Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/6/2024 9:10:43 PM First name: Barbara Last name: Sheedlo Organization:

## Title:

Comments: I strongly urge the US Forest Service to adopt Alternative A to support and protect the critical watersheds of the Gunnison, Crystal, Roaring Fork and Colorado Rivers. As a citizen of the state of Colorado, and an avid fly angler and hiker, I know that the Thompson Divide encompasses some of the state's most pristine trout waters, including native cutthroat streams and Gold Medal fisheries. These waters, native fish and surrounding landscapes of the Mountain West must be protected from future oil and gas development, so that our grandchildren can continue to experience these awesome places. The proposed withdrawal strikes an appropriate balance, respecting existing leases while ensuring that new leasing does not occur for the next 20 years and jeopardize the area's critical habitat values. In addition, this alternative supports the local recreational economies that are dependent on the preservation of these habitats.