Amanda Clements

 Applied Ecological Services

 17908 Paradox Trail

Montrose, CO 81403

To the Honorable Senator Michael Bennet

261 Russell Senate Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

I am contacting you to express my support for the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy (CORE) Act, and for other efforts to support and add to Wilderness throughout the U.S. As a long-time resident of Montrose County, I recently started a business that seeks to reconnect people with Nature on a deeper level. I live in this part of the state because of its outstanding natural landscapes and opportunities to enjoy relatively unspoiled natural places, like the USFS and BLM. My business is a small beneficiary of this landscape, particularly from the inspiration it provides, and the opportunities for discovery it offers. My business is predicated on my belief that in an increasingly chaotic and stressful world, people can find escape, rejuvenation, and peace of mind in Nature.

I also have a background in ecology, and realize the extent of existing threats facing many of these places, and even greater threats on the horizon. That’s why I feel it is imperative that we do everything we can to protect as much natural land as possible from future damage and development. These natural systems are already struggling under the weight of invasive species, native insect and disease outbreaks that are out of balance because of warmer, drier climate conditions, polluted air and water from external sources, and nearly ubiquitous livestock grazing and associated predator control. Our treasured natural landscapes cannot withstand more and more demands in an environment that is growing increasingly unstable.

This is why I support the CORE Act. It is one step to help stem the tide of environmental degradation that’s going on all around us. Thank you for all you are doing to help this bill succeed in the Senate.

Sincerely,

Amanda Clements