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First name: Kevin

Last name: Peterson

Organization: Hot Creek Ranch

Title: Operations Manager

Comments: My name is Kevin Peterson, operations manager at Hot Creek Fly Fishing Ranch, a stone's throw from Kore mining's proposed exploration sites. I am adamantly opposed to this exploration for MANY reasons. The fact that this is being considered based on a categorical exclusion from 1872 is crazy. When that exclusion was written, exploration was done with a shovel and a pickax. Today, that exploration is done with giant drilling rigs. I am extremely worried about what drilling may do to the water table in the area and how it might affect Hot Creek. I would like to know where the water will be coming from to do their drilling. Where will the tailings go? How will the noise pollution affect the business at Hot Creek Ranch that brings very important tourist dollars to the area? I am very concerned about the devastation of the area while putting in roads to the sites. The area they have their claims on is bi-state Sage Grouse habitat not to mention deer, bear, cougar, coyote, marmot, eagle and many other species. I believe that it is the job of the forest service to make sure that this sacred public land is protected and at the very least, have an environmental assessment completed before any exploration can take place. I appreciate your time and consideration.