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Comments: The Cyanide Heap Leaching process for recovery of precious metals is a nasty process! This particular area (Hot Creek) is composed of tufa (actually known as Tuff), which is a rock formed as a result of volcanic eruptions and is composed of compacted volcanic fragments; essentially, volcanic ash deposits that have been turned to stone. It is very porous and fragmented. Tuff is the primary rock formed from the Long Valley Caldera and super volcano eruptions that occurred over 700,000 years ago. This is the primary rock that sits under the Hot Creek area. The cyanide heap leach ponds will leach harmful materials into the ground water because of the Tuff material explained above. Then the heap leach terraced ponds will scar the landscape and things will not grow on them for a long time. And not to mention the precedent it will set if allowed. Now days, with gold so high and mining technology where low grade ores can be worked and processed for a significant profit, your going to see more and more of this. As a very minimum, a very detailed environmental geological study of this area must be conducted for impact, both short and long term.