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First name: Bryan
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Bryan Thomas Hatchell
4/25/2018
GMUG Forest Comment

Samantha Staley and forest planning team,

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comment and the many others that I am sure have come through your comment portal. I am writing, to extend my support of the The Citizens' Wilderness and Designations Proposal as a whole in addition to a change in the protection around the northwest border of the already established Uncompahgre Wilderness Area (southeast of Ridgeway). My concern is that there is no buffer in the land transition between standard forest land and this wilderness area. In conjunction with the Baldy Wilderness Area proposed by the Gunnison Public Lands Initiative Citizens' Wilderness and Designations Proposal, I recommend a buffer of protection in the form of watershed protection area based around Cow Creek and an extension of the roadless area of Cimmaron Ridge. If a roadless area classification around Cimmaron Ridge is not feasible, I recommend a larger boundary of a watershed protection area, given the location of Nate Creek. These two creeks serve as tributaries to the Uncompahgre River and the Ridgeway Reservoir. To conserve the fish, wildlife and trail opportunities that are provided by these rivers, as well as the recreation on the Ridgeway Reservoir, these waters must be protected from roads and negative effects their uses pose.

Thank you once more for the opportunity to comment on the future of the GMUG.

Sincerely,

Bryan Thomas Hatchell