Hannah Cranor
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Gunnison County Administration Office
200 E Virginia Avenue
Gunnison, CO 81230

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express interest in the Sustainable Tourism and Outdoor Recreation committee.

I was born and raised in the Gunnison Valley on a cattle ranch. I have lived here my entire life, except for five years in which I attended the University of Wyoming to major in Agricultural Business – Farm and Ranch Management. Our cattle ranch is three miles north of town, and we are very directly involved with both outdoor recreation and tourism. I grew up helping my dad on the ranch, and am now co-managing the ranch as well as working on creating my own cattle herd. As ranchers we are almost solely responsible for the landscapes and environment that bring people into the valley to recreate. It is very important to me that we are good stewards of the land, both as agriculture producers and as recreationalists. Serving on the STOR board would allow me to bring a rancher's perspective of tourism to the table. I think especially as our tourism industry grows it is so important to plan ahead and figure out how to manage so many guests in a limited system.

I am very involved with outdoor recreation. I am an avid hunter, and I feel that this is another very important aspect of our tourism economy. As a county we need a diverse economy in order to survive, and I think we are in a very unique position to continue our diverse economy by managing all forms of tourism and recreation. I grew up hiking, running, and riding the trails surrounding Gunnison County and I feel that I would be able to bring a different outlook to the committee.

I work full time off the ranch as an Equipment Operator for Gunnison County. I work out of the Crested Butte area and I am also very involved with tourism in that capacity. We are responsible for many of the roads that bring in the tourists and recreationalists. Not only do we maintain them in the summer (grading, patching, etc), we are also responsible for winter maintenance. This allows me to have a very direct interaction with tourism on a day to day basis.

I am involved with tourism and recreation in many roles, as a rancher, a hunter, and an equipment operator. I think it is important that we manage the impacts that tourism has on our land and livelihood. I would like the opportunity to make an impact on our local tourism by serving on the STOR board.

Sincerely,
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