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Comments: Responsible Official, Ryan Nehl, Forest and Grassland

Supervisor,sm.fs.psicc.ea.comment@usda.govLEADVILLE AND SALIDA RANGER DISTRICTSJune 10,

2025DISPERSED CAMPING MANAGEMENT PROJECTWhile I appreciate the attention to Designating Dispersed Camping, your EA has manyquestions as to what and where actions would be taken. First of all, the "Heat Maps" are pretty worthless as far as delineating proposed sites. There is no scale, except Sparse to Dense, with no real idea where those values fall on a scale, leaving a casual reader without context. Page 17 says " Only areas currently experiencing high levels of VBDC and/or sanitation, or resource concerns would be changed to designated dispersed camping. Areas of <moderate and low> use outside of key resource areas will not be changed". What's the difference in the scale of "moderate and low" vs Heat map values of "sparse and dense"? Acres under analysis is confusing: 40,004 acres are listed under the Proposed Action, a hundred foot buffer is listed in some affects analysis and a 300 foot buffer in design. Conversations with District personnel indicate this analysis would cover all roads; the Heat Maps seem to indicate only the primary areas of particularly heavy use. That is, with the exception of areas around the Mt. Elbert Forebay. It seems the FS lands around the Forebay are not within this analysis area, where some areas are now closed to camping, and should have been included in this analysis. As for reduction from 14 days camping to something less, additional NEPA would have to be completed; such actions would trigger another Decision, after Notice and Public Comment. I understand that only individuals or entities (as defined by 36 CFR 218.2) who submit timely, specific written comments (as specified in 36 CFR 218.2) about this proposed action during this or another public comment period established by the Responsible Official will be eligible to file an objection. Should Objection Resolution cause changes in the Decision, please contact me for further action. Thank you for the ability to comment on this Proposed Action