

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/25/2018 6:54:26 PM

First name: Catherine

Last name: Heyne

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Reject Ruby Mountains Oil and Gas Leasing

May 25, 2018

Jenna Padilla, U.S. Forest Service

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I am writing you because it is urgent that you deny the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's request to 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.

Given the importance of the Ruby Mountains for fish and wildlife, for outdoor recreation, and for our American heritage of public lands, even the thought of leasing in the Ruby Mountains is a criminal idea.

The fact that the Rubies are the source of water for the nearby Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge means that they will be impacted. Look at the DAPL pipeline & the hollow promises of safety. Any future oil and gas development will pose unacceptable risks to surface and groundwater.

There is no need to lease the Ruby Mountains. Right now, there is barely any oil and gas production in the State of Nevada and all leasing appears to be completely speculative. I urge the Forest Service not to allow our public lands to be used to fuel industry speculation.

Please, reject any and all oil and gas leasing in the Ruby Mountains of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ms. Catherine Heyne  
Alvarado Dr SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87108  
235-8162  
c.heyne@yahoo.com

