

From: [Joyce DeVaney](#)
To: [FS-objections-southwestern-regional-office](#)
Subject: Please deny the request to approve the construction of a copper mine by Resolution Copper at Oak Flat
Date: Saturday, February 27, 2021 11:51:22 AM

This land swap is wrong, wrong, wrong! It would destroy a site that's held sacred by Western Apache tribes, including the nearby San Carlos Apache. Why would we consider harming a sacred site for the sake of greed by Resolution Copper?

For many centuries Oak Flat has played a fundamental role in Apache culture. Countless generations of Apaches have used the site for religious and coming-of-age ceremonies and have gathered medicinal plants and acorns from its majestic oaks. A tribal expert has said that Oak Flat is "the best set of Apache archaeological sites ever documented." The site is world renowned for rock climbing, thanks to its beautiful and impressive rock formations.

Material removed from the mine would cover thousands of acres of public land with toxic mine waste, and when the mine was eventually closed it would leave behind a crater up to two miles wide and 1,000 feet deep. Oak Flat would be utterly destroyed and remain unsafe for human visitation in perpetuity. This is offensive and wrong!

I stand in support of the Apaches as they fight for their sacred land — and for all of the species that call Oak Flat home. Please do the right thing and deny this request to approve the Resolution Copper Mine.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Joyce DeVaney

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