

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/1/2021 7:01:16 PM

First name: Claudia

Last name: Campos

Organization: Ravens-Way Wild Journeys LLC

Title: Managing Director

Comments: 13 years ago we chose to move our education business to Patagonia to showcase, promote, and help protect the unique biodiversity of this gorgeous region. Your imminent decision will forever negatively impact our business, our livelihoods, and our family's future.

The international and domestic students, researchers, tourists, universities, groups and guests that have been eager to visit our area to learn about this region's unique biodiversity, have clearly stated that they will no longer be interested to visit a degraded wilderness area. Among the many concerns we all share is the fact that the region will reflect the inevitable and everlasting cumulative impacts of the other mining projects in varying stages of development in the Patagonia Mountains. The ongoing negative impact on habitat degradation, species loss, air, light, noise, and water pollution will be devastating for all of us in the community and beyond.

The Sunnyside Exploration Drilling Project seeking to drill up to 30 exploratory holes over a seven-year period to obtain evidence of mineralization will cause imminent and irreparable degradation of the forest public lands for generations to come. As a result, International and domestic visitors, scientists, researches, and tourists will no longer be interested to visit and explore the region. Your decision will have everlasting negative environmental impact on the ecosystem, and also, on the economy of the community and all of us who live, and work hard to earn our livelihoods in this region.

Over the past 13 years we have hosted countless groups and guest that have travelled far eager to learn, admire and celebrate the renown beauty and biodiversity, the clean air, the peace and quiet of the Sky Islands Region. Over the past year, the pandemic has highlighted further how city dwellers all over the world crave the outdoors, nature, biodiversity, and the pristine wilderness areas that we are so fortunate to enjoy by living in the area. We urge the Forest Service to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement given that this proposed project will occur in an area known to be inhabited by endangered, threatened, and sensitive species, that make this region's biodiversity so unique in the world.

I fully endorse the comments filed by Patagonia Area Resource Alliance and plead with the Forest Service to preserve the unique biodiversity and richness of the wilderness areas and lands that you steward for many generations to come.

I thank you in advance for your consideration.

Claudia