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First name: Laurinda

Last name: Porter

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Ruby Oil and Gas comments

Dear Josh Nicholes:

I am writing to oppose the proposal to make available 54,000 acres of National Forest System land in the Ruby Mountains portion of the Jarbidge Ranger District, Elko County, Nevada. Despite the fact that these lands are within areas covered by the 1986 Humboldt Land and Resource Management Plan, and were designated as open to leasing, that plan is more than 30 years old and conditions have changed.

I oppose any drilling or exploration in any designated wilderness area in the United States. The wilderness areas were set aside specifically to BE wilderness areas. They are not suitable for oil, gas, coal, uranium, or any other kind of mining or drilling. Irreparable harm would be caused to these areas by the building of roads, the staging of large-scale equipment and living quarters for workers, the influx of humans, the production of garbage and tailings, etc. The lands would no longer be wilderness after mining, drilling, and/or exploration via core sampling were done.

The United States has successfully begun the process of changing from a petroleum-based energy system to a renewable energy-based system. It is a process that takes time, but will ultimately be completed successfully if the FEDERAL GOVERNMENT stops interfering in land use decisions and trying to drill and mine for fossil fuels everywhere the fuels might be located. We no longer need as much fossil fuel as has been needed in the past. Existing known supplies of fuels are sufficient.

Thank you for considering my point of view.

Sincerely,

Dr Laurinda W Porter
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