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First name: Dawn

Last name: Walker

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I own property in Washington Camp & am very much opposed to mining in this area. In my opinion this whole area of SW Arizona is remote, unspoilt & remarkably beautiful. It has great value because of its unique bio diversity & the fact it is habitat to many endangered species including the elusive Jaguar. I am surprised that Forest Service would in any way allow or support any actions or explorations that will possibly lead to destruction of such a picturesque area. The mining which is already going on near Patagonia is an eyesore with spot lights & generators running 24/7. The road is now dangerous to use as large tankers & mining vehicles use it at speeds quite inappropriate to the narrow unpaved road. I have nearly been hit several times by mining vehicles speeding round tight bends in the middle of the road. Questions re pollution should be high on the list of negatives. I belong a hiking group in the area & this year we have discovered many dead Cotamundies close to the mining area which we have never seen before. These animals had no apparent injuries & I would suspect poison from the mining operations.

Certainly here in New Zealand no land belonging to the Govt would ever be subject to mining or other development. Here we value our special places & preserve them for future generations. Please take a leaf out of our book & protect the beauty that is surrounding Patagonia & south to the border.