



Board of County Commissioners

970-328-8605

970-328-8629(f)

eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us

www.eaglecounty.us

September 19, 2022

President Joe Biden
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

We thank you for your consideration of the recent request from Colorado's leadership for the Camp Hale - Continental Divide National Monument. Eagle County citizens and stakeholder groups strongly support this Monument designation. Camp Hale and the Continental Divide are a treasured part of our heritage and history. They are the ancestral home of the Ute Indians and later served as the training grounds for the Tenth Mountain Division during World War II. These lands and history became the incubator for many of the ski resorts in the west. Love of the mountains and outdoor recreation fuel our economy, and tie us to our roots.

Senator Bennet, Senator Hickenlooper, Governor Polis, and Representative Neguse are leaders who work directly with local constituents and local governments to support the public lands that are crucial to Colorado's economy and environment. These lands provide awe-inspiring scenic vistas, opportunities for recreation, quiet solitude, and ecosystem services that benefit people from around the U.S. and across the world. Their request to you to use the Antiquities Act comes after more than a decade of community collaboration and broad stakeholder support for all the designations in the CORE Act, and specifically for Camp Hale and the Ten Mile Range to become what will be a prized National Monument.

We also give our full support for the protection of Colorado's Thompson Divide through a Federal Lands Policy and Management Act mineral withdrawal. A mineral withdrawal for the Thompson Divide is another provision of the CORE Act that has broad stakeholder support based on years of community and statewide collaboration.

Finally, we ask that you support the remaining protections of the CORE Act that fall within the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests by using the upcoming U.S. Forest Service Forest Plan revision and other administrative tools. These designations include additions to the Mt. Sneffles and Lizard Head Wilderness Areas, Special Management Areas designed to protect Wilderness characteristics, and the Curecanti National Conservation Area.



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We deeply appreciate your bold actions to protect our public lands and national forests, and to address the climate crisis. We now ask for your swift action to take these steps to protect Colorado's highly valued public lands for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration and we would welcome your visit to these special landscapes in Colorado.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. McQueeney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "M".

Jeanne McQueeney
Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathy Chandler-Henry". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a large initial "K".

Kathy Chandler-Henry
Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Scherr". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a large initial "M".

Matt Scherr
Commissioner