

Water Quality, Quantity and Groundwater

The Town of Patagonia does not support South 32 Hermosa's plan for dewatering.

Dewatering in the Patagonia Mountains, or any where in Arizona for industrial reasons is irresponsible and dangerous.

We are deeply concerned with the potential for extreme drought and fire from dewatering. We are deeply concerned with the potential for contaminants from legacy and new mineral disturbance and extraction to negatively affect our air, water quality, quantity and soil.

USFS (United States Forest Service) must practice due diligence and be extremely proactive in the protection and sustainability of our public lands, our precious and valuable water resources and the protections of the health and well-being of our community.

If USFS is reactive rather than proactive to these critical issues, illness, quality or loss of life has the potential to occur because of legacy and new mineral contaminants (such as manganese) from the profit driven mining industry South 32.

The town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Surface Water, Springs and Seeps

USFS must provide a Comprehensive Ground Water Study before ANY groundwater pumping occurs.

Water is a precious resource within the State of Arizona and USFS are the mandated stewards of this precious resource within our National Forest.

The protections of our Surface Water, Springs and Seeps must have priority over profits of private industry.

Dewatering and manipulation of our waterways negatively affects our biodiversity and creates the potential for extreme drought and wildfires

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Wildlife, Fish and Rare Plants

Commercial Industry should not be in control of changing or modifying habitats of sensitive species.

USFS should practice due diligence with the protection of these species.

The Town of Patagonia does not agree with South 32 Hermosa having the authority as a private industry to change or modify our biodiversity and forever compromise the habitat of these affected species.

USFS are the mandated stewards of the National Forest, the people's land. USFS must practice protection over profit.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Geology, Minerals and Soil

The Town of Patagonia does not agree with the ground disturbance of our National Forest.

The destruction of paleontological resources, disturbance of biodiversity, soil and water should not occur.

South 32 Hermosa must have a complete and comprehensive plan to proactively prevent these outcomes from occurring.

Dewatering is dangerous and irresponsible in an area that is already affected by drought conditions. South 32 Hermosa should not be allowed to dewater for profit.

Tailings could pollute our air, soil and waterways and dewatering would cause negative impacts and geologic hazards.

USFS is the mandated stewards of our public lands and must be proactive and diligent in the protection of the people's land.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Cultural Resources

The Town of Patagonia is concerned with the destruction and disturbance of historical sites surrounding South 32 Hermosa. All areas of the Coronado National Forest are important to us.

We expect USFS to practice due diligence regarding ANY consideration of industry disturbance to our lands. We rely on USFS to be proactive and diligent stewards of our public lands.

Protection of the National Forest should always be a priority over industry invasion for profit.

The cultural history of our mountains and surrounding areas cannot be undone if protection is not a priority. Industry comes and goes, often with negative impacts. Our cultural history is fragile and must be protected.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Recreation and Scenery

USFS is responsible for the protection of our National Forest. Any disturbance or destruction of our public lands is the sole responsibility of that agency. Due diligence must always be practiced.

The Town of Patagonia does not want any National Forest land disturbed or destroyed. Disturbance or destruction of the people's land negatively affects our ecotourism, biodiversity and sustainability of our community and surrounding nature.

South 32 Hermosa should not have the discretion and authority to disturb and destroy our National Forest for profit.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Noise

The Town of Patagonia does not agree with South 32 Hermosa, a private industry creating noise and nuisance.

USFS is responsible for the protection of our public lands, as well as the protection of our biodiversity and our wildlife.

Noise pollution could adversely affect wildlife, biodiversity and negatively affect our community's ecotourism attractions.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Traffic, Public Health and Safety

The Town of Patagonia does not agree with South 32 Hermosa's proposed route and our scenic and historical highways congested with an influx of heavy mining traffic.

Our scenic and historical highways are not designed for this type of heavy traffic. Fatalities are certain to occur.

We are concerned with the transportation of hazardous material and mineral contaminants and legacy mine tailings released in the air, soil and waterways.

The town of Patagonia does not agree with the extraction of manganese. Until baseline regulation of manganese is established, extraction of this mineral should never be considered.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Vegetation, Fire and Fuels

The Town of Patagonia is deeply concerned with the disturbance of vegetation with dewatering and the increased potential for fire.

The proposed 138 kv, 14 mile overhead electrical line creates an extreme danger of fire that could obliterate the Town of Patagonia.

Who will be accountable to the citizens in our community for the death and destruction that would occur?

USFS are the stewards of our public lands and must use due diligence in their decision-making process with invasive private industry.

Dewatering will negatively affect the areas surrounding South 32 Hermosa's project changing wildlife habitat, biodiversity and create the potential for drought and wildfire.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Land Use and Land Management

The Town of Patagonia does not agree with the potential authority given to South 32 Hermosa to change, modify and destroy our National Forest accessibility. Private industry should never take precedence over the protection of the people's land.

USFS are the mandated stewards of the land, not private industry for profit. Changing accessibility within our National Forest adversely affects our community's ecotourism.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Climate Change and Air Quality

The Town of Patagonia understands the necessity of green energy. We also support and encourage the sustainability of our water resources.

We are concerned with insufficient data for the potential carbon change from this project. USFS must conduct a carbon change analysis independent from South 32 Hermosa prior to approving the Environmental Impact Study (EIS).

The Town of Patagonia is concerned with dust from contaminants such as manganese, lead, zinc and copper including other legacy contaminants disturbed by mining from South 32 Hermosa. We do not agree with manganese extraction on any level until sufficient baseline regulations are established.

We are concerned with greenhouse emissions and contaminants polluting our community and affecting the health of our citizens and surrounding neighbors from the South 32 Hermosa project in the Patagonia Mountains.

The Town of Patagonia is concerned with contaminants leaching into our groundwater and soil resulting from everyday activity of private industry mining.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.

Environmental Justice and Socioeconomics

The Town of Patagonia is within the parameters of low- income definitions and our health and welfare may suffer negative consequences of dismissing environmental justice concerns.

We have a robust ecotourism economy including birding, biking, hiking and the enjoyment of our unique community.

South 32 Hermosa's project in our National Forest would have an adverse impact on our currently sustainable ecotourism revenue with the increase from pollution, dewatering and heavy mining truck traffic.

We do not feel the employment opportunities are greater than the negative and dangerous impacts of mining affecting sustainability of our community now and in the generations to come.

The Town of Patagonia rejects this proposal.