

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2017 6:46:21 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Don't Allow Fracking in the Ruby Mountains

Dear Ms. Elliott,

As a proud Nevadan, and someone who spends a great deal of time enjoying our wild public landscape, I am absolutely against opening the Ruby Mountains for energy development. We need to be transitioning to newer, cleaner forms of energy, not holding the line on fossil fuels and all the harm they do to the planet. Nevada's spectacular landscape can only be marred by energy development, especially in a place as special as the Rubies. With abundant big game, robust trout fisheries and dense sage grouse habitat, the Rubies are a critical resource for wildlife.

Fracking and drilling for oil and gas would irreparably harm this undisturbed area. The waters that our trout rely on could be poisoned in spills or well failures after fracking. Mule deer habitat would be fragmented, and the deers' ability to safely overwinter would be compromised. Vulnerable sage grouse, known to be negatively affected by oil and gas development, will inch steadily closer to extinction.

I urge you not to permit any leasing for oil and gas in the Ruby Mountains. Non-surface occupancy stipulations do nothing to protect our precious aquatic resources from the harms of fracking. The only way to protect the fragile resources of the Rubies is to forbid leasing on all of these parcels.

Thank you,

William Huggins

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