



NORTHWEST COLORADO RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2008-02

Resolution in Support of the Designation of the proposed Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area

Whereas: The Dominguez and Escalante Canyons in Western Colorado stretch along the Gunnison River, providing a scenic backdrop and a favorite destination for people throughout the State.

Whereas: The Colorado Northwest Resource Advisory Council has long recognized the special environmental, cultural and social values the area contains. The 238,000 acre area has outstanding red rock canyons, historic pioneer cabins and settlements as well as incredible recreational opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, four-wheel driving, boating and many other types of recreation.

Whereas: The Mesa State Natural Resources and Land Policy Institute (NRLPI) conducted a study in the summer of 2007, at the request of the Mesa County Commissioners, to determine the level of public support for a proposal to designate the Dominguez-Escalante area as a National Conservation Area (NCA) with a Wilderness designation in the heart of the NCA for the Dominguez Canyons Wilderness Study Area.

Whereas: The Study conducted by the NRLPI developed five recommendations, the primary one being that there was public support for designation of the Dominguez-Escalante proposed NCA. Additionally, there was public support for designation of the Dominguez Canyons as Wilderness.

Whereas: The Mesa County Commissioners passed a Resolution of support for legislation to designate the Dominguez-Escalante NCA including the Dominguez Canyons Wilderness on April 14, 2008.

Therefore be it Resolved that the Northwest Resource Advisory Council supports legislation to designate the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area, which includes designation of the Dominguez Canyons Wilderness, subject to valid existing rights and permitted uses (grazing), and complying with Colorado water law.

Passed, approved and adopted May 22, 2008.

Received by Designated Federal Officer
Jamie Connell

Dave Cesark, Chair
Northwest Resource Advisory Council