

10/25/2024

***Destruction of this area in any way makes no sense. It is a unique ecosystem that needs to remain as such!***

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Rapid Creek is critically threatened by gold exploration and the potential for toxic mining that would endanger key water sources, cultural areas, wildlife habitat, and places cherished for outdoor recreation by locals and visitors alike. Finalizing this withdrawal would protect approximately 20,000 acres within the watershed from mining for a 20 year period.

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Please select Alternative A and finalize the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed withdrawal as soon as possible to ensure natural and cultural resources in this area of the Black Hills are protected for this and the next generation.

Tom Merrill  
1522 walnut St  
Yankton, SD 57078  
(605) 660-6779  
merrilltd@yahoo.com

10/25/2024

***For our national defense we need to keep our water resources pure. Pactola and Rapid Creek supply an area essential to our military as well as our local citizens.***

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Helen Tjader  
19955 Merriam Loop  
Spearfish, SD 57783  
(401) 480-8329  
helen@acornnpsolutions.com

10/26/2024

***I am urging the US Forest Service to Protect the Pactola Reservoir and the Rapid Creek Watershed from any proposed mining project for the coming generations.***

***The dangers of what this does to our water should be a wakeup call for our leaders to Protect the Watershed. Our Teton Tribes of the Seven Camp Fires who lived in the Black Hills and what is the current Rapid City, SD and all the surrounding townships now were significant for not only our people but all living wildlife and the natural ecosystem to nourish everything.***

***The whole Black Hills is a Sacred Place where our ancestors utilized for food and rebirth of all life. The land was a place for all to partake in and was protected for future generations as well as a place for Tribes to pray and hunt for the coming year.***

***I can go on and on but the Protection of any part of the Creeks and especially the Rapid Creek should remain free from dangerous chemicals at all costs. Our leaders need to Protect our Waters!***

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Rhonda Two Eagle  
467 County Road 6  
PORCUPINE, SD 57772  
(605) 441-6472  
rhondatwoeagle0@gmail.com

10/25/2024

***I enjoy walking along the Rapid Creek during my visits to Rapid City.***

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Donna Ver Wey  
6517 S Killarney Ct  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108  
(605) 371-2133  
djverwey@hotmail.com

10/28/2024

***I have hunted White Tail deer near Pactola Lake and would hate to see the lake and surrounding area ruined by mining.***

***–Retired 22 year South Dakota Legislator Frank Kloucek of Scotland SD***

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Frank Kloucek  
29966 423rd Ave  
Scotland, SD 57059  
(605) 583-4468  
fkloucek@hotmail.com

10/25/2024

***I love the Black Hills! Please don't let greed destroy it!***

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Denise M Deslauriers  
362 Evans Ln Apt A  
Spearfish, SD 57783  
(605) 569-0502  
dmdeslauriers@gmail.com

10/26/2024

***It's about time for the US Forest Service to protect our highly threatened forests and watersheds in the Black Hills. There is so little left to protect!***

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Joyce Keifer  
31316 470th Ave  
Burbank, SD 57010  
(605) 624-4489  
jkeifer@usd.edu

10/25/2024

***My children live in this area and our water needs protecting.***

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Cynthia Ehly  
4505 Bellewood Dr  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
(605) 393-7293  
paraglidemom@yahoo.com



10/28/2024

***Please do all you can to protect the Rapid Creek Watershed. This area means so much to those of us that call the Black Hills Home. We have plenty of gold mines but not nearly enough protected watersheds. Thanks for your consideration.***

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Jeff Laughlin  
104 Park Ave  
Lead, SD 57754  
(605) 641-3805  
jlaughlin@bhssc.org

10/26/2024

***Please protect Rapid Creek watershed from the threat of the mining industry. It's an important water source for many communities in the area and also a beautiful area to explore and enjoy nature. I've personally enjoyed walking along Rapid Creek as it flows through Rapid City and would love to see it protected from mining forever.***

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal project. I join a broad coalition of environmental, conservation, tribal, water recreation and outdoor businesses who support the proposed action.

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Curtis Nesson  
2620 E. Humboldt St.  
Pierre, SD 57501  
(605) 220-0564  
canesson@live.com

10/28/2024

***Please take action to protect the Rapid Creek watershed from the toxicity and damage potential from exploring for and/or extracting gold and other mining that may be considered. Water is life, and poisoned water will impact agriculture, tourism and the very lives and health of people in the Black Hills and beyond. Please protect us now while we have a chance at prevention! Thank you for your rational and humane thought and consideration.***

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Colleen Ragan  
10 Saint Francis St  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
(605) 791-1838  
colleen2177@msn.com

10/25/2024

***Seems like a no brainer with the scarcity of clean water in the area. Do the right thing for the people, not the mining industry witch is often owned by foreign investors.***

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal project. I join a broad coalition of environmental, conservation, tribal, water recreation and outdoor businesses who support the proposed action.

