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First name: Sophia Last name: Baratashvili

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Are you insane? NO Fracking in the Ruby Mountains!

Dear Ms. Elliott,

Ruby Mountains is a magnificent, biologically diverse, fairy tale-like place that I want to take my future children and grandchildren to! No person who has been to these beautiful mountains would EVER want to them to parish. The ends do not justify the means! Are you people insane??? Just go there once, with your kids or alone, and tell the world that you want to destroy the habitat for the hundreds of species of birds, rabbits, hares, owls, insects...etc. This is the kind of place worth living for to see.

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,

Sophia Baratashvili

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