

April 19, 2022

Bruce Sillitoe, Field Office Manager  
BLM Little Snake Field Office  
455 Emerson St  
Craig, Colorado 81625

Re: Land and Water Conservation Fund Request for Little Yampa Canyon Special Recreation Management Area Access

On behalf of Routt County, I am writing this letter to express support for BLM Little Snake Field Office's 2023 Recreational Access and 2024 CORE proposals in response to the Land and Water Conservation Fund's request for submissions. Along with the submission made for 2022, these requests would bring the total to 1,787 acres and would provide public access to the Little Yampa Canyon Special Recreation Management Area. The land would offer suitable ground for recreational infrastructure and river access on the Williams Fork and Yampa rivers, bringing a valuable boost to outdoor recreation in Northwest Colorado.

Along with the recreational benefits, it would also provide opportunities for the protection and restoration of riparian zones and fisheries habitats for threatened or endangered fish. As partners in the Yampa River Leafy Spurge Project, we have a direct interest in access to these lands for control projects and survey purposes.

The Little Snake Field Office has responded, by submitting requests for these acquisitions, to community proposals via the Dingell Act Access submissions and through public input. The Little Snake Field Office has also made a concerted effort to initiate conversations about potential planning at this site with the community.

Sincerely,

M. Elizabeth Melton  
Chair, Routt County Board of County Commissioners

