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Comments: I have called Elko or Spring Creek, Nevada home for the last 25 years. I love it here, there are many reasons why; without question the number one reason is the solitude, beauty and solace that the Ruby Mountains provide. I can't even fathom the idea of drills rigs on our range. The Rubies have often been described by outdoor magazines as "the most pristine mountain range in the western US" and yet we're actually considering leasing forest service land for drilling? Absolute shame! I work in the mining industry and understand the need for exploration and growth but this is completely unnecessary as other exploration sites nearby have yielded no results, leaving behind chewed up landscape and even MORE roads. I have seen with my own two eyes what reclamation efforts look like and "laughable" is the word I would use to describe them - permanent scars remain. Please, this cannot happen. There are tens of thousands of people that chose the view of beauty of the Rubies over city life - don't let us down, don't let drills and roads become our future. In addition, one of the proposed lease sites is directly adjacent to the largest water source in the entire range and in close proximity to the tanks and pumps that provide water to the Spring Creek residential area. For the love of everything good, we don't need to explore here, at this time. Don't let this happen.