AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Correspondence; Proposed Wild and Scenic Desigatio

Action Requested:

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

Please see the attached draft correspondence for consideration.

Fiscal Impact: None

Submitted by: Katherine Haase for BOCC **Submitter's Email Address:** khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reveiwed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 9/27/2016

○ Consent Agenda ◉ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 5

Agenda Date: 10/4/2016

Revised April 2015

October 4, 2016

To: _____

Re: Crystal River; Proposed Wild and Scenic Designation

Dear _____;

The Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison County, Colorado appreciates, and has attentively listened to, the various perspectives in support of and opposing federal "wild and scenic" designation of a portion of the main stem of the Crystal River from its headwaters in the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness area to a point just above the Sweet Jessup Ditch.

While there are thoughtful, heartfelt and carefully articulated differences in those perspectives, it is clear that all are concerned to maintain the water quality and quantity in the River, while maintaining the vibrant values of the community through which the river flows. The clear message we walked away with is there is unity in protecting the Crystal River from damming and/or diversions. To that end, we will continue to support other protective measures that are possible tools in accomplishing the goal of permanent protections that are more palatable to the local community.

In deference to the input of local residents, the vote of the Marble Town Council and the discussions we were able to have on our visits we do not feel that supporting the designation at this time is our best path. We have come to the conclusion that the federal designation of Wild and Scenic is neither the necessary nor the appropriate mechanism to foster and protect the River's habitat and uses, and the community's economic, cultural, scenic and recreational values.

Best Regards,

_____	_____	_____
Paula Swenson, Chairperson	Phil Chamberland, Commissioner	Jonathan Houck, Commissioner