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Comments:

Hello, my name is Kyle Gould and I am a concerned citizen from New York State.

I'm writing to express my outrage that the U.S. Forest Service is proposing to allow open mining in National Forests. National Forests were made so that our country's more vulnerable and remarkable woodlands and forests would be protected from human exploitation. National Forests hold a variety of endangered species that cannot be found anywhere else. They also comprise some of the largest expanses of forest in our country, and with that, serves as one of our country's greatest carbon sinks. In other words, National Forests help reduce carbon dioxide levels in our atmosphere. Finally, forests can be an environmental boon by protecting against erosion, increase soil quality, provide shade and lower temperatures during heatwaves, and can even promote good water quality.

By allowing mining to be allowed, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Republican party, and the Trump administration would be actively removing the benefits that these forests provide so that they can appease polluting and mining industries. This is a betrayal of the environment and a betrayal of the American people. For these reasons, I demand that the U.S. Forest Service to not allow mining or any other environmentally damaging activities to be done in National Forests. I demand that they rescind this proposed rule.

Thank you for your time, Kyle Gould