November 10, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

The over one hundred local elected officials from Colorado listed below thank you for designating Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument to protect Camp Hale, the Tenmile Range and its rich history while helping our communities that depend on outdoor recreation and sustainable public lands succeed. We also thank you for initiating consideration of a 20-year withdrawal of the Thompson Divide area from new oil and gas leasing and mining.

This designation of a Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument protects a unique piece of mountain history that will bring awareness to visitors about the societal contributions that mountain communities provide.

In World War II, the Army found its soldiers were not adequately trained in mountain warfare and so Camp Hale was formed to equip soldiers for high-altitude, low temperature operations, and those who trained there helped improve outcomes later in the war. It was at Camp Hale that the famed 10th Mountain Division was founded. Many of those 10th Mountain Division ski troops came home to Colorado after the war to build our skiing and outdoor recreation economy.

This national monument designation will help our western communities thrive by preserving and enhancing our public lands and historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest. The Tenmile Range is a scientific and geographically interesting and beautiful area for outdoor recreation. The most hiked peak above 14,000 feet in Colorado, Quandary Peak, is located in the Tenmile Range.

Bringing additional resources to the Tenmile Range will help preserve the scientific importance of the area and make it more resilient so that future generations can enjoy it as much as those of today. Establishing these areas as a Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument will bring great benefits to our Western mountain communities and will be a great step forward to providing our communities with a bright future while honoring the past.

We face serious challenges as we deal with the effects that our changing climate has on our communities through wildfires, drought, flooding, and intense weather. The time to invest further in enhancing our public lands is now; we appreciate you taking this forward-looking action and encourage you to designate more national monuments soon.

