

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/18/2026 2:05:57 PM

First name: Dr Rin

Last name: Porter

Organization: Defend Our Parks LLC

Title: Communications Director

Comments: Defend Our Parks LLC is opposed to the leasing of 10 parcels of FS land to the BLM for future oil and gas exploration in the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District of the Routt National Forest.

The draft environmental impact statement presenting data and opinions supposedly arrived at using scientific means is so ridiculous as to be embarrassing to anyone who believes in forest "management" and wildlife conservation. For example, in the chart purported to summarize the possible effects of the project "Issues Considered But Dismissed from Detailed Analysis") on pp. EA4-5, the effects are concluded to be nonexistent on every single issue on the chart, with the exception of three issues which are deemed "not present." The 26 issues include special interest areas, threatened or endangered species, wildlife, vegetation, and so on. How can a large project of this nature on 10 parcels of forest land not have impacts on any vegetation or wildlife? That conclusion is ridiculous on its face.

The EA goes on to suggest that because the proposed leases may not be issued, and even if issued, the proposed exploration for oil and gas may not happen, and even if the exploration does happen, there would be no effects "until some time in the future", so they do not matter! How can a reasonable person make such an analysis?

I will not dignify the rest of the absurd draft EA with any more comments. It is a despicable document.

Defend Our Parks LLC proposes that the project be cancelled. No exploration for oil or gas should be conducted within the Routt National Forest, and especially not within the Bears Ears natural area.