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Comments:

To whom it may concern,

My husband and I are definitely opposed to opening the forest around the Paonia area to coal mining. We believe this is not in the interest of Colorado's environment, tourism, or the tremendous advantage of this area for farming, vineyards, orchards etc - please do not allow this to happen. This would significantly change a beautiful part of Colorado and produce a change in our air quality as well.

We have lived here since 1969. My husband works in the real estate industry, but I am the author of Snowmass Village - Wild at Heart, a book on the plants, mammals and birds of high country Colorado. I also guide for Aspen Center for Environmental Studies and have worked with the Colorado Natural Heritage Program for 10 years (now retired). I know that allowing coal in this area would be contradictory to everything that makes Colorado great.

We are hoping you will vote for the health of Colorado and keep coal mining out of this area by closing the loophole that might allow it.

Thank you! Janis and George Huggins www.highcountrywild.com