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Comments: Ruby Oil and Gas

I'm in favor of responsible leasing of the referenced federal land and I'm for responsible oil and gas development. I'm sure there will be lots of unfavorable comments generated from environmental groups, most of which are against any oil/gas development, regardless of whether there are valid environmental concerns. So I hope you treat those objections for what they are: mostly uninformed kneejerk responses generated by environmental activists.

I'm an active hiker. I have camped in the extremely scenic Ruby Mountains and am one of a relatively few hikers who hiked to the top of Ruby Dome (late June 2009). From the map of the possible leasing sections, it appears hikers would need to go through parts of two of those northern sections (13 and 24), on the way up to Ruby Dome. That hike is a special hike and I think it might be difficult for oil/gas development to be done in parts of those sections, without excessive negative impact to the environment. However, I trust that required environmental reviews would be more than adequate to prevent such development from negatively impacting that valuable environment.

I support responsible leasing of federal land for oil/gas development. I trust that existing environmental review requirements will be more than sufficient to protect the valuable and scenic area around the Ruby Mountains.

Richard Yost

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