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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a avid angler and outdoorsman of California I am obviously going to be biased towards the preservation of this natural beauty, but first I want to ponder upon how rare this occurrence is. Hot Creek is an extremely rare natural occurrence that could be related to Yellowstone in a sense, which has full protection under the Park Service and Wilderness Act. Hot Creek unfortunately does not have these protections although that doesn't mean we shouldn't deem it any less special or not as important to conserve. Hot Creeks ecosystem is a one of a kind with a hatch that creates fantastic fishing opportunity year round due to the heat of the water. The runoff also contributes to the Mammoth Hot Springs which are a tourist boost for the area year round. Finally the creek delivers it's flow to the already devastated Owens River and it's surrounding agriculture and ecosystem. In this short paragraph i've stated three different sources of income Hot Creek provides, that being recreation, tourism, and agriculture. A mine that could affect the water quality would be devastating to all three of these categorizes. I understand that creating jobs in the small towns are very important to boost an already struggling economy, but I believe the conservation and care of this land will outweigh the revenue of any proposed mine. Hot Creek provided me with a fantastic getaway growing up with my buddies that i'll never forget. I hope to give that same experience to my children one day as they gaze at the boiling cauldrons of water like we did.