



Norbeck Society
P. O. Box 9730
Rapid City, SD 57709

October 27, 2024

Elysia Retzlaff, Withdrawal Project Manager
Rocky Mountain Region 2
Shawn Cochran, Forest Supervisor
Black Hills National Forest

Sent via the project comment page: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public//CommentInput?Project=63876>

RE: Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal - Project 63876

Dear Manager Retzlaff and Supervisor Cochran,

The Norbeck Society is in full support of the withdrawal of 20,574 acres of National Forest Service lands from the mineral survey as proposed in Project 63876, Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal.

Government should do what individuals and smaller groups cannot. Government leadership in this situation is necessary to protect precious and irreplaceable resources like water and intact and functioning ecosystems that we rely on. There are many more opportunities present on the Black Hills National Forest for government agencies to act in the best interest of the most people.

There is an overwhelming need to rein-in our unsustainable impacts on the Forest (and planet) in order that we utilize natural resources in ways that are commensurate with their continuance. While this withdrawal may seem small in the global (and even local) context, rest assured it is a step in the right direction... providing the most benefit for the most people, and without undue influence by politics or commerce.

Sincerely,

Mary Zimmerman, President
On Behalf of the Norbeck Society
P. O. Box 9730
Rapid City, SD 57709