and our climate would be immediate and worthwhile!

The Thompson Divide area supports nearly 300 jobs and \$30 million in annual economic output for local communities. Why would you not prioritize these sustainable uses over the destructive practices of mining and fossil fuel extraction on our publicly owned lands!?