

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2017 3:13:55 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Don't Allow Fracking in the Ruby Mountains

Dear Ms. Elliott,

Your mandate is to protect and defend our forests for the future, not destroy them by allowing oil companies to poison and tear them up. Please do not allow the previously undisturbed Ruby Mountains to be fracked. They are one of the most spectacular landscapes in Nevada. And with abundant big game, robust trout fisheries and dense sage grouse habitat, the Rubies are a critical resource for wildlife. Oil and gas development has dramatically decreased habitat wherever it has been allowed, and we cannot afford to damage these precious lands.

Fracking and drilling would irreparably harm the lands and waters of this undisturbed area. Heavy material transport would tear up and pollute the land. 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 ability of the deer 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,

Lyn Lowry

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