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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please Don't Allow Fracking in the Ruby Mountains

Dear Ms. Elliott,

These spectacular mountains will be destroyed if they are opened up for fracking and drilling. Why is the US Forest Service even considering putting the Ruby Mountains on the chopping block knowing that they will be irreversibly harmed along with the mule deer and sage grouse populations whose territories will be fragmented? We all know that drilling and fracking leads to air pollution and poisons the waterways. Is there no area off limits to the dirty energy industry these days?? Stop the fracking/drilling madness already. The vast majority of Americans want clean energy like wind and solar and are sick and tired of watching our planet be destroyed by the dirty energy industry.

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.

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,

Gayle Janzen

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