AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: GMUG Plan Revision; Wilderness Inventory

Action Requested: Discussion

Parties to the Agreement:

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

Summary:

GMUG Plan Revision; Wilderness Inventory

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Liz Mense **Submitter's Email Address:** EMense@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: 8/31/2018

○ Consent Agenda ◉ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 10

Agenda Date: 9/4/2018

Revised April 2015

September 5, 2018

Scott Armentrout
Forest Supervisor
U.S. Forest Service
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests
2250 South Main Street
Delta, CO 81416

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION ONLY

RE: Gunnison County Comments on GMUG Forest Plan Revision Draft Wilderness Evaluation Report

Dear Mr. Armentrout,

On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Gunnison, Colorado ("BOCC"), we submit the following comments regarding Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests ("GMUG's") August 2018 Draft Wilderness Evaluation Report as part of the 2018 GMUG proposed Forest Plan Revision process.

The BOCC supports responsible and sustainable multiple use of and recreations upon forest lands in the GUMG. The BOCC understands that the United States Forest Service is asking stakeholders to limit their comments at this phase in the Forest Plan Revision process to whether the inventory of lands contained within the Draft Wilderness Evaluation Report are accurate and complete. Accordingly, the following should not be construed as all of the comments, or the objections, the BOCC may submit during the Forest Plan Revision process that the GUMG is presently implementing. The BOCC reserves the right to fully participate in this process and, if necessary, object to any proposed revisions to the current Forest Plan to the fullest extent permitted by law.

The BOCC understands that the Gunnison Public Lands Initiative ("GPLI"), which was convened by the BOCC, is submitting comments. The BOCC recognizes both the expertise and broad stakeholder membership of the GPLI, and, accordingly, endorses the work of the GPLI to identify the potential universe of USFS lands implicated by potential wilderness criteria and supports its comments directed toward its work to assist USFS in accurately and completely inventory lands within the GMUG. Thus, the BOCC incorporates by reference the comments of the GPLI at this stage of the process. To be clear, the BOCC is not at this time endorsing any particular wilderness additions, removals, designations or public lands management practices, with the understanding that such factors will be more fully explored as the Forest Plan Revision process

progresses. In other words, the BOCC may provide comments at other stages of this process that are different from, or are in addition to, comments provided by the GPLI and other stakeholders.

The BOCC appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments to the Draft Wilderness Evaluation Report.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO

By: _____
Phil Chamberland, Chairperson

By: _____
Jonathan Houck, Vice Chairperson

By: _____
John Messner, Commissioner