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Comments: I oppose making any public lands available for oil and gas leases in the Ruby Mountains. This mountain range is priceless habitat for plants and animals, and has been relatively undisturbed and fragmented compared to other public lands in Nevada.

As our wildlife winks out - Lahontan cutthroat trout now occupy about 8% of their original range according to the USFWS - we owe it to them and to future Americans to preserve every place we can and work toward restoration of former habitats so they may be occupied once again.

I have spent a lot of time in northeast Nevada, have visited the Ruby Mountains occasionally, hiking up to its icy lakes, and found soul-renewing peace in the magnificence of this untrammelled landscape.

Taking the planetary present and future climate into consideration, we should be ending fossil fuel use as soon as possible, not finding and using more. How can our public land agencies in good conscience continue to facilitate climate change?

We humans must learn some respect and humility before the creations of nature, and we must stop assuming everything is here for our taking.