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First name: Susan

Last name: Hastings

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Ruby Oil and Gas

Dear Acting District Ranger Joshua Nicholes,

The Ruby Mountains are an inappropriate place to drill for oil and gas. The mountain range supports abundant wildlife and recreational uses which are in direct conflict with oil and gas development. The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management would cause irreparable harm to the Ruby Mountains by allowing this development to occur. Additionally, oil and gas development harms aquifers, wastes precious water, exacerbates climate change, and the pollution caused by this development is scientifically recognized to be bad for our health. In fact, as a geologist who has worked in both the oil and mining industries, I can tell you that there is absolutely NO WAY that fracking can be done safely. Further, it uses massive amounts of water that are rendered so toxic that it can never be returned to the water cycle. In this time of climate change and the melting of ice caps and glaciers which hold 70% of our fresh water, that water is far more precious than any of the hydrocarbons that might be obtained. Further, the trucks that haul that water in, in other states, have so destroyed the roads that once paved roads have been reverted to gravel because the same people who allowed the fracking refused to repair the roads.

Therefore, I strongly urge you to reject the oil and gas leasing application and protect Nevadans and the Ruby Mountains from this development.

Sincerely,

Susan Hastings

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