

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/2/2017 1:47:15 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Stop Drilling and Hydraulic Fracturing in the Ruby Mountains -- Ruby Mountains Oil and Gas Leasing Availability Analysis (Ruby Oil and Gas)

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Susan Elliott, Project Lead
660 South 12th Street Suite 108
Elko, NV 89801

Subject: Stop Drilling and Hydraulic Fracturing in the Ruby Mountains -- Ruby Mountains Oil and Gas Leasing Availability Analysis (Ruby Oil and Gas)

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 Ruby Mountains are a critical resource for wildlife.

"Our duty to the whole, including to the unborn generations, bids us to restrain an unprincipled present-day minority from wasting the heritage of these unborn generations. The movement for the conservation of wildlife and the larger movement for the conservation of all our natural resources are essentially democratic in spirit, purpose and method."

-- Theodore Roosevelt

Hydraulic fracturing and drilling for oil and gas would irreparably harm this undisturbed area. The waters that trout rely on could be poisoned in spills or well failures after fracking. Mule deer habitat would be fragmented and the deer's 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.

"Every man who appreciates the majesty and beauty of the wilderness and of wild life, should strike hands with the farsighted men who wish to preserve our material resources, in the effort to keep our forests and our game beasts, game-birds, and game-fish-indeed, all the living creatures of prairie and woodland and seashore-from wanton destruction. Above all, we should realize that the effort toward this end is essentially a democratic movement."

-- Theodore Roosevelt

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 Ruby Mountains is to forbid leasing on all of these parcels.

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."

-- Aldo Leopold

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please do NOT add my name to your mailing list. I will learn about future developments on this issue from other sources.

Sincerely,
Christopher Lish
San Rafael, CA