

9/30/24



Dear Forest Supervisor,

Being outdoors in nature walking, listening, observing is essential to me.

I support the proposed Pactola Rapid Creek area withdrawal of mineral claims. There should be no exploration drilling or mining for at least twenty years?

For ten to thirteen thousand years historic sites and cultural sources have been present on what is now known as National Forest without much legal harm to land or water. We are obligated to consider the future. History is alive in nature; all people need to be able to experience it.

More clean water from Pactola will be needed for the expansion of Ellsworth Air Force Base. We ~~must~~ <sup>need</sup> to think about and plan for clean water sources for the future of all life.

Lack of affordable and useable water will send some people into poverty since water is essential for life. Drinking from a plastic bottle is not realistic. I just heard on the radio that a toilet without clean water is unhealthy!

How many abandoned mines in the Black Hills have been restored? 605-343-2784

I support Finding of No Significant Impact.  
"FONSI"

Sincerely,  
Carol Merwin



RAPID CITY SD 57701  
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