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First name: Lori Last name: Jirak Organization:

Title:

Comments: Don't Allow Fracking in the Ruby Mountains

Dear Ms. Elliott,

The Ruby Mountains are one of the most spectacular landscapes in Nevada. With abundant big game, robust trout fisheries and dense sage grouse habitat, the Rubies are a critical resource for wildlife.

Fossil fuels belong in the 19th century, not in our future.

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. Unique rare and endangered plants could be pushed closer to extinction. Vulnerable sage grouse, known to be negatively affected by oil and gas development, will also inch steadily closer to extinction.

I urge you to deny permits for 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,

Lori Jirak

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