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First name: Nancy Last name: Lowell 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. But hey, when it comes to drilling for oil and gas, that sort of worth seems not to have any value. I am really tired of and angry with these incessant attempts to rape and pillage our natural resources on some of the country's most beautiful and pristine lands. This is a public land, thus I and the entire U.S. citizenry have a vested interest in the preservation of lands in the Ruby Mountains. So, please, do NOT lease these areas for any kind of mining, drilling, fracking or any destructive activities. Just let it be, and guard it from harm.

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,

Nancy Lowell

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