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Campbell defends river plan

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REGION BRIEFS

Campbell defends river plan

MONTROSE — U.S. Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell on Friday defended his proposal to drop wild-and-scenic designation of the Gunnison River as it runs through the proposed Black Canyon National Park.

Campbell, speaking at a hearing on the park proposal, said he proposed dropping the scenic designation to try to push the proposal through Congress this year.

“I believe this bill ... is going to be the right key to getting something passed this year,” Campbell said.

“We can, of course, include a wild-and-scenic designation and go to where we were before. I have found there are only three kinds of bills: good, better and dead. But there are no perfect bills.”