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Comments: The Ruby Mountains - located in northeastern Nevada outside Elko - provide critical habitat for Nevada's state fish, the Lahontan cutthroat trout, and one of the largest mule deer herds in the country. The proposed oil and gas leases overlap and threaten the integrity of three contiguous roadless areas, and overlap an additional 11,000 acres of the Pearl Peak Roadless Area, an area Friends of Nevada Wilderness has been working to protect as Wilderness for over 30 years.

An area this valuable in natural beauty and wildlife should not be opened to development of any kind. Thank you.