Thank you,

1. Mayor Torre, City of Aspen, Colorado
2. Mayor Pro Tem Ward Hauenstein, City of Aspen, Colorado
3. Council Member John Doyle, City of Aspen, Colorado
4. Council Member Rachael Richards, City of Aspen, Colorado
5. Council Member Skippy Mesirow, City of Aspen, Colorado
6. Mayor Sarah Smith Hymes, Town of Avon, Colorado
7. Mayor Pro-tem Amy Cramer Phillips, Town of Avon, Colorado
8. Council Member Scott Prince, Town of Avon, Colorado
9. Council Member Tamara Underwood, Town of Avon, Colorado
10. Council Member Glenn Drummond, Town of Basalt, Colorado
11. Council Member Elyse Hottel, Town of Basalt, Colorado
12. Council Member Angela Anderson, Town of Basalt, Colorado
13. Council Member David Knight, Town of Basalt, Colorado
14. Council Member Dieter Schindler, Town of Basalt, Colorado
15. Mayor Aaron Brockett, City of Boulder, Colorado
16. Mayor Pro Tem Rachel Friend, City of Boulder, Colorado
17. Council Member Matt Benjamin, City of Boulder, Colorado
18. Council Member Junie Joseph, City of Boulder, Colorado
19. Mayor Eric Mamula, Town of Breckenridge, Colorado
20. Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Owens, Town of Breckenridge, Colorado
21. Council Member Todd Rankin, Town of Breckenridge, Colorado
22. Council Member Carol Saade, Town of Breckenridge, Colorado
23. Council Member Jay Beckerman, Town of Breckenridge, Colorado
24. Council Member Dick Carleton, Town of Breckenridge, Colorado
25. Council Member Jeffrey Bergeron, Town of Breckenridge, Colorado
26. Mayor Ben Bohmfalk, Town of Carbondale, Colorado
27. Town Trustee Colin Laird, Town of Carbondale, Colorado
28. Town Trustee Chris Hassig, Town of Carbondale, Colorado
29. County Commissioner and Commander, United States Navy (Retired) Keith Baker, Chaffee County, Colorado
30. Council Member Gabi Prochaska, Town of Crested Butte, Colorado
31. Council Member Mallika Magner, Town of Crested Butte, Colorado
32. Council Member Beth Goldstone, Town of Crested Butte, Colorado
33. Mayor Carolyn Skowyra, Town of Dillon, Colorado
34. Mayor pro tem Brad Bailey, Town of Dillon, Colorado
35. Council Member Kyle Hendricks, Town of Dillon, Colorado
36. Council Member John Woods, Town of Dillon, Colorado
37. Council Member Renee Imamura, Town of Dillon, Colorado
38. Council Member Dana Christiansen, Town of Dillon, Colorado
39. Council Member Tony Scalise, Town of Dillon, Colorado
40. Mayor Barbara Noseworthy, City of Durango, Colorado
41. County Commissioner Kathy Chandler-Henry, Eagle County, Colorado
42. County Commissioner Matt Scherr, Eagle County, Colorado
43. County Commissioner Jeanne McQueeny, Eagle County, Colorado
44. Mayor of Fort Collins Jeni Arndt, City of Fort Collins, Colorado
45. Mayor Hunter Mortensen, Town of Frisco, Colorado
46. Council Member Jessica Burley, Town of Frisco, Colorado
47. Council Member Lisa Holenko, Town of Frisco, Colorado
48. Council Member Andrew J. Aerenson, Town of Frisco, Colorado
49. Council Member Elizabeth Skrzypczak-Adrian, Town of Frisco, Colorado
50. Mayor Jonathan Godes, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado
51. Council Member Shelley Kaup, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado
52. Council Member Paula Stepp, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado
53. Council Member Marco Dehm, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado
54. Council Member Ingrid Wussow, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado
55. County Commissioner Jonathan D. Houck, Gunnison County, Colorado
56. County Commissioner Liz Smith, Gunnison County, Colorado
57. County Commissioner Roland Mason, Gunnison County, Colorado
58. County Commissioner Kayla Marcella, Lake County, Colorado
59. County Commissioner Marsha Porter-Norton, La Plata County, Colorado
60. County Commissioner Matt S. Salka, La Plata County, Colorado
61. Mayor Joan Peck, City of Longmont, Colorado
62. Council Member Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, City of Longmont, Colorado
63. Council Member Marcia Martin, City of Longmont, Colorado
64. Council Member Patrick Berry, Town of Mountain Village, Colorado
65. Mayor Mason Osgood, Town of Ophir, Colorado
66. Council Member Peggy Lindsey, City of Ouray, Colorado
67. Council Member Dave Knutson, Town of Paonia, Colorado
68. County Commissioner Greg Poschman, Pitkin County, Colorado
69. County Commissioner Kelly McNicholas Kury, Pitkin County, Colorado
70. County Commissioner Francie Jacober, Pitkin County, Colorado
71. Mayor John I. Clark, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
72. Council Member Beth Lakin, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
73. Council Member Polly Enochs, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
74. Council Member Terence Schuyler, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
75. Council Member Kevin Grambley, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
76. County Commissioner Beth Melton, Routt County, Colorado
77. County Commissioner Tim Corrigan, Routt County, Colorado
78. Mayor Dan Shore, City of Salida, Colorado
79. Council Member Harald Kasper, City of Salida, Colorado
80. Council Member Justin Critelli, City of Salida, Colorado
81. Council Member Mike Pollock, City of Salida, Colorado
82. Council Member Dominique Naccarato, City of Salida, Colorado
83. Council Member Jane Templeton, City of Salida, Colorado
84. Council Member Alisa Pappenfort, City of Salida, Colorado
85. Former Mayor P.T. Wood, City of Salida, Colorado
86. County Commissioner Hilary Cooper, San Miguel County, Colorado
87. County Commissioner Lance Waring, San Miguel County, Colorado
88. Mayor Shane Fuhrman, Town of Silverton, Colorado
89. Mayor Bill Madsen, Town of Snowmass Village, Colorado
90. Council Member Alyssa Shenk, Town of Snowmass Village, Colorado
91. Council Member Bob Sirkus, Town of Snowmass Village, Colorado
92. County Commissioner Josh Blanchard, Summit County, Colorado
93. Commissioner Tamara Pogue, Summit County, Colorado
94. County Commissioner Elisabeth Lawrence, Summit County, Colorado
95. Former County Commissioner Karn Stiegelmeier, Summit County, Colorado
96. Mayor DeLanie Young, Town of Telluride, Colorado
97. Council Member J.Meehan Fee, Town of Telluride, Colorado
98. Council Member Lars Carlson, Town of Telluride, Colorado
99. Former Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Todd Brown, Town of Telluride, Colorado
100. Mayor Kim Langmaid, Town of Vail, Colorado
101. Council Member Jen Mason, Town of Vail, Colorado
102. Council Member Kevin Foley, Town of Vail, Colorado
103. Council Member Travis Coggin, Town of Vail, Colorado
104. Council Member Barry Davis, Town of Vail, Colorado
105. Council Member Jonathan Staufer, Town of Vail, Colorado
106. Council Member Pete Seibert, Town of Vail, Colorado

CC: Vice President Kamala Harris
Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack
Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland
Senator Michael Bennet
Senator John Hickenlooper
Congressman Joe Neguse
Governor Jared Polis