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First name: Carol Last name: Steinhart

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Reject Ruby Mountains Oil and Gas Leasing

May 23, 2018

Jenna Padilla, U.S. Forest Service

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I oppose all oil and gas development in the Ruby Mountains of Nevada. Petroleum production destroys the environment and petroleum use disrupts the climate. We have more reserves than we dare use if we want a livable Earth.

Please deny the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's request that you open up the Ruby Mountains of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest to oil and gas leasing.

The Forest Service has absolute discretion to withhold its consent to federal oil and gas leasing beneath National Forest System lands. The agency is under no obligation to allow any leasing at all, anywhere.

Considering the importance of the Ruby Mountains for fish and wildlife, outdoor recreation, and our American heritage of pubic lands, leasing in the Ruby Mountains is a terrible idea.

Because the Rubies are the source of water for the nearby Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, any future oil and gas development will pose unacceptable risks and hazards to surface and groundwater.

There is barely any oil and gas production in the State of Nevada and all leasing appears to be only speculative. Please do not allow our irreplaceable public lands to be used for fuel industry speculation. Reject any and all oil and gas leasing in the Ruby Mountains of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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