

Date submitted (UTC): 4/26/2015 9:53:01 PM

First name: Jon

Last name: Van de Grift

Organization: <not applicable>

Title: Mr.

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 3326 Loyola Ct

Address2:

City: Boulder

State: CO

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code: 80305

Country: United States

Email: jonvandegrift@yahoo.com

Phone:

Comments:

I am strongly opposed to any exception to Colorado's roadless areas that allows the extraction of fossil fuel resources, including the North Fork Coal Mining Area. Roadless areas provide essential habitat for thousands of species that live in, or migrate through, our state. Several of these species are threatened or endangered.

The fragmentation of these critical wilderness areas by any road threatens the health of many species.

Pollution from fossil fuel extraction, including water contamination, soil contamination, and degraded air quality, pose significant threats to both human and animal populations. Additionally, these roadless areas are important for non-motorized outdoor recreational activities, such as hiking, trekking, snowshoeing, and many others. Our investment of money, time, and space needs to be focused on clean, sustainable, energy production (such as solar) and the conservation of large tracts of wilderness. Coal extraction should not be allowed on any National Forest Service land.