

Martha Grewal
P.O.Box 1061
Cedaredge CO 81413
January 12, 2006

Mr. Brian Aime
Project Manager, BLM
P.O.Box 12000
Reno NV 89520-0006

Dear Mr. Aime:

1 I noticed in the Delta County Independent an announcement of the extension of the comment period on the proposed methods for treating and managing vegetation on BLM-managed lands.

2 The article stated "The treatment will also reduce the amount of highly flammable forest and rangeland fuels, such as stands of pinyon and juniper trees ..."

3 One of my most exciting bird sightings was when I saw a flock of pinyon jays working through a stand of pinyon/juniper trees near Buena Vista Colorado. The only other sighting I've had of the pinyon jay was a few weeks ago near my home in Cedaredge Colorado, as they were feeding on the junipers. So I am concerned to read that the BLM is going to remove the pinyon/juniper forest. Other birds I have found in the pj forest are the brown creeper, pygmy nuthatch and bushtit. I understand that they might be a fire hazard, but I am at a loss to justify the removal of these trees for that reason.

4 I haven't read the environmental analysis. I am simply stating my concern regarding the destruction of habitat. There has been a significant loss of pinyon pine in the west since the drought of 2002. I am hopeful you will not contribute to the decline of the pinyon jay and other birds that rely on the pinyon/juniper forest to survive.

Sincerely,

Martha Grewal

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