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Comments: My wife and I, and many of my friends, have enjoyed the Hot Creek area for years. I first visited in 1968, and annually fish Hot Creek and enjoy the surrounding area.

The thought of any mining operations (including exploration activities) near this sensitive stream is frightening. I have seen what mining has done elsewhere in California, and also in other states. Environmental damage risk is very high, thus an EIS for federal land should be performed. Nearby leks of Sage Grouse can easily be affected. Given the risks of drought, especially, this is a project that must be very carefully considered. Personally, I think the idea should be a non-starter based on the risks to fish, grouse, and other species which live in this area. The Hot Creek hatchery affects should also be considered.