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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I STRONGLY OPPOSE oil and gas leasing in the Ruby Mountains area for these reasons:

1) The Ruby Mountains are an area and ecosystem unique in the state of Nevada. Damage done to this area by the roads, construction, traffic and emissions from oil and gas leasing would require hundreds of years for it to recover.

2) You might think you're providing an "economic boost" to this area. I can tell you that my wife and I often visit this area -- we even got married there -- and if the Rubies turned into an oil and gas field, we would likely visit there much less often. Why would we want to visit, hike through, camp in, eat in restaurants near, or stay in hotels near an oil and gas field? This area does benefit from a good deal of tourism, which would certainly decline with pumpjacks and oil flares dotting the landscape.

3) As noted above, the area has plenty of mineral extraction jobs already, and the oil and gas industries would likely bring in a lot of workforce from out of the area. Not everyone is suited for mineral extraction jobs, and vibrant economies require a variety of jobs. Do you really want to push out tourism jobs in favor of more mineral extraction?

4) I find it telling that you reopened the comment period because the previous comment period yielded a nearly unanimous voice against this plan. It seems obvious that no one wants oil and gas leasing in this area. Please LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE MOTIVATED ENOUGH TO COMMENT. These are the people who would be most impacted.