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Organization:

Title:

Comments: REJECT Ruby Mountains Oil & Gas Leasing

May 23, 2018

Jenna Padilla, U.S. Forest Service

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

As an American citizen who cherishes our nation's special places, I am writing to strongly 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 destructive oil and gas leasing.

The Forest Service has full authority to withhold its consent to federal oil and gas leasing beneath National Forest System lands and has no obligation to permit any leasing.

Due to the importance of the Ruby Mountains for fish and wildlife, outdoor recreation, and our American heritage of public lands, leasing for fracking in the Ruby Mountains is unacceptable!

The Rubies are the source of water for the nearby Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge this proposal raises serious issues that any future oil and gas development will pose unacceptable risks to surface and groundwater.

There is no justification for leasing in the Ruby Mountains. At the moment, there is virtually no oil and gas production in the State of Nevada and apparently all leasing appears is completely speculative.

I strongly urge the Forest Service NOT to allow our public lands to be used to fuel industry speculation by opening Nevada's 54,000-acre crown jewel to destructive fracking as this irreplaceable and unique area is home to myriad wildlife and is so valued by the American people, including myself.

Our nation is fast losing our unique wild places to the greed of special interests and their land grab agendas and if this shameless trend continues we will have nothing to pass on to future generations. This sell-off of our public lands to the highest bidder MUST STOP NOW!

Therefore, I call on you to reject any and all oil and gas leasing in the Ruby Mountains of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.

Thank you for your serious consideration of my comments on this most

urgent issue that affects ALL Americans.

Sincerely,

Ms. Eileen Hennessy
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