

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/27/2023 7:00:00 AM

First name: Nancy

Last name: Suelflow

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To who it may concern. I understand that F3 Gold is within their legal rights to stake claims.

I also understand that the Forest Service is within their legal rights to put restrictions in place in order to keep in line with its mission statement which reads "To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. For more than 100 years, the Forest Service has brought people and communities together to answer the call of conservation."

I live in \*redacted\*, west of Custer, Sd, and on the edge of Forest Service land. We drive Upper French Creek Road 286 (primary access for F3) 3 miles to Diamond Road to get to our home. We have so many stakes around our area it is unreal.

I have multiple concerns with the prospect of the exploratory drilling and potential gold mining.

1. There is a protected bat habitat within a couple hundred yards of at least three proposed sites. Looks like maybe that environmental study needs to be done after all.
2. Light pollution, noise pollution, water pollution. 24 hour a day operations? Absolutely not OK.
3. Water pollution? Crow creek will be destroyed. What will that do to our neighborhood water sources and wells?
4. Upper French Creek road is used heavily for residents to get to and from town, including drivers of every age--teen to elderly, the county already does a horrible job maintaining it and the additional traffic will be a significant detriment to both the safety and condition of the road.

I urge you to reconsider allowing this project to move forward. Your job is to conserve the lands, not make money off of them. Additionally consider your neighbors, including the furry and feathered ones. Be a good neighbor. Do. No. harm.

Sincerely.

Nancy A. Suelflow, MS CCC-SLP

Word of Mouth, Inc

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