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Karin Ehlers  
31129 435th Ave  
Yankton, SD 57078  
(605) 221-4263  
klecat21@gmail.com

10/28/2024

***Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal project. Please select Alternative A. I live in Rapid City and recreate in the Pactola watershed. This watershed is critical to a clean water supply for Rapid City feeding both the Madison Aquifer and Rapid Creek. We can't risk letting a mineral withdrawal pollute it. There is no plan B.***

***Please consider extending this withdrawal to perpetuity and extending it to the entire Black Hills National Forest. All of the streams leaving the Black Hills contribute to the water aquifers that provide water for the entire Black Hills area and many miles out into the plains. The scenery in the Hills is another valuable asset to the community, especially as it relates to tourism and the jobs that tourism provides. Mineral withdrawal projects could detract from the value of our scenery both significantly and permanently.***

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Alan Anderson  
7774 Columbine Ct  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
(605) 391-2819  
alandand@rap.midco.net

10/28/2024

***The country needs mining, but we also need to be very careful to protect our other natural resources while mining. It's also imperative that the mining companies put up real \$\$ to fully cover the costs for clean-up and reclamation BEFORE they are issued any permits.***

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Beth Lockwood  
120 Trails End Court  
Custer, SD 57730  
bglockwood@aol.com

10/25/2024

***This affects the water we drink!!***

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Debby Chaloupka  
6407 Jennifer St  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
(605) 484-9782  
debbyc@rap.midco.net

10/25/2024

***This matters to me because as a SD resident I value the character, history, value, and beauty of the Black Hills. It's simply a no-brainer to protect this fantastic watershed from further mining impacts.***

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John Simpson  
318 W Pleasant Dr  
Pierre, SD 57501  
(605) 224-7054  
jrsimpson@pie.midco.net



10/25/2024

***We need to protect all water resources. If we don't potable water may become so scarce that we end up fighting over it.***

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Richard Unruh  
1208 W 9th St  
Yankton, SD 57078  
(605) 668-9625  
runruhjr@outlook.com

10/26/2024

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Barb Baker  
25352 S Lightning Creek Rd  
Custer, SD 57730  
(701) 590-4739  
bjscougar@hotmail.com

10/25/2024

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Caitilin Kane  
612 E 4th St  
Dell Rapids, SD 57022  
(605) 428-4119  
caitigumbo@gmail.com

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Caleb Cookie  
22841 Gateway Drive  
Box Elder, SD 57199  
(605) 484-5368  
caleb.cookie04@gmail.com

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Carol Hinkelman  
2391 Hillside Dr  
Sturgis, SD 57785  
(314) 972-6378  
carolhinkelman@gmail.com

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Charlene Williams  
1113 St Charles St  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
(605) 484-6206  
kcmlwill@gmail.com

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Charles Wirth  
605 Judson Ave  
Hurley, SD 57036  
(605) 408-4329  
pcw577@hotmail.com

10/28/2024

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David Kerr  
7765 Campground Rd., Collier Rd  
Box Elder, SD 57719  
(925) 878-5046  
davidkerr573@gmail.com



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Diana Barrett  
23639 busted five ct.  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
(605) 215-6863  
silvercat551@yahoo.com

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James Kammert  
4050 Carriage Hills Dr  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
(605) 348-4877  
kammertjames@gmail.com

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James Pearson  
447 Rolling Hills Dr  
Yankton, SD 57078  
(605) 760-0180  
interoneness@gmail.com

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Jeff Strub  
602 NW 9th St Lot 416  
Madison, SD 57042  
(605) 480-0645  
jtstrub1business@gmail.com

10/28/2024

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Julie Turner  
28759 127th St, Mobridge, South Dakota 57601  
Mobridge, SD, SD 57601  
(605) 845-3541  
gjturner@westriv.com

10/26/2024

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal project. I join a broad coalition of environmental, conservation, tribal, water recreation and outdoor businesses who support the proposed action.

Rapid Creek is critically threatened by gold exploration and the potential for toxic mining that would endanger key water sources, cultural areas, wildlife habitat, and places cherished for outdoor recreation by locals and visitors alike. Finalizing this withdrawal would protect approximately 20,000 acres within the watershed from mining for a 20 year period.

The Pactola Reservoir withdrawal is a first step, and I also encourage protecting further upstream areas from mining and associated pollution.

Please select Alternative A and finalize the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed withdrawal as soon as possible to ensure natural and cultural resources in this area of the Black Hills are protected for this and the next generation.

Kathleen Gorsett  
45064 304th St  
Volin, SD 57072  
(605) 267-2370  
kgorsett@gmail.com

10/25/2024

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Leon Roberts  
PO Box 986  
Spearfish, SD 57783  
(605) 210-2828  
lroberts1500@yahoo.com

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Mike Paul  
27088 480th Ave  
Harrisburg, SD 57032  
(701) 204-5641  
mikepaul@gmail.com



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Oliver Stubbs  
, SD 57730  
(864) 723-6465  
oliverlstubbs@yahoo.com

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Sandy Dumke  
807 Executive Cir  
Crooks, SD 57020  
(605) 543-5719  
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Walt Johnson  
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North Sioux City, SD 57049  
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10/28/2024

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Wauthena Brooks  
5104 W 39th St  
Sioux Falls, SD 57106  
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wauthenam@sio.midco.net

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Chuck Wirth  
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