Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/24/2018 1:51:37 PM First name: Jake Last name: Hodie Organization: Title: Comments: Please REJECT Ruby Mountains Oil and Gas Leasing

May 24, 2018

Jenna Padilla, U.S. Forest Service

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I am writing to urge you to 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.

So much of our wilderness has already been ruined by development, drilling, pollution, and logging. Enough is enough! The wilderness is supposed to be a place of peace and quiet for us, and the wildlife which live in it! The animals are running out of places to live and be safe. Our wildlife are under threat from so many angles. They desperately need to be protected, mainly from humans. Life is hard enough for people, let alone the animals. Can't we please offer them some much needed help?! PLEASE save the NEVADA wilderness for all future generations before it is permanently ruined. Some damage cannot be undone!

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 pubic lands, leasing in the Ruby Mountains is a terrible idea.

The fact that the Rubies are the source of water for the nearby Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge raises serious concerns that 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,

Mr. Jake Hodie 145 Starwood Aspen, CO 81611 (888) 888-8888 skicopmtn@aol.com