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USFS North Fork Coal exemption to Colorado Roadless Rule comment team,
USFS,

I am writing about the proposed exemption of the coal mine in the Colorado Roadless Rule. There are a number of reasons why the USFS should deny this exemption:

- 1- This proposal causes fragmentation of wildlife habitat.
- 2- Less than 5% of Colorado is protected from development. 3-The source of coal has a limited role in our future.
- 4- The demand for coal is dramatically declining now.
- 5- If the mine is allowed to begin and fail as a result of a poor outlook of the future of coal, we will be left with environmental damage that the busted coal company will be unable to reclaim.
- 6- The disaster left by the failed coal mine will result in an area degraded by off road travel increased erosion, habitat fragmentation, lack of enforcement because of budget and staff shortfalls and other dispersed impacts.
- 7- Colorado's energy future is in the renewables and a clean environment that attracts new employers and job creation....not coal.
- 8- As climate changes the amount of water changes....the availability of water restrains the ability of coal to produce energy.
- 9- Coal's future because of its negative impacts on Colorado's economy, snow and water needs is not compatible with this proposal.

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